

August the great Hanlan regatta came off on our lovely Bay—oarsmen from all parts of the continent making a vain effort to strip Hanlan of his laurels. While on the 18th of December, that year, our town was lighted with gas for the first time.

Having made mention of FIRES, I would place on record my recollection of two earthquakes—one on the 20th of October, 1870, in the day time, which caused all the house bells to ring, &c., and another at 1 o'clock on the morning of the 21st of May, 1871, when the violent shaking of the bed I was sleeping in, and the rattling of the shutters and windows awoke me, leaving me almost paralysed, so curious is the effect of a disturbance of TERRA FIRMA. I had experienced a shock some years previously, when living on the banks of the St. Lawrence, which caused the horse I was driving to stop suddenly, and tremble all over.

I find I am getting too prolix, so I will close with one or two remarks on that interesting subject, the weather. Among many recorded items I find the following:

Feb. 6th, 1855—Thermometer shewed AT LEAST—40°, as the mercury was frozen. I saw 55° below zero given in some newspapers, but " 'twas doubted by some."

1859—June 5. Snow this morning.

1862.—July 6.—Mercury said to be at 106° in the shade.

1876.—August 20. Frost to-night.

1877.—June 22. Frost at night.

1878.—July 17. Mercury over 100°.

1879.—April 11. Sleighs out to-day.

1881.—Christmas Day. Dined with all windows open.

1881.—Dec. 28. Slept with all windows open.

1881.—September 5th. A wonderfully dark, hot day. Gas at 5 p. m. hardly giving any light.

1885.—April 13. Good sleighing on some of our streets.

In 1870 the snow was so deep in March, that from the 15th to the 19th, and again from the 26th to the 29th, the trains were completely blocked, leaving us for days together without any mails from Toronto.

The earliest date for the complete closing of the bay by ice that I have recorded is Dec. 1st, 1875—the latest Jan. 18th, 1889.