THE TORONTO WORLD

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TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1887.

THE MAYORALTY.

Your Vote and Influence

Are Respectfully Solicited for

ALD. DEFOE

AS MAYOR FOR 1888.

Bismarck Plays the Game.

That is a great game of international politics which is now being played by the European Powers. And we fancy that by this time many people have come to the conclusion that Bismarck is without doubt the chief operator or at least the chief manipulator of the whole movement. He it is who so works things as to cause the mild breezes of peace to blow one week followed by warlike blasts the week after. Scarcely any event of importance can be named, which does not bear marks of his hand having been in it. Christmas come war rumors apparently more serious than any that the cable has brought up for some time past. Now, if it be Sir Bismarck who is more than any other man pulling the wires and moving the machinery, it should be interesting to try a guess as to what he is driving at.

A number of years ago it was Bismarck's policy to conquer France, and to make of disunited Germany a great and united Empire. Ever since then he must have been under one perpetual disturbing influence—the thought that France would one day try for revenge. And another reflection must have occurred to him—that the larger and richer resources of France give her a tremendous advantage over Germany in the work of recuperation and building up again after war. There is in the fertile soil and genial sun of France such a perpetual source of wealth and power as Germany can never hope to equal, or even to approach, except at a distance. The longer peace lasts, the greater gain does France make, in proportion to what Germany makes. And therefore it is not strange that Bismarck should before now have been credited with the threat that he would yet "bleed France pale" ere he had done with her.

Another thought must have been frequently present to the great statesman's mind—that in a war with Germany France might one day have Russia with her as an ally. And he may have believed, as not a few well-informed people do—that this Russo-French alliance, so much talked of, though baffled oft, is sure to come some day in some shape or other. Now, might we not surmise that Europe's master schemer, unwilling to quit this earthly scene and leave the threatening contingency of a Russo-French alliance against Germany still pending, prefers to have it out now, while as yet he is himself present and in strength sufficient to play his part in the coming mighty struggle? Thus he may be saying to himself: "Germany surely have to fight France and Russia together some day, not without allies, be it hoped. And therefore let the fight come on now, while I am myself still in the flesh, and able to secure for Germany such alliances as she needs."

In other words, Bismarck believes that the conflict with France has to be fought over again, and he wants it to come while he is still on hand to direct German policy through the terrible struggle which impends. This is simply offered as a conjecture, merely. But, before you dismiss it as unwarranted, better take cool consideration of all the circumstances, as far as these are generally known to the public, and see to what conclusion you will be led. It is the custom of European Courts that important things should be said by the rulers of the nations on New Year's Day. And next week will probably bring either confirmation or contradiction of the ominous Christmas rumors now before us.

An Ominous Lull.

The Kingston Whig is naturally very much depressed by the Government's continuous gains in the by-elections. The series is certainly a most remarkable one. The Government was strong enough without such gains, but the people must be permitted to have their way in these matters. The Whig, however, is not disposed to attribute the changes to the fickleness of the electorate so much as to the indifference of its party leaders, who, it says, "are not active at the present time. What does this portend?" The Whig's inquiry would imply that the present lull is ominous of a new departure. What will the harvest be? For the Advisory Committee to do what Saturday's Globe advised them to do, declare formally and collectively for Commercial Union, would be tantamount to—even worse than—a repetition of the Riel folly. Worse, probably, because while it would arouse again the same loyal elements which stood by the Government in February last, it would have upon the French-Canadians quite a different influence from that exerted by the Riel cry. It ought by this time to be abundantly evident to all who honestly desire the rehabilitation of the Liberal party, that their proper policy is the pursuit of a line leading up to a national future, to the exclusion of all fads, sectional cries and makeshifts that have so far proved disastrous failures. It is for the Liberal leaders themselves to make a choice between the mistakes of the past and the opportunities of the present and the future.

The Globe on Important Railway Matters.

Discoursing upon "An Important Railway Letter" The Globe is pleased to say:—"The Globe has always thought, and thinks now, that it would have been better for the country had the Northern been able to preserve its independence." Indeed! Was this your opinion in 1882, when you gave what aid and comfort you could to the Grand Trunk, in its monopolistic enterprise of "gobbling" the entire Great Western system to the west of this city, and the entire Midland system to the east of it? Apparently The Globe was not then in favor of preserving the independence of either of these systems, whatever it may say now as to the Northern. In those days our contemporary used its influence, not to promote the interests of the people of Ontario, but the interests of the Grand Trunk.

Probably The Globe would prefer to have this passage in our railway history forgotten and blotted from the record, but it is destined to be well remembered in this province, and for long time, too. As an organ of railway independence The Globe cannot be a success at this late day, after years of its advocacy devoted to the opposing side of the question. And therefore it may be politic on its part to come now to the cunning conclusion that "the tendency towards railway amalgamation has been irresistible." Especially, let us add, with the Great Globe itself on the side of amalgamation. Against the decrees of fate mortals are helpless. As a nameless philosopher is said to have observed: "What is to be will be; and even what is not to be will be sometimes." Great is fate; and ditto The Globe.

Bank of Ottawa.

The Directors have pleasure in submitting for the information of the shareholders, the thirteenth annual report, together with the usual statement of the assets and liabilities of the Bank as on Nov. 30, 1887:

Balance at Credit of Profit and Loss Account 30th November, 1886		$ 38,440 85
Net Profits for the year ending 30th November, 1887, after deducting expenses of management, and making necessary provision for interest due to depositors, uncarned interest on current discounts, and for all bad and doubtful debts		116,699 43
		155,140 28
Appropriated as follows:		
Dividend No. 22, paid 1st June, 1887	$35,000 00	
Dividend No. 23 payable 1st December, 1887	35,000 00	
Carried to Rest Account	50,000 00	
		120,000 00
Leaving a balance to be carried forward at the credit of Profit and Loss Account		$ 35,140 28
And making the Rest Account		910,000 00

A branch of the Bank has been opened recently at Keewatin, Ontario, under the management of Mr. J. R. Monk.

The several offices of the Bank have been carefully inspected during the year.

The directors have pleasure in testifying to the satisfactory manner in which the officers of the Bank have performed their respective duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES MACLAREN, President.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS AS ON THE 30TH NOVEMBER, 1887.

Liabilities.		
Notes in Circulation		$ 749,764 00
Deposits bearing interest	$1,037,588 75	
Deposits not bearing interest	419,947 65	
		2,087,836 40
Total Liabilities to the Public		$2,837,300 40
Capital paid up	$1,000,000 00	
Rest	910,000 00	
Dividend No. 23	35,000 00	
Former dividends unpaid	81 00	
Reserved for Interest and Exchange	18,936 00	
Rebate on Current Discounts	21,449 00	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward	35,140 28	
		1,419,576 29
		$4,257,176 69
Assets.		
Specie on hand	$103,456 71	
Dominion Notes on hand	102,922 75	
Notes and Cheques on other Banks	73,805 27	
Balances due from other Banks in Canada	121,491 35	
Balances due from other Banks in the United States	130,057 60	
Balances due from other Banks in the United Kingdom	64,746 42	
Dominion Government Debentures	132,973 37	
Total Assets immediately available		729,310 27
Loans and Bills discounted		3,450,641 40
Loans Overdue, not specially secured		1,891 15
Loans Overdue, secured		9,065 80
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than the Bank premises)		17,939 34
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank		2,765 00
Bank Premises		45,563 00
		$4,257,176 69

GEO. BURN, Cashier.

After the reading of the cashier's statement the vice-president, Mr. Chas. Magee, said:

Gentleman—I regret very much that the president, Mr. Maclaren, was unable to be present to-day. He had an important engagement to keep in another part of the province, consequently could not attend this meeting. The report and statement which you have just heard read gives all the usual information, and leaves very little for me to comment upon. It will, I am sure, be gratifying to the shareholders to notice that the business of the bank continues to show satisfactory signs of progress, and although the net profits are not as large as last year we have been able, after paying the usual dividend of 7 per cent., to add $50,000 to the rest and still leave a very respectable amount at the credit of profit and loss account. You are no doubt aware that the money market has become more stringent and that an increased rate had to be paid for deposits during the latter part of the year, whilst the rate of discount could not, with due consideration for the interest of the valued customers of the bank, be advanced so much as we have been able to do. The outlook for next year is not quite so promising as it was a year ago, and this has induced the directors to be more liberal in writing off a larger amount of the premium on bonds and provision for future contingencies. Owing to the continuance of dry weather during the later months of the summer, the crops in Ontario have been short, but, wherever this has fortunately been compensated for in some measure by the bountiful harvest in Manitoba, and as the trade relations of the two provinces are so intimate, the large surplus of grain available for export in Manitoba has stimulated the demand for manufactured goods, which are to a great extent supplied by the older provinces. The severe drought of last summer and autumn also seriously interfered with the sawmill lumber industry in this district, the waters of the Ottawa and its tributary streams being so low that many of the larger saw mills were unable to obtain a sufficient supply of logs to keep them going, and a large quantity of logs, which cut in the winter of 1886-7, remained, as a long term, been "hung up," and in this way a considerable amount of capital locked up for another year. Under ordinary circumstances this would have led to a decreased demand for money for this winter's operations, but forest fires having visited some portions of the country, a great quantity of logs will have to be cut out in order to save the timber on limits that fire has run through. The country has enjoyed several years of prosperity, and perhaps too much capital was going into manufacturing and other enterprises—some of which would doubtless be non-productive, and the check given by the stringency and advancing rates of money has been timely, and will have a tendency to induce greater caution—more particularly in entering into new enterprises, and in a way avert a more serious derangement in our business and financial affairs. You will notice by the report that a branch of the bank has been opened at Keewatin, under the management of Mr. Monk, for several years account. ant in the Winnipeg office, and a reliable and trusted officer of the bank. The waterpower of that alpiece is attracting the attention of capitalists, and there is just now a large flour mill approaching completion, that will have a capacity of about 1250 barrels per day. The directors hope that this branch, whilst giving banking facilities to a section of the country hitherto unprovided for, will be a source of profit to the bank. I do not think there is any other part of the report that calls for special remark, but if any of the shareholders wish to elicit further information, either the cashier or I will endeavor to answer their questions. I now move, seconded by Mr. C. Magee, that the report of the directors now read, be adopted and printed for the information of the shareholders. Carried.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:

Moved by Hon. J. Gilmour, seconded by Mr. Murphy, "That the thanks of the shareholders are due, and are hereby tendered, to the president, vice-president and directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the bank during the past year."

Moved by Mr. Sheriff Sweetland, seconded by Mr. Hiram Robinson, "That the thanks of the shareholders be tendered to the cashier and other officers of the bank for the efficient manner in which they have discharged their respective duties."

Moved by Mr. T. W. Kenny, seconded by Mr. John Christie, "That the ballot box be now opened and remain open until 3 o'clock, for the election of directors for the ensuing year, and that Messrs. James Cunningham and Hiram Robinson be appointed scrutineers; the polls to be closed whenever 5 minutes shall have elapsed without a votebeing taken."

The scrutineers presented the following report:—

OTTAWA, 14th Dec., 1887.

To Mr. Geo. Burn, Cashier:

SIR: We, the undersigned Scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of the Bank of Ottawa, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year: Jas. Maclaren, Charles Magee, C. T. Bate, R. Blackburn, Hon. George Bryson, Hon. L. R. Church, Alex. Fraser, George Hay, John Mather.

JAS. CUNNINGHAM,
H. ROBINSON,
Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, Mr. James Maclaren was re-elected President, and Mr. Charles Magee Vice-President.

GEO. BURN, Cashier.

Ottawa, 14th Dec. 1887.

The Canada Temperance Act.

State of the Petitions for Repeal—Ottawa's Holiday Trade.

OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—Of the petitions for the repeal of the Canada Temperance Act, which have been referred to the Department of Justice for examination, it is understood that the one from Westmoreland, N.B., has been reported on to the Secretary of State, the petition being found in order, and it is probable that a date for polling will shortly be fixed. The petition from Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry is now under examination, and action in the case of Stanstead has been suspended until a date can be fixed for hearing the objections to the petition which have been raised by the supporters of the act. With regard to the petitions from Dufferin, Simcoe, Huron, Bruce and Renfrew, it may be said that no immediate action can be taken on them, as the three years from the coming in force of the act in those counties will not expire until May 17 1888, and under the recent order-in-council declaring that voting on the repeal of the act shall not take place earlier than two weeks before the expiration of the three years, the earliest date on which polling on the repeal could take place would be April 13.

The alleged depression in trade and stringency in the money market does not appear to have affected the Christmas trade in this city, which, from all that can be learned, has been quite up to last year, in spite of the fact that want of snow has kept sleighing bad, and has no doubt prevented a great many country people who usually do their Christmas shopping in Ottawa from coming in.

The municipal nominations took place to-day, and as the result we have three candidates for the mayoralty in the field—McLeod Stewart, the present Mayor; ex-Ald. Brown, who was defeated by 500 majority by Stewart last year, and Ald. Lewis.

Sir Hector Langevin will return to the city on Jan. 4, and will meet the Toronto deputation with reference to the proposed extension of the windmill line on the following day.

W. & D. Dineen, cor. King and Yonge streets, are bound to clear out all their immense stock of Furs this week at below cost prices. Ladies should visit their Fur show rooms.

Mr. Gladstone's Journey.

A Welcome at Chester—Mingled Cheers and Groans at London.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Mr. Gladstone left Hawarden to-day on route for the continent. Five thousand persons gave him an enthusiastic welcome on his arrival at Chester.

Mr. Gladstone was greeted with mingled cheers and groans when he passed through London. While waiting for the train he was visited by Earl Spencer, the Right Hon. Hugh C. Childers and other prominent men. The journey was made without a stop until Sandwich was reached where Mr. Gladstone addressed the citizens. He subsequently proceeded to the residence of Lord Northbourne whose guest he will be to-night.

Large crowds gathered at all the places through which Mr. Gladstone passed, and he was everywhere warmly received.

A favorite, the Derby cigarette.

Sudden Death of Aged Persons.

MIDDLETOWN, N.Y., Dec. 26.—A number of sudden and remarkable deaths of aged and prominent citizens of Orange County have occurred within a few days. Among them are Charles Moore, aged 61 years, and residing near Monroe village, who retired in good health and was found dead in his bed next morning. Another case is that of Samuel Gale aged 75, for many years Postmaster and Erie Railroad agent at Pine Island, who, while apparently well, went out to his barn, and was found by his family a few minutes later lying dead there. Still another case is that of Daniel Rosenberry, an opulent farmer of the Town of Warwick, who had long predicted that he would die in the 73rd year of his age, and who passed that birthday in April last. On the day before his death he called his six children to the bedside, and after telling them that his time had come according to the premonition he had long entertained, and that he should die at a certain hour next day, he gave them his final instructions and bade them farewell. He did, in fact, expire next day at the hour he foretold.

Brass and Steel Spark Guards at Milne's.

Nominations at Oshawa.

OSHAWA, Dec. 26.—The nominations for Mayor, Reeve, first and second Deputy Reeves and Councillors were held in the Town Hall to-day. Robert Mooney was elected Mayor by acclamation. L. R. Murton, Dr. Roe and Alex McLaughlin were nominated for Reeve. J. S. Larke was elected First Deputy Reeve by acclamation. Walter Couthard was elected Second Deputy Reeve by acclamation. Councillors: Northwest Ward—Wm. Allkin, Robert McLaughlin, W. J. McSweeny, F. J. Ewing, Wm. Dickie, Samuel Trewin, W. J. Hare, J. W. Higgenbotham. Northeast Ward—W. Borsberry, R. Mason, Wm. Treffle, Thos. McLaughlin, S. Carter, J. F. Tomblyn, W. Rolph. Southwest Ward—Robert Dillon, E. S. Edmondson, Jas. Robson, C. W. Scott, John Dickie. South-east Ward—Wm. Glenney, Wm. Readwin, Robert McCaw, E. C. Rowse, Stuart Depew, C. H. Croydale, John Bailey, Wm. Dingle, Robert Kirkpatrick, H. T. Carswell, Wm. Newton.

$3500 Damages in a Slander Case.

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Dec. 26.—In the case of Thomas F. Cosgrove, attorney-at-law, against Harry W. Gardiner for slander, in which damages were laid at $10,000, a jury awarded $3500 damages. This was a case in which Gardiner, Cosgrove's client in a suit against Henry J. Sayles for felonious assault, withdrew the charge in open court, confessed to perjury, and accused Cosgrove of conspiring with him. Gardiner has already been in jail six months, and Cosgrove told the court that he would pay his board for the six months additional that must elapse before he can take the poor debtor's oath.

Spring Skates (Halifax Pattern) 75 cents, worth $1.50, at Milne's, 169 Yonge-st.

The Oil Conspiracy Case.

BUFFALO, Dec. 26.—Judge Haight has handed down his decision in the case of the People against Hiram B. and Charles M. Everest of Rochester, who were convicted some time ago of conspiracy to injure trade and commerce in an alleged attempt to hurt the Buffalo Lubricating Oil Company. The motion for a new trial was argued some time ago, and this morning the defendants were sentenced, and will be taken to the General Term of the Supreme Court, and in any event the Court of Appeals will finally be called on to determine the case.

Journalistic Criticism of Doherty's Sentence

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Observer to-day denounces the sentence pronounced upon Daniel Doherty, the American who shot and killed Graham, as monstrous. It declares that the judgment of Justice Stephens was biased by the opinion he has often expressed—that drunkenness increases instead of lessening the gravity of offences, a sentiment which mankind has pronounced contrary to common sense.

The Crandell Tragedy.

TROY, N.Y., Dec. 26.—The condition of Mrs. Julia N. Crandell, who was shot by her husband at Ballston, is unchanged. The prospect of her recovery improves each day. The funeral of two of the victims of last Monday's tragedy took place at Ballston. The bodies of Mrs. Stone, mother of Mrs. Crandell, and of Miss Julia Balkley, were brought to this city.

Premier Mercier's Florida Trip Abandoned.

MONTREAL, Dec. 26.—Premier Mercier has abandoned his trip to Florida and returned to Quebec. The failure of a proposed provincial loan, the approach of several by-elections and a decision to assemble the Legislature at an early date have combined to decide this course on his part.

The Abyssinian Mission.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Advices from Massowah say that the British mission to Abyssinia was unsuccessful in its efforts to induce King John to sue for peace, and that the Italians are jubilant over the failure. During the journey the mission was harassed by Rasalula. The members will sail for Cairo on the next mail steamer.

Edmonde and O'Connor at Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Dec. 26.—Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde, M.P., and Arthur O'Connor, M.P., lectured here this evening under the auspices of the Hamilton Branch of the Irish National League on "The State of Ireland." There was a fair audience and no disturbance.

Smallpox on the Rhetia.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Among the steerage passengers on the steamer Rhetia, which arrived from Hamburg to-day, there were three cases of smallpox.

Boys' and Girls' Sleighs 60 cents, worth $1, Magic Lanterns and Rocking Horses at Milne's, 169 Yonge-st.

—Thomas Myers, Bracebridge, writes: "Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil is the best medicine I sell. It always gives satisfaction, and in cases of coughs, colds, sore throat, etc., immediate relief has been received by those who use it."

Election Excitement.

It is right enough in its way, but the excitement experienced by the customers of S. P. Brazil & Co. to get their groceries, fruit and liquor is something terrific. We have put on a special run of delivery wagons during the holidays and will deliver goods to all parts of the city, leaving every half hour. 36

Christmas Among the Curlers.

The President and Vice-President's Matches at the Granite Rink.

The annual match by sides, representing respectively the President and Vice-President, took place at the Granite Rink yesterday forenoon. Twenty-eight rinks contended for the mastery, with the following result:

President.		*Vice-President.*	
Dr. Carlyle, H. Bethune, J. L. Brodie, G. S. Bethune, B. K. Wilkie, skip	7	Dr. Richardson, F. F. Payne, G. Richardson, F. McKendrick, James Hedley, skip	13
C. E. Ryerson, Dr. K. E. King, J. Donald, W. Badenoch, skip	6	J. Gallett, A. A. Tilley, H. K. Burgess, W. R. Brown, C. Dalton, skip	14
C. Badenoch, J. Harris, J. T. Matthews, R. G. Williamson, skip	16	Dr. Cessar, W. B. King, W. G. Kent, J. T. Hornibrook, skip	10
F. Spalding, F. Campbell, A. Allan, A. W. Spence, skip	17	S. H. Lee, A. J. Rice, A. A. Lee, W. F. Davison, skip	15
J. D. Laidlaw, J. Gurney, E. A. Badenach, W. Taylor, skip	11	H. S. Mara, J. S. Kilgour, J. Henderson, C. H. Nelson, skip	13
R. F. Stupart, W. J. Carroll, R. C. Webster, C. Carpmael, skip	22	J. McCracken, A. J. Somerville, John Gowans, Alex. Nairn, skip	12
J. E. R. Littlejohn, H. G. Murphy, R. S. Brown, J. A. Foster, skip	13	W. A. Wilson, H. Lamont, R. McClain, G. Musson, skip	14
J. S. Muller, H. J. Brown, J. Littlejohn, W. D. Thornton, skip	10	H. C. Webster, G. S. Crawford, J. Holtyer, W. Dick, skip	21
W. F. Cresman, J. S. Garvin, H. S. Alexander, Jas. Pearson, skip	10	T. H. Lee, N. S. Dick, R. B. Briner, T. O. Anderson, skip	12
W. H. Block, W. C. Matthews, W. D. Donaldson, R. B. Hamilton, skip	8	A. D. Oliver, J. Forbes, W. Wellington, R. E. Hargreaves, skip	7
E. B. Osler, F. O. Cayley, W. Cooke, B. H. Bethune, skip	11	R. Goodenham, G. J. McCuaig, W. H. Blake, skip	8
R. M. Gray, Geo. Stanway, H. W. Williamson, R. Jaffray, skip	18	Dr. A. H. Wright, skip	21
W. J. Sucking, W. A. Ryan, John Paton, R. Corrie, skip	7	A. H. Mallock, W. Gillespie, W. Bayley, J. O. Heward, skip	10
Jas. Boomer, W. C. Macdonald, A. Bertram, Jonathan Bruce, skip	16	J. C. Leader, J. E. Hodgson, J. E. Hughes, A. F. McDonald, skip	21
	176	Geo. Kerr, C. Allen, A. R. Creelman, W. Lawrence, skip	12
Majority for Vice-President	19		195

Caledonians Beat the Moss Parkers.

Five rinks of the Moss Parkers played a friendly match yesterday afternoon with the Caledonians on the Mutual-street Rink. The latter scored 61 points to their opponents' 57.

Riverdale Tobogganers.

The Riverdale Toboggan Slide, located in Riverdale Park, and which is the great rendezvous of East End tobogganers, was occupied all day yesterday. Morning, afternoon and night the snow cannon spoil down what was an almost perfect chute. President C. H. Riggs and his aides were there and saw that everything went off pleasantly.

The Dwyers' and 3-Year-Old Stakes.

That the Dwyer brothers were compelled to buy Tea Tray is an undoubted fact, or else six by next season and take no active part in the 3-year-old stakes, as the Brooklyn stable has no coming 3-year-olds of stake pretensions. Indeed, the outlook for the Dwyers' in the 3-year-old events is not the "primrose path" they had last season. And unless the work of the future bears the crack of the coming season fairly and unknown, they cannot acquire him by purchase. Raceland, Magnetizer and George Oyster are Mr. Belmont's; Guarantee and Fitzjames are Mr. Haggin's; Emperor of Norfolk is Mr. Baldwin's. None of these gentlemen are apt to part with any of their 3-year-olds, or called his six children to the bedside, and after telling them that his time had come according to the premonition he had long entertained, and that he should die at a certain hour next day, he gave them his final instructions and bade them farewell. He did, in fact, expire next day at the hour he foretold.

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Nominations at Oshawa.

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Gold and Silver-Plated Skates cheap, at 169 Yonge-st.

Christmas Tree For Newsgirls.

The Young Women's Christian Guild gave a Christmas treat last night to about fifty news and other girls. A well loaded Christmas tree was relieved of its burdens of common sense presents of wearing apparel and edibles. A hot and ample lunch was served to the young guests a general good time being enjoyed. Mrs. Harrie, the president, spoke a few words of advice to the girls. There were about two hundred members of the Guild present, and a number of their young gentlemen friends.

Xmas Presents.

—It is very hard to know sometimes what to give our friends for a Xmas present. If you have settled on a pretty photo a lunch, McKendrick, 578 Yonge, has just bought a case at very little over half-price, and great bargains are now offered at the Waterloo House. x

A Big Toy House.

—A tremendous crowd was gathered on Yonge-street, just north of Queen, viewing Strachen's fine display of Xmas fancy goods, toys, etc., etc. Never before was such a choice lot of doll stock, games and toys; rocking horses, etc., displayed in Toronto. Any amount of goods to select from, and at your own prices. Old Santa makes the children happy. Give them a treat at Strachan's, 579 Yonge-street.

Manitoba Affairs.

Speculation About the Cabinet Vacancies—Ex-Judge Ryan Dangerously Ill.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 26.—It is stated that Mr. Norquay formally sent his resignation to the Lieutenant-Governor on Friday afternoon, and that His Honor immediately sent for Dr. Harrison, who visited Government House on Saturday. It is not improbable that Governor Aikens will take exception to a Cabinet of three members only, following the precedent of the late Governor Cauchon in 1871, when he refused to allow Norquay to go through the session with only two colleagues. Of course, Hamilton and Wilson will remain in the Cabinet, and among the other names mentioned in connection with the vacancies are Drewry and Kirchhoffer on the English, and Burke and Pendergast on the French speaking side. So soon as the selections are made writs for elections which may be necessary will be issued without delay. The House will assemble on Jan. 12, although an adjournment may then take place to permit the Government having time to complete its arrangements.

Rushbrook, who has been missing from Moosomin, N.W.T., has been found four miles from where he parted with his guide some weeks ago. His wagon was found overturned in a ravine running down to the Souris River, with Rushbrook under it. The edge of the wagon box had accidentally fallen on his neck, breaking it and causing almost instant death.

Ex-Judge Mathew Ryan is dangerously ill at St. Boniface Hospital, all hope of his recovery being abandoned.

Duncan MacArthur has issued a circular to the electors of Assiniboia. His platform is provincial rights and provincial progress. Frank Ness is the Conservative candidate.

Oh, Ella, where did you get that beautiful Art Book? Why, down the "Willard." They have such a variety and so cheap. You ought to see them. Corner of Yonge and Temperance streets.

Canada and the Empire.

An Editorial Criticism of Mr. Chamberlain's Interview—The Railway Rumors.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The St. James' Gazette, in an editorial commenting upon Mr. Chamberlain's interview at Ottawa, condemns his rough and ready assertion that if Canada wants separation Great Britain would not object, and says the question has not come into the range of practical politics. Perhaps it never will, but if it does it will be the duty of Imperial statesmen to learn whether it is really the Canadian nation and not a mere faction that desires to secede. The financial editor of The Daily Chronicle asserts that beyond the fact that a scheme seems maturing to cancel the Canadian Pacific Railway monopoly in Manitoba, there is nothing authentic in the reports that the Government will be persuaded to take over the railway.

The crofters of the island of Lewis have passed a unanimous vote of confidence in Mr. Morrison as a delegate to report on the suitability of British Columbia as a future home. At a meeting of the North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Company at Aberdeen the report and dividend were approved. Mr. Bell stated that the business was in a very steady-going shape.

The Canadian Phosphate Company, whose mines are located at Portland, Quebec, has floated its shares at a premium.

The Dominion Dairy Society has decided to join the Wigtown Society in securing a Canadian instructor in cheese making next season.

A series of fine art color books, viz.: "Queen of the Meadows," "Daisy Days" and "Xmas Tree Fairy" are gems calculated to thrill with pleasure the heart of a virtuoso. See them at the Toronto Willard Tract Depository.

Count Andrassey Honored.

The Emperor Sends Him a Portrait and an Autograph Letter.

VIENNA, Dec. 26.—Emperor Francis Joseph yesterday presented Count Andrassey with a magnificent portrait of himself as a Christmas gift. In the letter which accompanied the gift the Emperor said that the presents was given in recognition of his hospitality to the Emperor by Count Andrassey during the military manoeuvres. The gift is generally believed, however, to have a political significance, the opinion being that the Emperor wished to express his approval of Count Andrassey's energetic policy.

It is stated when the Count returned from the Berlin Congress the Emperor wished to confer the title of Prince, and asked several of the Hungarian Ministers to try and induce him to accept the honor. Count Andrassey, however, refused the title, and also declined to accept, in order, so that the Emperor's only way to honor the Count was to send him an autograph letter, which is the highest Austrian distinction.

Smoke the Derby cigarette.

Chamberlain and Wiman.

Mr. E. B. Thurber Waxes Wroth at the Commissioner's Criticisms.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The criticisms which Mr. Chamberlain made on Mr. Wiman to the reporters at Rideau Hall, Ottawa, on Christmas last have excited some attention here and his friends are offended. Among them is Mr. Frank B. Thurber. He has addressed the following to the New York Herald:

To the Editor of the New York Herald:

SIR—There is an old saying that the "pit bird flutters," and the article in the Herald of the 25th, under the head of "Ottawa announcing the utterance of Hon. Joe Chamberlain upon the subject of Commercial Union, is a statement that Mr. Chamberlain who is supposed to be a trained diplomat as well as a gentleman, should have exhibited such a lack of both and have indulged in such discourteous personal remarks, as he is reported to have made of Mr. Wiman, of New Yorkers, Wiman is too much of a gentleman to speak of Mr. Chamberlain in terms such as that gentleman is reported to have used of Mr. Wiman. Certainly Mr. Wiman enjoys the respect of all who know him and if indeed Mr. Chamberlain is the man he is reported to be, with him on public questions he should remember that "the most sticks and stones are always found under the tallest trees."

As regards Commercial Union, Mr. Chamberlain may find it to his advantage to understand that on both sides of the public opinion in favor of some such proposition, although it may not come in the shape advocated by Mr. Chamberlain.

J. B. THURBER.

The Striking Railroaders.

Freight Trains on the Reading Moved Yesterday—The Strike Condemned.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Dec. 26.—Two freight trains were moved to-day in this region on the Philadelphia and Reading road. Their crews were hooted by the strikers, but no other demonstrations were made. It is believed the miners will strike if called upon, although a number of them are not in sympathy with the grievances. The Lehigh Coal Company, the Lenox Coal Company and several individual collieries will be the only mines in operation in this region should the Reading miners go out. The strike is generally condemned in business circles.

Will go to Work This Morning.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Dec. 26.—Three freight trains were moved east on the Reading Road to-day. The regular crews were off on account of the Christmas holidays. It is understood that the men will go to work to-morrow morning.

Turkey's New Minister of Finance.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 26. — Mahmoud Ogelaledden, the author of the new budget scheme for balancing the revenues and expenditure, has been appointed Minister of Finance in place of Zuhdi Pasha.

Sir Henry Grattan Esmonde and Arthur O'Connor, members of the Irish National section of the Imperial Parliament, will speak at the Pavilion Wednesday evening next.

Woodman Dramatic Society.

The Woodman Dramatic Society made their debut last night before a good audience with a well sustained program at 92 Adelaide-street west, the present headquarters of the company. The opening chorus, songs, ballad singing, and instrumental music by the "O.K." minstrels was especially good. The finale was a laughable, farcical and semi-tragical sketch in one act, entitled, "Billy Doo," the bill poster. In the latter the parts of the four characters in the farce were performed with good practicable power. During an interval Mr. Woodman addressed the assemblage in terms suitable to the season. The members of the company are: R. J. Barber, E. D. Jackson, P. J. Hatton, W. Clarke, E. A. Marshall, Miss Dougherty and Miss Wood. The scenery was painted by Mr. P. J. Hatton.

Ask for the Derby cigarette.

"F" Co., G. O. R. "Old Fifteen." X. W. C.

The second annual dinner of "The Old Fifteen," of the Northwest Contingent, of "F" Co., G. O. R., was held on Saturday night at the Reform Club. Out of the "Old Fifteen" there were present the unusually number of thirteen, who enjoyed themselves immensely and whose names are: Col. Sergt. J. McLaren (chairman), Corp. H. R. Boulton, and Privates A. D. Longmuir, W. Longmuir, A. J. Boyd, J. L. Boyd, J. B. Mackenzie, J. B. McLachlan, C. M. Nelles, J. S. C. Fraser, A. H. Scott, A. E. Phillips, and W. A. Richardson. The two absentees were D. P. Harrison and N. F. Dewar.

There were the usual toasts, and Private Fraser responded to "The Army, Navy and Volunteers." Pte. A. D. Longmuir responded for "The Ladies." The "lucky thirteen" enjoyed themselves in true G. O. R. way.

—Dollars, which might otherwise be thrown away by resorting to ineffectual medicines, are saved by purchasing that expensive specific for both pain and remedy for affections of the throat, lungs, stomach, liver and bowels, Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil which does not deteriorate and is thorough and pure.

Mayoralty Chroniques.

Dr. W. W. Ogden shouted for a trunk sewer after he had seconded Mr. Rogers' nomination yesterday. A trunk sewer is all right, but did it ever strike the good Doctor to go and examine the plans of the miserable affair which Mr. Howland and his would-be successors are attempting to thrust on the citizens? Now, Doctor, go and see for yourself. Don't forget that it is to cost two millions.

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Mr. Clarke's friends were the disturbing element at the City Hall yesterday. They just listened to what suited them from their opponents.

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Mr. Clarke made a good speech, and as an orator his friends can justly be proud of him. His explanation of his connection with the Dominion License Commissioners ought to have been satisfactory, even to such uncompromising apostles as F. S. Spence, Ald. Fleming, J. J. Maclaren, et al.

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Mayor Howland was not visible to the naked eye in part of the City Buildings yesterday. He did not even put in an appearance to give his "legitimate successor," Mr. Rogers, a send off.

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Mr. Defoe, like the traditional dark horse, has the mettle in him, and he will just