SITUATIONS VACANT.

Advertisements under this head one cent a word.

GOOD PLAIN COOK, BAKER AND BUTTER maker wants place where boy 5 years old can be with her; highly recommended. Apply Agnes Montgomery, care of Mrs. T. C. Patteson, 809 Carlton-street, Toronto.

WANTED AT ONCE A YOUNG GIRL about 16 to assist in housework. Apply at 568 Markham-street.

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BILLIARD AND POOL TABLES — LOW price and easy terms, billiard goods of every description; ivory and celluloid billiard and pool balls manufactured, repaired and recolored; bowling alley balls, pins, foot chalks, marking boards, swing cushions, etc., etc.; estimates for alleys given on application. Send for new '93 catalogue to Samuel May & Co., Billiard Table Manufacturers, 68 King-street west, Toronto.

MEDICAL.

DR. H. A. PARKYN HAS OPENED AN office Corner of Simcoe and Adelaide streets. ed-7

"DOWN TOWN OFFICES" OF DRS Cantlie, Nattress, Henwood, Hood and Dixon (nose, throat, ear). Janes' Building, King and Yonge.

LUMBER.

PINE AND CEDAR WANTED FOR CASH— delivery from now until May 1, 1894. Phone at residence after 6 p.m., 3051. Bryce & Co., 1 Toronto-street, Toronto.

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A LARGE AMOUNT OF PRIVATE FUNDS to loan at low rates. Read, Read & Knight, solicitors, etc., 75 King-street east, Toronto. ed

MONEY TO LOAN ON MORTGAGES, endowments, life policies and other securities. James C. McGee, Financial Agent and Policy Broker, 5 Toronto-street. ed

PRIVATE FUNDS TO LOAN IN LARGE OR small sums at lowest current rates. Apply Maclaren, Macdonald, Merritt & Shepley, Barristers, 26-30 Toronto-street, Toronto.

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A. D. PERRY, BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, etc.—Society and private funds for investment. Lowest rates. Star Life Office, 51, 52, 55 Freehold Building, cor. Adelaide and Victoria. Telephone 1536.

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JAMES BOWDEN, 162 ADELAIDE-STREET west, Toronto; patterns and models mechanically and accurately constructed with promptness and despatch; estimates given; satisfaction guaranteed. 137

FURNACES REPAIRED.

TORONTO FURNACE & CREMATORY COMpany, Limited, 8 and 10 Queen-street east, telephone 1907, repair and overhaul all styles of furnaces, steam, hot water and hot air. Tenders given on all kinds of heating. Ask for our prices. ed&7

CIGARS AND TOBACCOS.

THOMAS MULROONEY (LATE OF THE Palmer House) has opened a cigar and tobacco business at No. 70 Queen-street west, opposite the Jumbo grocery. Choicest brands of tobaccos and cigars. A call solicited. ed-7

ART.

J. W. L. FORSTER, PUPIL OF MONS. Bouguereau. Portraits in Oil, Pastel, etc. Studio 81 King-street east.

DENTISTRY.

RIGGS, DENTIST—BEST TEETH ON PLATES only $8; crowning and bridging a specialty.

DOMESTICS WANTED.

Advertisements under this head one cent a word.

LAUNDRESS—WILLING TO ASSIST HOUSEmaid. Apply with references, after 5, Mrs. Campbell, Queen's Park, next Bloor-st. gate.

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P. W. NEWTON, TEACHER OF BANJO, Guitar and Mandolin. Private lessons, thorough instruction. Terms reasonable. Studio: Nordheimers', 15 King east. Evening lessons at residence, 112 Winchester-street.

BANJO, MANDOLIN AND GUITAR—MR. Kennedy, teacher in Toronto Conservatory Music, and at studio, Oddfellows' Building, Northwest corner College and Yonge-streets; studio afternoons and evenings.

HOTELS.

ROYAL HOTEL, HARRISTON, ONE OF THE finest commercial hotels in the west; special attention paid to the traveling public; rates $1 to $1.50 per day. J. B. Bingham, proprietor. ed

RUSSELL HOUSE, ORILLIA—RATES $1 TO $1.50 per day; first-class accommodation for travelers and tourists. P. W. Finn, Prop.

THE HUB—LEADER-LANE. W. H. ROBINson, proprietor. Wines and liquors of the best brands. First-class refreshment and lunch counter in connection.

THE ELLIOTT, CORNER CHURCH AND Shuter-streets—delightful location, opposite Queen's-square; modern conveniences; rates $2 day; reasonable rates to families; Churchers from Union Depot. J. W. Hurst, Prop.

NEW HOTEL, Cor. Winchester & Parliament-sts. Accommodation for families visiting the city; airy and commanding a magnificent view of the city. Terms moderate. JOHN AYLE, Proprietor.

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15C. NECKWEAR. BOWS, KNOTS, Derbys, Puffs, we have too many. See window display and realize value given at Dixon's, 65 King west.

FOR SALE — COAL, SLEIGH — NEW — several cutters, new and second-hand. M. R. Derrick, 48 Adelaide-street west.

OLD COINS FOR SALE—GOLD, SILVER and copper, Roman, Chinese, Italian, English, French, etc., etc. Apply Caretaker, Traders' Bank.

DIXON'S, 65 KING WEST, ARE SELLING beautiful designs in Bows, Knots, Derbys and Puff ties for gentlemen, for the low figure of fifteen cents.

LOST.

LOST—AN ENVELOPE ON BROADVIEW-avenue, Saturday evening, containing money. Reward at 142 Broadview-avenue.

STOLEN ON DEC. 5, DARK GREY HORSE, cutter, harness and blanket. Any person giving information leading to their recovery will be rewarded. Thomas Griffith, Teston P.O.

The Toronto World.

NO 83 YONGE-STREET, TORONTO

A One Cent Morning Paper.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Daily (without Sundays) by the year	$3 00
" " " by the month	25
Sunday Edition, by the year	2 00
" " " by the month	20
Daily (Sundays included) by the year	6 00
" " " by the month	45

The World For 1894.

The Toronto World enters on its fifteenth year this morning, and it finds itself, it is glad to say, stronger and more fit for the fight than ever before. Any energy we have, any resources at our disposal, will, as heretofore, be devoted to improvement in the direction of making The World a still better newspaper than it has been.

We have no gift enterprise, no picture department, no butter-cooler premiums, no dictionary or encyclopedia attractions. Nor does our managing editor spend a portion of the day waiting for the letter carrier to come in with the envelopes containing stamps for the picture book. Nor do we do any free advertising, not pretending to be public missionaries. Our energy, as we have said, goes toward making The World a better paper. And we have no resources but our nose for news, and what sinews of war we draw from our patrons.

Our latest effort is to commit ourselves to an increased expenditure of $100 a week in order to secure the exclusive services of Mr. Sam Hunter as cartoonist of The World and for the artistic reproduction of his drawings in our columns.

We are not putting in type-setting machines, because, though they do the work for less money, hand-set type is much the clearer and more typographical.

The public, we take it, appreciate The World, because our advertising and circulation figures for 1893 are larger than any preceding year, notwithstanding the hard times. Only one morning paper in the city has exceeded The World's advertising earnings in 1893. Our circulation shows a steady advance of nearly two thousand in the year. And The World is the only morning paper that can show any increase in circulation. We are not standing still.

We intend, therefore, to keep right on the track of progress and appeal to our many friends and readers to continue their support and to increase it and extend it where they can. The more support we get from them the better paper we shall give back in return; and only those papers have succeeded, and they are few and far between amid a host of wrecks on the journalistic way, who have recognized this relation between a newspaper and its patrons.

Vote Out This Professional Humbug.

One of the strongest objections to the election of Mr. Fleming lies in the fact that he has established friendly relations with the pool rooms. A moralist by profession, he is now the associate of a professional gambler. A temperance advocate in name, he is the ally of the rum sellers, and has made terms with them. Out upon such hypocrisy! A man who wants the office so badly, that he will condescend to such practices, is no man, and no fit candidate. Verily, as MacWherrell has said, "a man has no chance of employment in Toronto, unless he seeks it with a Bible under his arm." Surely our citizens must like being humbugged, or they would rise en masse against the spirit of cant and hypocrisy that is making the city's name a by-word.

Every voter should go to the polls today and mark his ballot in protest against this sickening hypocrisy. One thing, at least, we know about Warring Kennedy. He is no hypocrite. He says what he means and he means what he says.

If any voter has not yet decided how he will mark his ballot let him vote for honesty as against hypocrisy. Kennedy is not only a man who can be depended on, but he is superior to Fleming in every way, except in the arts of trickery and double dealing. Vote this professional humbug out of public life.

Looking Ahead a Little.

To-day we enter upon a new year. The diary for 1893 is filled and has been consigned to the shelf. A new book with blank pages lies before us. It concerns us more to speculate on the probabilities of the future than to reflect and ponder on the unalterable past. The active men of the world have their eyes fixed on the future. It is more fascinating and more useful, too, to speculate on the pages of the unwritten history of the year ahead of us than on the facts of the year just ended. What will be the events of 1894 affect us more vitally than the events of a thousand years that have gone. The past is dead, like the corpse that has been consigned to the tomb. Of all the years only 1894 is alive.

An American magazine has collected the opinions of many of the leading thinkers of the day in regard to the probabilities of the immediate future. On the whole they speak encouragingly of the benefits that await mankind on the edge of the future.

Ira Remsen, professor of Johns Hopkins, says the time is not far distant when the artificial preparation of articles of food will be accomplished. The farmer will then become workman in a chemical laboratory in the city and plows and harrows will become implements of an ignorant age.

Pasteur says we can foresee the time when all the great contagious scourges which have decimated humanity shall be eradicated at their sources.

There is promise of wonderful things on the edge of the electric future. Mr. Edwin J. Houston agrees with Edison in his belief that in the near future electricity will be made directly from the burning of coal. This discovery will relegate the steam engine and boiler to the scrap heaps and cause one pound of coal to do the duty of seven. Mr. Houston also foresees the realization of electric synthesis whereby wholesome food products will be directly formed under the potency of electric affinities. Back of these achievements he discerns a practical apparatus for seeing through a wire.

Mr. Edward Atkinson, the distinguished economist, is waiting for the day when science will gain control of the nitrogen of the atmosphere. Then food and subsistence will be acquired so easily that a man of average intelligence, governed by a personal religion, based on reason and not on superstition, will be so sure of material welfare that it will not pay to be rich.

According to R. H. Thurston, head of the mechanical engineering department of Cornell University, science has untold blessings in store for the coming generation. Inventions in every department of industry will make the labor of the individual easier, and the comforts and luxuries now only known to the rich will become the usual and certain privileges of all.

Under even the most unfavorable conditions, says Hiram S. Maxim, the inventor of the Maxim gun, aerial navigation will be an accomplished fact inside of ten years.

In regard to religion, Dr. John Hall of New York admits that the people of the United States are relaxing, in some places, their hold on the convictions that made that nation what it is, but reaction will set in and the people will come to feel that if God's blessing is to be retained, God's commands must be obeyed. None of the so-called new systems can endure.

Prof. Charles A. Briggs, foresees a great consolidation of churches. The future of Christianity, he says, is clouded, but lighted up by a few bright streaks. There exist irresistible tendencies in the direction of church unity. Gigantic efforts will be put forth by the vast Christian organizations of the next century for the reformation of mankind. Woman will play a higher part in the work of the church in the future.

The atmosphere of the day is chilled with the spirit of unbelief is the assertion of John Ireland, Archbishop of St. Paul. It is, however, but a passing wave. The protest against unbelief will bring religion into bolder relief.

The editor of The World sees in the near future a deathblow levelled at the bigotry that tyrannizes over the people of this city. Those who exercise this tyranny do so because they have neglected to read the page of history that was written yesterday and the one that is being recorded to-day. Much less have they given thought to the page that will be written to-morrow and the next day. As they have neglected to read the lesson of to-day, so they have failed to grasp its significance. Opposed to these people, who are led astray by superstition, is arrayed a party of progress and intelligence. Intelligence and Reason will finally bowl over Superstition, however solemn a face it may wear. We predict a lively conflict between Knowledge and Fear during the year we have just entered, and as a result of that conflict we believe Toronto will begin to experience a new and higher kind of life.

On the whole the outlook for the future is optimistic. The struggle for bread and shelter, the struggle for existence which is now going on all over the world, will before long cease to be a struggle and become a pleasant diversion. But it is not the politician nor the tariff maker, it is not the Socialist nor the single tax theorist who is destined to bring about the change. The men who will effect this wonderful transformation are quietly at work in the laboratory and in the workshop. The potent elements of Nature that are now slipping through our fingers will be harnessed and men will have new and marvelous materials to work upon. Bigger surprises are in store for us than men have yet witnessed.

The financial stringency in the United States during the past year does not seem to have affected the solidity of Canadian financial institutions, and has apparently had no retrograde effect on our insurance corporations, as will be apparent by reference elsewhere to the announcement of the North American Life Assurance Company, an institution which under prudent and careful management has progressed from year to year, in increasing its surplus for the security of its policy-holders, and notwithstanding the past financial distress has just completed the most successful and prosperous year during the history of the company.

The man to be pitied those cold nights is the man without a wife or one of the Army and Navy frieze ulsters. They are individually and separably two of the greatest comforts known to mankind.

"Hotel Vendome," New York.

Toronto people visiting New York should make their home at the well-appointed and handsome "Hotel Vendome," corner of Broadway and Forty-first-streets. The "Hotel Vendome" is a short distance from the Grand Central depot, and has also direct car service from the West Shore and Erie Railway ferry docks. The "Vendome" is almost opposite the Metropolitan Opera House, and street cars pass the door from all theatres. Its appointments are perfection. Newly furnished and equipped from the ninth story down; it is the *par excellence* of comfort. The hotel contains two hundred and fifty rooms, single and *en suite*, with or without baths, and is conducted on both the European and American plan. The cafe is one of the handsomest in New York, and the dining-room, situated in the ninth story, cannot be surpassed in New York. The "Vendome" is the most home-like hotel in New York.

YOUR DOLLAR has increased in value at the Army and Navy stores and will buy more than it ever did before. Try it.

Mrs. M. Stephens of Albany, N.Y., writes us as follows: My stomach was so weak that I could not eat anything sour or very sweet, even fruit at tea-time would cause heartburn, fulness or oppression of the chest, short breath, restlessness during sleep, and frightful dreams of disagreeable sights, so that I would often dread to go to sleep. With the use of Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery this unpleasantness has all been removed, and I now can eat what suits my taste or fancy."

The second instalment of Major-General Sir Frederick Middleton's story of the Northwest Rebellion is given in The Toronto Sunday World of Dec. 31.

In his Vegetable Pills, Dr. Parmelee has given to the world the fruits of long scientific research in the whole realm of medical science, combined with new and valuable discoveries never before known to man. For *Delicate and Debilitated Constitutions* Parmelee's Pills act like a charm. Taken in small doses, the effect is both a tonic and a stimulant, mildly exciting the secretions of the body, giving tone and vigor.

SIR OLIVER'S NEPOTISM.

Dr. Ryerson Answers the Article Given by The Globe—Fourth Letter.

Editor World: Before proceeding to reply to the numerous attacks of The Globe and its bob-tail organs, let me draw your attention to another phase of the nepotism scandal. Sir Oliver is of a certainty the prince of nepotists. Not only has he unloaded his family upon the public, not only has he provided for ex-members, members, ministers and their relatives, but he has given snug offices to numerous defeated candidates. It does not seem to have mattered very much whether they were candidates for the Commons or the Local so that they were of his political faith. Yet all this time he has been receiving a considerable Conservative vote on the supposition that he was not standing in with the Dominion Liberals. Now, as is well known, he has thrown off the mask and is plainly identified with Messrs. Laurier, Mills, Tarte & Co.

Here is a partial list of the lost but not forgotten:

Name.	*Constituency.*	*Office.*
Mr. Magee,	London,	County Crown Attorney.
Dr. Day,	W. Hastings (Commons).	Registrar Hastings.
Dr. Hope.	Hastings,	Sheriff
Geo. E. Henderson,	Hastings (Commons),	County Crown Attorney.
S. S. Cook,	Dundas,	Registrar.
Thos. McDonald,	Dundas,	Registrar.
Dr. Chamberlain,	Dundas,	Inspector of Prisons.
J. H. Coyne,	W. Elgin,	Registrar.
B. Allan,	N. Grey, (Commons),	Division Court clerk.
H. Elliott,	E. Durham,	Division Court clerk.

If my friends will assist me this list can be greatly lengthened. The Globe in its desperate efforts to justify the Mowat Administration went so far as to say that no member had ever been taken from his place in the House to fill an office. I have shown how Mr. Chisholm of Peel was appointed registrar while still in the House. In 1873 Robert Gibbons was member for South Huron; he was appointed sheriff. Was not also Mr. Paxton of North Ontario in the same case, and was not one of the issues of that bye-election the political morality of such appointments? Did not the people declare against it by electing Mr. Madill (Conservative)? Having disposed of these preliminaries I pass to a brief consideration of the articles in the Mowat press upon my former letters. Let me first premise that it has not a word to say in defence of the registrars. That was too strong even for its blood. Mr. Ryan has published a plaintive little letter blaming it all on Mr. Hardy. Mr. Hardy was the Eve of the transaction. He tempted Peter. He should have been more careful in dealing with the guileless registrar, but why does he not touch the main facts of my letter? He does not refer to the fee question at all. He does not explain how he can find time to handle lumber, mining and other business and earn his fees as registrar by personal service. His letter is misleading. If he adds his emoluments for the year just expiring to the three previous ones he will find that he has pocketed a tidy sum of $16,000. I may come back to Mr. Ryan later.

The "tu quoque" cry raised by The Globe appears to find favor with some of the smaller newspapers, but it is so lame an answer that I am ashamed to waste some space in referring to it again. It is perfectly true that relatives of mine, notably Dr. Egerton Ryerson, occupied positions in the public service in times past, but as I had no hand or part in appointing them a charge of nepotism cannot possibly be laid against me. Suppose, however, that I had been guilty of nepotism up to the eyes how would that be any justification for such nepotism as the Hon. Mr. Mowat's relatives reveals? The better informed Liberal papers have steered clear of The Globe's attempt to hold me responsible for the appointment of relatives who were in office before I was born, and no wonder.

With respect to the Mowat members, some 40 in number, who have been billeted upon the public, it is said that no harm has been done, that the offices would have to be filled anyway, that the members were as good material as could have been got, and so on. I submit that this kind of argument does not meet the point at all. The point is that it is inexpedient that representatives of the people should be appointed wholesale to the offices, because in the first place the independence of a man who is looking forward to that comfortable way of making his exit from public life is sure to be weakened if not destroyed, and, secondly, because it is idle to expect economy from a body of office-holders in posse, or, if you like it, in petto. I am satisfied from what I have heard that the abominable system of paying officials by fees would have been done away with long ago but for the fact that so many of Sir Oliver's followers have been interested personally, or in behalf of relatives, in perpetuating it. The Globe tries to save the credit of all concerned by saying that the members are not appointed until the term for which they have been elected has expired. I do not see how that mends matters. Whether they are appointed during their term, as Mr. Kenneth Chisholm of Peel was the other day, or whether they are appointed at its close, it is obvious that a shady reciprocity is likely to exist between them and the Ministers.

But the chief objection to the system is that the abolition of fee-paid sinecures and other abuses can never be brought about in the Legislature while every second man on the Government side is looking for one for himself, for his son or for his brother. It ought not to be necessary to argue this point with Liberals or with anybody else possessing the slightest knowledge of human nature. That my remarks on the patronage scandal are not lost upon the people let me quote from a recent editorial of The Berlin Telegraph, a journal that is Grit all through:

"It is to be regretted that the Reform press have not displayed more independence in condemning some of the Government's acts, such as the fee question and the highly objectionable practice of filling the best offices in their gift with ex-members of the Legislature, and that, too, in face of the strongest remonstrances of some of their warmest supporters. It is to be hoped the next general election will result in Reformers sending men to Parliament who will have the courage of their convictions and dare to differ from the Premier when they consider he is wrong. Too many of his supporters in Parliament seem to stand in fear of Sir Oliver when he has not his mind on pursuing a certain course."

In dealing with the case of Sheriff Mowat, whose net income from fees averages more than the salary of any public functionary in the Dominion, the Governor-General alone excepted, The Globe says that the young man, against whom I have nothing to say personally, was recommended by the Reform members of the Legislature and by the Reform Club of Toronto. Out on the stump the tale is told with dramatic attachments. There it is said that the members of the Reform Club went in a body to Sir Oliver and protested before heaven that not one of them would look at the place, and that if he did not give it to his son it would remain vacant forever. Then, but not till then, Sir Oliver yielded. Yet the same men who put away from them the richest office in the gift of the crown in this chivalrous manner fight like Turks over every tuppeny berth that is opened in the city; witness the commotion over the filling of a petty office in the Central Prison, which fell after a general scramble to a relative of the gentleman who presides over The Globe. Assuming, however, that all the stories about the self-abnegation of the party in Toronto with respect to the shrievalty are true, what have they to do with the matter under discussion? Sir Oliver was the appointing power, and he and he alone is responsible for the scandal of bestowing the office on his own son. Suppose Mr. Gladstone were to give his son a sinecure worth more than any office in the three kingdoms, what would it avail him to plead that he had been pressed to do it by followers? If we can conceive of Mr. Gladstone making such an appointment, we can hardly conceive of his being unmanly enough to fall back on such an excuse for it.

In defending the appointment of Sheriff Mowat and the rest of the family, however, the favorite line adopted by Sir Oliver's newspaper friend is that invoked in the case of members, namely, That somebody has to do the work and that they do it as well as anyone could do it. This plea has been put forward in defence of nepotism all over the world. There was a striking case in England 60 years ago. Earl Grey placed several relatives and connections in the Cabinet, amongst them Lord Durham, and gave life offices to others. There was a great outcry; his conduct helped materially to discredit his administration. On retiring from public life his lordship made a speech in which he took the ground advanced by Sir Oliver's defenders. In Mrs. Martineau's "History of England," vol. 3, p. 278, there is this passage: "The only approach to a doubt on this part of Lord Grey's character was caused by his profuse distribution of office among his relations, and he thought with great simplicity that he had disposed of this complaint in his speech of this night by asking whether these many relations did not do their work well, and declaring that the family connection generally had grown not richer but poorer since they came into office." Mrs. Martineau proceeds to condemn Lord Grey, but all I am concerned with here is to point out that Sir Oliver's excuse has already been worn thin by others who have preceded him in the paths of nepotism. The ethical objections to nepotism need not be enumerated at this time of day. Nor is it necessary to dwell on the fact that when a man in Sir Oliver Mowat's position sets an example of selfishness and greed, the effect on the community at large is bound to be harmful. The Globe may defend him, for that is its business, but I am sure that every right thinking man on the Liberal side is sorry that he should have succumbed to so miserable a weakness. There is another very tangible reason why relatives should not be appointed to office, which is, that relatives cannot be dealt with as strangers; that the same discipline and service cannot be exacted from them. If a Minister's relative breaks the rules, the responsible head of the institution in which he is employed dare not dismiss him. Complaints lead to communications being sent, anonymously or openly to the department, injurious to the complainer. Mr. Hardy will recall to mind a case in which a relative was removed to another institution and the associate was forced to resign.

We shall see as we advance with this enquiry how one after another Sir Oliver's colleagues and followers have taken pattern by and quartered their relatives upon the taxpayers. The case of Mr. A. M. Ross, a former treasurer, is so bad that even the party press is unable to invent a defence. It will be remembered that Mr. Ross had one son appointed to the Ontario Immigration Bureau at Liverpool, another to the Public Works Department and a third to a public institution, while he himself comes down from Huron to a Toronto office that nets him in fees about $4500 a year.

Here is a letter which is a sample of many I am receiving from various parts of the country. The people are thoroughly disgusted with the evidences of greed and selfishness displayed by Sir Oliver Mowat and his colleagues. This letter was written by a well-known Reformer living in an eastern town:

"The Globe tries to deny that Sir Oliver's nephew is an applicant (mark the words) for the position of medical superintendent of the new asylum at Brockville. I do not know where the Globe gets its information, but I know this—that Dr. R. Duff has been a young practitioner in Newburgh for a few years, that he recently sold his property there to a Dr. Beeman of Centreville and that he, Dr. Duff, told some of his friends there he was going to get an appointment on the medical staff, either as superintendent or assistant superintendent at Brockville or some of the other provincial asylums. This statement can be supported by the affidavits of several reliable people, provided unless this matter is cleared up I may tell a few other facts. I have no desire to do injustice to Mr. Mowat's relatives, although so many of them are comfortably feeding at the public crib. I have never given a Conservative vote in my life, but I hate to see the deep deception that is being attempted to hide the well-founded charges of nepotism that are so much talked about these days."

What has Sir Oliver to say to this? A few days ago I published a series of four questions for Sir Oliver to answer, but so far I have heard nothing in reply. I now reprint them, fearing that the honorable knight has forgotten them.

1. What does Sheriff Mowat do for the fees he is allowed to retain?

2. What actual public service does Peter Ryan or Charles Lindsey, or for the matter of that, the majority of registrars, do in return for the enormous revenues they enjoy?

3. Would Sir Oliver or The Globe favor an enquiry by three Judges of the Superior Court into the actual facts in each of, say, 12 cases to be named, in which it is claimed that at least one million of dollars has been pocketed by men who have given the public no return in the shape of personal service?

4. If these facts can be established is Sir Oliver prepared to go on defending the fee system in the interest of his relatives as opposed to the interest of the public?

In another letter I shall have something to say about provincial receipts and expenditure, the phantom surplus and supplies to public institutions.

G. STERLING RYERSON.

Toronto, Dec. 30.

Defy the blizzards and laugh at the thermometer 40 below zero. To do so you'll require to wear one of the Army and Navy's Irish Frieze Ulsters.

Ward 1 and Sunday Cars.

Editor World: The Globe of Saturday last publishes an election circular emanating from a so-called Citizens' Association of Ward 1. As a resident of Ward 1 I should like to know what authority the few anti-Sunday street car men who met in the Foresters' Hall have to style themselves No. 1 Ward Citizens' Association.

In the circular they make a dead set against all our present aldermen, and by inference submit a list of names whom they wish all "goody goody" people to vote for. It would have possibly been better for the chairman of the so-called association to have gone slow, i.e., if he wishes his brother to be re-elected as school trustee. As it is he has injured him to the extent of 10 votes to my certain knowledge.

The cognomen is the more preposterous because No. 1 Ward was the only ward in the city to give a verdict in favor of Sunday street cars. By inserting this you will oblige several citizens of WARD NO. 1.

Toronto, Dec. 31.

Sealette Caps 25c, 75c, $1.00, $1.25, all shapes, fresh goods at the Army and Navy stores.

SWEARING-OFF TIME AGAIN.

The Spirit of Reform About Ready for a Short Annual Tour.

The spirit of reform is once more abroad. Already thousands of people are bringing old resolutions to light, mending and scouring them and adding a few new ones to the stock, which may outlast New Year's several days. New Year resolutions have about the same lease of life as Chicago marriage vows. However, they accomplish some good in their way. The man who smokes a toby with an air of discontent merely because his appetite is handicapped by his purse and his longing for imported Perfectos unsatisfied bids farewell to his toby on the general reformation day soon realizes where he used to live. At first he will feel proud of the triumph of will power over appetite. He will tell his friends of his resolution to abstain from smoking. The novelty of abstinence lasts a day or two, but as its keen edge wears off the New Year reformer finds himself enjoying a cloud of smoke puffed from one of those despised tobies by some friend who resisted the reform spirit. A few puffs of a cigaret come on the quiet and the spirit of reform has passed, and he finds real luxury in a four-for-five toby.

The man who stops drinking on New Year's discards his mantle of reform by equally easy stages. Water the first day, soda water the next two, then comes ginger ale. Then the bartender greets his old friend, asks where he has been the past two weeks, and they "smile."

And so it is with most New Year reforms. They are taken out for a short annual tour each season, then shelved till the next year. Only an occasional one holds out.

As a general blood building tonic and for that tired feeling, Burdock Blood Bitters excels all other remedies. It positively cures dyspepsia.

An Acceptable Presentation.

Mr. Albert Gooderham made the men of Lombard-street Fire Hall a Christmas present of a handsome billiard table. The table arrived at the hall Saturday afternoon and was installed in the parlor.

Burdock Blood Bitters cures skin diseases, scrofula and bad blood. It is a perfect blood purifier and acts on the entire system.

The society news in The Toronto Sunday World of Dec. 31 was exceptionally interesting and comprehensive.

FEATURES OF THE FUR TRADE.

Uncle Alex Gives the Inward History of Clearing Sales.

These questions have been asked me by intendant purchasers several times since I have commenced writing for The World on matters connected with furs and the fur trade. Every article that has its special season for sale has also its season in which it can be purchased at figures much below the regular market prices. Now, of necessity, furs have their special season in which they are sold almost entirely and in which they bring the highest prices. This season runs from the first of September to the first of January. Early in the season the fashion hunter, who usually possesses plenty of money, sallies out to make the round of the markets. It is not a question of expense with him but simply one of obtaining the latest novelties.

Before the year ends he has purchased everything it has produced and has paid the market figure for his purchases. The fur dealer knows that after the Christmas holidays the fashion hunter will seek pastures new, and so he wisely governs himself accordingly. He must get rid of his stock, and since he cannot any longer obtain the market price then he must take less.

The fur trade is one of the most uncertain in the world. It is never sure what furs will be the height of fashion, the styles are constantly changing, and furs which are out of fashion, either as to style or material, might as well be out of the world, so far as selling at profitable figures is concerned.

In addition furs are hard to keep over and lose perhaps ten per cent. of their value from one season to another in spoiled goods. Again all goods kept over have to be remade, which costs from ten to twenty per cent. For these reasons the fur-dealer will sell goods below cost price rather than keep them over for another season. Consequently the best time to buy furs is the months of January and February. Since the reduced prices commence with the New Year it is best to make the purchases early, as there is then plenty of choice of the good things that a month ago were the choice of the season. Many people know this and take advantage of it. These are principally people who love good things, but who do not feel that they can pay high prices for them.

I visited several of the fur houses during the week, and they all said that they invariably reduced their prices after the first week of January, and that during the remainder of the season their object was not to make money, but to clear out their stock with as little loss as possible. The smaller and less fashionable shops do not recognize the season so rigorously as the larger and more fashionable. Their customers have not so much ready money and are not so particular as to styles and fashions, and what is more look for cheaper things, which they buy at all times during the winter. But the greater stores expect to slaughter, and do slaughter towards the close of the season.

In Dineen's store yesterday I noticed boxes of fall hats that had just arrived for the spring season, and already the fashion hunter there he was going to get an appointment had scented them out. To my question, "What about furs, Mr. Dineen?" he replied, "Oh, in a week they will sell at a reduction of at least 25 per cent.! We must get rid of them, you know." And yet it seemed hardly possible that those great stores of beautiful and costly furs would be sacrificed, in many cases for 2-3 or even ½ of their value. And yet such are the necessities of the trade that caters to the fashionable buyer. Now, as to the question, which is the better houses to buy in, I say, in the off season the big houses are the best because they have wonderful stocks to get rid of and dare not keep them over.

I care not to recommend one house above another, but certainly in respect of quantity, range of choice and necessity of sale Dineens' has advantages that the other and smaller houses of the city have not. In addition all the goods are the best and latest in style that are to be had in the market.

UNCLE ALEX.

Those Boys' Double-Breasted Frieze Ulsters at the Army and Navy stores from $4 to $7, according to size, down everything ever before shown in Canada.

Mantell.

Robert Mantell will appear twice at the Grand Opera House to-day. He will present his great play, "Monbars," at the matinee and at the evening performance will present "The Face in the Moonlight." The simple announcement of his coming should fill the Grand to overflowing.

The Seabrooke Opera Company.

Thomas Q. Seabrooke Opera Company, presenting "The Isle of Champagne," by Charles A. Byrne and Louis Harrison, will begin an engagement at the Grand Opera House Thursday, Friday and Saturday and Saturday matinee, Jan. 4, 5 and 6. The conception of the opera is a whimsical one, and whimsical are the names of the characters and the setting of the piece. "The Isle of Champagne" is sparkling and effervescent and the laughter is incessant. The opera will be presented with a fine cast, new costumes and scenery.

Jacobs & Sparrow's Opera House.

Barney Ferguson comes to Jacobs & Sparrow's Theatre next week with that laughable and amusing farce "McCarthy's Mishaps," which is too well known to need any commendatory notice. It is only necessary to say that this season's company is the best ever seen in the play.

The Musee To-Day.

"Little Chief," the long tail pony, makes his first appearance at the Musee this afternoon. This little fellow stands 42 inches in height, weighs 300 pounds and has a tail measuring 13 feet in length. The pony is very fond of ladies and children, so on Friday afternoon next he will be allowed to walk around on the lecture hall floor in order that they may all have a good time with him. Pisrano's rat and mice circus will go through their wonderful performance in the same hall, where also Worrel, the jackknife artist, will be seen at work. Forster and Evens, the California entertainers; Alexander Wilson, the ventriloquist; the Fitzgibbon family, including the clever boy comedian, and Toronto's own favorites, the Donovans, will conclude the performance in the theatre.

The Great Marteau.

The great Marteau will play in the Pavilion next Monday. The company with which he has surrounded himself is most highly estimated. The plan for subscribers opens on Thursday.

Mr. Harry Rich.

This gentleman, who took part in the last minstrel entertainment given by the Lacrosse Club, was engaged by telegraph on Saturday to take part in the coming event. Mr. Rich has been meeting with great success on tour. He was in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Saturday.

Pale sickly children should use Mother Graves Worm Exterminator. Worms are one of the principal causes of suffering in children and should be expelled from the system.

A Popular Young Man Dead.

After 10 days' illness Maxwell McCord died yesterday at the residence of his mother, Mrs. G. E. Butler, 282 Huron-street, of peritonitis. The deceased was a son of the late Maxwell McCord of the Inland Revenue Department at Guelph. He has for several years held a position in the office of the British America Assurance Company. He had a large number of acquaintances in business and social circles, by whom he was highly esteemed. He was to have taken an important part in the Toronto Lacrosse Club minstrel entertainment next month. The deceased was only 20 years of age. The funeral will take place Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Avoid drastic medicines and harsh purgatives, and use Burdock Blood Bitters, which cures constipation, dyspepsia, bad blood and all stomach troubles.

Prendergast Wants a New Trial.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—R. A. Wade, senior counsel for the defence, was so indignant over the verdict in the Prendergast case that he hardly had words to express his feelings. He said:

"We have made a