

War Despatches

LATEST NEWS FROM THE FRONT.

During the night of Monday River on Sunday, the 19th inst., the North Division, in which was the Canadian contingent, suffered severely. In the morning, about 10 o'clock, twenty were killed and sixty-one wounded. The Toronto men killed were Dudley and Monon; wounded, Stewart, Fisher, Kennedy, Sutton, McLaughlin, Ward, Vanderwey, McLaughlin, and the wounded was Captain L. C. Mason, son of the Colonel Mason, of this city.

London, Feb. 21—(4 to 6 a.m.)—The Boers are holding the positions and are continuing for the defence of their own. Sir Buller has ordered his men to raise the siege of Ladysmith, and this is done now.

Gen. Buller reports that the force controlling him has been greatly diminished. The Boers are also retreating their steps from Ladysmith. They are retreating to hold on all sides in order to assemble to oppose Lord Roberts. He is pressing on towards Ladysmith. It is now believed that the Boers are retreating. It is now believed that the Boers are retreating. It is now believed that the Boers are retreating.

It has been heard from the chase words of the War Office tonight were that the Boers are retreating. It is now believed that the Boers are retreating. It is now believed that the Boers are retreating. It is now believed that the Boers are retreating.

London, Feb. 20—The following despatch has been received at the War Office from Colonel Buller:

"Blow's Farm, Tuesday, Feb. 20—(4 to 6 p.m.)—The Fusilier Brigade yesterday took Hlangwane Hill, the right of the enemy's position, and the Boers fled towards the north of the Tugela. They are retreating towards the Tugela.

"This morning the enemy had withdrawn all their troops north of the Tugela. They are retreating towards the Tugela.

"Today Gen. Buller occupied Colenso after a very slight resistance by a weak rear guard, and we held our position until the Boers fled from Colenso to Engle's Nest.

"The enemy came in to fight in full force, and apparently are only holding the position they occupy across the Colenso-Ladysmith road.

"Our casualties yesterday and today have, I hope, been but few."

CANADIAN NEWS.

CONSECATED.

In the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, St. John, N.B., on Sunday morning, the 19th inst., in presence of a vast assemblage and with the imposing ceremonial befitting an occasion of so great importance, the late Rev. Father J. B. H. was added to the Roman Catholic hierarchy of Canada. The Rev. T. Casey and the Very Rev. T. F. Barry, V.G., are now their lordships, the bishops of Halifax and Toronto respectively, and the Bishop of St. John and Chatham, endowed with the right of consecration.

The consecration ceremony began at nine o'clock and ended a few minutes after ten o'clock. Before it began, the Cathedral was filled to the door, and when the Prelate, clergy and altar boys entered the Sanctuary a perfect sea of faces was turned toward them. An event of such striking interest had not only brought together a great congregation of Catholics, but many of the most distinguished Protestants, who were courteously received and given an even chance for seats, as long as there were seats to give. But many hundreds of people were forced to stand throughout the whole ceremony. The scene within the Sanctuary was singularly imposing and impressive. No attempt had been made to decorate the Cathedral, and its severe simplicity brightened the effect of the scene before the altar. A very large number of clergymen were within the Cathedral. The lighted altars, the sacred emblems, the rich robes and jewels of archbishops and bishops, and the simpler vestments of priest and acolyte, combined to make a striking picture. It was a continually changing scene, as the Prelate and his assistants performed the various impressive services essential to the rite of consecration. The music was of that high order which befits an event of so great solemnity and gives expression to lofty aspirations such as an event as this in the souls of the faithful.—The Sun.

FATHER CANNING'S DEPARTURE FROM ST. CATHARINES.

The following address, received too late to be included in last week's notice of the event, was given to the Rev. Father Canning by the ladies of St. Catharine's parish, upon his departure for St. Catharines.

"Dear and dear Father!—It was with the deepest feelings of regret that we listened on Sunday last to your announcement that you had been called to a new field of labor, and it is with sad hearts that we bid you adieu. We long to-night to express our grief at losing you, our beloved director. Needless to say, Reverend Father, how much we shall miss you as our counsellor and friend to the sick and troubled, as an ever ready and cheerful help to all, and as our director by your instructive counsels, encouraging us in our duties, and we assure you the kindly counsel given will ever be a guide to us in whatever trials and crosses we may encounter in life.

We have felt that in some tangible way we must express our gratitude for your untiring efforts in our behalf. Now, dear Father, we beg of you to accept this slight memento of our esteem. We will ever pray that the clear brightness of heaven may be yours, and the thorns bestowing life's pathway, bathed in the blood of the Sacred Heart, may change to bright jewels to form for you a diadem of glory. Heaven's Blessing be upon you, and may your memory be a source of joy and inspiration to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

DEATH OF FATHER HOWE.

Rev. Father William Howe, curate of St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday, 18th inst., in the Water Street hospital after a few days' illness. Saturday he complained of feeling unwell, and on Sunday went to the hospital suffering from pneumonia. He grew rapidly worse, and culminated on the 18th in his death.

The late Father Howe was 11 years of age. He was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1849. He entered the Oblate Order early in his youth, and was priest for 14 years. He held the position of curate in the Water Street hospital after a few days' illness. Saturday he complained of feeling unwell, and on Sunday went to the hospital suffering from pneumonia. He grew rapidly worse, and culminated on the 18th in his death.

I.C.B.U. REUNION. HAMILTON.

The officers of Branch 4 of the I.C.B.U. held a successful euchre party at Knappin's parlors on Wednesday evening, 17th inst. There were 35 couples present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The card games were keenly contested. P. Martini and Miss A. McGra carried off the first prizes, while J. Robertson and Miss E. Hayes were fortunate in receiving the booby prizes. Host Knappin prepared a splendid supper, while the numbers did good credit. Dancing was indulged in until early in the morning, the music being supplied by Misses H. and J. Taylor.

The success of the entertainment was due to the untiring efforts of J. Bost, H. Malody and J. Cummings. The officers for the coming year are: S. Cheeseman, past president; James Cunningham, president; John Maloney, first vice-president; Thos. McLaughlin, second vice-president; W. E. recording secretary; James Wilmut, financial secretary; H. Slattery, treasurer; P. Maloney, master of ceremonies; J. McNamara, Tyler; S. Cheeseman, first marshal; M. G. second marshal; V. Bost and W. Malody were chairman and secretary of the entertainment committee respectively.

FATHER YOUNG'S MISSION.

La Semaine Religieuse, the organ of the Archbishop of Montreal, after giving a glowing account of the mission led by Rev. Father Young during his mission for Protestants at St. Patrick's Church, says: "It is certain that for a large number of Protestants the result of this mission means the admission into the Catholic Church. The number of adults have been baptized. For others a fortunate hesitancy to follow the path opened to them will mean their final gravitation towards the full truth. All we are certain will find enough to satisfy the numerous faithful notions formed concerning the Catholic Church and its august chief. The English-speaking Catholic population of Montreal, more especially, whose relations with Protestants are more frequent, will be able in their zeal to keep up the religious and moral connection with the French-speaking population, which is so profoundly religious, will second its efforts and applaud its success."

A DIAMOND JUBILEE.

A special meeting of St. Patrick's T. A. & S. Society was held at St. Patrick's Hall, Montreal, on the evening of the 19th inst. The object of the meeting was to discuss the celebration of the diamond jubilee of the society. The various sub-committees reported on the progress so far made and all reports showed that the celebration of the event will be on a large scale. On Sunday, the 25th, the members of the society will attend a special Mass in St. Patrick's church, and in the evening there will be a grand religious and social entertainment. The Catholic societies in the city will be invited to assist. There will be a special sermon preached by a well-known eloquent father. On Monday, the 26th, the event will be celebrated specially at the Winter Garden by a concert under the direction of Mrs. Monk, and an address will be given on the occasion by the rector of the Catholic University of Washington, Mr. Thos. J. Conaty.

FRENCH-CANADIAN ALLIANCE.

The war of 1812 was the subject of an interesting lecture given in the Grand Hotel on Tuesday, the 14th inst., by Mr. Benjamin Suite. The speaker showed how in that year the nations had tried to capture Canada. They had taken as their pretext the searching of American vessels by English warships. He also mentioned by the friendship of Napoleon, Emperor of the French, and the American President, Madison, by the fact that England, being then at war with France, was somewhat hampered, and by the hope of driving British man-

ufacturers out of the United States. The Americans, in trying to capture Canada, had relied on the French Canadians to help them, but in this they were mistaken, for the French Canadians took a most prominent part in defeating them from the attacks of the Americans. At the battle of Chateaugay, for instance, the defenders of Canada were victorious French Canadians. Mr. Suite referred to the different battles in the war and pointed out how bravely at the end, repulsed infant.

The National Patriotic Fund, as organized by the Governor General, is organized as follows:

For the benefit of the widows, orphans and other dependants of officers and men of the military forces of Canada who may unfortunately lose their lives in or in connection with the war operations in South Africa.

For the benefit of the soldiers themselves or employees of the Canadian Government attached to the contingent in South Africa who may have been disabled by wounds or sickness, etc.

For the benefit of the wives and children and dependants, separated at home from husbands and fathers and guardians by the exigencies of the campaign.

Where are Shakespeare's manuscripts? Nobody can tell. Could anyone discover them, says "The Gem" and offer these literary treasures for a million of money would anyone be offered money for them? The various national libraries and museums eager to obtain relics of such immense importance. Apart from the historical value these were possessors, Shakespeare's manuscripts would have other supreme interest. They would no doubt assist in settling the disputed authorship of the plays. They could be compared with the existing specimens of the great poet's handwriting. Would they be of any value in calligraphy as that of the signatures on Shakespeare's will, on the Blackfriars estate deeds, and the copy of Folio's Montaigne possessed by the Earl of Arundel? It is not likely that the manuscripts were hidden in a hole in the actual hand of the actor. There is some doubt about that, but the authenticity of the former ones has never been questioned.

Shakespeare's manuscripts have vanished mysteriously, as though they had never existed. Various theories have been put forward as to the whereabouts of the papers. Some of these are stated in a very interesting article in Chamber's "Journal." The author is Alexander Grant. He suggests that the manuscripts were hidden in a hole in the actual hand of the actor. There is some doubt about that, but the authenticity of the former ones has never been questioned.

It has been suggested that they were carried away by Shakespeare as some of the towns abroad and in Scotland which he is believed to have taken. But it is likely he would have carried them about with him? He is not an special regard for such things. He had but a poor opinion of play-actors, hence no person would be likely to shove things of the kind. And for the same reason the actor would be kept at the theatre to be at hand of the burning of the Globe, Mr. Carrill says, "So far as the few extant records of the fire may be relied on, the calamity befell on a certain day in the month of June in the year named, and when a rehearsal of 'Henry the Eighth,' which Shakespeare is supposed to have written—partly at least—a short time previously was in progress. The cause of the fire is unknown, although a contemporary writer alleged it to have been occasioned by some gunpowder used in the firing of cannons in displaying the pomp and circumstance of that grand spectacular play. Be that as it may, the broad erections were blown up and destroyed, with everything it contained. It is not known if any lives were lost."

THE LAST SANDWICH.

It was probably half-past four o'clock when a cadaverous man with green spectacles entered the cheap restaurant. He glanced furtively at the waiter who sat at the noonday hour and a vivid with every color that pie is heir to, but which at 4.30 are empty, and look as lonesome as the "beachcombs" when the beachcombers have gone and the water wind plays with the memory of a dead shell. Alas, there was not a pie for his weary spirit to light and rest and feast upon, and he said to the attendant whom he looked inquiringly at him:

"What kind of sandwiches have you?" "We have but one left," she replied, while she pointed at the lone, solitary survivor, which had the appearance of

shrivelled, into an attitude of defence, as if to make the best of the situation. "It is really good for reflection," sighed the patron without asking whether he would take it or not, "when I consider that there are thousands of sandwiches consumed in this pavilion every day, and a certain insignificant number of them are eaten by the men who are attached to the one which, out of this vast number, should be the last. And perhaps I am the last man that will be here to-day, and if the fact is as I think and reason, perhaps I would do better to eat a bit of curiosity to it as it now is to be."

"Do you want it?" asked the girl, with a sweet commercial smile. "I do," replied the patron, emphatically, "and please don't let it go before it can fall into other hands. I want it as a matter of sentiment. All last things have a peculiar charm for me. The last rose of summer and the last night of the year and the last words of great men though commonplace, if not selected and decided upon in advance are always regarded with a sort of reverence."

"You've relished the sandwich in rapt contemplation and opened it with a care copy of a rare edition of the 'Complete Angler.' And as he held it open he seemed to be reading a piece of the fine old book. 'It is as the man who is pointed out as the sole survivor of the Balkanville charge or the Last of the Mohicans. But what kind is it?' he asked, scrutinizing it more closely than ever. 'Corned beef,' replied the acolyte of food.

'Corned beef, corned beef!' he repeated, weighing the words carefully, 'and it is the last of the race—the Ureans of the noble army of sandwiches; but it is a metaphor, and it will set me soon as I have applied it to a few funeral decorations of Gior an usuard.'

He reached out, and, opening the book of food as gently as if it were of the daintiest binding, he illustrated the virginal page of corned beef suit his fancy until the mustard dripped from the omelet bowl's docket edge. Then he opened it, and, as he devoured it, he opened to the last crumb. Having done which, he arose and handed a nickel to the vision of loveliness behind the counter.

To have encountered your last sandwich—this is a unique experience, and it has not met to thinking. There is philosophy in the too desult, and the cruller is a lamp of wisdom. Think of the last survivor in the boat from a wrecked ship, think of the last man of the noble army of sandwiches, and you will see that it is not a long running thing, though you may appreciate my feelings upon arriving just in time to enter into business relations with your last fading sandwich, whose very corned beef had an antique character.

"That was the can," replied the air-gunner, "the canned corned beefs always go last." "The can," he murmured, sadly, "like the fabled shell of peasy, discolors strange messages, and then with diliberation he continued: "The canned air-gun shall have no more. I have eaten your last sandwich."

"I know it," replied the girl, who continued, "why should you tell me what I already know?" "Because you don't know—what you already know when you don't know what I mean when I say I have eaten your last sandwich." "What do you mean?" she asked. "I mean that you have eaten your last sandwich—the last one you will ever succeed in selling me. I don't object to spending the nickel, but alas, and alack, I haven't a nickel-plated digestion. Good day!"

THE CRITERION MONTHLY.

This spicy and remarkably well-written weekly, "The Criterion" is to be changed to a monthly, under the title of "The Criterion Monthly." It is the intention to make this monthly a magazine of good things, preserving in large form the quality and diversity of contents which have won a marked place in the reading world for "The Criterion." The new venture is to be a progressive, wholesome, entertaining and authoritative. We predict for the Monthly Criterion a large circulation among the more cultured classes.

LATEST MARKETS.

Following are the closing prices at important wheat centres to-day:

Table with columns for location (Chicago, New York, etc.), date (Feb. 21), and price. Includes sections for GRAIN AND PRODUCE and HEINTZMAN & CO. Piano.

Life! The North American is a progressive Company, and is a good one for the policy holder. Pamphlets respecting plans furnished on application to the Head Office, or any of the Company's Agents. L. Goldman, Wm. McCabe, Secretary, Managing Director.

North American Life Head Office: 112-118 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

Table listing various farm produce prices such as hogs, chickens, and other goods.

THE YORK COUNTY Loan and Savings Company Has the..... BEST SYSTEM for accumulating money.

Table listing various farm produce prices such as hogs, chickens, and other goods.

THE EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF ONTARIO, LIMITED Incorporated 1889. Our Annual Report for 1898 shows as the result of the year's operations the following:

Table listing various farm produce prices such as hogs, chickens, and other goods.

THE WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY INCORPORATED 1881 CAPITAL - 2,000,000 FIRE AND MARINE HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONT.

Heintzman & Co. Piano. A Piano that responds to the most exacting demands of the greatest artists—a piano endorsed by...

Household Goods. ENGLISH DISH COVERS. Clothes Wringers and Mangles.

RICE LEWIS & SON, LIMITED TORONTO. Rosaries, Crucifixes, Scapulars, Religious Pictures, Statuary and Church Ornaments. Educational works. Mail orders receive prompt attention. D. & J. SADDLER & CO., Montreal

WM. A. LEE & SON GENERAL AGENTS 10 ADELAIDE STREET EAST TELEPHONE 593 AND 9076.

Renfrew's Furs. Pattern book and price list sent on application. G. R. Renfrew & Co., 4 King Street East, Toronto.

Catholic Prayer Books. Rosaries, Crucifixes, Scapulars, Religious Pictures, Statuary and Church Ornaments. Educational works. Mail orders receive prompt attention. D. & J. SADDLER & CO., Montreal