CANADIAN COURIER.

## A YEAR ago the first week in this month bodies of four members of the R. N. W. M. P. were dug out of snowdrifts by a relief party from Dawson. The bodies were buried at Ft. Macpherson, twenty-five miles from where they were found; from where they had set out early in January to go to Dawson and on out to the coronation of King George. The perishing of these four experi-enced trailsmen lost in the snow was the greatest tragedy in the history of the greatest tragedy in the history of

the mounted police. The picture of the burial—all in one grave—was taken by a photo-grapher at Ft. Resolution, on Great Slave Lake, many weeks' "mushing" by dog-train from Macpherson at the confluence of the Peel and the Mac-kenzie kenzie.

The picture was held at Resolution, seen for months by fur-traders and trappers and police, by Indians and half-breeds; talked about as though the travel of a set week the tragedy happened only last week. By a later mail, via dog-train and trails of all descriptions, delayed by all sorts of weather, it was sent out. It arrived in Regina a few weeks ago and was forwarded east; an illustra-It arrived in Regina a few weeks ago and was forwarded east; an illustra-tion to the story which occupied a page and a half in the CANADIAN COURIER, issue of April 29th, 1911. So slowly does news travel except by telegraph, from the far north. In the annais of the N. W. M. P. lost men are almost unknown. These four from the whaling station detach-ment had tried for days to beat back

ment had tried for days to beat back to Macpherson, whose remaining de-tachment to Macpherson, whose remaining de-tachment, supposing they had got through to Dawson and being without telegraph connection, might have found them within a few days. The overland route to Klondike was once marked by many a wayside grave; never by one so grim as this of the four police heroes at Ft. Macpherson.

## A Tragedy of the Long Trails

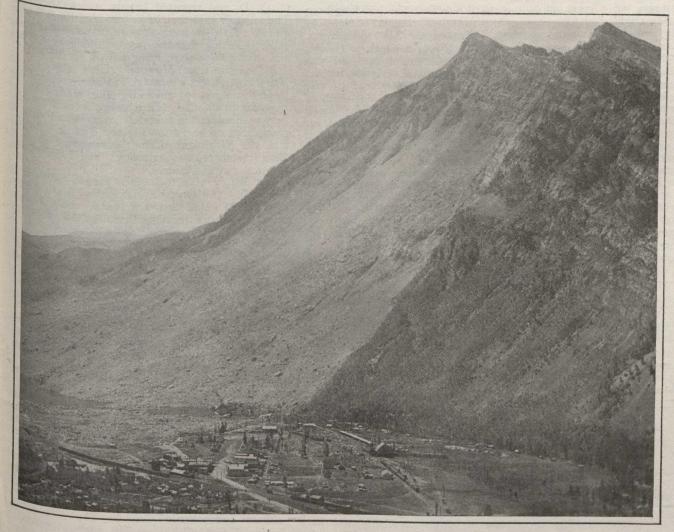
Burial in one grave at Fort Macpherson of the Four Northwest Mounted Police, who lost their lives on the Trail to Dawson, more than a year ago



A Photograph Worthy the Art of a Painter. A strangely interesting group was present at the funeral of In spector Fitzgerald and Constables Kinney, Carter and Taylor. These heroes were all buried in the little churchyard at Macpherson. On the left stand the four police in the Mac-pherson detachment. Next them a group of Lochieux Indians and half-breeds—one chief in his ermine-skin. To the right are a company of Indian women in the background. Traders and trappers • and the white-surpliced Bishop Whitaker, reading the burial service of the Church of England, complete a picture worthy the brush of a great painter.

Strange Case of the Town of Frank

Which moved from its old site in 1903 and is likely to move again in 1912



The New Town of Frank is a Quarter of a Mile from the Site of the Old Town Buried by a Landslide in 1903, When Fully a Hundred Inhabitants Were Entombed Alive.

WESTERN towns that pull stakes are W ESTERN towns that pull stakes are not uncommon. But there is no town in America that moved once be-cause it was wiped off the map by a land-slide and nine years later was likely to move again because a mountain desired to fall on it. Old Frank, in Alberta, near the door of the Crow's Nest Pass, was buried alive in 1903. New Frank, a quarter of a mile distant from the old site, is in danger of being overwhelmed

quarter of a mile distant from the old site, is in danger of being overwhelmed by Turtle Mountain. The town has a population of 1,000. Twelve hundred coal miners have been burrowing under the mountain. A Gov-ernment Commission of three have re-ported that the excavations, the geo-logical structure, frost and vibrations may at any moment precipitate the mass. The Canadian Consolidated Mine Co., after spending \$2,000,000 in improve-ments, have suspended operations until the Government decides on the location the Government decides on the location for a new shaft.

The day the report was made public The day the report was made public fifteen miners quit town. Scores of others have since gone to the Lethbridge mines. Many more will leave—homes built from years of savings. The home of Mayor McGowan, all the stores and the houses of 250 miners are in the danger zone. The C. P. R. has changed its route for that part of the line. Frank is still waiting, for a catas-trophe that may be deferred for years may happen any moment—and when it

trophe that may be deferred for years may happen any moment—and when it does will come as abruptly as an eruption of Vesuvius or the 'Frisco earthquake. In the story of calamity towns in Canada Frank is most conspicuous. The category contains also Fernie burned to ash-heaps in July, 1908; Three Rivers, P.Q., with its holocaust the same year; Porcupine devastated by forest fires in July, 1911; Hull burned off the map near the close of the nineteenth century; Campbellton, N.B., destroyed by fire in 1910. Fire has been the most frequent destroyer; flood never; cyclone devas-tation none; earthquake none.