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C. H RICHES
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The Toronto World.

"MALTESE CROSS"
MACKINTOSHES
FOR CHRISTMAS BOXES.
THE TORONTO RUBBER CO., LTD.
28 KING-ST. WEST (MANNING ARCADE.)

FIFTEENTH YEAR — MONDAY MORNING DECEMBER 24 1894. — ONE CENT.

HE WILL CONFESS.

The Murderer of Hendershott Weakening.

THE BLOOD-STAINED AX FOUND.

Portions of Deceased's Hair in Clotted Blood.

The Evidence Against John Hendershott and W. D. Welter Now Complete—The Younger Prisoner Throwing Out Feelers to the Authorities Evidently Anxious to Tell All He Knows in an Effort to Save His Neck From the Halter.

St. Thomas, Ont., Dec. 23.—The last and only piece of evidence required by the Crown to fasten the charge of the murder of W. H. Hendershott of Middlemarch upon W. D. Welter was secured this afternoon when the ax with which the murder was committed was found in Wardell's woods, hidden under an old log, the bark pulled over it and leaves thrown over both.

The Missing Weapon Found.

There are spots of blood on the handle and blade of the ax. An attempt had been made to wash the blood off the ax, but the work was poorly done. The marks are still plainly distinguishable.

A pool of water close to where the ax was found is discolored with blood, showing that they had washed the ax therein.

Human Hair on the Ax.

The ax has been identified as one which was used by Welter and Hendershott in the wood. Some hairs, exactly the same color as deceased's, were found sticking in clotted blood on the root of a tree.

The officers believe this marks the spot where deceased fell dead.

Welter Beginning to Weaken.

The authorities report that Welter is beginning to weaken, and has thrown out feelers, which indicate that he desires to confess.

At the inquest a week ago Welter swore there was only one ax, and Hendershott two. The officers accounted for one, and Thursday Hendershott produced an ax which he said was the missing ax, and which he said he found at home.

MURDER COINCIDENCES.

Sensational Butcheries and Executions Take Place on the Same Day.

It is a remarkable circumstance that the two most sensational murder cases reported in Ontario in recent years—the Williams' murder near Port Credit and the Hendershott murder near St. Thomas—were perpetrated on Dec. 14. It is equally remarkable that the only two executions which have taken place in Ontario in the past two years—that of Luckey at Brockville and Truskey at Sandwich—also occurred on Dec. 14. The William's murder and the Luckey execution occurred on Dec. 14, 1893; the Hendershott murder and the Truskey execution took place on Dec. 14, 1894.

OBJECTING TO THE ACCOUNTS.

Cost Only $300 to Capture the Listowel Butcher, But There's a Kick.

The accounts are now coming into the office of the clerk of the peace of Perth County in connection with the pursuit and capture of Amedee Chatelle, the murderer of Jessie Keith, and as usual there is a complaint about the size of them. The fact that the prompt expenditure of a paltry sum of $300 resulted in the arrest and confession of the murderer is lost sight of. Had the authorities at Listowel, not acted with the commendable promptness they did in expending money the murderer would still have been at liberty. The picayune conduct of the various counties in murder cases is a striking contrast to the plan pursued by the Attorney-General's department. Mr. Cartwright invariably authorizes the liberal expenditure of money in every important case, hence the success of his officers. It is not going beyond the region of facts to say that many criminals have escaped detection because of the local officers being loth to spend a few dollars, knowing from previous experience that the county will object to reimburse them.

EYE-PHOTOGRAPHY.

Absurd Idea About It Exposing Murderers Shown Up Long Ago.

When Jessie Keith was murdered at Listowel some sensational correspondent wired that the eyes of the dead girl were to be photographed in order that the image of the murderer might be seen on the retina. The organ which announces that in future it intends to be a newspaper made itself the laughing stock of the province by trying to find out if the eyes had been sent to Toronto.

At the time The World, on the authority of a dozen physicians, pronounced the story a fake. They said the proposition that the image of anything could be discerned in the eye of a murdered person was a physiological impossibility. As for photographing an image in the retina, they said that such a procedure would be nonsensical. The retina might be photographed, but photography had not reached that stage of development which would allow an image in the retina to be photographed.

Another fool story of the same nature was telegraphed from New York State the other day, but was promptly contradicted.

Q.O.R. Bugle Band in fancy bugling, first time in Toronto, at Massey Hall Xmas afternoon and evening.

Women and Civic Reform

A women's meeting in furtherance of Civic Reform was held in Prospect Park Rink on Saturday night. Mrs. O'Connor presided and Mrs. Anne Rutherford acted as secretary. Among others present were Mrs. Vance, Mrs. Aikenhead, Mrs. Norris, Miss Coates, Miss C. B. Martin, Mrs. Macdonnell; Messrs. B. N. Davis, J. A. Oliver, Dr. Thomson, Ald. Lamb and Aikenhead.

The candidature of Miss Clara Brett Martin for School Trustee was endorsed.

On a motion by Ald. Lamb, seconded by Mr. Oliver, it was resolved, That all polling places be on the ground floor, in the interest of invalids, in order that they may cast their votes. No polling place to be in the rear of a cigar or tobacco store.

Other resolutions were passed as follows: That franchise be extended to all married women who are ratepayers, same as now to widows and spinsters in municipal affairs; and, That we have women inspectors in all our factories where women are employed.

RUPTURE—Largest and best house in this line. Chas. Cluthe, 134 King-street west, opposite Rossin House, Toronto.

See the new musical wonder, "The Symphonion." Whaley, Royce & Co., 158 Yonge-street.

Nellie Ganthony, the inimitable, Massey Hall Xmas afternoon and evening.

FIFTEEN KILLED IN A COLLISION.

Disastrous Wreck Near Manchester, England—Fifteen Killed and Fifty Injured, Twenty Seriously.

London, Dec. 23.—Fifteen persons were killed and many injured by a collision to-day between the Manchester express train and a goods train.

The express train was filled with persons going home for the holidays, and was proceeding at a high rate of speed for Chiford, the next stop, 14 miles distant. The crew of the freight train was switching across the main line. The engineer of the passenger did not see the other train until his locomotive was close upon it. The brakes were applied instantly, but without perceptible effect. There was a terrific crash, and several cars went to pieces like pasteboard. The injured number 50, the severely injured 20.

A DECREASE OF $3,099,573.

The Assessment for 1895 Is $147,000,000, As Against $150,099,606.

The City Council will meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The report of the assessors for 1895, which will then be read, will show that the assessments totalled $149,054,951. The additions made by the Court of Revision totaled $46,083 and the reductions $2,101,001. This leaves the assessment at $147,000,033. The assessment for 1894 was $150,099,606.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon the ordinary fortnightly meetings of the Board of Works will be held. The City Engineer in his report states that he has received no answer from the Street Railway to his letter respecting the removal of snow from the track allowances and he asks for further instructions.

With reference to the communication from Dr. Oakley respecting the location of underground streams of water by his "electrical instrument," the City Engineer reports that the instrument in question is a species of "diving rod," and that the result of a test by his department was not altogether satisfactory. Mr. Keating says that Dr. Oakley refused, in the event of a recommendation, to pay the cost of any part thereof, in case the information obtained by means of his apparatus should prove fallacious. Under the circumstances the City Engineer cannot see his way to recommend that any further action be taken in the matter.

In the estimates for the present year, the sum of $1500 was provided for the purpose of concreting a portion of the bottom of the reservoir surrounding the inlet pipe. When the water was drained off and the work of cleaning the reservoir was undertaken, it was found necessary, owing to the very large area covered by weeds and mud, to concrete nearly twice as much as was anticipated when the estimates were prepared. The cost of the work, when all the accounts are received, will amount approximately to $2500, and Mr. Keating recommends that the Treasurer be requested to provide the sum of $1000, that being the amount of the deficit.

New departure, Musical Novelty Counters. Whaley, Royce & Co., 158 Yonge-street.

How Politicians Advertise.

Politicians are the best advertised men in the world. Wherever you go, in whatever land you travel, politicians are the best known men in that country. Tell us of a man who is better advertised in Canada than Sir Richard Cartwright. Tell us of any man better known than Sir Oliver Mowat. Tell us if Marter, Ross, Tait, Bowell and a host of others are not almost as well advertised as any people you know of. How do they do it? The majority of 'em "begin on babies." Politicians have been known to pick up a cardinal-top, fresh-faced, pug-nosed baby, and kiss it hard—then go right to a corner drug store and drink strong liquid after it — just to get a vote. There are politicians who are honest, and some who are not exactly truthful — that is, if they'd cut down a cherry tree they'd prove an alibi, or claim it was an "ax"-ident. What class of politicians succeed? The ones who have honest convictions or honest principles, who believe in themselves, who think they're right, and who stick to their principles.

We are not in politics. We don't meddle with anything but business, and we've getting plenty of it to meddle with; but we do believe the idea of the successful politician is right. Stick to your principles. Our principal principle is to sell 2000 lbs. of hard coal to the ton every time. Our second principle is to sell it for less than anybody else as long as we can do it. That's what we're doing now. Our third principle is to sell honest quality only; and don't we do it? Well, I reckon so! Watch our wagons. Never see 'em off the streets, only at night. We've sold an A1 quality of hard coal at $4.75 a ton, delivered in bags. We're sticking closer to our principles than your country cousins stick to you on Fair week. People's Coal Co. Tel. 2246. 135

Hear Miss Ganthony's imitation of man dolin at Massey Hall Christmas matinee and evening.

Sudden Death of a Policeman's Wife

Mrs. Madden, the wife of Police Constable Matthew Madden, died suddenly at her residence, 241 Farley-avenue, yesterday afternoon. Yesterday morning she was in her usual health and attended service at St. Mary's Church, Bathurst-street. An hour after dinner, whilst talking with her family, she apparently fell asleep, and rested her head on the table. Almost immediately afterwards she fell to the ground, and was taken up dead. She was 60 years of age. Heart disease is supposed to be the cause of death. Mrs. Madden was very stout, and had sometimes complained of heart trouble.

Master Percy Hambly, the greatest boy soprano of this continent, Massey Hall Xmas afternoon and evening.

Choice Wines for Christmas Holidays

Champagne Vin D'Ete, a delicious light dry wine, $16 per case quarts.

Champagnes—Gold Lac Sec, qts., 1889 vintage, $31 per case quarts.

Champagne—Gold Lac Sec, double magnums, equal to 4-quart bottles, $10 per bottle.

Champagne—Gold Lac Sec, Brut, 1884 vintage, $35 per case quarts.

Sparkling Burgundy (Ruby Royal) $18 per case quarts.

Clarets—Chateau Guerrit, $15 per doz. quarts.

Clarets—Chateau Du Vallon, $15 per doz. quarts.

Clarets—Johnston's Chateau Lafite, $30 per doz. quarts.

And a large stock of very old ports, Madeiras and sherries. Wm. Mara, 79 Yonge-street.

Christmas Presents—Musical Instruments at Whaley, Royce & Co., 158 Yonge-street

Once More to the Front.

It was my father's custom,
So it shall be mine.

Xmas, 1894. For the past 17 years the decorations of Turtle Hall, Colborne-street, at this season of the year have always been the talk of the town. Do not fail to see them this year. Better than ever. The dining room is supplied with the best, and Clow is at the Helm.

Mrs. Klein's first appearance after two years' study in New York, Massey Hall Xmas afternoon

Musical instruments of all kinds. Make useful Christmas presents. Whaley, Royce & Co., 158 Yonge-street.

A Green Christmas.

Christmas of '94 will long be remembered as a green Christmas, not because the meadows still retain their June verdure, but on account of the popular craze for green neckwear. Some of the loveliest designs of neckwear in green effects that it has been our privilege to see may be seen in Quinn's Christmas window, 115 King-street west. One marvels how these ties can be sold at fifty cents.

Banjos, Guitars, Mandolins, Music Boxes. Whaley, Royce & Co., 158 Yonge-street.

STORM'S HEAVY DEATH ROLL

FORTY-THREE LIVES LOST BY THE GALE IN BRITAIN.

Reports of Death and Damage Received From All Parts of the United Kingdom—Greatest Loss of Life at Sea—Terrible Destruction in Northern France and Germany.

London, Dec. 23.—Reports of the deaths and damage to property in the great storm are received constantly this evening. Three fishing smacks went down last night off Stornaway, on the Scotch coast, and all three crews, numbering 22, were drowned. The British barque Kirkmichael, which was driven on the breakwater at Holyhead yesterday, has filled. Twelve of her crew were saved with the breeches buoy and seven were drowned. Many cotters on the Donegal coast have lost their huts in the storm. At Teelin a house collapsed and the three occupants were killed. In Stranozlar two persons were killed by a falling chimney.

Several vessels went adrift in Aberdeen harbor and grounded. The roof of the Macdonald art gallery was ripped open and many valuable pictures were injured. The brig Loven was wrecked in the Frith of Clyde near Androssen, and her crew of five were drowned.

Forty Buried in a Factory's Ruins.

At Loch Winnoch, near Paisley, part of a three-storey cabinet factory was wrecked. Forty persons were buried in the ruins. Four were killed outright; 20 were badly injured. The proprietor was struck in the back by a falling timber, and is dying. Only five persons escaped without injury.

The coast steamship Brook was stranded last night near Berwick, Scotland, and her crew were brought ashore with the breeches buoy. The gables were blown off a dozen houses in Yarmouth, Norfolk, and the tide in the River Yaro rose several feet above the normal high water mark. Hundreds of houses have been flooded.

Scores of small steamers and sailing vessels have grounded along the coast. The majority of them will be floated. Numerous cases of death or severe injury from falling timbers, trees and chimneys have been reported this afternoon from all parts of the United Kingdom.

Buildings Blown Down.

At Lancaster the wind blew the roof off a house and the whole structure collapsed, burying three persons in the cellar. All were seriously injured. At Morecambe several smacks were sunk.

At Grimsby a workshop collapsed, burying 30 persons. One was killed and three were seriously injured. Telegraph wires, timber stacks, trees, etc., were blown down in all directions.

At Buxton the new Town Hall was unroofed and partly wrecked.

At Lisbon five factory chimneys were overturned, and great damage was done.

Enormous Damage in Belfast.

In Belfast the damage done by the storm is enormous. A number of factories and houses were demolished. At Newry a brewery chimney was blown down, and the local railway was so badly damaged that traffic will have to be suspended for several days.

A chimney of the infirmary in Blackburn was blown down, crashing into the children's ward. Seven children were carried down with the debris. While policemen and firemen were trying to rescue the children the lower floor collapsed, and all fell into the cellar. One policeman, the cook and six children were severely injured.

Word came from Liverpool late this evening that another vessel had foundered and five of her crew had been drowned. A lifeboat going to the rescue was blown adrift and lost. In Mersey six smacks were sunk. Four sailors were dying in the hospitals of broken heads. The Mersey ferry was compelled to stop running for several hours—a most unusual occurrence. It is estimated that the wind blew 87 miles an hour.

Fearful Destruction on the Continent.

Despatches from the Continent say that northern France and Germany also suffered severely from the storm, although the loss of life and property cannot be estimated as yet.

At Hamburg many vessels went adrift and collided or grounded. The tide was the highest seen since 1882. The lower part of Wilhelmshaven on the North Sea was flooded and the dykes would have gone if the garrison had not worked energetically for hours to strengthen them. Luebeck and Colberg also suffered much damage.

Had to Flee for Their Lives.

Paris, Dec. 23.—The storm has done great damage in Belgium. The Dendre overflowed its banks at Termonde and the inhabitants were aroused at midnight by ringing of bells to flee for their lives.

In Rotterdam the water rose 12 feet above the usual high water mark. The streets were under two or three feet of water and the inhabitants paddled about on rafts and in boats. The dykes of the Meuse and Yssel were strained severely along their lower courses. At one place a large break let out a flood, which covered a wide area and did enormous damage. Throughout the Netherlands and Belgium many persons were injured and a few were killed by falling chimneys and timbers.

The pilot cutter Lamaneur capsized off Dunkirk and three of the crew were drowned.

J. Lewis Browne, Toronto's greatest organist, Massey Hall Xmas afternoon and evening.

Faith or No. It Kills Forty Years' Use.

A genuine cure for a genuine bad habit is Tobac-Cure, which kills the craving or "hankering" for tobacco. Saves money and improves the health. Price's Tobac-Cure kills tobacco poison. $1 a box. Sold by G. A. Bingham, Pharmacist, 100 Yonge-st., Toronto.

The event of the season—Q.O.R. entertainments Massey Hall Xmas afternoon and evening.

Christmas Bargains in Guitars, Mandolins and Banjos at Whaley, Royce & Co.s, 158 Yonge-street.

RUPTURE—One truss can't fill all needs. We have an endless variety. Chas. Cluthe, 134 King-street west, opposite Rossin House, Toronto.

Q.O.R. Xmas entertainment Massey Hall, afternoon and evening. The greatest treat ever given Torontonians at popular prices.

Turkish Baths open all night on and after Dec. 31. Try one. 204 King-st. w. d

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

In periodical recurrences of business depression the provident man is naturally desirous to increase his life insurance. To get it cheap and absolutely safe, the Commercial Travelers' Mutual Benefit Society meets his requirements.

Holiday Musical Books, vocal and instrumental, handsomely bound. Whaley, Royce & Co., 158 Yonge-street.

Simple, unique, but always effective Adams' Tutti Frutti for indigestion. Refuse to take imitations.

Beaver Plug is the old reliable gentleman's chew. Try it.

ANOTHER ORGAN "GRABBED."

In 1887 The Empire was started as the especial organ of the Conservative party. It was called into existence by Sir John Macdonald, who sought, by scattering the stock in many different quarters, to prevent the management passing into the hands of a few and ultimately out of the control of the party. He remembered his experience with The Mail, when the party owned and then lost that paper. Over $225,000 in stock The Empire was subscribed; eight calls of ten per cent. were made and over $200,000 paid in.

What Sir John Macdonald feared, what he tried to prevent, has happened. The Mail experience has been re-experienced, line for line, letter for letter, in The Empire.

The $200,000 has gone, the shareholders who were trustees for the party have been squeezed out, a declaration of emancipation has been made, and the public are told that hereafter there will be less politics and more business, whatever that may mean, in its management. This declaration was made on Saturday. We purpose to examine the declaration in detail, for it is a remarkable fulfilment of what The World has said from the start. The article in question is addressed "To the Public," and therefore comes within our ken. Here is the opening sentence:

"It has been understood for some time that a number of leading men, whose names not only command confidence in the Conservative party, but are a guarantee to the commercial and financial world of the stability of any enterprise they undertake, were taking a larger financial interest in The Empire, with a view to assuming a more active part in the management of the paper, and as the necessary arrangements to that end have now been completed, it is fitting that some announcement should be made to the readers of The Empire and the public as to the lines on which the paper will henceforth be carried on."

In other words, the party, as controlling the paper, has disappeared, and a small ring formed for the purpose has got control. Though the names are carefully withheld, Messrs. Brock, Long and Sanford are of the "number of leading men." They have been trustees for the other party trustees since the paper started. They ran the paper. And they ran it so that it came to grief; that the $200,000 capital stock had disappeared, that a debt had been incurred, and that the business community, which is the best judge of these matters, refused to sustain the paper or be responsible for its existence. Besides the $200,000 capital which has disappeared, some $300,000 given as charity advertising by the Dominion Government, by manufacturers and financial institutions, has disappeared. Over half a million dollars of outside money was handed over to the management in order that the paper might come into the management's own hands!

How were the unfortunate shareholders treated? After 80 per cent. of their money had been dissipated a circular was sent out by the management in substance confessing bankruptcy and telling these unfortunates who had, as Mr. A. R. Boswell has admitted in court, been promised, on subscribing, that a dividend would be paid; that if they did not wish to pay up the two remaining calls the syndicate addressing them would pay up the same and take over the stock. That surely was a confession that the management had ended disastrously. But was that the right course for trustees to have pursued? We say no. Surely, as trustees, it was their duty, once they pleaded bankruptcy, to have proceeded to wind up the company, paid the liabilities and distributed any assets remaining among the unfortunate shareholders. Now, as a matter of fact, when this unfortunate state of affairs was reached there were one or two city papers that would have given $10,000 for The Empire, and this money the managers and directors could have distributed among the unfortunates whom they bamboozled into surrendering their stock to them.

We take it that "the public" to whom the article we are quoting is addressed will have an opinion of their own of such conduct. Can a trustee play ducks and drakes with his trust? Or is his first duty to those for whom he is acting? If it is true that the managers could have got $10,000 or more for the paper as it stood, was it not their duty to have realized that sum and distributed it, or in lieu thereof have given at least that sum for it themselves? We say it was, and we say it boldly, that Messrs. Brock, Creighton, Sanford and Long, who have assumed the role of public journalists and public censors, are not the men to criticize other joint concerns with such a record behind themselves. Take the hundred odd men, some of them now poor, who have been "hoodood" out of their stock, and ask them what they think of it. Ask James Stevenson, M.P., of Peterboro', Henry Cargill, M.P., of Bruce, Senator Maclaren of Perth, the estate of the late H. E. Clarke, and forty others.

The World does not believe that the new men who have joined the syndicate, like Sir Frank Smith and A. F. Gault of Montreal, knew that in asking the unfortunate shareholders to sign over to them they were asking them to give up for nothing an asset that might have been sold for $10,000 and distributed among the men who had been promised a dividend. But these gentlemen, now that they know this fact, must see into what a position they have got themselves.

And what a nice confession the whole article addressed "to the public" is. It is simply that The Empire has been a huge blunder from the start, that in the nature of things that kind of an organization could not succeed, that a slavish organ was a fraud and that hereafter "an effort will be put forth to make The Empire for the business man as well as the politician."

And then comes the statement that the men who have carried on this whitened sepulchre for so many years are going to conduct quite a different kind of charnel house hereafter.

"First, as to political allegiance, while not in any sense under the control or capable of being dictated to by any Government or body of politicians, and perfectly free to criticize where criticism may be necessary, The Empire will continue to give its hearty support to the Conservative Government and party."

But it was under the control of the Ottawa Government, it was capable of being dictated to therefrom, and it was expressly started for that very work. That is why Sir John started it, asked his friends to go into it, asked the manufacturers to subscribe their money. And now the gentlemen who were given charge of it have snatched it away from its veritable mission.

Sir John Macdonald was the best-tempered man there ever was in public life. He stormed seldom and scolded only once in the recollection of his most intimate friend. But he used to swear when he thought of how the Riordons came in one night and took The Mail from his trustees in Toronto; it is more than likely that he will turn in his grave now when he sees his second venture, The Empire to wit, passed into the hands of a small clique, who now declare that that paper is no longer "in any sense under the control of or capable of being dictated to by any Government or body of politicians." Again we ask for what purpose did Sir John and Mr. McCarthy organize the company? It now seems, in irony of fate, to read D'Alton out of the party and to defy the Conservative party if the new management see fit. Now that the original shareholders, the trustees for the party, are squeezed out they are free to do this! But while the Riordons took The Mail, they took it for a paper bill; what did The Empire owe the men who ran it into the ground that they should get it for nothing?

The excuse these noble Brutuses give for this high conduct on their part runs thus:

"But the strength of the Conservative party of Canada lies in the fact that, though trusted leaders may pass away, it has a stable policy around which the solid business men of the country rally, and to that policy, rather than to any set of men The Empire feels it owes allegiance."

The winding-up sentence is especially good. Here it is:

"While increased vigor and efficiency will be infused into every department, so that both for interest and reliability it (The Empire) will stand at the head of the journals of Canada."

Now as to "reliability." Immediately over this article in question there is published in black letter, and has been for months the following:

This Paper [The Empire] has the LARGEST CIRCULATION of any Morning Journal in the Dominion of Canada.

The World knows that this is an untruth, pure and simple, and that it is therefore an utterly "unreliable" statement. The new management, if they wish their paper to "stand at the head of the journals of Canada" for "reliability," had better first withdraw this statement.

The World is a "morning journal in the Dominion of Canada," and nothing else, publishing only one edition, and it has nearly double the circulation of The Empire. It will give the Sick Children's Hospital $150 if it cannot prove The Empire's claim a falsehood. Even The Globe and Mail have larger circulations than The Empire! We will leave the matter to the proprietor of The Telegram to decide.

We trust that Sir Frank Smith, now that he has allowed his name to be made responsible for The Empire, will see that no such untruthful claim is hereafter allowed to be printed. He would not allow an untruthful statement to go from any of the banks or companies with which he is connected, and if he allows his named to be used by a journal that professes "reliability," he is bound to see that its reliability begins at home.

And if you should ask, gentle reader, why The World has called your attention, both on this and former occasions, to the affairs of another journal, we beg to say that for years The World, a strictly business venture, run by those who are journalists and nothing else, who are trying to make a living as such, have suffered, as have all the other purely business journalistic ventures in the city, from the unfair competition of a paper not started for business reasons, but for political or personal reasons, that, therefore, cut rates and prices in order to get a footing and that has been regarded by the business community, which in the end must support all the papers that live on it, as a barnacle and unnecessary encumbrance. What a howl Mr. Brock and Senator Sanford would raise if Mackenzie Bowell got up a company of Government supporters to run a wholesale drygoods and ready-made pants factory alongside of their establishments!

In the meantime, any Government wanting newspaper support from a journal which has recently declared its independence in return for a Senatorship or a title, had better apply on the premises. Sir William Pantsford of Pantypant-pants-ville will be on hand to receive the proposal.

The Empire's Bolt.

From The Hamilton Times, Liberal.

All of which (The Empire's change of front) probably means that funds have been obtained from the combines to keep The Empire afloat until after the general election.

From The Hamilton Herald, Ind.

It takes something more than a wealthy syndicate to make a good newspaper. The Empire has had all the money it wanted at its back in days gone by, and it has never succeeded in attracting attention by its vigor or its brightness.

The Empire is generally regarded as a nerveless and wishy-washy production, given up to slavish adulation of the party bosses and their doings.

The greatest array of talent ever presented in Toronto at popular prices. Massey Hall Christmas afternoon and evening.

Decorations of all kinds, such as green wreathing, southern smilax, English holly and beautiful well-berried mistletoe for sale at lowest prices at The Steele, Briggs, Marcon Seed Company, 132 King-st. east. d

Miss Ganthony's last appearance in Toronto, Massey Hall Christmas afternoon and evening. Popular prices.

Monumental.

D. McIntosh & Sons, the leading sculptors, have best designs and most complete facilities for turning out best work in monuments, etc., in the Dominion. Showrooms, 524 Yonge-street; works, Yonge-street, Deer Park. 146

WHAT HE WANTS.

LITTLE OLIVER: I wants a 'ittle manny wif a string on him in boaf of 'em.

THE THRESHOLD OF A SMASH

IF HOME RULE IS DEAD ROSEBERY IS DOOMED.

The Assertion of Mr. McEwan at Edinburgh That Home Rule Is Dead Causes an Acute Crisis in the Liberal Camp—The Political Storm, It Is Expected, Will Soon Break.

New York, Dec. 23.—Harold Frederic cables from London to The Times: Here in England there is a general feeling that a serious political storm is at hand. It may hold off till the opening of Parliament, the first week in February, but most likely it will break a month earlier. Scotch Liberals of prominence, men known to be in close contact with Lord Rosebery, have been saying this week publicly that Home Rule is dead, and that they are glad of it. The solitary Scotch Liberal paper left in Edinburgh, so far from rebuking, accepts and justifies the declaration. Nobody has missed the point of these utterances, but everybody in Ireland, as well as here, has been waiting in incredulous amazement for some word of repudiation on the part of Lord Rosebery, or of his recognized spokesman. No word comes and the astonishing thought is gradually taking shape that none is to be expected.

The Radical Chronicle is treating the thing as merely an individual expression of opinion, and says that such a policy would be arrant folly in the first place and treachery in the second, but it will not be possible to wait for six weeks to learn whether it is the individual vagary of a couple of private Scotch members of Parliament, or an inspired pronouncement. I think that we are literally on the threshold of a smash.

Home Rule Is Dead, Says Mr. McEwan.

G. W. Smalley, cabling to The Tribune, says: Mr. McEwan's speech in Edinburgh is perhaps a not less serious blow to the Ministry than their disasters in Forfar and Brigg. He declared to his constituents that the Home Rule Bill of 1893 is dead; that after the fifth clause had been reached the Liberals in the House of Commons became convinced that it was an impracticable measure; that thereafter they voted, not for Mr. Gladstone's bill, but for the principle of Irish self-government, and that the use of gag and guillotine to force the bill through was felt by Mr. Gladstone's own supporters to be a tactical blunder of the gravest kind. This, of course, absolves the House of Lords of all blame for rejecting that bill, and cuts the ground from under that agitation which is based on the alleged iniquity of that rejection.

Mr. McEwan a Liberal of Weight.

Mr. McEwan is a member of Parliament for the Central Division of Edinburgh. He has always been and still is a convinced Liberal, a man of weight in the House and in the councils of his party, known to be both independent and able, voting regularly with his party, except on the local veto and Sir William Harcourt's Socialist budget which, as a brewer and a millionaire, he naturally opposed. He is a very considerable force in politics, and he undoubtedly expresses, with his characteristic freedom and courage, the views of other members equally Liberal, but less outspoken.

The Position of Affairs in Edinburgh.

All this in Scotland, in the capital of Scotland and with a Scotchman Prime Minister. Nor is that all. Mr. Wallace, member for East Edinburgh, began his address two days later to his constituents, chiefly workingmen, by declaring himself substantially in accord with Mr. McEwan. He, too, had a vote of confidence. Two out of the four divisions of Edinburgh are therefore in open revolt. A third is represented by a Liberal-Unionist. The only remaining Liberal paper in Edinburgh endorses Mr. McEwan. Such is the political condition of things within seven miles of Dalmeny.

FENIANISM AGAIN RAMPANT.

BRITISH CABINET MINISTERS GUARDED AT EVERY STEP.

All the Old-Time Precautions Against Invincibles Renewed in Ireland—The Potato Crop Fails and a Famine Is Imminent—Fenian Activity Belittled By the Liberal Press.

London, Dec. 23.—Mr. Morley is reported to have asked the Cabinet to give official assent and without waiting for the assembling of Parliament to some decisive measures to alleviate the sufferings of the people in certain sections of Ireland through the impending famine. In consequence of the total loss of at least one-half of the potato crop in Galway, Connemara, Mayo, Clare and Sligo, the distress among the peasantry is already urgent. The poor law relief, according to The Freeman's Journal, is totally inadequate to meet the needs consequent upon the country. The people are starving, and the Government must intervene by giving them work or advancing them loans upon future crops.

Fenians Active.

The newly born distrust among the Irish in regard to the Ministry's Home Rule policy, together with the unexpected check upon the internal prosperity of Ireland through the failure of the crops, has reawakened the activity of the Fenians. The Liberal press seek to belittle the matter, some of the papers totally denying the resurgence of Fenianism, and others asserting that the new movement is confined to a small group of extremists in Paris and New York. The known facts, however, prove the contrary, and orders have been issued from Dublin Castle within the last few weeks renewing the old-time precautions against Fenians, invincibles and other physical force, and reviving the old system of the detection of criminals.

Cabinet Ministers Carefully Guarded.

An additional detail of police guards Sir William Harcourt, Home Secretary Asquith and Lord Rosebery, especially when they are in London, and in other ways it is shown that the assertions of the Liberal press are not based upon the positive conviction of the witness or inspirers of that article.

The report that it is the intention of the Government to release the dynamiter John Daly and other Irish political prisoners at an early date, or at all, for that matter, is without foundation in fact. Mr. Morley has advised, and Home Secretary Asquith has steadily opposed, any movement towards amnesty to these offenders, and it may be positively asserted that none of them will be set at liberty.

Fine Imported Neckwear, latest styles for Christmas, at 50c. Varcoe's, Rossin House Block.

Turkish Baths—open all night on and after Dec. 31. Try one. 204 King-st w. d

BIRTHS.

JEFFREY—On Saturday, Dec. 22, at 2 Lennox-street, Toronto, the wife of David Jeffrey, of a son.

DEATHS.

FORSTER—On Dec. 18, at St. Paul, Minn., Wilhelmina Rebecca (Mina), dearly beloved daughter of William and Elizabeth Forster, formerly of Lesnaskea, Fermanagh, Ireland.

Funeral from her father's residence, 274 Sackville-street, Toronto, Monday, the 24th, at 2 o'clock p.m.

Enniskillen papers please copy.

MADDEN—Suddenly on Sunday, Dec. 23, at 241 Farley-avenue, Mary Madden, the wife of Constable Matthew Madden.

Funeral notices hereafter.

Newmarket, Ont., papers please copy.

ELECTION BEFORE A SESSION

EVERY INDICATION OF AN EARLY APPEAL TO THE COUNTRY.

The Announcement of Dissolution May Not Be Made Just Yet, But Until a Date Is Set for the House to Meet Better Bank on an Election—Invitations to Sir John Thompson's Funeral.

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—The trustworthy indications all point to a general election before another session. The official announcement will not be made for some time, but until the public hear that a day has been fixed for the calling of Parliament they had better bank on an election.

In connection with the arrangements for the funeral of the late Premier, the Government invites, by means of this notice, the attendance of: The Lieut.-Governors of the provinces and the Lieut.-Governors of the territories; the heads of all religious denominations in Canada, the members of the Government, Privy Councillors not of the Cabinet, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Exchequer Court, Chief Justices of the Superior Courts, members of the Senate, Speaker of the Commons, members of the Commons, Premiers of the various provinces, Speakers of the Legislative Councils and Assemblies of the various provinces, Clerk of the Commons, Auditor-General, Librarians of Parliament, and the Deputy-Ministers of the various departments at Ottawa.

It is especially requested that those intending to avail themselves of the foregoing invitation intimate their intention at once to the Minister of Railways and Canals, at Ottawa, so that he may arrange adequate train accommodation from Ottawa to Halifax and return.

The first meeting of the Cabinet since Mr. Bowell became Premier was held Saturday afternoon. Speaker White was in the city.

Drowned at Hespeler.

Hespeler, Dec. 23.—Yesterday a man named James Crane of Puslinch was here selling turkeys and left for home last night very much the worse of liquor. Nothing more was heard of him till his team was found drowned in Kribs' dam, about a mile from here.

Drowned at Lanark.

Lanark, Ont., Dec. 23.—Saturday a boy named Morley Bain, about 10 years old, while skating on the Mississippi River, was drowned.

A Child Burned to a Crisp.

Port Elgin, Ont., Dec. 23.—Saturday night a fire in a frame dwelling, occupied by Mr. Moore, totally destroyed the building and contents. The 7-year-old son of Mr. Moore, who slept upstairs, was burnt to a crisp, and a younger child very badly burnt, but not fatally.

Broke His Skull in a Fit.

Belleville, Ont., Dec. 23.—George Redick, a Sidney farmer, aged about 60, fell downstairs in a fit yesterday and broke his skull. He died on the spot.

For a hearty laugh hear Frank Wright sing "Casey's Band" at Massey Hall Xmas afternoon and evening.

Christie Murray's Lectures.

For the sum of one dollar subscribers can secure one reserved seat for each of the lectures to be given by Mr. Murray in the Association Hall on the evenings of Jan. 11, 14 and 17. The subscribers' list is now open at Messrs. A. & S. Nordheimer's. Mr. Murray is not only a writer of interesting novels in which there is the unmistakable touch of genius, but he can also talk when on his legs, which is a gift many of his craft lack, and he can not only talk in a fascinating way, but he can introduce touches of the actors' business, with the judgment and insight of the true artist.

Jessie Alexander, ever popular, Massey Hall Christmas afternoon and evening. Popular prices.

To Enjoy the Festival.

To-day let those who wish to enjoy Christmas order from their wine merchants a supply of East Kent ale. No better will bring half the pleasure. This celebrated brand is acknowledged by all judges to be the best on the Canadian market. Prof. Ellis, the noted analyst, says: "East Kent ale is perfectly pure." It is of the highest quality. As to its flavor, color and body, everyone can judge for himself.

Perrin's Imported Kid Gloves, all styles for Christmas at Varcoe's, Rossin House Block.

Clarets, Clarets.

Only one profit from vineyard to consumer is the reason we are able to sell excellent table clarets at $3.50, $4, $4.50, $5 and $5.50 per dozen quarts. Wm. Mara, 79 Yonge-street.

Hear Master Percy Hambly sing "Sleep, Little Baby Mine," Massey Hall, Christmas afternoon and evening.

A Breath of Spring.

A lilac tree in full bloom. In Dunlop's window at 5 King west is to be seen a white lilac tree covered with bloom. It is banked up with the choicest roses, carnations, violets and maidenhair fern, and presents a handsome appearance. Lilac blooms are for sale at both his stores, 5 King west and 445 Yonge-street.

A present which will be highly appreciated at Christmas — a box of Adams' Tutti Frutti. Don't be imposed on with imitations.

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., patent solicitors and experts, Bank Commerce Building, Toronto

Fine Imported Silk Umbrellas, silver mounted, for Christmas at $4.50. Varcoe's, Rossin House Block.

Following are some