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SIXTH YEAR — TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 28, 1886. — PRICE ONE CENT

A CIRCUS AT THE COUNCIL.

THE CITY FATHERS HAVE A LIVELY MEETING LAST NIGHT.

The Waterworks Department Under Fire—Ald. Walker and Mayor Howland in Combat—The Charges Against City Auditor Hughes—"Symons the Wretch."

Mayor Howland, at a certain stage in the proceedings of the City Council meeting last night, characterized the scenes that were being enacted within the chamber as a circus. Called by whatever name The World could suggest, it was certainly one of the most exciting nights ever seen in our dingy old civic buildings. All of the City Fathers except Ald. Allen, Maughan, Hunter and Shaw were in their places. The galleries were crowded with an applauding audience, and the spaces on the floor in rear of the members' desks were closely packed with prominent citizens, who evinced the deepest interest in the proceedings. The gallery at times became so noisy that His Worship had to suppress the "gods" who were there congregated. Certainly the performers in the civic circus had no reason to complain of the size of the audience. There might have possibly been room for complaint as to some of the auditors, however.

The first three hours of the sitting were taken up with a series of cross-firings and recriminations. The subject matters of the lively debate were the Waterworks Department, the city press, the Don Mills-road arbitration, the alleged coal conspiracy and the charges against City Auditor Hughes, which are contained in an affidavit made by Charles H. Symons, who during the aldermanic talk was called such pet names as wretch, fugitive from justice, thief, perjurer, forger and a very bad man generally.

Ald. Walker's Loaded Gun.

The Waterworks Department racket was called up first by Ald. Walker, the chairman, as a question of privilege. In the Telegram of Sept. 21 was published a purported interview with Mayor Howland, in which His Worship is alleged to have characterized the department as a mass of maladministration and corruption. Specifically, the Mayor stigmatized Ald. Walker's administration of the department as rotten. The latter charge the alderman from St. George's Ward grew very wrathy over, and after taking his seat placed before him a big bunch of manuscript, which when he opened up he found was not the same bunch as he had left the Walker House with half an hour before. Ald. Walker asked if His Worship if he was prepared to stand by the charges contained in the article in question. Mayor Howland replied that he was not responsible for what appeared in the newspapers. Ald. Walker then proceeded to reply to the article, which he supposed had been extensively read. He said in substance:

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL:—"The charges of rottenness in every or any department of the Waterworks Department I deny, and I denounce the same as being alike unwarranted and unjustifiable. I further state that the Waterworks Department, as a whole, will bear the closest scrutiny and inspection, and upon investigation it will be found to compare with any similarly instituted concern or other large works of any kind in the Dominion. This much I say in refutation of the general charges of rottenness.

"The change of want of action by the members of the Waterworks Committee is alike unjustifiable. This committee is composed of eleven active business men, anyone of whom would compare favorably in business ability (public or private) with their accuser.

"To the charge of mismanagement made against myself, I prefer to answer by quoting a few facts and figures. Time will not admit of more than a mention of the many improvements, such as the cast-iron well at the engine house and the connections at the wharf and Hanlan's Point, which have been successfully constructed and carried out under my own personal supervision, and by the completion of which I have had the honor of being able to say to the citizens for the first time that they were now getting pure lake water.

"The financial statement of the department for 1884-5 shows that the ordinary revenue for 1884 was $267,002, and the expenditure for all charges $268,336, or $734 more than the receipts. The actual working expenses for that year were $117,000. In 1885 the ordinary revenue was $282,411 and the total expenditure $252,141. This left a profit of $30,270 for the year. I cannot give the exact figures for 1886 at this date, as there are three months yet to run, but I can assure the Council that the profits of the department will not be less than $30,000." [Applause in the gallery which was suppressed by His Worship.]

"As to the specific charge of no proper audits being made in the Department, I beg to submit a memo. of the audits made by the City Auditors on the books in connection with this department: 'If the rate is received during the first month of the quarter, we see that the cash received and the discount on percentage with unpaid balance (if any) equals the current rate (for gross amount) and the arrears (if any) from the preceding quarter. If the rate is not paid during the first month, we see that the current rate on gross amount is charged. We compare the list of arrears furnished us with the amounts entered in the arrears of the street ledgers, and then return it to the Superintendent for the use of the rating branch of the Department. We add the several footings of the street ledgers and prove them with the totals. We compare the amounts entered in the street ledgers as received, with the abstract cash book and the latter with the general cash book and the general cash book with the deposit receipts, which we examine as part of our audit of the treasurer's cash book and ledger. In reference to the general expenditure on account of the Waterworks Department, the vouchers are submitted to us by the Treasurer and carefully examined to see that they are correct on their face and have received all necessary authority for payment, in accordance with the by-laws of the Council. As to the accuracy of the accounts themselves, so far as regards measurements, values, etc., the responsibility necessarily falls on the clerks and executive officers of the Department. In regard to the books in the collecting department of the waterworks for the past two quarters we would direct attention to our reports thereon to the City Council, dated respectively, April 27 and July 19 last.

"In view of these facts, I think that it is very unwise for you, Your Worship, to make such sweeping charges without endeavoring to ascertain the real facts. Such charges as yours create a distrust and suspicion in the minds of the citizens that is not very easily removed. Again I repeat, Mr. Mayor, that your charges are totally unjustifiable and unwarranted."

Mayor Howland replied at length to Ald. Walker. "I found," he began, "that there was no use talking to Mr. Walker about the mismanagement which I considered existed in his Department. I could make no impression whatever upon him. I have here a statement made by Police Magistrate Denison, who is investigating the coal inquiry. It says: 'There is fraud among the firemen—[the firemen meant is not stated—REP.]—it seemed to me to permeate the whole system.' I did not say or claim that there was no audit. What I did say, and which I stated at the meeting of the Executive Committee, was that there was no audit in detail. I made this statement on the authority of Superintendent Hamilton. The City Auditors themselves said that the 'books of the Department were not in a fit state to audit.'"

His Worship here took occasion to state that he was not in the habit of replying to newspaper paragraphs, but one in the Globe he must deny. That paper had said that he (the Mayor) had told Ald. Walker that if he could not prove that there was a clean steal of $8000 from the city in the Burns coal contract he would resign his position as Mayor. "That is untrue," said His Worship.

Continuing, the Mayor said: "The Worthingtons have always complained that their pumping engines were not given a fair show. The firm had offered to pay the expenses of one of their men to come on to Toronto to demonstrate that the engines would do the work they claimed for them. Certain reports have been sent in to this Council that the new engines were pumping 12,000,000 gallons of water per day. That was not the case. The new engines, which were breaking down all the time, had only a capacity of 9,000,000 or 10,000,000 gallons. Then that steel boiler contract was a fraud on the city. The boilers were not built in accordance with the specifications. I am certainly not satisfied with Ald. Walker's administration of the Department; it has not been a success. We were not getting good water. [Applause in the gallery.] The Water Works Department ought to return a profit of $100,000 per annum. We were wasteful and pumped 100 gallons per head per day for the population, almost double of what it was in other cities. If there were no leaks in the pipes, 60 gallons per head would be enough and we would not need the new conduit pipe which Ald. Walker was so anxious to have built."

Ald. Walker said His Worship had never seen fit to consult himself (Ald. Walker) about the working of the Department. He got all his information from men who were after Mr. Venables' position and "tattle-tales." Detroit pumped 158 gallons per head of its population and Buffalo 167. At the present time Toronto only pumped 67 gallons per head. The immense quantities of water consumed by hydraulic hoists and meters (350,000,000 gallons per year), and for street watering and fire purposes (650,000,000 gallons) had not been reckoned by the Mayor. Ald. Walker failed to see why the Magistrate should give any information about the Department.

His Worship and Ald. Walker then had a lively passage-at-arms as to whether he (the Mayor) had said to Ald. Walker that if he could not prove that an $8000 steal was perpetrated against the city in connection with the Burns coal contract, he would resign. Ald. Walker said His Worship had certainly made that statement to him in King-street. Mayor Howland replied that he did not. Ald. Walker had misunderstood him.

After some further hot talk, which the gallery took great delight in listening to, His Worship said he might as well try to convince a stump as to convince Ald. Walker.

Ald. Walker (aside)—"Thank you."

Ald. Turner Tackles His Worship.

Ald. Turner was the next to speak to a question of privilege. In brief, he said the Telegram was the lowest type of journal in the city. That paper had constantly villified and misrepresented him. It had charged that he (Ald. Turner) had been a party to assisting, by his eloquence in Council, Taylor Brothers to steal $7200 from the city by the sale of their Don Mills-road. That paper had said that His Worship shared this opinion, and was collecting evidence to back it up. "I would ask you squarely, Mr. Mayor, if you made any such statement?"

Mayor Howland said he was not there to be cross-questioned about what appeared in newspapers except over his own signature. He never took any notice of what appeared in the public papers. He did not think it was the duty of a public man to do so.

"Will you allow the statement to go uncontradicted?" asked Ald. Turner.

"I decline to be responsible for newspaper interviews," replied the Mayor. "The reporter may, however, have concentrated my opinions on the subject. I certainly do not remember making use of the exact expressions attributed to me."

Ald. Turner was not at all satisfied with the explanation. He thought it was very equivocal.

"The Wretch Symons."

The next lively bout took place when the Council got into Committee of the Whole (Ald. Crocker in the chair) on report No. 34 of the Executive Committee, the first clause of which reads:

"Your committee beg to report the reception of a letter from the City Clerk, transmitting, by direction of His Worship the Mayor, a statement made by C. H. Symons, accompanied by a sworn affidavit, reflecting on the integrity of Mr. Hughes, one of the city auditors. On motion of Mr. Ald. Lamb, Mr. Hughes was afforded an opportunity to appear before the committee in reference to the statement, of which he stated himself emphatically denying the charges therein contained. Both the statement and Mr. Hughes' denial of the same were referred by your committee without discussion, and as the matter is not regularly before the committee it cannot be dealt with without specific instructions from the Council."

An hour of hot discussion followed the reading of this clause. Ald. Lamb was the first speaker, and he waxed eloquent in a full-time allowance (15 minutes) speech. He denounced in toto the course of Mayor Howland in connection with the affidavit of "the wretch Symons," as he termed him. He challenged the bravery of any man to make the statements on the floor of the Council that had been made in two evening papers that he (Lamb) had been guilty of breaking faith with the Mayor. The alderman from St. Davids explained at length his course in connection with the events which led up to the submission of Symons' affidavit to the Executive Committee. Symons being a thief and an absconder, he could not take any stock in his affidavit. Neither could any honest man. Mrs. Symons had admitted that her husband was a forger and a thief, and she (Mrs. Symons) had stolen certain cash books out of Mr. Burns' office. He thought that the signing of Symons' affidavit so late as September 20 was done for some special object. He considered Mr. Hughes as honest a man as ever lived.

Ald. Frankland here offered a resolution that the clauses of the Executive, there being no proof to substantiate Symons' charges, be quietly dropped and ignored. Ald. Boustead, in amendment, moved them back to the committee for investigation and a report.

Mayor Howland, after remarking that the proceedings of the Council resembled a circus, said that Symons' affidavit was sworn to in Utica. He thought the courts would sustain this man's (Symons') evidence. He had the information in his possession for some time. But could not make it public until he did. This was in the interests of justice. The auditor was the foremost officer in the city's employ, and he could not be allowed to continue in service unless he could disprove the charges. Ald. Lamb had spoken to him (the Mayor) to compromise the matter, but he could not think of such a thing. There was sufficient in the affidavit to warrant an investigation.

Ald. Lamb—"If the affidavit was by an honest man it would be all right. But when it is from a wretch protected by a government, good men should treat it with suspicion. When the day of reckoning came it would be seen whether Symons used the Mayor or the Mayor used Symons."

Ald. Hall said he received a letter on Dec. 3 last from Symons, who was then in Detroit. The letter contained the same information as was contained in the affidavit. That showed that it was not of recent concoction. Ever since then I have not thought much of Mr. Hughes. I may as well be honest.

Ald. Frankland regretted that Ald. Hall had such a letter in his possession and did not make it public. He would notified Mr. Hughes quickly on the word of an exile and a perjurer. "Who will be safe?" asked Ald. Frankland, if this man, under the protection of our government, could assail the character of any one connected with the Corporation?

Ald. Walker moved that Mr. Hughes be allowed to defend himself.

Ald. Baxter, in thundering eloquence, demanded fair play, yea though the heavens should fall.

Ald. Turner offered a scathing rebuke to the course pursued by the Mayor ever since Mr. Burns and his employes were arrested. He did not impugn His Worship's motives in formulating the charges against Mr. Burns, but he would tell the Mayor that the opinion was current all over the city that the prosecution of those gentlemen was pressed with an earnestness that was not in keeping with the christian charity for which the Mayor received the credit of possessing. "His Worship," he said, "seemed determined to secure a conviction, right or wrong." As the Mayor had conducted the original prosecutions, without reference to the Executive Committee or the City Solicitor, he should also be wholly responsible for the charge against Mr. Hughes.

Ald. Walker's motion to hear Mr. Hughes was carried, and the proceedings were resumed in Council.

Mr. Hughes, who had in the meantime been buzzing around among his friends in the chamber, stepped forward and in a clear, distinct voice gave the most emphatic denial possible to Symons' allegations. He said the $14 in question was a rebate for overcharge from Mr. Burns. He did not go to Mr. Burns with a coal bill and have it recopied. He had paid, means $14 more than he was entitled to and received it back. Symons was not in the room at the time. "The whole transaction occupied but three minutes, while Symons says I was in Burns' office for half an hour."

Ald. Baxter—"Will you solemnly declare that your interview with Burns had nothing to do with the waterworks coal contract?"

Mr. Hughes—"I solemnly declare so. That Symons is a villain."

Mayor Howland—"Mr. Symons has been falsely charged. The books from which Mr. Burns made his charge were utterly unreliable. Mr. Symons has been called very hard names in this room."

Ald. Baxter—"Is it the action of an innocent man to skedaddle half and clear out of the country?"

The Mayor—"Mr. Symons was drinking at the time. Any man who drinks is a fool."

In Committee of the Whole again Chairman Crocker ruled Ald. Frankland's motion out of order, and Ald. Boustead's amendment was carried.

The Public Business of the Session.

The fun was over at 10.30 and the galleries were quickly emptied. The Council spent the next half hour before adjourning in rushing through the reports of the various committees which were passed with slight amendment. A large number of petitions, communications, enquiries, etc., came up in the regular way. The bylaw for raising funds to straighten the Don was read a third time and ordered to stand for publication. The bylaw to take lands required for straightening the same river was read a first time and stands for publication. Other routine business was transacted and the Council adjourned at 11 o'clock.

A FOUR-HORSE LEAP.

Remarkable Accident at an English Race Meeting.

From London Field.

On the night of the South Molton race meeting recently an accident of a rather remarkable character occurred to a valuable team of grays, the property of Mr. T. Horn of the Horse Repository, Barnstable. It appears that a party of about seventeen gentlemen were returning from the races in a large brake, the Jehu being a well-known local "whip." The night was extremely dark and the driver mistook the road. This was discovered when several miles from the town, and the situation was matter for no little consultation. However, it was at last decided to proceed and reach Barnstable by another route. The lamps were lit, but they only illumined the immediate surroundings of the brake. The jovial company proceeded, but before they had covered much ground a slight shock was felt and a snap heard, and quick as thought the whole team disappeared from sight. Ten o'clock, seven or eight miles from home, and the "cattle gone—what a fix!" As soon as the first surprise was over a search was instituted, and, with the assistance of the lamp, the nature of the situation was quickly realized. It transpired that they had driven up a narrow road, and in the dark what appeared by the defined line of light to be the road was in reality a dwarf wall about 2½ feet high. The point was a sharp corner, almost at right angles, and turned out to be a bridge over a very shallow stream. The consternation of the party can be more easily imagined than described when it was discovered that the whole team had leaped the wall, and the pole and harness having snapped and broken, had fallen a depth of between 12 feet and 14 feet. The animals were a handsome lot, and, needless to say, very "greedy." "Here's £200 gone!" was one of the first exclamations, while others were thankful that the pole and harness gave way and thus saved the coroner a big job. As soon as circumstances would admit the party got down to the spot, and there found three horses apparently dead and the fourth standing near, Jim stuck to the reins like a limpet, and did not see the force of saying "die" till the fact had been demonstrated. The harness was quickly cut and taken off, and, with a palpitating heart, an operator commenced to shake one animal's head. To the intense relief of all, the experiment was a success and the poor beast, with much assistance, got to its feet, trembling with fright. But yet there were two more lying by the side, perfectly motionless. The same operation was performed on each animal with the same fortunate result, and ultimately all were got into the road once more, but in a very shaky condition. One of the animals had so fallen that it lay under the trunk of a felled tree, which rested on the two backs, and this obstacle had to be removed ere the horse could be relieved. Not a limb broken, the fates be thanked. Willing hands now set to work replacing the broken pole and harness, the cut harness usable, and sufficient repairs were quickly effected to allow a start being made. The two horses who had faced the best were put into harness, and the others were led and thus in a very lame fashion the "unfortunate fortunate" party reached Barnstable.

MR. PARNELL'S MOTHER.

The Old Lady Urges Patience and Prudence on the People.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 27.—Mrs. Parnell in an interview to-day said she had fully recovered from fatigue of her journey, so much so, in fact that she had arranged to attend meeting to-night in favor of Father Fahey. The lady added "I will go to Dublin to-morrow. I am not certain that I shall ever return to the United States in view of my advanced years and state of health. I prefer remaining in Ireland. I feel assured of the success of my son's movements if the people of Ireland are prudent and patient. If they commit outrages they will only play into their enemy's hands."

Ireland's Opportunity.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—Mrs. Parnell, addressing a meeting in Liverpool this evening, said Americans looked to the Irish to uphold democratic principles in their demand for Home Rule. In their past victories Irishmen had achieved no greater victory than that of controlling their tempers. England was in arms against Ireland, which Americans were rejoiced to see.

The Alleged Threat Against Hull.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—At a meeting of the National League at Hull to-day it was decided not to pass a resolution denying the accuracy of the letter recently published, in which the writer stated that the Town of Hull was to be burried by Fenians.

MURDERS AND SUICIDES.

An Unusual Crop of Both in the City of Paris.

PARIS, Sept. 27.—The city continues to furnish a singularly large number of murders and suicides. At one of the hotels yesterday a cook shot and wounded his mistress and then attempted suicide because the woman had made him jealous. A hair-dresser shot and mortally hurt his mistress because she had tired of their relationship and resolved to reform. A workman having his week's pay in his pocket and feeling hilarious met a pretty female organ grinder and asked her to play him a waltz so that he might dance for her amusement while she played for his. The woman's male companion instantly became incensed at the request of the workman and shot him dead.

AN APPEAL TO THE IRISH.

Mr. Parnell Thinks That All Things Can be Constitutionally Accomplished.

DUBLIN, Sept. 27.—The Freeman's Journal says: "Parnell's cablegram to President Fitzgerald, of the Irish National League in America, is virtually an appeal to the Irish at home and abroad. From the British Government nothing can be expected by the Irish people, who may, however, have everything by their own endurance backed by the help of their exiled countrymen. There must be no disorder though, no wild insanity, no acts estranging the world's sympathy. Where the landlords have given proofs that they are fair-minded let them be met by fair dealing.

Russia and the Regency.

SOFIA, Sept. 27.—M. Stambuloff, president of the regency, is negotiating with M. Zunkoff, the leader of the Russian party in Bulgaria, with a view to arranging for a cessation of internal strife. M. Zunkoff promises to recognize the regency on condition that some of the foreign portfolios are allotted to the Zunkoff party.

Why Did He Abdicate?

BERLIN, Sept. 27.—The North German Gazette, in an article to-day decrying that the great powers ousted Prince Alexander, maintains that even Russia placed no difficulty in the way of Alexander's remaining at Sofia. It says the Czar's personal aversion for Alexander is no new thing. For the past five or six years the Prince believed himself able to bear Russia's wrath without prejudice to the interests of Bulgaria. Therefore it behooves the newspapers which are favorable to Alexander to explain the real motives of his abdication. If the newspapers fail to offer an explanation, the German and Austrian parliaments must do so."

A Bishop's Appeal to the Wealthy.

BRUSSELS, Sept. 27.—The Bishop of Liege, opening the congress in that city yesterday, urged the leading classes of society to interest themselves in public and political affairs, and called upon the wealthy to renounce their life of luxury in order to relieve poverty. Five thousand workmen afterward joined in a demonstration.

A BIG BOOM IN BUSINESS.

TRADE DEPRESSION GIVING WAY TO PROSPERITY.

A General Lifting of the Curtain—Commercial and Financial Circles Encouraged—Indications Everywhere Except in 'Frisco of Better Times.

NEW YORK, Sept. 27.—The World this morning publishes a lengthy article on the prospects of trade. It says: "The long period of depression in business seems now to be giving way to one of prosperity. Merchants and general tradesmen agree that the prospects of the fall trade are very bright. There is no boom, but a steady, healthy growth. Everyone sees indications of better times. It is the universal opinion in commercial and financial circles that not only is the present condition of business better than it has been for a number of years past, but that the future is of greater promise than for a long time.

"The bustle and activity in the dry goods district is apparent to all who visit that part of the city. That trade is generally the first to feel the good times. Big jobbing and commission houses are lighted up at night and the sidewalks are humbered with bales and boxes. Far into the night men pack goods for shipment. The streets in the dry goods district are lined at night with trucks piled high with merchandise and covered with tarpaulins, ready to be started at daybreak for the steam wharves and railway shipping offices.

"Confidence has been restored among investors, and new enterprises are being promoted in Wall-street. The banking institutions are encouraged, and holders of railroad securities are delighted by the increased earnings of the lines, from freight, which clearly shows that goods are being transported everywhere in large quantities.

"Iron has advanced in price in the face of the largest production ever known. Croaking and complaining are mainly confined to the manufacture of silk, and the leather trade has felt the effect of the business growth only in the extent of its sales. Traders lament that they are doing business at a loss.

"In Philadelphia the revival of business seems to be genuine and solid. Merchants of all classes, commission men, jobbers and retailers are beginning to look forward to an unusually heavy trade. The great dry goods houses, the wholesale grocers, and the dealers in staple merchandise are working night and day. The great manufacturing districts of Kensington, Richmond and Southwark cannot turn out goods fast enough to fill their orders. The general opinion of business men is that this is not merely a boom but a healthy revival after a season of unnatural depression. In the iron business the advance is 50 per cent. since this time last year, and the demand for coal is enormous. Capitalists and manufacturers are still very cautious about making large contracts, on account of the uncertainty still existing as to the stability of engagements with operatives and the existence of strikes in some quarters; but on the whole the relations between employers and employes are harmonious.

"The marked improvement in business in Boston and throughout New England is very encouraging. There has been a great deal of cautious buying, but the feeling in the dry goods trade is better than it was during summer. The agents for the manufacturing concerns are easily disposing of the fall production of the mills. The season's business among the big shoe concerns has held on remarkably well. Some shoe leather manufacturers are demanding higher prices on new contracts. The furniture manufacturers report a steadier business in progress, and the shops are very busy. The lumber business is very steady.

"In Atlanta, Ga., there is a marked revival of business.

In New Orleans there is always a revival of business just after the opening of the commercial year, Sept. 1, but this season it has been more marked than for several years.

At St. Louis there was a genuine old-fashioned trade boom in the spring, which was stopped by the strike on the Wabash. The Western road is still about reviving from this, and the outlook is cheerful. At San Francisco business is very dull, and there is little appearance of revival. Very heavy failures have occurred within the past few months.

A Dr. Charged With Perjury.

LONDON, Ont., Sept. 27.—Dr. McLay of Aylmer has been summoned to appear before Squire McCausland to answer to the charge of perjury. The complainant is the Rev. Mr. Tapscott, Baptist clergyman, of Aylmer, and the charge is based on the testimony given by the doctor at a recent Scott Act trial in Aylmer, in which he swore that he had not drank intoxicating liquor in any bar in Aylmer since May 1 last.

Big drives in best quality Wilton, Brussels and Axbusson carpets during this month at Petley's. 235

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

Items of Interest Received by Mail and Wire.

—Two sons of Mr. Forster, Glen Williams, aged 15 and 16, were playing with a gun, when the weapon exploded and the youngest was killed.

—Father Lacombe has received a telegram stating that Crow Foot had arrived at Winnipeg, and would reach Montreal on Wednesday.

—Mr. John Mackay, the bonanza millionaire, states that if the copper mine recently discovered at Sudbury Junction is of the dimensions stated it will close up all the copper mines in the world.

—It was reported in St. Catharines on Saturday that G. E. Evans, the late defaulting station master of the Grand Trunk at Port Dalhousie, had been captured in Chicago by the detectives of the Guarantee Company.

—Mr. John Dyment of Orkney, who was seriously injured by the kick of a horse at the Provincial Fair in Guelph on Friday, was a little better yesterday, and the medical attendant says there is a chance for further improvement.

—Yesterday afternoon Mr. Patrick Farrell while driving to London Fair, his horses, a very spirited pair, took fright and ran away, throwing Mr. Farrell out and breaking his leg in two places and completely demolishing the carriage.

—Mr. Wm. Elwood, at one time a merchant in Parkhill, was found starved almost to death in a barn at McGillivray one day last week. When first discovered he could speak, and said he hadn't tasted food for fourteen days. An hour afterwards he was dead.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

Slight shocks of earthquake continue to be felt at Charleston and Summerville, S.C.

Nat Johnson, nephew of ex-Governor Johnson, shot and killed Ben Cady at Nelsonville, Ky. Political quarrel the cause.

The Treasury Department has declined to grant permission for the importation free of duty of fishing boats and fishing appliances from Canada for temporary use.

The acting Secretary of the Treasury yesterday issued the one hundred and forty-third call for the redemption of bonds. The call is for fifteen million dollars of the three per cent. loan of 1882.

Consul-General Williams at Havana transmits a report to the Secretary of State showing that nearly 94 per cent. of all the sugar cane product of Cuba for the first quarter of this year found "possible markets" in the United States.

The sixty delegates of the New York Assembly No. 49 of the Knights of Labor to the Richmond, Va., convention have decided to take board with colored families in that city because the Merchants' Hotel refused to accommodate a colored delegate.

An analysis yesterday of the water left in their cells shows that the three penitentiary prisoners who were taken suddenly sick Saturday night at Columbus, O., were poisoned. They were important witnesses in the pending investigations of a ring at the prison.

Whiting and Havens, two convicts, escaped from the penitentiary, Michigan City, Ind., yesterday. They jumped on an engine and went off at full speed. As they passed the prison a guard shot Whiting in the heart. Havens jumped and ran for it and was shot in the head. He was recaptured and taken back to prison.

Eel Men's Ball.

In most large cities every fall, a certain number of fat men celebrate themselves by tearing around a ball-room and eating turkey. From time immemorial fat men have been jolly, and it seems proper that Toronto fat men should combine for a night's jollification, each ponderous individual wearing quinn's shirts, neckties and gloves.

HORSEWHIPPED BY A GIRL.

A Jersey City Reporter Runs Foul of a Very Mad Maiden.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Sept. 27.—An Evening Journal reporter named Lenhart was horsewhipped to-night in the meeting rooms of the Board of Public Works by Mamie Gannon, the 24-year-old daughter of a wealthy coppersmith. On Tuesday the Journal published a sensational story entitled "Society Girl Forgers." It stated that two young ladies moving in the highest circles of society had raised checks given them by their fathers from $8 and $10 to $80 and $100 respectively. The article caused a sensation, and was generally believed to refer to Miss Gannon and her sister Annie, who is three years her junior. Reporter Lenhart made no secret of the fact that he had written the story, and last Friday night he was decoyed into a saloon by a male friend of the Misses Gannon, who struck him in the face. This evening Lenhart was assigned to report the proceedings of the Board of Public Works for his newspaper. There was a large lobby on hand and Lenhart was mercilessly ridiculed when he put in an appearance. He took his seat at a desk with his back close to a low iron railing which separates the lobby from the space occupied by the members of the board. The business of the board was proceeding when the elder Miss Gannon walked up to the railway and drawing a cattle whip from beneath her ulster belabored Lenhart over the face and neck, amid cheers and encouraging cries of "Give it to him" from the spectators. The lady was led downstairs by the messenger but reappeared within a few moments and again attacked Lenhart with the whip. This time her victim succeeded in grasping the lash and held on to it. In the struggle which followed Miss Gannon was partially drawn over the railing. About a dozen young men, who were in the room, rushed toward them and the railing was knocked down. The utmost confusion prevailed and the friends of the young woman yelled with excitement. Lenhart made a motion as if about to draw his revolver and the crowd threatened to throw him out of a window. The reporter finally appealed to President Reynolds for protection. Several men responded to the President's call and formed a guard between the reporter and Miss Gannon and her friends. The young woman was led to the door where her father met her. "Did you give it to him?" asked her father. "Yes, I did," she replied, "and I gave it to him good." Father and daughter walked home with a number of friends. Mr. Lenhart remained at his desk until the board adjourned, when he was escorted home by the police.

CHICAGO'S CATTLE COMPLAINT.

The Disease in the Herds for two Years and Its Nature Unknown.

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—Cattlemen and distillers declare that the disease now prevailing among cattle in this vicinity has existed in their sheds for at least two years, but as they had imagined pleuro-pneumonia acted more rapidly and severely they never dreamed of the character of the disease.

The presidents of the International Range Association has issued a circular to the officers of the various state, territorial and local cattle growers' associations, urging them to take measures to prevent the introduction of pleuro-pneumonia into the range country. He demands a rigid enforcement of all existing sanitary regulations for the protection of Western cattle.

The Governor of Wisconsin has prohibited the importation of cattle from Illinois.

A Russian Agent at Cairo.

CAIRO, Sept. 27.—To-day M. Lavison, a Russian subject, acting as agent of Ismael Pasha, the ex-Khedive of Egypt, and with the aid of a number of armed "Albanians," seized the Ismael Palace, which the ex-Khedive claims his property. M. Lavison subsequently withdrew from the palace at the instance of the Russian consul. Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, the British commissioner, has hastily returned to Cairo to investigate the matter. It is understood that Mr. Larison's motive was to force the tribunal to take cognizance of the ex-Khedive's claim.

Big drives in blankets, quilts, sheetings, etc., all this month at Petley's. 235

Opening of the Great Central Fair.

HAMILTON, Sept. 27.—The Great Central Fair opened as the Crystal Palace Grounds today and promises to be a magnificent success. The Directors have completed every arrangement necessary to encourage a large attendance, and as the number of exhibitors and exhibits, the exhibition will eclipse its predecessors. Improvements have been made in the grounds and buildings, the horse ring has been enlarged and on every side are seen signs of enterprise and attractiveness. Everything will be in shape for the opening. The exhibition's executive officers are: William Hendrie, President; Jonathan Davis, Secretary; Robert Evans, Treasurer; John Dickenson, C. R. Smith, Superintendents.

The C. P. R. at Brantford.

MONTREAL, Sept. 27.—A deputation of the board of directors of the Brantford, Waterloo and Lake Erie Railway Company waited on Mr. Van Horne, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, to-day to urge the advisability of extending their line to connect with the Canadian Pacific main line at Galt. The interview was private, but it was learned that the deputation were pleased with the reception they received. Mr. Van Horne stated that the connection could not be made this year, but he was in favor of connecting with Brantford, as the company wished to tap the trade of that important town.

Burglaries at Cobourg.

COBOURG, Sept. 27.—Burglars visited the residences of Mr. W. G. Collings and Mr. W. S. Ellis on George-street during Friday night or early Saturday morning. At the former gentleman's they were successful in their efforts and secured a gold watch and chain, some money and several other articles, but at the latter residence Mr. Ellis was awakened and notified the midnight intruders that their presence was not required at that unseasonable hour. They took leave without any booty.

Assaulted a Lady of 70.

LONDON, Ont., Sept. 27.—This morning after the opening the case of the Queen vs. Wm. Adair of Strathroy was called. The defendant was charged with criminally assaulting a lady about 70 years old. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of assault with intent.

Ladies' rubber circulars, guaranteed waterproof, only "one dollar," children's 75 cents, at Petley's. 235

Bavarian Second Crazy King.

MUNICH, Sept. 27.—The condition of King Otto is becoming worse. He refuses warm food, but devours great quantities of cold viands often in the middle of the night. He talks loudly to himself and gesticulates wildly. He insists upon remaining in solitude.

Knocked Down by a Steer.

FLORENCE, Ont., Sept. 27.—George McGuire of Dawn Township was knocked down by a steer. His head struck some timber causing fracture of the base of the skull. Death followed in about eight hours.

Did He Commit Suicide?

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y., Sept. 27.—A young man, claiming to be E. E. Trobridge of Cleveland, disappeared from an hotel here last evening, leaving a note stating he had committed suicide. It is thought he may be a hotel beat.

Royal Grenadiers Ambulance Corps.

The Ambulance Corps of the Grenadiers has been reorganized, and is now doing its drill. Assistant-Surgeon King lectured to the corps at the Armory last night.

Sam Jones and Sam Small.

—These two great revivalists come to Toronto next week for the purpose of doing good. They want to tell people of something to make them happy and give them comfort, same as Strathern's "stoves," which are making many homes happy and the inmates comfortable. It's the prices tell the tale at 179 Yonge-street. x

POLITICAL CHRONIQUES.

The change of front in the Mail may be attributed to many things.

A mere political dodge with Sir John as chief schemer.

A desire on the part of the Mail to "get out from under" an impending crash.

A desire of the Mail to get into line with democratic principles.

A hope to make the paper pay by "trusting the people" and popular opinions rather than a party.

A desire to be an Ontario paper as against French domination.

And a dozen other things.

It may be any one of these and it may be some or all of them.

But casting aside the motives there can be no gainsaying what some of the results will be:

Greater independence of the press.

An increase of prestige for the Mail.

The Globe and the Liberal leaders forced to declare themselves on prohibition, manhood suffrage, etc.

Just how Sir John's prospects will be affected remains to be seen.

So far those who have discussed the Mail's change have failed to notice its bearing on Provincial politics. It would appear as if the change were made with more regard to them than to Dominion affairs. What if Mowat were made to go by Meredith last session defeated for manhood suffrage? What if a strong anti-French cry were raised in Ontario? And not only against the French but against Archbishop Lynch and his alleged too-glaring interference in Ontario politics and the alleged subserviency of the Globe and the Mowat Government to him?

And even if the Quebec Government were defeated would not Mowat's defeat in Ontario be more than an offset? Instead of bringing on the federal elections in a hurry, what if they were held back until the Ontario elections are over?

My opinion has always been that Mr. Mowat had more to fear from the Riel business than any other man, and that Mr. Mercier in Quebec had more to hope from it than any other man. It without Sir John's assistance he can survive it; Mr. Blake will be the stronger if he places but little dependence on it. But a well managed Ontario cry, an anti-French cry, might be used to overthrow "the little tyrant."

A great deal depends on Mr. Meredith and the men he associates with him in the coming campaign. He must get better assistants if he wishes to succeed.

So the opinion of the undersigned is that the turn in the Mail is the opening gun in the local campaign rather than the put-up job of Sir John in Dominion politics. ST. IAN.

Ladies should see the long Ottoman cloth velvet selling at $4, $5, $6, $7, $8 and up at Petley's.

"CUCKOO" AND "PLANTER'S WIFE."

The Attractions at the Grand and Toronto Opera Houses.

"The Planter's Wife" is a good sample of the modern romantic drama. The scene is laid in the South during the war; the chief characters are a Southern planter, his wife, a Northern prisoner, and a treacherous friend; the plot is original enough to be interesting, and the dialogue is not without point. It is one of those plays that ladies like so much, containing much emotional, with wedding bells, love scenes, pathetic passages and villainous schemes to destroy a life of bliss, which of course at finally frustrated. The drama was played to a large audience at the Toronto Opera House last night by Mr. Harry Lacy's company. It has been produced in this city before, but created no such impression as it has this time, probably because the caste was not as strong. Mr. Lacy has an excellent idea of Col. Graham, the Cuckoo, and played the part to perfection exceedingly well. Miss Edna Carey, who has a fine stage presence, appeared in the title role, and never failed to enlist the sympathy of the house and win applause as the loving but persecuted wife. Mr. J. J. Macready as Livingston, the treacherous friend, and Mr. Mason Mitchell, as Blake, the prisoner of war, were not wanting in acceptability. The company's engagement closes to-morrow night. There will be a special matinee to-morrow afternoon.

The Cuckoo at the Grand.

"Uproariously amusing three-act comedy" is the description given by the bill of Mr. Henry Walton's play "The Cuckoo." Mr. Walton himself is artistic, and the majority of the members of his company take their parts well, but the play—well, the play is a mixture of old comedy and modern drama. Philip Herndean is a transmogrified edition of Charles Surface. He is a rollicking villain. Col. Aubrey is an imitation of Uncle Oliver. Arthur Herndean is a goody-goody young man of a type that delighted our forefathers in the barn days. Mr. Walton is a melo-dramatic lawyer, given to chestnuts, of the "Mr. Hay, sir," type. His humor dags, and his actings and appearance give one the idea that he would be better suited in an imitation of Henry Irving in "The Bells." "The Cuckoo" is not a comedy, drama, or anything else that it may be called, that is likely to create a furore, but may have its redeeming features. It is well that the program explains the title. "The Cuckoo" will be repeated tonight and to-morrow afternoon and evening.

CABLE NOTES.

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