Xmas....

Is in sight, and your boy is expecting a pair of Skates or an Air Gun. We have them at lowest prices.

THE GRIFFITHS CORPORATION
81 YONGE-ST., TORONTO.

THE CANADIAN CIRCUIT.

Delegates to Meet in St. Thomas in January —A Salary Limit.

St. Thomas, Dec. 22.—A meeting of the directors of the Canadian Baseball Association will be held at the Grand Central Hotel, St. Thomas, about Jan. 15 next. The meeting will be held for the purpose of electing the new directors and for arranging the circuit for 1897.

Doc Sippi of London, in writing to Treasurer Joe Rivard of the St. Thomas Association, says:

"The directors of the Canadian League intend to have a salary limit of $500 per month, and no team will be allowed to pay any more." He is of the opinion that St. Thomas can support a first-class nine.

BUCK STILL RUNS A FARM.

It is a case of "wink the other eye" as regards that "anti-farm" resolution in the Eastern League, writes Harry Weldon in The Cincinnati Enquirer. Al Buckenburger is "down on the farm" for the Pittsburg Club again this year just as much as he was last year, the only difference being that this year it is Syracuse and last year it was Toronto. Next year Buck's Syracuse team will look like a second edition of the Pittsburg team. Every one of the players that Pittsburg cannot use will be with the Syracuse team. Jud Smith, the Montana wonder, whom Pittsburg got from Toronto, Abe Lazotte, whom they bought last fall from Wilkes-Barre, and Grove and Kelly, whom the Pittsburgs secured from the Virginia League, will be in Syracuse next season. Of course, Buck "bought" all of them. Of course he did, who said anything about "a farm"?

MARR PHILLIPS TO MANAGE HAMS.

Bill Johnson, the Allegheny pitcher, has been asked to send his terms to the Hamilton Club of the Canadian League. Johnson, however, would sooner play with Chauncey Stewart's Bradford team. Marr Phillips, the old shortstop, will manage Hamilton next season, and is trying to get the pick of the local players. He has asked Tom McKim and Grant Briggs to send on their terms. Marr, whose home is in Allegheny, has been in Canada for a year or more.—Pittsburg Times.

CANADIAN LEAGUE LOSSES.

George Graham, the popular proprietor of the Imperial Hotel, Galt, was in the city yesterday. All the baseball his town will revel in the coming season will be furnished by their County League team. He thinks Galt has had enough of the professionals. Galt went into it heavier than Paris last year, and as a result dropped a little pile, a fact which Mr. Graham is in a position to attest. But they were not alone in the losing games. Brantford, Hamilton, Guelph quit loser, and London may have finished slightly ahead, but it was only a small margin. Thus, the Canadian League is not the good thing that some would have us believe it is.

JEM MACE COMING.

Jem Mace, the veteran ex-champion of England, will give an exhibition of the manly art at the Princess Theatre Jan. 8 next. He will box four rounds with John F. Scholes, who is already training for the event. A clever exhibition is assured. Along with Jem Mace will come Dick Collier, the Leicester heavyweight, who will be prepared to meet anyone in Canada. Besides a big program some of the best locals will be put on.

COLORED FIGHTERS.

New York, Dec. 22.—Bob Armstrong of Chicago, the colored heavy-weight, who was heralded as a second Peter Jackson, proved a vast disappointment to his friends by his showing with Charley Strong, the Newark colored heavy-weight, at the Broadway A.C. last night. With an advantage of seven inches in height and 25 pounds in weight, it took the Chicago man 19 rounds to dispose of Strong, who is only a game secondrater. Strong did most the leading throughout the bout, and it looked as though he would make at least a draw of it, but in the 19th round a terrific right on the jaw sent the Newark boy to the floor gasping.

BATY WON IT.

Rochester, N.Y., Dec. 22.—Jack Baty and Tom Brownsey of Buffalo met at Irving Hall last night in a spirited glove contest, which was advertised for 15 rounds, but which was stopped by the referee at the end of nine rounds on account of Brownsey's condition. Baty had the best of the contest from the start and was given the decision by the referee.

SUTTON TIPPED TO WIN.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Sutton seems to be the general favorite to win first money in the billiard tourney. His only defeat has been at the hands of Gallagher.

The game yesterday afternoon, by which Perkins defeated Thatcher, was the slowest of the tournament. The winner's average was not quite 5, while the loser's was 2 39-54. Harrison was defeated by Matthews at night. To-day he finished up his part in the tournament, playing Maggioli in the afternoon and Thatcher at night. Maggioli is tied with Hatley, Capron and Sutton. Each of these men has to play four games, and the chances are that Gallagher will beat two of them out and capture third money.

RANGING AT BLUE ROCKS.

The following blue rock matches were shot in connection with the live bird shoot of the East Toronto Gun Club at Newmarket track on Monday. Each shoot was at six targets, the winners' names being first:

Shoot No. 1—W. Stinson 6, A. Stinson 5, F. Roberts 5, Capt. Campbell 5, D. Chapman 5, G. Gooch 4, A. Menzies 4, W. Smith 3, W. Wagner 3.

Shoot No. 2—Campbell 6, A. Stinson 6, W. Stinson 6, Roberts 5, C. Chapman 4, D. Chapman 4, S. Greenwood 4.

Shoot No. 3—Campbell 6, Roberts 6, A. Stinson 5, Menzies 4, Chapman 3, Stinson 3, Smith 3.

Shoot No. 4—McDowall 6, Smith 6, Campbell 4, W. Stinson 4, A. Stinson 4, Menzies 4, Roberts 4.

Shoot No. 5—Campbell 6, McDowall 6, Roberts 6, Menzies 5, A. Stinson 5, Chapman 5, Tippett 5, W. Stinson 4, Smith 4.

Shoot No. 6—McDowall 6, Campbell 6, Menzies 6, Tippett 5, Roberts 5.

A successful pigeon shoot was held at the Halfway House, Kingston-road, yesterday afternoon. There were six competitors and the conditions 12 birds each. G. Beatty came out first with 11 birds, R. Crew 10, R. Fleming and E. Sanderson 9 each.

OUTLAWS IN CONFLICT.

Philadelphia, Dec. 21.—A meeting was held late last night between representatives of the Southern and Keystone Racing Associations, for the purpose of arranging dates for their January meetings, but as W. J. Thompson, who controls the three Iron Hill tracks, failed to attend, no settlement was reached, but every effort will be made to have the matter arranged at an early day, for all interested know that a conflict would be unwise.

Not alone would it bring a financial loss to both associations, but the racing would suffer materially. In the way of jockeys, especially, there would be no end of trouble, for, as it is, good riders are scarce, the services of stable boys being required in the majority of races ruin.

When the opening at Barksdale was announced, the Iron Hill people contemplated waiting until spring to start their circuit. The marvellous increase of patronage during the last couple of weeks has brought a change of plans, and they now dispute the Barksdale people's right to the dates in question.

Public opinion is entirely with the last named, and should there be a clash there is no question but that they would get the support of the bulk of both the horsemen and the public. Even with this assurance they are willing to concede a reasonable allotment of days to Iron Hill, and Mr. Thompson will certainly see that they mean to be fair, and agree to some sort of a compromise that will end the talk of conflict.

Harry Gilmore will try to arrange a match between Jack Hanley and Frank Garrard after the latter's fight with McKenna in Chicago on Jan. 16.

JAKE GAUDAUR'S STATEMENT

Champion Oarsman Issues a Card to the Public.

WILL ROW ANY MAN IN JUNE

Must Race in America for the Championship and a Stake.

Failing to Get On a Race in This Country, Gaudaur Will Visit England in August and Take On Barry and Harding in in Three Weeks—He Has Received No Challenge and Will Accept None Except On His Own Conditions.

Champion Jake Gaudaur corrects the statements made in some quarters about races supposed to be in sight and articles of agreement alleged to have been sent to him. He is at present at his home in Atherley, enjoying the pleasures of life. He tells just what he is willing to do in the sculling line, as follows:

Sporting Editor World: Having recently seen several items and paragraphs in various newspapers concerning the world's sculling championship, I as holder of the same think it might be of interest to my countrymen to state publicly what I am willing to do in reference thereto.

I will row any man in the world—in this country—for the championship and a stake of $2500 or $5000 a side in June next. If my opponent should be either Harding or Barry of England, I will allow him $500 for expenses if the stake is $5000, or $250 for expenses if the stake is $2500.

Failing to get a match on these conditions I am willing to be in England any time after Aug. 1, next year, on the following terms, viz.:

That I will row two races, one with Harding and the other with Barry, both races to be rowed within three weeks from each other, the stake in each case to be from £250 to £500 a side, and I must be allowed £50 for expenses on each race.

I may add that up to this present time I have received no challenge since my last race and am not likely to accept any that does not embody the above conditions.

Yours very truly, J. G. Gaudaur, champion oarsman of the world.

Gaudaur will meet representatives of the Allan Line in Montreal next week, when an effort will be made to arrange matters, the difficulty about the destruction of the champion's two boats. His Clasper and Studdock shells he valued at $500, and should the company not agree to a settlement an interesting case will result. The craft were smashed in the hold of the ocean liner.

ROSSMAR WINS AT 12 TO 1.

Captured the Mile Race at New Orleans With Mamie G. Second and Logan Third.

New Orleans, Dec. 22.—Perfect weather drew out a very large crowd. The public and bookmakers broke about even, as three favorites won. In the hurdle race Folly fell, and Incommode, the favorite, was so badly ridden that his jockey was suspended indefinitely.

First race, 1 mile—Rossmar, 105 (Everett), 12 to 1, 1; Mamie G., 96 (Smith) 5 to 1, 2; Logan, 103 (Caywood), 3 to 1, 3. Time 1.42¾. Bridgeton, Tribly, C. C. Rumrill and R. O. Ban also ran.

Second race, 5 furlongs—Maxime Elliott, 102 (Clay), 3 to 1, 1; Lott, 105 (Scherer), 15 to 1, 2; Sagar Cane, 102 (Reiff), 8 to 1, 3. Time 1.02¾. Miriam M., Fred Graff, The Aristocrat, Oversight, Surveyor, Glimmering, Benedi, Lord Fairfax also ran.

Third race, 7 furlongs—Campini, 100 (Burns), 7 to 5, 1; Clara Bauer, 100 (Sweeney), 4 to 1, 2; Little Billy, 100 (Hirsch), 15 to 1, 3. Time 1.28¾. Hibernia Queen, Samson, John Hickey, Issie O., Little Tom, Sir John, Dave Zaiz, Trixie also ran.

Fourth race, 1 mile—Frank Jaubert, 99 (Hirsch), 5 to 1, 1; Bill Billy, 86 (Songer), 9 to 2, 2; Bloomer, 97 (Gatewood), 8 to 5, 3. Time 1.41¾. Maggie S., Stockholm, Martha Smith also ran.

Fifth race, 1¼ miles, hurdle—Scamp, 147 (Pierce), 4 to 1, 1; Pirate, 127 (Whitlock), 30 to 1, 2; Ondague, 128 (Bean), 5 to 1, 3. Time 2.22. Hurlbert, Grenada, Incommode, Uncle Jim, Folly also ran.

Sixth race, 1 mile—Alva, 87 (Rebo), 8 to 5, 1; Mrs. Bradshaw, 85 (Burns), 2 to 1, 2; Alto June, 101 (Dean), 8 to 5, 3. Time 1.42¾. Dennis, John Dunn, Lay On, Emma Mc., Henry Harris also ran.

NEW ORLEANS ENTRIES.

New Orleans, Dec. 22.—First race, ⅞ mile—Princess Rose 93, If 96, Hand Belle, Victoress, Haslip, Shuttlecock 108, Sir John, Dora Wood, Denver 107, Ella Lee 108, Pellas 105, Theodore H, Dancoies 106.

Second race, ⅞ mile—Loyalette 90, Dr. Newman 98, Nannie L 99, Penrose, Tempesta 95, Glen Albyn 97, Cannonade, Saukara 100, Parmesan 102, Olivia L 104, Viscount, Alvin W 108.

Third race, ⅞ mile—Alma Russell, Mary Chance 98, Brasey 97, Miss Mills 101, Mary Ann C 103, Prince Arthur 105, Minnie Murphy, Wood Bird 107, Soo, Tom Anderson, Robbie W, Venedor 110.

Fourth race, mile—Cotton King 91, Fasig 97, Dorothy III, Terra Archer, Gaylor Banks 96, Whiff 97, Marquise 98, Miss Clark 103, Masonic Home 108, Van Brunt 101.

Fifth race, ¾ mile—Juanita, Miss Vern, Ethel Farrell 99, Harry B, Cavalry 102, Cumberland 108, Tenochtitlan, Laura Davis 107.

Sixth race, ⅞ mile—Sobriquet, Gladiola, Julie D'Or 99, Pete Kitchen, Renaud 104, Ixion 107, Trixy, Timberland, Overall, Miss Rowett, Brakeman 112.

SEA SPRAY AT 30 TO 1.

Oakland, Dec. 22.—First race, 6 furlongs—Marie A., 100 (Martin), 7 to 2, 1; Valdos, 110 (Freeman), 6 to 1, 2; Cheridah, 105 (Spence), 30 to 1, 3. Time 1.17¾.

Second race, 6 furlongs—Mystic Maze, 108 (Spencer), 15 to 1, 1; Jay Wheeler, 110 (Freeman), 7 to 2, 2; Defender, 105 (McDonald), 10 to 1, 3. Time 1.18¼.

Third race, 7 furlongs—Howard S., 110 (Gardner), 3 to 5, 1; Howartio, 110 (Shaw), 4 to 1, 2; Nonchalence, 110 (Martin), 12 to 1, 3. Time 1.30.

Fourth race, 1¼ miles—Rey Del Bandidos, 108 (Coady), even, 1; Burmah, 119 (Thorpe), 50 to 1, 2; Pollock, 100 (Slaughter), 20 to 1, 3. Time 2.10¼.

Fifth race, 6½ furlongs—Sea Spray, 99 (Isom), 30 to 1, 1; Thelma, 99 (Dennison), 15 to 1, 2; Tampa, 94 (Mitchell), 40 to 1, 3. Time 1.22.

LOCAL TURF GOSSIP.

It is rumored that John Walker has severed his connection with the Walker stables and may go into the business for himself next season.

John Nixon arrived back from Wilmington yesterday with the new horses—Fairy Queen, Gainer and a brother to Rocket. They will be put at steeplechasing.

A correspondent writes from New Orleans: Allie Gates and Charlie Boyle are here. Gates has won a race with Rossmar, and has been placed twice. His recent purchase, Patrol, has been sick, but is rounding to, and will give an account of himself soon. He is a good horse, and can cover a mile around 41. Gates has him well entered in the stakes, and I would not be surprised if he put one of the classics to his credit. Boyle's main dependence is Lord Nelson, and he is off.

The Newmarket stables' Springal ran a nail into his foot at New Orleans and will be idle for a while.

SPORTING NOTES.

Jack McAuliffe announces that he has retired from the ring.

Some Brantford wheelmen are already sure of the C.W.A. meet for '97.

The Toronto Off-hand Rifle Club will hold an open shooting match for turkeys and geese at their ranges, Greenwood avenue, on Christmas. Shooting starts at 1 o'clock. All shooting men are cordially invited.

The Scots are holding their monthly smoker this evening at the Aberdeen Hotel. A full turnout of members and friends is requested, as they have secured good talent and expect to have a good time.

W. C. Charters, late physical instructor at the West End Y.M.C.A., at present with the Athenaeum Bicycle Club, was waited upon last evening at his home, No. 26, Seaton-street, by a party of over 40 old members of the West End Gymnasium and Bicycle Club and presented with a handsome and costly diamond ring as a mark of esteem from friends and ex-members. The Hon. S. C. Biggs, Q.C., made the presentation, and Mr. Charters, although somewhat taken by surprise, made a pleasant speech, thanking the boys.

HOCKEY IN THE MIDLAND DISTRICT

Delegates Convene in Bowmanville and Form a League—Four Clubs are in the Game.

Bowmanville, Dec. 22.—An organization meeting of the hockeyists of the Midland District, for the purpose of forming a league, was held in the Bennett House, Bowmanville, last night. When J. G. Campbell of Port Hope called the meeting to order the following delegates, representing their towns, were on hand: T H Graham and Mr Warren, Whitby; J A Thomson and E Cody, Oshawa; A Roberts, Cobourg; C Kent and W Furze, Bowmanville; R F Day and J A Campbell, Port Hope. The meeting was very enthusiastic, and the prospects for a successful carrying through of a schedule of games to decide the championship of the Midland District are very bright. Delegate Day of Port Hope submitted a constitution, which, with a few slight amendments, was adopted. The chief points in the constitution are the playing of a schedule to settle the championship, the paying of 4c per mile expenses of visiting town or a minimum of $8; defining the rules to govern the executive.

The rules re the protesting of the decision of the referee are very stringent, by which it is hoped to do away with all unnecessary and unseemly wrangling.

The question of a junior league, on a similar basis, was left in the hands of the secretary of the association to correspond with the secretaries of the various clubs and get their ideas as to the way the question might be settled, and in all probability Cobourg and Port Hope will be one group and Bowmanville, Oshawa and Whitby another, the winners to play probably in Bowmanville. The rules of the game are the same as govern O.H.A. games.

The following officers were elected: Hon John Dryden and Mrs Dryden (Whitby), Mr and Mrs Sykes (Oshawa), D Burk Simpson and Mrs Simpson (Bowmanville), Mr W J Crossen and Mrs Crossen (Cobourg), Mr H A Ward and Mrs Ward (Port Hope), hon. patrons and patronesses; A G Henderson (Whitby), president; J A Thomson (Oshawa), first vice-president; A Roberts (Cobourg), second vice-president; R F Day (Port Hope), secretary; C Kent (Bowmanville), treasurer. The officers are the executive committee, and with one delegate from each club make up the general committee.

The following schedule has been adopted:

Whitby—At Oshawa, Jan. 25; at Bowmanville, March 1; at Port Hope, Jan. 10; at Cobourg, Feb. 26. Oshawa—At Whitby, Feb. 15; at Bowmanville, Jan. 22; at Port Hope, Dec. 30; at Cobourg, Feb. 3. Bowmanville—At Whitby, Jan. 6; at Oshawa, Feb. 22; at Port Hope, Jan. 26; at Cobourg, Feb. 10. Port Hope—At Whitby, Feb. 10; at Oshawa, March 1; at Bowmanville, Feb. 5; at Cobourg, Jan. 29. Cobourg—At Whitby, Jan. 20; at Oshawa, Jan. 11; at Bowmanville, Jan. 8; at Port Hope, Feb. 17.

HOCKEY IN MUTUAL-STREET.

There will be plenty of hockey in the Caledonian rink, and already the teams have settled down to solid practice. Four O.H.A. clubs are located in Mutual-street: Trinity, T.A.C., Orients and Wellingtons. Trinity began operations yesterday, and had a splendid turn out. The others started on Monday. Hockey will interfere in no way with the Caledonians' curling and skating except when a championship match is being played. A schedule of practice hours has been prepared for the season, as follows:

Monday—T.A.C., 5.15-6.15; Orient, 6.15-7.15; Wellington, 10-11.

Tuesday—Trinity, 4.30-5.30; Wellington, 6.15-7.15.

Wednesday—T.A.C., 5.15-6.15; Orient, 6.15-7.15.

Thursday—Trinity, 5.00-6.00; Wellington, 6.15-7.15.

Friday—Orient, 6.15-7.15.

CENTRAL CANADA LEAGUE.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The Central Canada Hockey Association was formed in the city yesterday with the following officers: Jas White (Ottawa), president; W J Curie (Brockville), first vice-president; Mat Murray (Cornwall), second vice-president; Ed Hinchey (Ottawa), secretary-treasurer; Wm Richardson (Brockville), J A Cameron (Cornwall), James Davidson (Ottawa), executive.

The organization meeting was held in the Capital A.A.A. rooms, among those present being: Messrs A Mattice (Cornwall), A L Murray (Brockville), and James Davidson (Ottawa).

It was decided that the Cornwall, Capital and Lawrence (Brockville) hockey clubs should compose the senior league of the association this year, and that they should play home-and-home games. It was also decided that $80 should be allowed teams for traveling expenses, and that each club should put up $50 towards purchasing a trophy for the winners.

Another decision of the association was that next year two more clubs should be admitted into the senior series and that an intermediate league should be formed, the winners of the latter series to take the place in the following year of the senior club last in the senior series the previous year.

MONTREAL'S TEAM FOR WINNIPEG.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—All arrangements for the visit of the Victoria hockey team to Winnipeg have been completed. Nine men will be taken along: Gordon Lewis, Hamilton Henderson, Captain Mike Grant, Bob MacDougall, Dave Gillean, Hartland MacDougall, Graham Drinkwater, Ernie McLea and Shirley Davidson. The choice for the last place on the team will, of course, be made between Hartland MacDougall, McLea and Gillean, and the remaining two will be spares. President Howard Wilson and Secretary P. M. De Sternecke will accompany the team, as will Billy Grant. The party will leave on Christmas morning. It is more than likely that an exhibition match will be played with the Winnipegs on Saturday, Jan. 2. The Winnipegs are exceedingly anxious for the Vics to stay over, and they will do so if it is any way possible.

IMPERIALS AT PETERBORO.

Peterboro, Dec. 22.—The first hockey match of the season was played here tonight between the Imperial Bank team of Toronto and Peterboro's first seven, and although the results shows largely in favor of the intermediate champions of 1895, yet the game was a very fast one throughout. Mr. Kirby of Ottawa refereed. The score was 10 to 2 in favor of Peterboro.

HOCKEY POINTS.

The rink at Varsity will soon be ready for practice. The sides are nearly completed and the water will likely be turned on to-day.

Dr. Dave Heggie, the well-known lacrosse man, will play with the Brampton intermediates in all their championship matches.

On Monday next Jack Hardy and A. B. Cunningham will leave Kingston for New York for a few days' visit. They will play hockey with the St. Nicholas Club while there.

The covered skating rinks and artificial ice in New York have made the game of hockey grow there. It is particularly popular in society circles. Every time a hockey game is announced at the St. Nicholas Rink every seat is taken.

The practice game which was to have been played at the Victoria Rink last night between the T.A.C. and Bank of Toronto teams, did not come off, as the curlers had possession of the ice.

Personal.

Hon. Dr. Montague is at the Queen's.

A. McKay, Ingersoll, is at the Rossin.

Louis Coste, Ottawa, is at the Queen's.

J. R. Stratton, M.L.A., is at the Rossin.

I. J. Sanford, Barrie, is at the Rossin.

Jos. E. Seagram, M.P., is at the Rossin.

R. Choate, Rat Portage, is at the Rossin.

J. C. Boyd, Sault Ste. Marie, is at the Rossin.

R. B. Morrice, Montreal, is at the Queen's.

C. F. Aylesworth, Madoc, is at the Queen's.

J. Earl Halliwell, Stirling, is at the Walker.

Rev. Gerald Card has resigned the curacy of Grace Church, Elm-street, city.

Mr. W. A. Ferguson of the Soo passed through the city yesterday en route to Montreal.

Mr. J. A. Mercier, representing Messrs. L. A. Wilson & Co., wine merchants of Montreal, received a telegram from his house yesterday stating that it had been decided to use only Gold Lack Sec champagne at the Laurier banquet, which takes place on the 30th inst.

Dr. Arthur Allin, Professor of Psychology and Pedagogy, in Ohio University of Athens, O., is spending the Christmas holidays with Mr. Johnstone Carey, Beverley-street. Dr. Allin is a Canadian and graduated at Victoria University in 1893 with the highest honors attained by any graduate in 50 years. His position in Ohio University is an important one and he was chosen from among a large number of applicants.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THE ALBANI NIGHTS.

Madame Albani, who appears at the Grand on Dec. 28 and 30, is surrounded by a company of operatic stars holding the leading positions on the Royal Carl Rosa and Royal Italian Opera London stage. Lempriere Pringle, the basso, is perhaps the finest exponent amongst English singers of Richard Wagner's operas. This is exemplified from the fact that when at Halifax recently he received a contract signed by the executors of the late Sir Augustus Harris to engage for next season's grand opera at Covent Garden. Braxton Smith, the tenor, who will enact Faust here, has had splendid success on the present Albani tour. He is a very handsome man and a superb actor. Signor Armando Seppilli, the conductor, is the musical director at Covent Garden, and directed most of the important operas in London last year. Mr. Ernest Gye is also of the company, and he at one time was the proprietor of the Royal Italian Opera House, Covent Garden, London. Mr. Gye stage manages the scenes from the operas and brings to bear his great past experience in the greatest opera house of the world. Other members of the company are equally prominent. The sale of seats commences to-morrow at the box office, Grand Opera House. Prices $2, $1.50, $1, 75c; boxes $10 and $12.

THE LABOR CONCERT.

The "popular" concert, under the auspices of the Trades and Labor Council and the Federated Building Trades, held in Massey Hall last evening, was anything but the success its promoters had anticipated. There were only as many hundreds as the hall accommodates thousands, and this with the upper gallery free and any other part of the house 15 cents admission. The meagreness of the attendance was not owing to the inclement weather, for the tickets had been on sale above a week, and those sold were used. Perhaps it was ill-advised to have a concert in Christmas week, and an improvement in the program would have been an advantage. The items were principally comic character and topical songs, picture songs with stereopticon views and sleight-of-hand performance. Miss Ida McLean sang tastefully, Mr. Paul Hahn skilfully rendered 'cello solos, and Miss Alexandrina Ramsay ably recited one of Rudyard Kipling's Indian poems.

"THE CHILI WIDOW."

"The Chili Widow," as presented by Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh and the London Royalty Theatre Company at the Grand, is a delightful performance and well worth seeing. It will be repeated to-night, to-morrow and Saturday evenings and Christmas matinee. Friday night and Saturday matinee "The Queen's Proctor" will be presented.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS.

The Massey Music Hall will no doubt be crowded on Christmas afternoon and evening, the occasions being the concerts and entertainments under the auspices of the Knights of the Maccabees.

The program is one which will prove very attractive, and should please everyone.

The prices for reserved seats, in the afternoon 25 cents, and in the evening reserved seats are 50 cents and admission 25 cents. There is a special arrangement by which the holders of Maccabee tickets secure their seats at lower prices than these.

The seats are now selling rapidly and a large audience may be looked for.

CARRENO, THE PIANISTE, COMING.

Mme. Teresa Carreno, the great pianiste, has been booked for an appearance at the Massey Music Hall for Monday evening, the 18th of January. It is some years now since this celebrated artiste has been heard in America, and she will make her re-entree before a New York audience, at the concert of the Philharmonic Society, on Jan. 7. She has attained great popularity in Europe since she left America, and at every concert given in Berlin at which she has appeared has scored a triumph, and has held the large audiences spellbound by her masterly interpretation of the musical compositions of the great masters. The enthusiasm which her performances have called forth from the highly critical audiences of London, Paris, Berlin, etc., is the best evidence of her popularity abroad. By some critics of Berlin, Carreno has justly been called the "Lioness of the Piano"—so intense has been the passion displayed by this artiste in the interpretation of the grand tone works of the great composers.

The Gravenhurst Sanitarium.

Editor World: In reference to Mr. Gage's reply to my letter signed "Citizen" and the resolutions passed by the Town Council of Gravenhurst, I feel it my duty to correct some of the impressions they were intended to convey. I must say, however, that I am disappointed at the weak effort of Mr. Gage, anything less would indeed have looked like the silence of contempt. He takes refuge behind a quibble, endeavors to discredit my veracity, and then launches forth into his time-worn platitudes on all the good things that he promises in the distant future. I said I am not an applicant for a position in the Sanitarium. That I was an applicant in the beginning I have never pretended to deny. It was once necessary for him to betray the confidence of a private personal letter to prove this. That I was endorsed and recommended in this application by not only the highest medical authorities, but also the strongest, weightiest and most influential public opinion in Canada, he will not attempt to deny. (He did not publish my credentials.) Not only was I a resident of Gravenhurst, but I was chairman of the Citizens' Committee when Mr. Gage was seeking to the existence of the town to establish his Sanitarium. I had more to do with the selection of the site and the raising of the $10,000 bonus than any other man in Gravenhurst ten times over. I was employed by the town to report on its claims and its advantages as a health resort, from meteorological and other data, and although I have spent the greater part of my summer in the hospitals of Montreal and New York, I should like to know who has more right or more authority to speak on this matter than I have. Is there anyone in Gravenhurst better qualified? Mr. Gage's reply also proves that three months ago, after I had seen the building, and after I had seen through his methods, I came to the conclusion that I would have nothing to do with the institution. I informed the secretary personally that I did not want the position, but in justice to those who supported me I would prefer, if the appointment were to be made at once, to leave my name before them, and if appointed to resign the position at once. The fact is the whole institution fell so far short of my expectations that I wished to retire from it as gracefully as possible, and might never have thought of it again had I not by mere accident had the matter so forcibly presented to me by the Mayor and ex-Mayor on my return from Toronto. I cannot be even insinuated that I was refused the position, for the wonderful board never met. The appointment has not yet been made. The Gravenhurst end of the board, which is apparently the tail end, has never had a chance to wag itself, and yet they pretend to be satisfied when the matter becomes public. These little resolutions passed by the Town Council of Gravenhurst whitewashing Mr. Gage are not worth the paper they are written on. Passed by a moribund council on the eve of a municipal election, who find themselves between the devil and the deep sea, the public know just how much importance to attach to them. I have no backwater to take in this matter. I can prove my statements on the testimony of the Mayor or the ex-Mayor and the Town Clerk, however distasteful to them the task may be. But what the public are most concerned about is, not my pedigree, nor the strength of backbone of the above gentlemen, but what is the cash value to the Gravenhurst Sanitarium of that twenty-five thousand dollar donation promised by Mr. W. J. Gage.

W. F. Shaw, M.D.

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Alexander Holland, the butcher, of 116 Curzon-street, is suing D. W. Alexander & Co., the wholesale leather merchants, for $648 for goods said to have been sold and delivered and $2000 is also claimed for alleged slander.

Cornelius Flanagan, the well-known cattle dealer, left no will, and his widow is applying to be appointed guardian of the five children, who are entitled to $500, a policy in the Board of Trade gratuity fund. No inventory of the estate has yet been filed, but its value will not exceed $10,000.

Every person who is deprived of outdoor air and exercise should take Miller's Compound Iron Pills. They keep the bowels regular and tone up the nervous system. 50 doses for 25c.

A CHARMING LOVE LETTER.

George Sand's Passionate Appeal to Her Stupid Italian Lover, Dr. Pagello.

One of the finest love poems in any language has just come to light, says The New York Herald. Though prose in form, it is a poem in spirit, though apparently a mere impassioned love letter, it is, in its way, a work of art, and as such may well be placed in the same category with the wonderful letters of Heloise and Abelard.

George Sand is this nineteenth-century Heloise, and the Abelard to whom her fiery words are addressed is Pietro Pagello, an Italian doctor. The great authoress was passionately in love with this ponderous Italian, and some curious stories have been published in regard to her intimacy with him. How he attracted her is rather a mystery. Some writers claim that the magic lay in his broad shoulders and general physical robustness. But can any one account for a woman's tastes? Can any one explain why Mary of Scotland fell in love with the brutal Bothwell?

Dr. Pagello is still living—90 years old he is—and from him Dr. Cabanes obtained a copy of the fine letter.

A hearty old man Pagello is, and greatly flattered he seems to be on account of the attention which is being paid to him at present. Among his treasures are a few porcelain cups out of which George Sand used to drink, and these he always shows to visitors. Talking of the woman who has made his name famous, he says that she was fond of Turkish tobacco and used to make her own cigarets, that she was always sweet-tempered and content with her lot, that fish was her favorite food, that she excelled in making sauces, and that she drank a good deal of tea as a stimulant to work.

Young Pagello, his son, adds further details. "This was a mere episode in my father's life," he says; "nothing more. George Sand, wearied with Alfred de Mussett's caprices, fell in love with my father, who was a fine, handsome, broad-shouldered young fellow. My father loved the handsome Frenchwoman for her genius, her kindness—indeed, to tell the truth, he was captivated with her. But this little incident was soon forgotten by him.

How cold, nay, heartless, these words seem as we read George Sand's outburst of passionate adoration! Would she have written thus if she had foreseen that this bright in her life would in time be regarded as a "little incident" in her lover's life?

She would, perhaps, be as much opposed to the publication of this love letter as some members of her family are now to the publication of her private documents. Her daughter, Mme. Clesinger, was very angry when she heard that this letter had been published, and she at once asked the courts to interfere in her behalf. Lawyers, however, are of the opinion that she has no case. A letter, they say, belongs partly to the author and partly to the person to whom it is addressed, and, under ordinary circumstances, no third party has any claim to it. Moreover, George Sand bequeathed all the letters relating to herself and De Mussett to M. Emile Ancante, with full instructions to publish them whenever he might see fit. M. Ancante says that he will carry out her desire and that her letters to De Mussett will be published shortly. Mme. Clesinger and the other members of George Sand's family, he claims, have not a shadow of title to her letters. He will publish them, and the originals will then be deposited in the National or some other great French library.

Even admitting, however, that the members of the family have some rights as regards the letters to De Mussett, it is difficult to see what claim they can have on the letters written to Pagello, and which are, apparently, in his possession.

Now for the famous letter itself:

"Since we were born under different skies, we have neither the same thoughts nor the same language, but have we not, at least, the same hearts?

"The warm and foggy climate of my native land has left in me sweet and melancholy impressions; what passions do you owe to the generous sun which has bronzed your brow. I, my love, to love and to suffer—and you, how do you love?

"I do not know if you really love me. I shall never know. You are only able to speak a few words in my tongue, and I do not know your mother tongue sufficiently to enable me to frame questions so subtle. Perhaps even if I knew your language thoroughly it would be impossible for me to make myself understood.

"The places in which we have lived, the persons who have instructed us, are doubtless the cause why we cannot explain, each to the other, our ideas, our sentiments, our needs. My weak nature and your fiery temperament must necessarily give birth to thoughts that are widely different. Of a surety you either ignore or despise the thousand pangs that assail me; of a surety you laughed at that which brings tears to my eyes.

"Perhaps you do not know what tears are?

"Will you be for me a helpmate or a master? Will you console me for all the ills which I suffered before I met you? Will you understand why I am sad?

"Do you know what compassion, patience, friendship mean? Perhaps you have been nurtured in the conviction that women have no soul? Do you know that they have one? Are you neither Christian nor Mussulman? Neither civilized nor barbarian? Are you a man? What is there within this manly breast, this leonine eye, this superb brow? Is there in you a thought noble and pure, a sentiment fraternal and pious? When you sleep do you dream that you are winging your way toward heaven? When men do you wrong do you put your trust in God?

"Do you know what I am, and are you trembling yourself because you do not know it? Am I in your eyes something unknown, which fills you with longing and possesses your thoughts? Do you know what the soul's desire is—that desire which time cannot satiate and which no human caress can weary or lull to sleep?

"Oh, when I find your countenance calm, shall I learn whether you are thinking or simply reposing? When your eyes grow languishing will it be through tenderness or weariness?

"Perhaps you think that you do not know * * * that I do not know you. I know neither your past life nor your character nor how you are esteemed by those men who do know you. Perhaps you are the first, perhaps the last, among them. I love you without knowing if I will be able to esteem you. I love you because you please me; perhaps I will soon be forced to hate you.

"If you were a man of my own country I would question you and you would understand me; but I would perhaps be still more unhappy, for you would deceive me.

"You at any rate will not deceive me. You will not make me vain promises and false vows. You will love me as you know how to love and as you can love. What I have looked for in vain in other men I shall perchance not find in you, but I can always believe that it is in you. The looks and caresses of love, which have always lied to me, you will allow me to explain at my pleasure without adding to them any deceitful words. I will be able to interpret your reveries and to turn your silence into eloquent speech. I will attribute to your actions such motives as I may desire. When you look at me tenderly I will believe that your soul is holding communication with mine; when you look at the sky I will believe that your intellect is speeding back to the eternal centre from which it emanated.

"Let us remain, then, as we are. Do not learn my tongue! I have no desire to find in your language the words which would tell you of my doubts and fears. I desire to remain in ignorance of what you are doing with your life and of what part you are playing in the world of men. I would be willing even not to know your name—nay, hide from me your very soul, so that I may always be able to believe it is beautiful."

It is said that on the back of this letter George Sand wrote the words: "To the stupid Pagello." The wonder is, were these words written in pleasantry or in contempt? Did the gifted woman merely mean to jest with her big-shouldered lover or had she learned too late that all her fine frenzy was being wasted on a man who, instead of proving himself the Apollo of her dreams, had at last shown himself to be of very ordinary clay?

HAPPENINGS OF A DAY.

Items of Passing Interest Gathered in and Around this Busy City.

Veterans of '66 held a smoking concert at the Richardson House last night.

A wife's difficulty.—My husband smokes. Well, give him a box of Cigars for Christmas. Alive Bollard.

Be sure that "L. & S." is burned in the skin of the hams and bacon. None other genuine. Sold by all grocers.

The Massey-Harris Company has shipped to Australia, via the Canadian Pacific Railway, a consignment of bicycles valued at $25,000.

Mr. J. E. Dingman arrived in the city from Picton and left shortly afterwards for his home in Winnipeg, and, if not overtaken by a snow blockade, he will spend Christmas with his family.

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