THE TORONTO WORLD

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TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 1, 1889.

The World's Question—It Must Be Answered.

During some months past The World has been pressing upon the advocates of Unrestricted Reciprocity a question which may be put thus, with variations: Supposing their scheme adopted, and that Canada, in virtue of an agreement with the United States, had bound herself to admit free all American products and manufactures, and at the same time to exact upon British products and manufactures such duties as Congress might impose. In such case, would Canada be any longer a British country, or an independent country, either? There would be discrimination against Great Britain; that is plainly stated in terms. But there would also be something more; to wit—Commercial Annexation to the United States. Or if you shrink from this designation, then what other one have you to suggest, that would more truly describe the situation? Remember that in the case supposed Canada's *independence* would be gone for ever: that agreement once signed and sealed she would be independent "nevermore," to carry further our allusion of yesterday. That terrible word—"Nevermore!" Think over again what it implies in this connection. It would mean that all Canada's hopes of being a nation had come to an ignoble and irretrievable end. You, especially, who look upon Ontario's Minister of Education Ross as the prophet of the Canada which is to be; you, whose talk is of "Canada First": you, who call yourselves Young Liberals: all ye who hope that Canada will yet be a nation, and that some of you may live to see it, let the one word so aptly spoken by the poet's, "ominous bird of yore" startle you from your dreaminess and indifference in the presence of an agitation which, if successful, would at once bring to an inglorious ending all your high hopes and aspirations. "Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'" *Requiescat in pace.* No more Canada, be sure of that. Let our successors of a hundred years afterwards look over the map and they would be unable to find it, though in reading up history they would become aware of the fact that somewhere in North America there was once a country called by that name.

Whoever thinks it worth while to look will find in The Globe of Saturday, also in The World of Monday, the following: Sir John's resolution of some date early in 1879, by which the House affirmed the principle of Protection and National Policy. Resolutions adopted by the Farmers' Institute convention at Toronto, April 28, 1887: in favor of Reciprocity with the United States, but still with the qualifying alternative that, if this were unattainable, a Commercial Union of Great Britain and her colonies should be sought for. Toronto Board of Trade resolution, June 14, 1887—affirming that Reciprocity with the United States is desirable; but adding at the same time that no proposal looking towards discrimination against Great Britain can be entertained. So far our advocates of Reciprocity had given the public no intimation whatever that discrimination against Great Britain was part and parcel of the scheme. Or, to say the least, they had dexterously kept the ugly and dangerous part out of sight. They have it in sight now, and this is what makes the present such a dangerous one—for them.

In the same papers will be found Sir Richard Cartwright's two resolutions of last session, which the Dominion Opposition have taken their stand. Here they have put themselves in a position which they will not find it easy to get away from, even should they wish to escape from the bond. Once there was a man who thought he had caught a Tartar, but who found afterwards that the Tartar had caught him.

It is to meet the end of this month; room for our Commercial Annexation on space. Are they bold enough? House, that they still stick to it? Situation against Great Britain includes Sir Richard intend to remove part of his Reciprocity scheme, or be even now working its way to official backdown? Richard and others of our Commercialists the situation is about they know, as well as they know the Unrestricted Reciprocity cry is unattainable, except division against Great Britain goes with it. But of their followers probably not one in twenty—or in a hundred—knows this. This is the *dangerous* part of their scheme, and so far they have managed to keep it pretty well out of sight. But the thing positively "can't be did" much longer; *that* part of their game is nearly played out. The time draws near when The World's question must be answered on the floor of Parliament; about which only The Globe may favor the public with an answer in advance of that time. [illegible] a backdown that will [illegible] from its propriety. [illegible] ing in the wind. [illegible] what we shall see. Or, as Sir John might say, it will have to come "ere long."

The Perils of Royalty.

If half what a correspondent of The New York Tribune, resident in Vienna, says is true, no one would care much to have royal blood in his veins, especially of the strains of the present reigning houses of Europe, of whom there is scarcely a single family which is not afflicted with some terrible kind of hereditary disease as a rule by too frequent marriages between near relatives for several generations past, which has resulted in feebleness and vitiation of the blood. The Hapsburg (Austria) seems to be peculiarly afflicted, idiocy and epilepsy principal maladies. Archduke Rudolph, cleverest and most popular member of the family, was taken the other day with a fit, five hours from the lunatic asylum. Of the Austrian imperial family the emperor is the only one free of taint. Emperor Ferdinand had to abdicate by reason of idiocy. The King of Spain, whose mother is said to have developed the craze. The ex-Empress of Austria," is another member. Perhaps the most serious case is the Emperor's eldest nephew, who, in defaults of the heirs of Crown Prince Rudolph of the Imperial crown is so septic to such a degree that it is necessary on two occasions to place him under temporary restraint. Is an incurable maniac, committed suicide. The Empress of Germany and Empress of Austria at Gratz. Prince [illegible] of infantry, is another died raving. The Duchess d'Alençon has been afflicted with melancholia and dementia to such an extent as to render it necessary to place her under restraint, while the Prince de Joinville, the Duc de Montpensier and the Duc de Nemours are all three so terribly deaf as to render it almost impossible to carry on a conversation with them.

Insanity reigns in the Russian Royal family, and innumerable are the anecdotes which could be told of the late Grand Duke Constantine, and also of the conduct of the Emperor Nicolas during the few months previous to his death. Fears are expressed at St. Petersburg and at Copenhagen that the mind of the Czarina is giving way under the terrible burden of anxiety for her husband's and her children's safety. Her melancholia has indeed assumed so serious a form that Dr. Charcot, the greatest mad doctor of the age, has been specially summoned to St. Petersburg. The Queen of Sweden is secluded. King Charles of Wurtemberg must be demented, judged by his acts. And so on almost through the entire list.

The Two Cent Postal Rate.

The total expenditure for the fiscal year ending November 31, 1888, in the Post Office Department was $3,538,397, as against a revenue of $2,966,399, showing a deficit of about $567,000. The number of letters transmitted during the year was 80,200,000, so that a reduction in the postal rate on letters of one cent would mean a direct loss to the Government of $802,000, increasing the deficit to $1,369,000. When the United States postal rate was lowered from three to two cents the number of letters increased suddenly about 28 per cent., which increase would doubtless take place in Canada under like circumstances. This would decrease the increased deficit to $919,880. The deficit for 1888 was about 50 per cent. less than that for 1887, and with a postal service already well established throughout the country the tendency certainly is to a continued decrease in the annual deficit.

Presuming that next year the reduction in deficit were 50 per cent—the same as for last year—the deficit at the end of the fiscal year would be reduced to about $732,620, or by an extra appropriation of about $162,620 over that of last year the two cent postal rate might become an accomplished fact.

Another American Combine.

All the breweries in Syracuse, N.Y., have entered into a beer trust, their first issue being less trust and no discounts to saloon and hotel keepers. More than this, the Syracuse trust is said to have come to an understanding with the brewers of Buffalo, Rochester and other neighboring cities, that the latter shall not sell any beer in Syracuse, in return for which the Syracuse trust will not sell any beer outside of what may be called its natural territory. The Syracuse saloon-keepers are writhing under this new state of affairs. Hereafter their credit at the breweries must be considerably better, they must sell less beer to each glass in order to keep up their income, if the price is to be raised on them, and also in order to keep up their business they must increase the volume of their trade, and lastly they must stand back and see the breweries reap double the profits they have grown wealthy on outside the trust.

The action of the Syracuse breweries in the carrying out of this scheme is believed to be now in contemplation throughout all the United States, the whole forming one vast trust, which will assign to each sectional trust a locality for the exclusive sale of its output.

The Market of Sixty Millions.

Onions, potatoes and cabbages are low enough. From one day's exchanges it is learned that farmers in Onondaga county are feeding potatoes to their hogs; Troy cabbage raisers are giving their product to cattle, and a Kingston man who sent a carload of onions to New York didn't get enough for them to pay his freight bill.—*Rochester Herald.*

Oh, yes! We are longing for a market of sixty millions of people to ship our surplus root crop to! If we only had free trade we could sell our potatoes, for which we now get 50 cents, at 22 cents; our onions, for which we can in Toronto get 85 cents, at 30 cents; our cabbages, in Canada worth 3 cents per head we could not find a market for. Then [illegible] only had Commercial Union, you know, Unrestricted Reciprocity, why our root crop who are now getting cash for their [illegible] sufficient amounts to pay them to [illegible] and raise more, would have to starve also, unless than half of what they now get! The prospect is nice, but it's a mighty poor rule that won't work both ways.

Our War.

Being the account by a veteran of the war of 1901 of the attempt made in that year by the Americans to capture Canada, which was at that time an independent nation which had peacably separated from England though maintaining most friendly relations with her.

It was in the year nineteen hundred and one,
The nineteenth century just about done,
When there came the sound of the Yankee gun
Booming across the land.
And we knew what we long had known before,
That there must be war, and a dreadful war,
Ere our dear Dominion was safe and sure,
So we sprang up sword in hand.

They were many and we were few,
But our hearts were brave and our hearts were true,
And the duty before us, as right well we knew.
For a nation's life we fought.
They dreamed of glory, they dreamed of fame,
We knew our duty—to guard from the shame
Of a nation that cannot its own maintain
The land that our fathers sought.

We knew that old England, good friend was she,
Was watching her offspring from over the sea,
We thought of her flag and its victory,
And swore that *our* flag should not lower.
From ocean to ocean there rang a great cry:
"We fear not the foe and their power we defy,
If for home we are worsted, for home we can die,
And count it a glorious hour!"

Were we worsted? Did we die? Do you see our flag fly
And wave proudly and splendidly 'neath our blue sky?
As high as it floateth our hearts beat high
For that banner we fought and we won.
Our own proud Dominion we guarded right well,
And our children to their children's children will tell
How the enemy came, how the enemy fell,—
And now my rough rhyming is done.

—B.

Parry Sound, Dec. 28.

A West End Catholic's Complaint.

Editor World: In your admirable report of the second day's session of the musical convention it is stated that Mr. Preston made a class of little girls from St. Michael's separate school go through a number of vocal exercises on the staff notation system. This is great news for the Catholics of the West End who have children attending St. Mary's, St. Francis' and St. Patrick's schools. Mr. Preston has not come our way yet, and we would like to know why not? Are the children of St. Michael's made of superior clay that this distinction should be made? Or are we to understand that only East St. Laurent's school children are to receive musical instruction? Perhaps the West End children are looked upon as so many young barbarians and incapable of being instructed in the divine art! These questions want answering, and if our S. S. trustees don't see to it some of them may be taught a lesson at the polls which they won't soon forget.

Toronto, Dec. 28. A WEST END CATHOLIC.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

Daniel Sharp of 77 Sumach-street was arrested yesterday afternoon by Policeman Quinn on the charge of stealing two hand-car wheels.

To-day being the Feast of the Circumcision will be observed in St. Matthias Church, Bellwoods-avenue, by the celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. The latter service will be choral, and similar to the Christmas midnight service.

Father Clow yesterday received as a New Year's present from Captain William Bell, a Six Nation Indian chief, a real lively, live young buck deer, which he has named "Jamie" in honor of the Scotch patrons of his Colborne-street restaurant. "Jamie" will receive callers to-day.

The Metropolitan and Princess Roller Rinks will be open this afternoon and evening. Band in attendance.

The Modern Language Association opens a three-day session to-morrow at 2 p.m. at the Canadian Institute, when Sir Daniel Wilson will deliver an address. The discussion pro- [illegible] ing.

IN THE SPORTING WORLD.

MATTERS OF INTEREST ON TRACK, DIAMOND AND IN THE RING.

Poor Prospects for Jumping Races—The Home of Proctor Knott—Rickley Signs with Toronto—Baseball Doings in Syracuse and Buffalo—Spots of Sport.

There is nothing new to chronicle in the Sullivan-Kilrain business, but the indications are that before another week goes by another step in the matter will have been taken. Both sides now have their cash on deposit, and all that remains to be done for the present is to meet and sign articles. There will, of course, be more or less wrangling over the agreement, and a week or so will be spent in coming to terms. The main difficulty, however, has been overcome. Jake is willing to fight for $10,000 a side and John is agreeable in the matter of having the Fox belt at stake. What remains to be done is to agree on a referee and fighting ground. No great difficulty will be had in selecting the judge of the battle, as it is understood that Al Smith is the choice of both men. If that is so, they are to be congratulated on their good judgment. No other man in America will give the sporting public so much confidence in the genuineness of the match. Al has a reputation for honesty, fair dealing and ability unequalled in the sporting world, and if he should accept the position we would be assured of a fair, square decision. There promises to be some trouble in getting a fighting ground. It is doubtful if the fight could be pulled off in the States and recourse will probably be had to some Territory or to Mexico, where protection will be guaranteed. However, they will probably have these matters decided within a couple of weeks, and then to the battle, which now seems a probable event.

There seems to be an unanimous sentiment in all the jockey clubs in the east that no contract will be made with any association of bookmakers. But the American Jockey Club objects to that portion of the rule which prevents the renting of a single stand to a person because he happens to be a member of an association. The Bookmakers' Alliance in the East has been a protection to bettors rather than an injury. It has kept out welchers and not one has ever defaulted on a bet. As long as racing exists there will be betting. The object of racing is to improve the breed of horses, and this can only be done by offering suitable money prizes. The club can afford to offer these only when the revenues from gate receipts and other privileges justify it, and no one of the privileges yields so much revenue as that of betting. The larger the number enjoying the privilege of making books the less the individual profit and the less each man can afford to pay, but the aggregate amount realized by the clubs will not be less than under the old system of letting it out to the Bookmakers' Alliance.

August Belmont seems to be as unfortunate as the Dwyer Brothers in purging his stable of what he considered castoffs. He sold Badge for a mere song to Byron McClelland, and the little one proved a fortune winner. During the last month of the Monmouth Park meeting this year he disposed of the 2-year-old Glory to Father Bill Daly for little or nothing. The filly seemed to have a tremendous turn of speed for half a mile, but could go no further. In some way Father Bill has imbued her with both speed and staying power, and at Clifton she has won nine several thousand dollars. Her last win was the Christmas Carol Handicap of $1000, and having won this Daly is going to give her a rest until next spring, when he will try and capture some of the big 3-year-old stakes with her.

Next season will see but few new candidates out for cross-country honors on the American turf and there are no real cracks among the timber-toppers likely to make their appearance between the flags. Certainly the game for jumpers does not look very encouraging for next season. And why? The jockey clubs will not support this class of sport. The purses are not of sufficient value to justify owners putting good horses at this kind of business and [illegible] can see what is going [illegible] any time. This stall is Knott's [illegible] perture, and the manger in front, are heavily padded, and the floor is always kept covered with fresh straw.

The great racer seems as fond of the members of the family as they are of him, and almost any hour of the day his handsome head, ornamented with a broad, white stripe down the centre, can be seen thrust through the window, with his bright eyes regarding the members of the family who may be in sight. Mrs. Bryant is as fond of the horse as her husband, and is constantly passing to and from the stable to see that everything is all right. Each day Knott spends several hours in the large lot which surrounds his stable. The ground is kept clear of rubbish and not a stray stone or pebble is left on the ground for fear that it may get fastened in the precious hoofs. Not a stick of wood can be found on the ground.

Proctor Knott is much like other young horses in spite of his aristocratic lineage and wonderful record. He is very playful, and when a visitor comes to see him he usually kicks up the identical heels which threw dust into the eyes of so many flyers last summer, and with a short gallop away to the other end of the lot, where he amuses himself by poking his nose between the pickets and consulting with the common horses in the adjoining field. Knott's food is selected with the greatest care, and consists of shelled oats, bran, and hay. He is very fond of apples, and the best way to get into his good graces is to bring him one carefully peeled, and he will then condescend to press his pretty nose against the giver's hand while he munches the fruit with great relish. Since the day he won the great Futurity Stake Proctor Knott's head has not been hampered by a bridle, nor has a saddle been placed upon his gallant back. In his stall he is not confined by even a halter, but walks about at his own convenience.

Gossip of the Turf.

The Latonia management announce that the Jockey Club Stakes will close on Jan. 15.

A mile track for trotting and running contests will be made at Oakley, eight miles from Cincinnati, on the Cincinnati, Washington and Baltimore Railroad.

Jockey Day was ruled off at Guttenburg on Saturday for pulling Frank Wheeler in the last race, and the horse was ordered off the track.

The Louisville Trotting Association will, it is announced, cease to exist this month.

They are talking now at the turf resorts in New York about the Brooklyn and Suburban handicaps. As soon as the entries are in there will be more or less speculation over both events. Weights will be announced Feb. 1. Much interest is manifested as to how the expert handicappers will agree as to the merits of the horses.

The Novelty Stakes offered by the Ohio Trotting Horse Breeders' Association is really a novelty. It is for 4-year-olds or under, restricted to horses without records; subscription $25; payments Feb. 1, 1889, $5; May 1, 1889, $10; Aug 15, 1889, $10; the winners to retire to the stable upon winning heats until four heats shall have been decided; the stakes to be divided according to records made, the horse winning the fastest heat to take first money, and so on.

Gallore, the English son of the great Galopin, has not been purchased for William Astor's Foxcliffs stud after all, but for a Mr. Maxwell. Mr. Easton's representative paid 2200 guineas for him, and not $7000 as has been stated. The purchase money for Oscry, bought for Milton Young of Kentucky, was cabled to England on Friday, it being a trifle over $10,000 in American money. Mr. Young also sent word to have the horse shipped to New York as soon as possible.

Congressmen Scott and Capt. S. S. Brown are both bidding for the services of the lightweight jockey, Bergen, for next season. He is now the crack rider at the Jersey tracks.

R. W. Thomas, who has just retired from "Lucky" Baldwin's service as trainer, does not think the famous racer Emperor of Norfolk will ever again be able to face the starter. Mr. Baldwin, however, has had the colt's bad leg fired, and will try to train him in the spring. Baldwin has concluded to retire Mollie McCarthy's Last, Grisette and Letrella, which were of little value as racers this year, and they will be bred to Grinstead in the spring.

Spots of Sport.

The hounds will meet this afternoon at Mr. Kennedy's farm, Bloor-street west, at 2 o'clock.

Kittleman and Harry Bethune, the sprinters, are in Cleveland. Gentlemen of the West, keep your eyes open or some unknown will ride into your town on a load of hay some fine day and scoop your ducats.

Mitchell and Kilrain closed their season on the road at St. Louis last night. Both are disgusted at the treatment they have received, and Mitchell's bad hand was completely knocked up by the blow he struck Burns in Cleveland.

with the new year the baseball interests, which have been rather dormant of late, will revive considerably. The managers of the International Association who have so far been unable to sign their players will make renewed efforts to come to terms with their men. To-day is the last day for depositing the $1000 guarantee, and no doubt all the clubs save Rochester and Hamilton will come to the front and put up the required amount with Secretary White. The above clubs have asked for an extension of time till January 15, but as yet Secretary White has not announced the results of the vote, but it is more than likely that it will be in favor of the clubs. Therefore until January 15 the make up of the International Association will not be known.

This will be an important day in racing circles. Stakes to be decided at the various racing meetings on the American turf next season will close and owners are now putting their brains to work as to how to engage their horses. The Ontario Jockey Club have decided to leave their stakes open till Feb. 1, and till then there is little for discussion among the turfites in Canada.

BASEBALL DOINGS IN SYRACUSE.

It is Likely That Most of Last Season's Nine will be Signed.

SYRACUSE, Dec. 31.—Syracuse has at last settled definitely the question of its representation on the ball field next season, and there is no longer any doubt as to its course. The Star Association has been reorganized, and twelve of the twenty old stockholders have decided to remain in the ring and roll the ball another year. There is still apprehension of trouble, since one or two of the old stockholders were not asked to remain in the association, or to surrender their stock. Several of the stockholders who will not be connected with the club next year are elected to belonging to the same association as Thomas R. O'Neill, whose course has not pleased them. They say that Mr. O'Neill repeatedly threatened to resign as President of the club during the past season, and, after being re-elected in the fall, did resign just before the annual International League meeting, leaving the association without a President and in a predicament during that important meeting.

Objection is also made to the fact that none of the Syracuse stockholders were invited to the banquet given to the International League delegates, and consequently none were present except Mr. O'Neill himself and the Secretary, Charles J. Rae. This caused much ill feeling among the local baseball men. Nevertheless twelve of the stockholders have decided to continue the club and have elected Riley V. Miller, President; A. R. Dickinson, Vice-President; Charles J. Rae, Secretary and Treasurer; and Thomas R. O'Neill, International League director. Nothing has yet been done toward signing players.

John Chapman, for several years manager of the Buffaloes, is wanted to manage the Stars, while C. M. Hackett, the old manager, is also strongly favored for a re-election. Some favor a player manager and suggest "Joe" Battin, while "Mike" Dorgan, formerly of the New Yorks, is being pushed by his friends for manager and captain. It is likely that most of last season's nine will be signed, except, perhaps, Marr, whom Columbus is after; Beard, who has been sold to Cincinnati, and "Con" Murphy.

ABOUT THE BISONS.

White and Rowe Continue to Buy Buffalo Stock.

BUFFALO, Dec. 31.—Jack Rowe, the new Vice-President of the Buffalo Base Ball Club, said to-day that he did not know of any new developments in the baseball sensation which he had recently helped to make. He was shown a Cleveland despatch, which declared that the Brotherhood of Ball Players is behind Jim White and Jack Rowe in their Buffalo project, and that Ned Hanlon is likely to associate himself with his old partners when he returns from Australia.

Mr. Rowe said that in his opinion, the Brotherhood would support the members of that organization, especially when the players were in the right, as in his case. He hadn't said a word to any member of the League about the step he intended to take, and he hadn't any means of knowing about Hanlon's intentions.

White and Rowe have continued to buy Buffalo stock, and now own two-thirds of the club. The annual meeting of the stockholders will be held to-morrow night. White and Rowe are both keeping their eyes open for a pitcher, and Mr. Rowe says they are now negotiating with a dandy, but his name will not be given until he is signed.

Around the World.

BALLARAT, Australia, Dec. 31.—Mr. Spalding to-day finally reached the conclusion to take the ball teams around the world and made arrangements to that end. The teams will start on the trip on Monday, January 7.

The first stop will be at Ceylon, then Calcutta, Delhi and Bombay, and possibly Alexandria, Cairo and Constantinople. Then will commence the Continental route to the principal cities of Europe—Rome, Naples, Florence, Berlin, Vienna, Brussels, Paris, London, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Cork and Liverpool.

The return to America will be about the first week of April.

Rickley Puts His Name to a Contract.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31.—Manager Cushman signed Third Baseman Rickley to-day, to play in his old position with the Toronto Club next season.

Dust From the Diamond.

Old lady—Why are you not playing ball with the other little boys?

Little Boy—I mufled er fly in de lot dild, an' de cap'n shucked anudder feller in me place.

Old Lady—I wouldn't watch them play if they treated me like that.

Little Boy—I ain't watchin' 'em play; I'm wattin' till de game's over ter lick de cap'n.—Exchange.

In baseball he may steal who can
A base the action no disgrace;
Though base is stealing, yet no man
Need be ashamed of stealing bases.
—Pittsburg Dispatch.

In a letter to A. J. Reach, F. K. Stearns of the Detroit club says: "White told me that he had just as soon play in Boston as anywhere, and was willing to go there as soon as he had seen Mr. Billings. He now goes square back on his word. Rowe told me he had just as soon play in Pittsburgh if his terms were accepted, which were $4000. So you see the principle involved is all bosh on their part, but there is something to be sustained on ours, for if the players in this case are allowed to get away with their bluff it will be a precedent for other players to follow."

H. E. Leonard will manage the Rochester club next season. Chub Collins will play second base and captain the nine, Barr and Callahan will pitch for the Rochester nine, or go into some business other than baseball next summer. Four other members of last year's nine, including McKeough, Peltz and Simon, will be retained. There will be a new first baseman, a new outfielder and a new shortstop.

Hamilton Spectator: Ald. Dixon received a telegram to-day from Secretary White, informing him that four of the clubs had voted against Hamilton's request for fifteen days' extension and that the resolution was lost. The guarantee will have to be in his hands by Jan. 7 or Hamilton's franchise will be forfeited. This will give the directors a little more time to raise the money. Toronto stood by Hamilton and voted for the extension.

A Pennsylvania Cocking Main.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 31.—A cocking main of nine battles between Pittston and Plymouth birds took place this afternoon near Plymouth for $500 a side. Pittston won six out of the nine battles, killing three Plymouth birds and driving two out of the pit. There were over 800 persons [illegible]

PROCTOR KNOTT AT HOME.

The Great Race Horse Cared for as Though He Were a Child.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 31.—The most talked-about horse now in the State of Kentucky is Proctor Knott. Naturally it is rather risky to let a $30,000 animal run around without an insurance policy, and the care Sam Bryant takes of him is remarkable. He is as scrupulously watchful over his great golding as when he slept in his car when he was bringing him back from his triumphs on the Eastern tracks. Bryant thinks so much of the youngster that he does not allow him to run with his other race horses or even to stay in the stable with them. Mr. Bryant's place is a short distance out of the city, on the Fourth-street road, just beyond the Jockey Club grounds. He has a neat two-story frame dwelling, the walls painted white and the shutters a bright green. Some time ago Bryant purchased Ed Applegate's stable, a comfortable frame building just across the street and some distance from his house. In that building are nearly all his horses, even Come-to-Taw, whom he prizes next to Proctor Knott. He will not [illegible] partitions, on either side of the [illegible] and the manger in front, are heavily padded, and the floor is always kept covered with fresh straw.

The great racer seems as fond of the members of the family as they are of him, and almost any hour of the day his handsome head, ornamented with a broad, white stripe down the centre, can be seen thrust through the window, with his bright eyes regarding the members of the family who may be in sight. Mrs. Bryant is as fond of the horse as her husband, and is constantly passing to and from the stable to see that everything is all right. Each day Knott spends several hours in the large lot which surrounds his stable. The ground is kept clear of rubbish and not a stray stone or pebble is left on the ground for fear that it may get fastened in the precious hoofs. Not a stick of wood can be found on the ground.

Proctor Knott is much like other young horses in spite of his aristocratic lineage and wonderful record. He is very playful, and when a visitor comes to see him he usually kicks up the identical heels which threw dust into the eyes of so many flyers last summer, and with a short gallop away to the other end of the lot, where he amuses himself by poking his nose between the pickets and consulting with the common horses in the adjoining field. Knott's food is selected with the greatest care, and consists of shelled oats, bran, and hay. He is very fond of apples, and the best way to get into his good graces is to bring him one carefully peeled, and he will then condescend to press his pretty nose against the giver's hand while he munches the fruit with great relish. Since the day he won the great Futurity Stake Proctor Knott's head has not been hampered by a bridle, nor has a saddle been placed upon his gallant back. In his stall he is not confined by even a halter, but walks about at his own convenience.

CHAT ABOUT THE WEATHER.

SOME METEOROLOGICAL FACTS ANENT THE OLD YEAR.

1888 Has Been Colder Than the Average, Though December Was Milder—The Second Warmest Christmas Day of 23 Years—Facts for the Weatherwise.

When icicles hang by the wall,
And Dick the shepherd blows his nail,
And Tom bears logs into the hall
And milk comes frozen home in pail.

Such was Shakespeare's description of a winter scene. Had the Immortal Bard flourished in the days of Cook's excursions he could have added to the wealth of his descriptive repository. But he would not have given for all time a correct impression of a Canadian winter had he spent his Christmas this year at Toronto. He might, like the other Englishman, have thought 'twas spring and imagined it was the voice of the turtle he heard in the land. But what about the icicles, Dick the shepherd's frozen nails and the congealed milk!

Let us not hallo before we are out of the wood. The Icy King still reigns; he and Old Probs have proclaimed a truce of God; but the old promise standeth firm: "While the earth remaineth cold and winter shall not cease." The New Year is here and we shall soon have a taste of his quality.

The mean temperature of December for 48 years past is 25.89°. The average temperature of the last month has been a little over this record. Hence we may well say, "It's a mild season," when this milder than for 48 years. On Christmas Day the temperature rose as high as 47°, whilst on Dec. 22 it was at zero.

On only one day since 1840 has there been such a warm day as was Christmas. This unusually warm December day was in 1867, when the thermometer recorded 50°. There have been other December days nearly as warm. In 1866 the thermometer went up to 40°; in 1881 to 42°; in 1876 to 46°, and to 47° in 1862. December 1887 was on the whole milder than the month just past, the average temperature being as high as 28.4°. In 1877 and 1881 it was mild or still, the average being over 34° in both instance. The December of 1884 was very cold, the mean temperature for the month being 2.1°. The next coldest December was 1886, with 7.1°, and the third, 1879, with 8.2° as the average.

Last month was exceptional as regards snow fall. Only a little over two inches fell in the month, although spread over a score of days. The average fall of snow during the past 48 years in December has been 14 inches.

In short the closing month of the old year has nothing of any extraordinary interest meteorologically. The year over the whole of the Canadian Dominion has been a cold one. Up to the close of November the mean temperature on the average showed a deficit so large that to bring the year up to the average would have required December to be 20° warmer than the mean average of that month.

Although mild for winter the year has been very cold. There have only been five colder years since the Toronto Observatory has been established, 48 years ago. These were 1885, 1883, 1875, 1856 and 1843. Every month, with the exception of June and November, has been colder than usual, and March to the extent of 6.38° and January 7.38°. The latter month was the coldest January for 33 years, and the coldest on record excepting January, 1857. March, too, has a remarkable record, being the coldest known excepting in 1885, 1873 and 1843, while October has not been equalled for cold since 1876.

The highest temperature of the year, 92°, in June, is only one degree above the average. In 1887 the highest was 97.2°. The lowest temperature of the year was in February, 16.1°, which is only 4° colder than usual. In 1887 the lowest was 16.6°, and the highest 97.2°. The lowest temperature ever recorded in Toronto was 26.5°, on Jan. 10, 1857, and the highest 99.2°, on Aug. 24, 1854.

The drought of the first seven months of the year was remarkable, both rainfall and snowfall being deficient. The rainfall of the last five months has been above the average, but still not sufficient to compensate for the above deficiency. Although 1888 will rank as a dry year 1887 was still dryer. October was the driest month so far as rainy days are concerned, but the total rainfall was only a little [illegible] than usual.

November on the whole was regular and mild. The early part of December snowless and milder than usual. Damp disagreeable weather characterized the month, and there were some great variations of temperature. On Friday, Dec. 21, the mercury touched zero, which is about the lowest average temperature of Christmas time.

The probabilities are that there will be a mild winter, not, however, free from the snowy blizzards and intensely cold snaps which have become so interminably associated with our ideas of a Canadian winter.

Rose's Winter Balm.

The finest thing in the world for the skin, chapped hands, sore lips and for gentlemen after shaving, prepared by Hargreaves Bros., corner Queen and Simcoe. 246

TWO GREAT PLAYS.

The Attractions at the Theatres for New Year's Week.

Mr. Robert Mantell, the romantic-heroic actor, who first made his appearance in Toronto playing Loris Iphanhoff in "Fedora" and who came to us last season in the French drama "Monbars" and went away leaving an excellent impression, again faced a Toronto audience when he appeared at the Grand Opera House in the title role of Monbars. The intense interest of the romantic French play with its scene laid in the year 1810, with all its accessories of rich stage setting and handsome garments, its love, its villainy and its startling scenes, was well presented by a company which includes but few of last season's.

Mr. Mantell scored a success again, and with his handsome face, fine stage presence, and above all his manly unaffected acting proved his reputation as an artist.

Miss Charlotte Behrens, an actress of long recognized abilities, fittingly shared the honors as the heroine, while Miss Marie Sheldon as Blanche did some neat comedy work. Mr. H. T. Ringgold of last season's company was as good as ever in the comedy part of Monsieur Monton, and the rest of the company helped to make up an excellent support.

There will be a matinee to-day and another on Saturday.

"The White Slave."

Bartley Campbell's ever popular play "The White Slave" commenced a week's run at the Toronto Opera House last night. The familiar characters of this play with its action laid in the Southern States and the totals of "Liza, the White Slave," were well portrayed by a competent company. Miss Jennie Weaver played the title role in pleasing style and the rest of the cast gave a good support. There will be matinees to-day, to-morrow and Saturday.

The New York Tribune, Dec. 5, says: "Herr Rosenthal chose an interesting and suggestive program for his concert last night in Steinway Hall. His numbers were Beethoven's sonata, op. 31, No. 3, in Eflat major; "Variations on a Theme of Paganini," by Brahms; and three numbers by Liszt, 'Consolations,' 'Valses and Rhapsodies Hongroises,' the latter being arranged by Herr Rosenthal. The first number, as can easily be imagined, was beautifully played, for it was rendered by a man who played for art's own sake, and there is no necessity for further particularization for those who have heard Herr Rosenthal. The second number is a curious, wild, weird, fantastic, chaotic theme of opposing ideas artistically commented upon by Brahms, probably for amusement. The climax generally reminds one of Paganini's 'Witches' Dance,' accompanied by a thunderstorm. The arrangement of the last three numbers passed the audience through a sentimental number, an intoxicating waltz, and a whirl of rhapsody, which sent the enthusiastic people home in good spirits." He appears in conjunction with Mrs. Agnes Thomson in Toronto on Jan. 11 in the benefit of the Grenadiers' band fund.

Musical Notes.

An organ recital will be given at the College of Music Thursday evening next, by Frederic Archer of Boston. The admission is by program, which can be obtained at the college.

Mrs. Agnes Thomson returned from New York last evening.

A high class concert in aid of the Sunnyside Orphanage for Boys will be given Thursday evening next in St. Michael's College Hall. Miller, Strauss and Mr Schuch will sing, and the best local talent will assist them in the entertainment. Miss Lizzie Higgins and Mons. Boucher will play a couple of solos each. Mr. A. S. Vogt accompanist.

How to Obtain Sunbeams.

—Every one should save them. Have what Stanton's Sunbeam Photographs $1 per dozen. Studio south west corner Yonge and Adelaide streets. 403

A CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE.

The Establishment of One in Toronto Again Under Discussion.

A meeting of Congregational clergymen and church officials was held yesterday afternoon to consider the establishment of a Congregational college or training school in Toronto. There were present Rev. Charles Duff in the chair, Rev. G. Robertson, Rev. Dr. Wild, Rev. S. King, Rev. A. F. Macgregor and a number of others. Dr. Barber, principal of the college in Montreal, had been invited to attend, but owing to some misunderstanding was unable to be present. The question was raised whether the meeting had power to take any action in the matter, and as a committee had been appointed by the Central Conference to take charge of all such affairs, it was decided that the gathering was informal and could only discuss the question.

Some of those present thought that the founding of a college in Toronto would interfere with the raising of the endowment fund for the Montreal College, and that it would be well to hold the scheme in abeyance until that institution had been more solidly founded. All were agreed, however, that if such a school were established it should be only for training purposes, and should by no means stand in the light of a rival to the Montreal college.

Dr. Wild said he would like to see a school established for the training of men who might appeal to the masses. He thought that educated clergymen were in most cases unfit to minister to the lowest class, and that if the church would train men to do such work as is done by the Salvation Army and similar bodies, the interests of the church would be greatly furthered.

The chairman recommended that a conference of representatives from the churches be called to consider the matter, and it was decided to act on his advice.

THE WATCH NIGHT SERVICES.

The Last Hour of 1888 Spent in Prayer and Praise.

At many of the churches, notably the Methodists, crowds assembled to pass the closing hour of the old year in devotional fashion. Hearty singing, grateful praises, earnest petitions, solemn kneeling, silent dedication, was the program at the numerous sanctuaries last night. And as the death-knell of the Old Year and the birth of its successor resounded on the midnight air the throngs sang out with heart and voice:

Come let us anew
Our journey pursue,
Roll round with the year
And never stand still
Till the Master appear.

Then came promiscuous hand-shaking, the expression once more of "Happy New Year," the joyous response, "Same to You;" and then to sleep, to work, to weep, to pray, and to face the untold chances and changes of another year of grace! May the wishes heartily expressed be abundantly realized, and each citizen of Toronto realize the salutation of the old Roman citizens: "May the New Year be auspicious and happy to thee."

What Pawnbrokers May Charge.

A correspondent asks us "what percentage pawnbrokers should charge." The statute says that if the sum lent is less than $1 the advance shall be grats; if the sum lent is $1 and under $2 the pawnbroker may make take one halfpenny or five-sixths of a cent; if $2 and under $5, one penny or one cent and ½ of a cent; if $4 and under $20 twopence or 3½ cents; if $20 and upwards fourpence or 8⅓ cents. These rates pay for the loan for one year, but the articles pawned may at any time be redeemed by payment of principal and profit according to above rates.

Only Eighteen Seats Left.

Secretary Wills of the Board of Trade announces that it has been decided they will put in twelve more seats in the gallery in order to increase the accommodation. There are now only eighteen dinner seats left. Mr. Wills will be at his office this morning to answer enquiries in reference to this dinner.

Holders of dinner tickets are particularly requested to be in their places at 7.30 sharp.

Visiting the Sick.

For the past two years Ald. Gibbs every Saturday afternoon has visited the male department of the eye and ear wards of the Toronto General Hospital to read the news of the day to the afflicted inmates. Yesterday those whom he has befriended presented him with an address expressive of their sense of his kindness in assisting them to pass the days of their trouble with some degree of pleasure.

The Heaviest Civil Assize.

The Winter Civil Assizes for the County of York will open to-mor