

LARGES SHOWN TO BE GROUNDESS

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Winds Up Western Land Debate.

ANOTHER CHARGE WITHDRAWN

Ames (Montreal) Makes Not Accusation Against Mr. Sifton, But Later Admits Mistake.

Ottawa, June 5. — Another scandal, short-lived though it was, was sprung on the House this afternoon by Ames (St. Antoine division, Montreal), who charged that the lessee who had received an irrevocable grazing lease in the Northwest, had three months ago sold the lease to Mr. Sifton. He demanded an investigation. Within an hour an explicit and emphatic denial by the ex-minister of the interior, Mr. Sifton, was made. The debate on Mr. Sifton's amendment was concluded at a late hour this morning. The Government being sustained by a majority of 59 to 52. The Premier, who spoke at a late hour, took the ground that the amendment of the Opposition had not been considered in his amendment to give any ground for the investigation, and there was nothing within the four corners of the amendment to show the necessity for a special inquiry. Several charges and insinuations by Opposition members were replied to during the debate. Mr. T. A. Burrows, brother-in-law of Mr. Sifton, pointed out that all the timber limits he had got from the department since 1896 were obtained in the face of competition upon more onerous terms than he obtained from the Conservative Government. Mr. Hugh Guthrie exposed the ungrounded insinuation by Mr. Sifton that Mr. Bennett had been a corrupt interest in grazing leases and in the disposition of Indian lands. He showed that Mr. Grant had obtained only 28 acres on Deer Island and for the rest of the whole island, as stated by Mr. Bennett, and that the price paid was \$5, while Mr. Bennett's own estimate was only \$6.66 per acre. The fact that Government business will in future have precedence over private business was the gist of the session in this measureless distance.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved this afternoon that from this date to the end of the session Government orders have precedence after questions of members, the definition of the order of business to prevent the usual slaughter of the innocents, which marks undisciplined private matters.

Mr. Uriah Wilson appealed for an opportunity to bring up an anti-demonstration and pension bill. He said there was as much reason for pensions for farmers as for ex-ministers. He did not think he could carry the bill to reduce the indemnity, but at any rate last year's pension bill should be repealed.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said there was a good deal in what Mr. Wilson said regarding pensions. It was the intention and duty of the Government to bring in legislation upon that vexed question. What the legislation would be he was not prepared at present to say, but he promised his honorable friend plenty of opportunity to discuss his views in his bill. The Premier admitted the desirability of giving special reading to Mr. Alcorn's bill placing express companies under the jurisdiction of the railway commission, in order that it might be referred to the special committee on telephone legislation.

At half past 12, Sir Wilfrid Laurier rose to close the session. He said there was a consideration of the charge by the Opposition against the ex-Minister of the Interior, because he had not printed in his annual report full reports of all his officials. He quoted authorities upon the question and pointed out the fallacy of the contention. It was impossible and impracticable for a minister to bring down to the House all the reports that reached him. The minister must therefore exercise his discretion as to what should be included in his report to the House, and what should not. Unless the minister were allowed that discretion he would be required to bring down the whole records of his department, playing to the suggestion that where there were excisions there should be marks to indicate that they had been.

"THEIR HANDS TIED"

Police Say Know Badly Wanted Thief, But Can't Arrest.

Detroit, Mich., June 6.—A few weeks ago a man named Tilley, after disposing of his farm a few miles from Windsor, Ont., came here with the proceeds, nearly \$1,000, in his pocket. He fell in with a former acquaintance, a man from near Wardville, Ont. Tilley was robbed of the entire sum, and the local police say his Wardville friend got it. The Detroit police tried to secure the arrest of the latter, but got the reply from the authorities at Wardville that their "hands are tied."

STREAMERS ARRIVED

June 6. Reported at. From. Rhinland. New York. Antwerp. Astoria. New York. Antwerp. Kronland. New York. Antwerp. Ryndam. New York. Antwerp. Carpathia. New York. Antwerp. Bohemian. New York. Antwerp. Minneapolis. New York. Antwerp. Kaiserin Auguste. Hamburg. New York. Victoria. Antwerp. Finland. Antwerp. Pomerania. Glasgow. New York. Rumbold. Father Point. Liverpool. Saint Royal. Father Point. Liverpool.

SOME PECULIAR HAPPENINGS AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Effort Being Made by Conservative Party to Put Chairman "In a Hole."

Some very peculiar things are happening in board of education circles this week.

To the average citizen, these happenings are not easy to understand, but to those who are on the inside, it is plain that political spite is the ruling power of them all.

Yesterday, the board struck off the sum of \$1,000 from the public school estimates.

There are one or two deductions from this action—either the trustees asked money from the city for which they had no use, or else some one is deliberately trying to put Chairman Strong in a "hole" this year. Which is it?

To the citizens it must seem strange that the board has such a margin to work on that it can strike off a thousand dollars without the necessity of naming the items of public school expenditure from which the amount must be taken.

Certainly, this looks like loose business, and it is a clincher to the arguments of those who have all along claimed that the trustees were simply out to spend everything in sight, no matter how high the tax rate might soar.

But there is the other deduction to be considered. That is, the political side of the question. The Liberal trustees complain that when the estimates were struck, every item was cut down to the last cent, and that now the board will not be able to meet its obligations. And the Conservatives who are in the majority on matters of public school expenditures simply laugh, and caucus at their sweet will.

In fact, it looks as though Dr. English and the other four trustees in opposition to Chairman Strong, are simply trying to put the chairman in a "hole." And things have been so manipulated, that there appears no way for the chairman to get out of the meshes of the Conservative net.

In the first place, a special committee was named to deal with the proposed additions to the public schools, and also with the acquiring of lands for the schools. This meant that the Liberals were shut out altogether, and that the Conservatives ruled the roost.

Then without any reference to Chairman Strong whatever, Dr. English and his friends went to the council and asked for a \$10,000 expenditure issue. The council had previously asked the board to cut the sum of \$1,000 off its estimates, but the request had not been

JURY'S VERDICT IN HAINES CASE

No Evidence That Infant Was Alive When Born—Confesses To Being Mother.

The coroner's jury empaneled to investigate the death of the child recently found in an outbuilding on Talbot street, returned a verdict last evening to the effect that Harriet May Haines was the mother of the infant. There was no evidence to show that the child was born alive, and that it was placed in the building by the mother, the latter thereby concealing its birth.

Coroner MacLaren heard a number of witnesses, including Detective Rider, Drs. James D. Wilson and Drake, who conducted the post-mortem examination, and Isaac Haines, father of the girl. May Haines was also in the court room, but as she was awaiting trial on the charge of concealing the birth of the infant, she could not be compelled to give evidence, although she could have made a statement if she desired. Detective Rider gave evidence of a confession made by the young woman to the effect that she was the mother of the infant, which was born about March 1; that the child was still-born, and that to hide her shame she had placed it in the out-house. In doing this, she said, she was under the impression that she was not violating the law.

The post-mortem showed that the body was badly decomposed, the condition of the lungs being such that it was impossible to say that the child was born alive. May Haines appeared in the police court this morning and pleaded guilty to the charge of concealing the birth of the child. She was remanded for a week for sentence. As a result of the finding of the coroner's jury, no further charge will be laid against her.

WANTS TO LOCATE HERE

Beet Sugar Firm Anxious to Establish a Factory.

A beet sugar firm is anxious to establish a factory in London and the manager has asked to be permitted to meet the manufacturers' committee on Friday afternoon. After consulting with Mayor Judd, City Clerk Baker called a meeting for that day at 5 o'clock. It is said that a proposal to bonus this firm was turned down by the people of Chatham some time ago.

considered when the estimates were struck. Consequently, when the debentures were asked for, the mayor and aldermen saw their chance. "Cut off the \$1,000 asked for and we'll leave the debentures," they told the trustees.

And with an alibi gracefulness that astounds Chairman Strong and his friends, Dr. English and his followers vote to strike the sum of \$1,000 off the public school estimates without even the formality of naming the items from which the sum must be taken.

Thus it appears as though the Conservatives are scheming to "put Strong in a hole," and are willing to have an overdraft this year in order that they may carry out their pet schemes for school extensions.

Every attempt to have the districts rearranged so that the congestion in certain quarters might be relieved, through the sending of children to less crowded sections, has been blocked.

Every attempt to get at the bottom of the non-resident pupil matter has been frustrated. New schools, and nothing but new schools, is the cry of Dr. English and his friends. And yet there are teachers in the city who are ready to show the trustees how the present congestion in certain schools may be overcome without building new additions.

At Chesley avenue school the "special committee," which is the Conservative end of the board of education, proposes to build a \$10,000 addition, provide accommodation for 40 pupils. Why would not a two-room addition do there? Would it not be sufficient for years to come? Is it not possible that the \$10,000 addition has been built, a claim will be raised for another school between Chesley avenue and Aberdeen? And is it not probable that such a school will be built before many years?

Take away forty pupils from Chesley avenue school and the congestion disappears. And Dr. English and his friends are going to spend \$10,000 there to provide accommodation for these forty pupils. This means that rooms will be built which will not be used for years to come. They will simply be closed up, as is the greater part of the Richmond street north school.

People who observe events closely are expecting to hear the Conservatives denouncing Chairman Strong next January because of an overdraft for which they alone are responsible.

Chairman Strong has as yet been able to secure City Solicitor Meredith's opinion as to the legality of the board striking off the \$1,000. The opinion will be given out tomorrow. Mayor Judd stated to The Advertiser today that in his opinion the action is perfectly legal.

THE CITY CLERK WILL APPOINT

Hereafter the Naming of D. R. O's and Election Clerks Lies With Him.

The days of wrangling in the city council over the appointing of deputy returning officers and clerks for municipal elections has come to an end. The entire matter of the appointments lies with the city clerk.

This is the result of an amendment to the municipal act made by the Ontario Legislature at its last session. In 1905 a clause was inserted for Toronto placing the appointment of deputies and clerks in the hands of the city clerk, and this year this clause was amended by striking out the words "in cities over 100,000," thus making it applicable to London.

Of course, the amendment means that the city clerk will be in a position where great pressure will be brought to bear upon him by the party in power to influence him in making appointments, but he is also in a position to perform his duty fearlessly, and is independent of the council in this matter.

A JOB WAITING FOR HIM

Immigrant Will Also Get Some Money When He Arrives.

Mayor Judd has received a letter from the British emigration office in London (Lord Rothschild's bounty, the letterheads explain), stating that a certain man and his family have been sent to this city by the office, sailing on May 29. This letter arrived a week ago, and today another letter, containing the sum of £175 is received by the mayor, to be handed to the man on his arrival here.

The secretary of the office, Mr. J. L. David, also asks the mayor to do what is possible for the family, and to endeavor to secure the man a job at once.

His worship has turned the matter over to Inspector McCallum, who, with his customary promptness, has already secured a position for the Britisher the moment he arrives.

KILLED BY STONE

Montreal, June 6.—Mr. and Mrs. Antoine Courtemanche were sitting on the street at 811 Champlain street, at 6 o'clock last evening, when some workmen in a quarry 300 feet away fired the last blast for the day, and a stone weighing two pounds went with bullet-like rapidity, striking the woman on the head, and literally crushing the skull. She fell dead at her husband's side, and the stone rebounded to the pavement.

DISMISS CABINET OR CIVIL WAR

Armed Conference Between Czar and People at Hand.

EXCITEMENT INCREASING DAILY

House Refuses to Listen to Speeches From the Ministers—Government Denounced.

St. Petersburg, June 6.—The Lower House of Parliament and the Government are rapidly coming to close quarters, and the conflict which became inevitable the moment the popular assembly presented its demands in the address to the throne cannot be much longer delayed. The excitement in the interior is increasing daily. Partial strikes have begun at Kieff, Odessa, Moscow, and other cities, and the peasants in some provinces are no longer restrainable, and have commenced to seize the land of the proprietors. Since the Government declined to give the House satisfaction regarding the continued executions in the provinces or to bring to book the local officials, whose tyranny is fanning the flames of popular indignation, Parliament has had no alternative, except the immediate insistence on its demand for the dismissal of the cabinet. The scene at yesterday's session, when the House refused to listen to the ministers and practically drove them from the rostrum, clearly presents the issue—the Emperor must dismiss the cabinet or fight. In yielding to the militant spirit of the Radicals upon this point, the Constitutional Democrats again solidified the Opposition, which was the verge of dissensions over the agrarian question.

The spirit of conflict which prevailed at yesterday's session continued at the sitting today, although some of the leaders of the Constitutional Democrats went into the breach to support the bill. Mr. Vinaver's project, of which he gave notice yesterday, to change the regulations of the House, so as to eliminate all control of the ministers, either in drafting or manipulation of bills, was introduced today.

Mr. Annin and Alksidin, the peasant party leaders, used the occasion to make violent speeches, in which they argued that it was useless for Parliament to proceed in the regular way. The Government intended to reply by bullets and bayonets, and it was Parliament's duty to recognize a banner under which the people would fight when the inevitable collision came.

MM. Roditcheff, Cutlarsky and Sirtanoff, Constitutional Democrats, appealed to the members of the House not to lose their heads, but to proceed calmly and systematically with the work of battering a breach in the wall. Their arguments carried the day, and by practically a unanimous vote, Mr. Vinaver's project was referred to a committee.

MISSOURI FOR BRYAN; IS GREAT DEMOCRAT.

State Convention Wants Him for Presidency in 1908.

Jefferson City, Mo., June 6.—The platform adopted at the Democratic state convention last night declares that William J. Bryan was defeated by corrupt campaign contributions by trusts and that he is the great American Democrat, and that Missouri demands his election to the presidency in 1908. It denounces the tariff and censures President Roosevelt for favoring the present system after declaring for tariff revision. It also censures President Roosevelt for his attitude toward the railroads, and the Republican party for not giving statehood to Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—WARMER.

London, Wednesday, June 6. Sun rises, 4:27 a.m. Moon sets, 7:42 p.m. Sun sets, 7:55 p.m. Moon sets, 4:42 a.m. Thunderstorms have been fairly general today in Ontario, and a few scattered showers have occurred in other portions of the Dominion. The weather is everywhere warm.

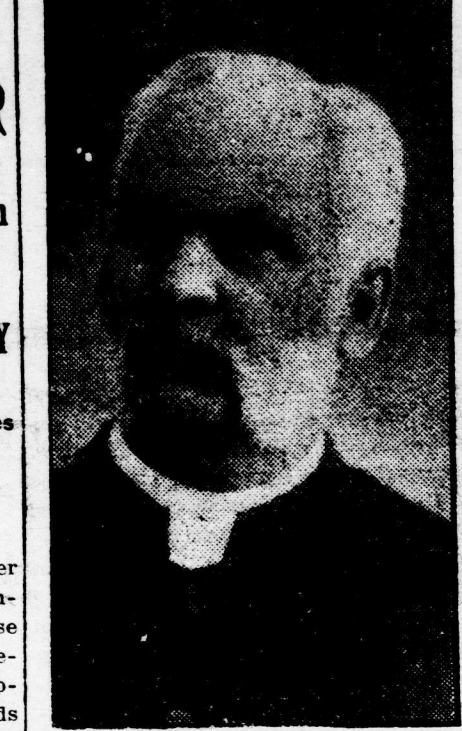
Minimum and maximum temperatures: Port Simpson, 42-52; Victoria, 45-55; Vancouver, 48-58; Kamloops, 48-58; Edmonton, 42-52; Calgary, 40-58; Qu'Appelle, 42-54; Winnipeg, 50-50; Port Arthur, 50-60; Pelly Sound, 55-50; Toronto, 56-78; Ottawa, 62-74; Montreal, 62-66; Quebec, 58-66; Halifax, 46-76.

FORECASTS. Wednesday, June 6-8 a.m. Moderate to fresh southerly to southeasterly winds. Moon, and in Eastern Canada, except in the northern portion of the Northwest Provinces, and in Eastern Manitoba. The outlook is still unsettled, especially in Manitoba, where heavy rains are indicated.

TEMPERATURES. Stations. 8 a.m. 5 p.m. Weather. Calgary. 50. 60. Fair. Winnipeg. 50. 60. Fair. Port Arthur. 52. 60. Rain. Montreal. 62. 60. Rain. Toronto. 70. 80. Clear. Ottawa. 60. 60. Rain. Quebec. 58. 60. Rain. Father Point. 46. 48. Cloudy.

WEATHER NOTES. Since yesterday morning showers and thunderstorms have occurred generally in Canada, except in the northern portion of the Northwest Provinces, and in Eastern Manitoba. The outlook is still unsettled, especially in Manitoba, where heavy rains are indicated.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 6 p.m., Tuesday were: Highest, 82°; lowest, 60° above.



Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Ottawa, Retiring Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly of Canada.

STABBED WITH HATPIN

Was Man Who Butted in on a Row Between Girls.

Kittanning, Pa., June 6.—Edward Ralston, of Eldersridge, near here, is dying from a stab with a hatpin, suffered while separating two girls who were quarrelling over the result of a ball game, in which partisan feeling ran high Monday. The game was between two teams from neighboring towns. After the game the girl supporters of the defeated team attempted to take the colors away from the adherents of the victors. It was while separating two of the combatants that Ralston received the stab wound. It is not known who inflicted the injury. Physicians say Ralston cannot recover.

THAT CAB TARIFF

City Finds Not Bound to Pay the \$10 a Day Charge.

The city has the cabmen where it wants them. At least, this is the impression around the city hall. As was stated in yesterday's Advertiser, the cabbies are charging the city \$10 a day for the hacks used in the charge. Mr. Clark has had many honors deservedly showered upon him, but none greater than this. It need not be said that First Church's pastor will do the honors gracefully. He always does things gracefully. Though a most unassuming man, he is as kind and genial a friend as he is an able and suggestive preacher. Mr. Clark is indeed "a brother greatly beloved."

The assembly church, the First Presbyterian, with its splendid new schoolroom attached, is one of the most handsome and commodious ecclesiastical structures in Western Ontario, an ornament to the city, and a credit alike to the congregation and to the Presbyterian Church of Canada. The properties of the auditorium are good, and there is every convenience for such a great gathering.

NO EVIDENCE OFFERED

A Third Charge of Theft Preferred Against Charles Logan.

Charles P. Logan, who was recently committed for trial at the June sessions on two charges of theft, appeared in the police court again today, to answer to a third charge—that of stealing \$25—but no evidence was offered, so he was discharged.

Jennie Ormiston appeared on a charge of vagrancy, and was remanded for one week. Jennie claims to have no money, and is a very good account of herself.

Gordon Augers, charged with vagrancy, was discharged.

John Perry was fined \$2 for drunkenness, while Hugh Geary paid \$3 for the same offense.

One drunk was discharged, being a first-timer.

FRACTURED HIS JAW.

Pte. A. Logan, of No. 3 Company, Twenty-sixth Middlesex Regiment, fell over a tent peg on the camp grounds last night and fractured his jaw. He is now in Victoria Hospital, where he is doing well.

Voice Returned

Chicago, June 6.—After 21 years of silence, during which time he was unable to utter an intelligible word, Louis Mendelson suddenly regained his power of speech yesterday. The return of words was as mysterious as the affliction which silenced him so long. Mendelson is 38 years old, and until yesterday had not spoken since he was 17 years old. To the surprise of his three brothers and his friends he walked into their wholesale liquor store and said: "Hello, is this hot enough for you?"

Samuel Mendelson, one of his brothers, was so shocked by the unexpected remark that he failed to answer the question.

Louis told his brothers that he had felt a sudden tickling in his vocal chords, and the impulse to attempt speech had grown so strong that he could no resist it. When he tried he discovered that his voice responded. Mendelson lost his voice after an attack of fever when he was in his 17th year.

The General Assembly Will Open This Evening

This evening at 8 o'clock the thirty-second General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada will convene in the First Presbyterian Church of this city. The assembly will be opened by divine worship, the Rev. Dr. Armstrong, of St. Paul's Church, Ottawa, the retiring moderator, preaching the sermon.

After the service the assembly will be constituted by Dr. Armstrong, who will make a brief statement, recalling the events of his incumbency.

Then comes an event which always causes a slight flutter of excitement, even in so staid and venerable a body as the General Assembly—the election of a new moderator.

Even with the fear of the saying of the late Sir John A. Macdonald in regard to a horse race and an election, before his eyes, your contributor ventures to predict that the honor tonight will fall unanimously upon the shoulders of the Rev. Dr. A. Falconer, of Prince Street Church, Picton, N. S.

Still, the commissioners are free to choose any ministerial member of the body as their presiding officer, and even general assemblies have sometimes shown that there was something in Sir John's saying.

The General Assembly is the supreme court of Presbyterianism. It is representative of the whole church in Canada, from Cape Breton on the east, to Vancouver on the west, and Dawson City on the north, besides Presbyteries in India, Honan, China, and Trinidad. It is composed of an equal number of ministers and elders. The regularly appointed commissioners this year are about 500, but possibly not more than 400 will be present.

The Rev. W. J. Clark, pastor First Church, has the honor of entertaining this distinguished and significant assemblage. During his sixteen years' successful pastorate in this important charge, Mr. Clark has had many honors deservedly showered upon him, but none greater than this. It need not be said that First Church's pastor will do the honors gracefully. He always does things gracefully. Though a most unassuming man, he is as kind and genial a friend as he is an able and suggestive preacher. Mr. Clark is indeed "a brother greatly beloved."

The assembly church, the First Presbyterian, with its splendid new schoolroom attached, is one of the most handsome and commodious ecclesiastical structures in Western Ontario, an ornament to the city, and a credit alike to the congregation and to the Presbyterian Church of Canada. The properties of the auditorium are good, and there is every convenience for such a great gathering.

The Presbyterian Council of London, under the presidency of Dr. McCreag, principal of the Normal School, and an elder of First Church, which undertook all the arrangements in connection with the entertaining of the assembly, has done its work with the greatest efficiency. The chairman of our various committees, Mr. W. C. Allen, billeting; Mr. George M. Reid, entertainment; Mr. George A. Somerville, finance; Rev. J. G. Stuart, reception; C. R. Somerville, printing, and John Cameron, church arrangements, have all given themselves to work as signified them with enthusiasm. The work of billeting assigned to Mr. Allen and his committee was especially onerous, but was carefully, systematically and successfully done, so that a delightful home awaits this communion-stone who may come. But it was on Rev. James Rollins, of King Street Church, the secretary of the council and the committees, that the great burden of the whole work fell; and it is acknowledged on all hands that he has done his task exceedingly well. Few have any idea of the enormous amount of labor which such a position involves. Mr. Rollins, who is known as an able preacher and an excellent pastor, has shown himself to be a man of splendid business capacity. Besides all this, his patience and gentility have been unflinching.

The discussion on the union question is looked forward to with great interest. A good deal of opposition to the proposed union has developed throughout the Presbyterian Church lately. This opposition is voiced in a pamphlet issued by Rev. Dr. Robert Campbell, of Montreal, the clerk of the General Assembly, which has been widely circulated. It must be perfectly clear to any one who has watched the trend of things during the past months that while there is a large section of the Presbyterian Church distinctly and enthusiastically in favor of union, there is another very considerable section as distinctly opposed to it.

In connection with the union question the Rev. A. Henderson, of London South, the clerk of the Presbytery of London, in the last issue of the Dominion Presbyterian of Ottawa, publishes the following letter under the heading, "Agitators Take Heed!" "By the kindness of a friend I have just seen an able and temperate criticism of the proposed union of the churches, from the pen of Dr. Campbell, clerk of the assembly. His thoughtful words are commended for perusal to those who are enamored of the prospect of union. The design of the pamphlet is well summed up in the following excerpts: 'This criticism is submitted in the hope that it will arrest the attempts of the few enthusiasts in the Presbyterian Church who are urging on the project. Now is the time to pause, before any one is vocally committed to the movement, and before it is too mixed with persons and party heats which blind the mind to pure right and truth. Once people have positively enlisted in a cause and taken a step in advance, it is not so easy going back.'"

"This is sane caution to which it would be well for the agitators to take heed. If the forthcoming General Assembly can be led to resolve its union committee into one charged with seeking to bring about friendly co-operation of the part of all the evangelical churches, then something of real practical good may be achieved, and much of the evil of heated discussion—not to say contention, averted; for depend upon it the last word (scarcely the first) has not been spoken against this movement.—Alex. Henderson, London, Ont."

One of the first business matters of importance to come before the assembly will be the appointment of a joint clerk, to take the place of the late Rev. Dr. Warden. This important matter may not, however, come to a vote tonight. Rev. J. W. McMillan, of Winnipeg, who acted for Dr. Warden during his illness, may be asked to continue until a successor is named, and the matter may be sent to a committee for careful consideration. We heard the name of Dr. John Somerville, of Owen Sound, mentioned by several of the commissioners, who arrived this afternoon, as the natural successor of Dr. Warden in the clerkship. Mr. McMillan's name is also mentioned.

The invitation to the assembly to meet in London this year was suggested by the session of First Church to the London Presbyterian Council. The council unanimously adopted the suggestion and asked the presbytery to extend the invitation, which it did. At the Kingston meeting last year Mr. A. S. Macgregor presented London's invitation. Dr. McCrae, of Westminster Church, the presbytery's representative, in supporting the invitation, pointed out that London was pre-eminently a city of hospitable homes, and assured the assembly of a cordial welcome to the hearts and homes of our city. London has nobly responded, and tonight welcomes the great body of commissioners to the hearts and homes of her people. Montreal, the commercial metropolis of the Dominion, has also contested London's claim to this year's assembly, but when the vote came, the Forest City won out by an overwhelming majority.

At Kingston last year Mr. Walter Paul, a prominent and witty elder of Knox Church, Montreal, was pleading, in an eloquent speech, for the next meeting to be held in that city in preference to London. Replying to the glowing pictures of the representatives of London as to the pleasant times the members of assembly were sure to have if they came to our city, Mr. Paul said he remembered the last time they were in London they had a very "dry time." As Mr. Paul is one of the most earnest temperance workers in the church, this statement was received with roars of laughter. Mr. Paul at once proceeded to explain that the weather was very dry, so dry that the people were not allowed enough of water to sprinkle their lawns. If Hicks and "Old Probs" are to be trusted, it is quite possible that our genial friend from the east may have somewhat of a "wet" time at the present meeting.

Campbell, of Montreal, the clerk of the General Assembly, which has been widely circulated. It must be perfectly clear to any one who has watched the trend of things during the past months that while there is a large section of the Presbyterian Church distinctly and enthusiastically in favor of union, there is another very considerable section as distinctly opposed to it.

In connection with the union question the Rev. A. Henderson, of London South, the clerk of the Presbytery of London, in the last issue of the Dominion Presbyterian of Ottawa, publishes the following letter under the heading, "Agitators Take Heed!"

"By the kindness of a friend I have just seen an able and temperate criticism of the proposed union of the churches, from the pen of Dr. Campbell, clerk of the assembly. His thoughtful words are commended for perusal to those who are enamored of the prospect of union. The design of the pamphlet is well summed up in the following excerpts: 'This criticism is submitted in the hope that it will arrest the attempts of the few enthusiasts in the Presbyterian Church who are urging on the project. Now is the time to pause, before any one is vocally committed to the movement, and before it is too mixed with persons and party heats which blind the mind to pure right and truth. Once people have positively enlisted in a cause and taken a step in advance, it is not so easy going back.'"

"This is sane caution to which it would be well for the agitators to take heed. If the forthcoming General Assembly can be led to resolve its union committee into one charged with seeking to bring about friendly co-operation of the part of all the evangelical churches, then something of real practical good may be achieved, and much of the evil of heated discussion—not to say contention, averted; for depend upon it the last word (scarcely the first) has not been spoken against this movement.—Alex. Henderson, London, Ont."

One of the first business matters of importance to come before the assembly will be the appointment of a joint clerk, to take the place of the late Rev. Dr. Warden. This important matter may not, however, come to a vote tonight.

Rev. J. W. McMillan, of Winnipeg, who acted for Dr. Warden during his illness, may be asked to continue until a successor is named, and the matter may be sent to a committee for careful consideration. We heard the name of Dr. John Somerville, of Owen Sound, mentioned by several of the commissioners, who arrived this afternoon, as the natural successor of Dr. Warden in the clerkship. Mr. McMillan's name is also mentioned.

The invitation to the assembly to meet in London this year was suggested by the session of First Church to the London Presbyterian Council. The council unanimously adopted the suggestion and asked the presbytery to extend the invitation, which it did. At the Kingston meeting last year Mr. A. S. Macgregor presented London's invitation. Dr. McCrae, of Westminster Church, the presbytery's representative, in supporting the invitation, pointed out that London was pre-eminently a city of hospitable homes, and assured the assembly of a cordial welcome to the hearts and homes of our city. London has nobly responded, and tonight welcomes the great body of commissioners to the hearts and homes of her people. Montreal, the commercial metropolis of the Dominion, has also contested London's claim to this year's assembly, but when the vote came, the Forest City won out by an overwhelming majority.

At Kingston last year Mr. Walter Paul, a prominent and witty elder of Knox Church, Montreal, was pleading, in an eloquent speech, for the next meeting to be held in that city in preference to London. Replying to the glowing pictures of the representatives of London as to the pleasant times the members of assembly were sure to have if they came to our city, Mr. Paul said he remembered the last time they were in London they had a very "dry time." As Mr. Paul is one of the most earnest temperance workers in the church, this statement was received with roars of laughter. Mr. Paul at once proceeded to explain that the weather was very dry, so dry that the people were not allowed enough of water to sprinkle their lawns. If Hicks and "Old Probs"