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ELEVENTH YEAR. WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 16, 1890. ONE CENT.

THE CROSSING SPOOK.

East Toronto Folk and Little Yorkers all Agog.

THE TRUNK'S NIGHTLY APPARITION.

A Strange and Remarkable Light at the York-Scarboro Town-line—It Has Been Seen by Several Reliable Witnesses—Is It a Jack-o'-Lantern, a Will-o'-the-Wisp or the Ghost of Some Wayfarer That was Slaughtered by the Iron Horse?—A Strange Story of Fact and Fancy—The World's Investigations.

EAST TORONTO villagers and Little York citizens are greatly excited over the appearance, or rather reappearance, of a supposed supernatural visitant in their midst. It is a railroad ghost and limits its pilgrimages to the Grand Trunk main line. If any faith can be placed in the independent statements of five reliable railroad men, then there is without doubt an apparition haunting the Scarboro-York town-line at the point where it intersects the Grand Trunk tracks. With some it takes the appearance of a ball of fire—with others the distinct figure of a man. One or other of the peculiar "visions" might be attributed to optical illusion if seen by one or more persons, but in this instance there are no less than six witnesses who will testify to having been eye-witnesses of strange and apparently supernatural appearances on the railroad track at the point referred to.

The Scarboro-York town-line crosses the Grand Trunk track well nigh a mile east of the station at Little York. About fifty yards further east stands the "duckett" or switch house, and it is between these two points that the spook kicks up its cantrips. The crossing has quite a bloody history in the annals of the township, and in the old days the number of victims slain by the iron horse at this point mounted away up in the twenties. Since however this section of the country has been incorporated in the G. T. R. yard, some four years ago, there have been no fatalities, though this fact has not in any way diminished the activity of the midnight goblin.

Switchman Slemin First Sights the Spook.

Its first appearance dated four years ago, when Switchman Dick Slemin ran up against an object which he supposed to be a man standing on the crossing. He threw up his lamp to see who or what it was, but whatever the thing was it fled from the light and disappeared. Not long after that Dick Hill, engineer on the Belleville mixed, in running into Toronto, ran over, and as he thought killed, a man at this crossing. He telegraphed back from the Don station that he had run over the Little York switchman, but that worthy was found to be alive and well, and a rigid search of the surrounding country failed to discover any bleeding corpse. A little later the night switchman, William Slemin, thought he saw a ball of fire floating over the track near the crossing, but whenever any attempt was made to locate it it would inevitably disappear. For the time being these peculiar occurrences caused quite a ferment in the neighborhood, but finally, although the light continued to appear with unfailing regularity, the villagers allowed the matter to drop.

Latterly, however, the man has superseded the light, and his return to his old post has again aroused the curiosity of the people. On Monday two weeks ago Grand Trunk Detective McLaughlin was walking along the track about 10 o'clock at night when he saw a man standing directly between the rails on a direct line with the town-line road. When he first observed him he was distant some 20 yards. He approached the figure, thinking it to be that of some tramp, intending to ask what he was doing in the G.T.R. yard at that hour. When he got within a yard of him the man stepped to the south side, apparently with the intention of letting the detective pass. As McLaughlin came on a level with the figure he flashed his light high enough to illumine the face of the object, only to see that there was no one there. He laughed to himself, thinking that there was a trick being played on him, and proceeded to search around for the practical joker, but without success. He had not heard of the peculiar troubles at the crossing, so therefore took it for granted that he had been made the victim of some fun-inclined comrade.

The Apparition Again Appears.

On the Tuesday night following at 11 o'clock, while patroling the eastern end of the yard, he again saw his friend of the crossing. Once more he approached the figure, got within a yard of it and again it disappeared. On Thursday night last he met with a similar experience and a fourth time on Sunday night, much about the same hour as on the first occasion. This time McLaughlin made a pass at the apparition, only to find that he encountered naught but the "incorporeal air." William Slemin, the night switchman, was with him on the Sunday night and corroborates his statement.

The World asked Detective McLaughlin about the matter yesterday, and he was positive in his statement that there is the unaccountable appearance of a man on the crossing almost nightly. On Sunday night he was that close to the apparition that he could distinguish the color of his ghostly raiment. The spook, according to the description, was somewhat thin and above the medium height and was dressed in a suit of dark tweed, but was bareheaded. It seemed on all occasions to be gazing intently in a southwestern direction. So much for the McLaughlin story.

But there are other people in Little York who have seen the same thing and others who have witnessed circumstances which go to show that there is some strange mystery surrounding the whole affair.

Switchman McGoldrick's Experience.

Sam McGoldrick has been switchman at this point for the past four years. "The ball of fire is nothing," he told The World yesterday, "that might or might not be a jack-o'-lantern, but there were two small matters happened lately which have made me think. Not long ago I was sitting in the 'duckett' making out my report close on 10 o'clock when I heard some one walking towards my box from the west. I thought that it was one of the boys come to see me. I waited, thinking that he would open the door, but finding that he did not I looked to see who was there but could see no one around. Not long after that when going to throw open a switch I heard a man following me. I distinctly heard the scratching of his feet on the gravel, but when I wheeled round there was nothing but emptiness. Of course I don't believe in anything supernatural, but it does seem to me that there is something funny going on between our switch house and the crossing."

Mr. McGoldrick's night mate is William Slemin. At first he did not seem inclined to speak on the subject, but finally confessed that he himself had seen peculiar appearances. "You see," he told The World, "the light does not bother me particularly. It has been on the crossing off and on ever since I can remember, but it may come from the swamp beyond the hill and only be a jack-o'-lantern. But between this 'duckett' and the crossing I have seen some strange things and it is these which strike me as funny. Why, all kinds of shapes and figures have rushed past me and on all kinds of nights. Then there is that figure on the crossing. I cannot make it out. It may be an optical illusion and it may not, but all the same it has caused considerable trouble."

Alex. Slemin another brother, also working in the yard at Little York, had similar experiences. He and a friend, however, had attempted to see what kind of thing was carrying the light which shone so steadily above the crossing, but on their approach it disappeared, spook fashion, into outer darkness. Joseph Slemin, still another of the same family, and like the others working in the yard, had the same story to tell.

Mrs. McGee's Premonition of Death.

Mrs. McGee, a lady residing at the town-line, just south of the track, is a firm believer in the spook of the crossing. In going home one night she saw it in the centre of the track carrying, as she thought, a lantern. It did not leave at her approach, and continued gazing due southwest until she gained her house. Mrs. McGee, however, looked upon the apparition as a premonition of death, for shortly afterwards her daughter died.

The World's Commissioner on Spooks inspected the scene of the ghostly visitations yesterday and came to the conclusion that from the topography of the place it would be extremely difficult for any being short of a ghost to hide itself from scrutiny. On every side the ground is open and there is no point whence a refraction or shadow could be cast.

SAYING FAREWELL TO SIR FRED.

Fifty Gentlemen do Honor to the Commander of the Canadian Militia—Going Back to the Old Land.

About 50 gentlemen, the majority of them being of the military, gathered around a great long table in Harry Webb's private dining-room last night to tender a kindly farewell to Major-General Sir Fred Middleton, K.C.M.G., who will shortly leave Canada for England. Sir Fred has been in town for a couple of days saying good-bye to his many Toronto friends and last night he was banqueted. Dr. Goldwin Smith was the chairman and Col. Grassett sat in the vice-chair. There were only two speeches and the diners were enabled to reach home early. The band of the Royal Grenadiers played an excellent program of music while the elegant menu which Mr. Webb had supplied was being discussed. The party was arranged along the table in this order:

Capt Tassie, R G.

T C Patteson	Col Dawson, R G
Capt Hay, R G	Capt Morrow, R G
Capt Baldwin, 2d Cav	Mr Cunningham, C R
Capt Mutton, Q O R	Dr E E King, R G
Mr Mackay, R G	Mr Maclennan, R G
Mr Osborne, 13th Batt	Capt Mickle, R G
Hector Cameron, Q C	Mr Bankier, H F B
Alfd Gooderham, late R G	A Maclean Howard
Major Mason, R G	T W Jones
R Nordheimer	Major Harrison, R G
Col Miller, late Q O R	Capt Stuart, 12th Batt
The Bishop of Toronto	Capt Davidson, late R G
Dr Goldwin Smith (ch)	Col Grassett, late R G (vc)
Sir Fred Middleton	C W Bunting
W R Brock	Col Jones, 35th Duff R
D Creighton	Major Moore, 13th Batt
Capt McLean, R G	D M Defoe
Capt Tidswell, (12th Batt)	Capt Denison, G G B G
Mr B Lee, Q O R	Capt Mewburn, 12th Batt
Mr Heward, R G	Capt Trotter, R G
Mr Laidlaw, 13th Batt	Major Mead, T F B
Mr Matheson, Q O R	Mr Duncan, H F B
Capt Sloan, G G B G	E E Cox
Capt Caston	A J Close
Mr Dixon, R G	Stuart Heath
	Capt Howard, R G

Dr. Smith proposed the first toast, that of "The Queen." He alluded to her long reign, which had been of service to England, to the world and to Christianity at large. The next toast was that of "The Governor-General," and in giving it the chairman took occasion to say that Canada could feel proud of the long line of governors supplied to her from England, men of honor and brilliant reputation.

The next toast was that of the evening, the health of Sir Fred Middleton. Mr. Smith paid an eloquent tribute to the General's personal courage, to his zeal in behalf of the Canadian militia and to the services that he had rendered to the crown in all parts of the globe. With regard to the aspersions on his character made by a gang of malevolent persecutors, all he could say was that he had pleasure in standing by a brave man who had fallen among politicians. For himself, while he disavowed all authority either as a lawyer or soldier, he had read the evidence and come to the conclusion that the committee had determined to find a verdict, and he attached no sort of importance to their verdict.

Gen. Middleton, in reply, thanked the chairman for all he had said of him and reiterated the statement that he had invariably done what he could for the interest of the Canadian militia. With regard to the charges recently made against him it was neither the time nor the place to enter upon an explanation, but the presence of the gentlemen that he saw before him was sufficient proof of what they thought of their gravity. He once hoped to make Canada the home of his old age when he retired from the active business of life, but recent circumstances had upset this calculation and he would shortly be on his way back to the Old Land. There he would always distinguish in his thoughts of Canada between the great body of the people and the militia, who he knew were on his side, and that small band who had endeavored to hound him out of the country.

Caterer Webb's arrangement and decoration of the table was quite ahead of any former attempt, and it was much admired by the guests. A feature of the service was the absence of silver, everything was glass clear cut crystal, which jingled merrily as it was passed along the line.

GEN. MIDDLETON'S SUCCESSOR.

It Is Said the Government Will Select Col. Charles Robinson.

OTTAWA, July 15.—It is said that the Dominion Government will make an effort to satisfy the demand for the appointment of a Canadian commandant of the militia by selecting Col. Charles Robinson, a Canadian, now assistant military secretary at the Horse Guards in London, to the position. Col. Robinson is a son of the late Chief Justice Sir John Beverley Robinson and a brother of Hon. J. B. Robinson, late Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, and of Mr. Christopher Robinson, Q.C. He has seen active service in Ashantee, in Zululand and elsewhere, and is a full colonel in the imperial service.

Some time ago the Department of Justice forwarded to Mr. Sam Bedson, the warden of the Manitoba penitentiary, a copy of the report of the select committee of the House of Commons on the Middleton-Bremner affair, with a request for an explanation as to his own conduct. Mr. Bedson has sent a curt reply stating in effect that he knows nothing whatever about the Bremner furs business.

Flags of all kinds for decoration, Ham mocks and Hammock chairs. Milne's, 169 Yonge-street. 136

Beeton & Playtner, 25 Leader-lane.
Owing to the gradual increase in my business I find myself unable to attend to it alone and therefore have taken into partnership Mr. Henry Playtner, a thoroughly first-class watchmaker, whom I have known intimately for five years past. We confine ourselves to the adjustment of good watches only, and in the future can promise promptness as well as fine workmanship. 136

Wealth Left Behind.

In the Surrogate Court yesterday letters of administration of the effects of Elizabeth C. Fenner, who died in October, leaving an estate valued at $40,000, were granted to the Trusts Corporation of Ontario, George S. McConkey and George H. Mitchell, executors under the will, having renounced their right in favor of that corporation. The objection of William Fenner, the relict of the testatrix, was overruled.

Dr. J. H. Widdifield, sheriff of York, and Alexander B. Sutherland, deputy-sheriff, filed the will of the late William Rowland of Newmarket, laborer, who left an estate estimated at $7408. The testator's wife is left $3000 and occupancy of the home during life. To Ethel Pegg, the adopted daughter of the testator, is left $1000, also $499 deposited in the postoffice savings bank. There are several small bequests to relatives.

William Williamson of Toronto filed the will of Thomas Williamson, gentleman, of Toronto. His estate is valued at $3500, being composed of houses in Eastern-avenue. It is divided between the testator's two sons.

THE LATEST LONDON GOSSIP.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S ASSIDUOUS STUDY OF RUSSIAN.

Parnell and the Radicals—The League's Exchequer Drained—American Contributors Tired—Reckless Stories About Mrs. Stanley's Presents Refuted—Bismarck's Busy Life.

NEW YORK, July 15.—Edmund Yates cables from London: Emperor William has been studying Russian assiduously during the last year in order to be able to converse in that language during his visit to Peterhof next month, instead of hearing nothing but French, as he did in 1888; for neither the Czar nor Czarina speaks German well. The Emperor is to command his Russian regiment of Viborg dragoons during the manœuvres at Toarskol Selois, and it is essential that he be able to make himself understood in the language of the country. Emperor William is very anxious that there shall be some great naval function at Heligoland when that island is formally transferred to Germany. It is proposed that the British squadron and German squadron meet there, with the Dukes of Edinburgh and of Connaught as representatives of our royal family. The Emperor desires to be in supreme command of the combined squadron during the review.

Parnell's speech on Friday created dismay among the Radical ranks. It was a direct invitation to the chief secretary to come to a friendly arrangement about the land purchase bill. If Parnell and the Government come to terms the measure will pass, and all the fulminations of the Opposition will be so much waste energy. Sir William Harcourt's countenance was a study during the delivery of Parnell's speech. If ever anger, disgust and disappointment were legibly written on a human face it was on that of the member for Derby. Parnell's moderation was mainly due to the financial state of the league. New Tipperary and the Ponsonby estate cost the league £50,000, and the drain continues. America refuses to contribute to such playthings as New Tipperary, and the league consequently is near the end of business. When his story of the expenditure on the plan of campaign comes to be known it will, I think, be found that the Parnellite lawyers have not done badly. Parnell's speech gave deep offence to his own party. Messrs. Dillon and Healy detest moderation, and the compliments which the chief secretary gave to the speech of Parnell only rendered it more distasteful to the latter's followers. It was for the purpose of showing that they had no sympathy with the moderate course of their leader that Healy got up a violent scene later on in the evening, when he hurled a discharge of Billingsgate at the chief secretary.

There can be nothing to excuse the exaggeration about the magnificence and splendor of Mrs. Stanley's presents. They were very pretty and very numerous, but were not to be compared with those received by many of the brides who from time to time startle society by the magnificence of their corbeilles. The story that the Baroness Burdette-Coutts had given her £10,000 was a good illustration of the reckless way in which people invent stories. The Stanleys will remain at Adelphi court until Stanley is better. His recovery may be slow. The bride and bridegroom took down a hospital nurse, and Dr. Parke was to be kept duly informed as to the condition of the patient and ready to go at a moment's warning.

Prince Bismarck leaves Friedrichsruhe in the course of a few days for his ancestral estate at Schoenause, near Berlin. Thence, after a brief stay, he goes to his Pomeranian seat at Harzin. He votes his whole time, not occupied by addresses, to deputations and interviews and to the care of his large landed property, which he manages under the advice of Herr Bleichroeder, a much intelligent Jew. Schwening saw him very recently and, although his general report was satisfactory, he warned his illustrious patient that he might have to insist on a visit to Kissingen or Gastein after all. His projected expedition to England is no longer mentioned.

The Chess Players.

LONDON, July 15.—A chess match between Lee and Blackburn began here yesterday. Yesterday's game was drawn. Twenty-three moves were made. To-day's game was won by Blackburn in 44 moves. The winner is to be the one who first scores six wins, drawn games not to count. The match excites considerable interest in London chess circles and a handsome purse has been provided for the winner.

The Pope Takes a Ride.

ROME, July 15.—The Pope in a carriage escorted by two soldiers of the Guardia Mobile left the Vatican grounds by way of the Fondamenta gate to-day and drove as far as the Musei gate, where he re-entered the grounds. The sentries at the Mint presented arms as he passed, and the workmen along the road knelt down reverently.

The object of the Pope's drive was to visit the sculptor Aureli and inspect his statue of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Dangerous Insanity.

PARIS, July 15.—The man who fired a revolver outside the Elysee yerterday while President Carnot was passing from his carriage to the palace was examined to-day by physicians and pronounced insane. He said that he fired the shot to attract the President's attention.

The firing of blank-cartridged revolvers at or near President Carnot in order to call attention to a personal grievance is becoming frequent. The last case was in May, 1889, at the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the meeting of the States General on May 5, 1789. The President, attended by his military and civil household, left the Elysee Palace shortly after midday in a state coach drawn by four horses to drive to Versailles. As the cortege turned into the Avenue Marigny from the Faubourg St. Honore, a man about 40 years of age suddenly drew a revolver and fired it point-blank at the President. Fortunately it was not loaded. On being taken to the police station the man said he merely wanted to call the President's attention to the injustice of the Minister of Marine towards him "in sending him to Senegal, where he did not want to go." The papers found on him showed that he was a steward on one of the government cruisers and that his name was Nicholas Perrin.

France's Demands.

PARIS, July 15.—The Temps says that in return for the British protectorate over Zanzibar France demands that England shall expressly recognize France's right to grant exequaturs to foreign consuls in Madagascar and give France liberty of action in the Niger country; also France's right to terminate the Anglo-Tunisian treaty in 1896 and to deal similarly with the Italian-Tunisian treaty. The Temps' story is semi-officially denied.

Cable Flashes.

In the last two months there have been 445 cases of cholera in Spain, of which 351 proved fatal.

The British Government has accorded an increase of pay and other concessions to the telegraphers.

The Frankfurter Zeitung threatens to make further revelations relative to Bismarck, which have hitherto been suppressed, unless The Nachrichten ceases its attacks.

Mr. Stanley continues ill. Dr. Parke says he is very weak. The Queen has sent a message by telegraph making inquiry as to his condition.

That accomplished and tactful gentleman Mr. Chauncey Mitchell Depew says he regards the Prince of Wales as the most accomplished and tactful gentleman he ever met.

The Nihilist Mendelssohn denounces what he considers the discomfort of French prisons and their bad condition as regards sanitation. He declares the Prussian system is far superior, but admits that in France the magistrates and jailers are more sympathetic toward prisoners than in Prussia.

Grand Summer Numbers.—London Graphic 50c., London News 50c., Saturday Night 25c., Saturday Ledger 25c., Review of Resicus 20c., at Winnifrith Bros., 6 Toronto-street.

Adams' Tutti Frutti Gum cures indigestion and improves the appetite.

THE CROPS.

From present indications there seems no doubt that Ontario will be blessed with an average crop, in fact with a good crop. The weather the past month has been very fair all over the province. Hay and clover, it is now known for a certainty, will be an abundant crop, the best in many years, it is said. This augurs well for the owners of live stock.

From Manitoba, too, the same cheering news comes. The Prairie Province will grow enough to feed its own inhabitants and some of the teeming millions of Europe.

TERRIBLE POWDER EXPLOSION.

Ten Persons Killed and Thirty Injured—Victims Blown to Atoms—A Cartridge Factory Wrecked.

CINCINNATI, July 15.—Sixteen tons of powder in two freight cars exploded at King's Mills this afternoon, causing the explosion of a cartridge factory, the burning of several houses, the killing of ten persons and the wounding of thirty men and women.

Two empty freight cars were being rolled on to a side track where a car containing 500 kegs of gunpowder was standing. As the cars struck there was a terrific explosion and immediately afterward another car containing 800 kegs of powder exploded, making 1300 altogether.

William Franla, brakeman in the service of the Little Miami, was standing on one of the empty cars when the explosion occurred. His body must have been blown to atoms, as no trace of it has yet been found. Five others supposed to be employes of the powder company were killed.

The King Powder Company and Peters' Cartridge Works have works on both sides of the river along the railway. The explosion occurred on the south side and the destruction was enormous. There are a number of cottages occupied by workmen in the powder factory and situated close to the track. These were shattered by the explosion and their inmates injured. 12 or 15 girls at work in the cartridge factory were crippled by the explosion. The railway station and the freight house belonging to the Little Miami Railway, with the adjacent buildings, were set on fire and totally consumed. The havoc wrought by the explosion of these 16 tons of powder is dreadful. The track and ties of the railway are fairly torn out of the ground, and a great hole is plowed in the ground.

The Peters cartridge factory was burned to the ground. Nothing but a mass of smoking ruins remains to mark the spot where the building stood.

As soon as the news reached this city about 5 o'clock a relief train was despatched to the scene with Superintendent Peters and a large party of surgeons on board, and relief was afforded the sufferers as soon as possible. The work of searching for the missing and caring for the wounded is now progressing. Most of the girls who were injured live at Morrow and South Lebanon, and it is probable that they will be taken to their homes. The names of none of the killed or wounded are as yet obtainable.

Peters' cartridge factory was a large building and fully supplied with a great amount of costly machinery, both for the manufacture of shells and the loading of shotgun ammunition. A large force of employes was at work at the time the explosion occurred.

News from King's Mills at 9 o'clock tonight is that 10 dead bodies have been taken from the ruins and 30 are known to be wounded. Definite news is more likely to swell the list of casualties than diminish it.

The Pan-Handle train due here at 5½ this evening arrived at 11¼, the delay of 5¼ hours being caused by the accident at King's station. The passengers say the wrecked district presents a scene of utter desolation and state that a flaming shaft shot up 1000 feet, the poison an unknown woman had her back broken by the shock and an infant was killed. The reports of 10 killed and 30 or 40 wounded are also confirmed.

A messenger of the Adams Express Co. arrived from King's station at 12¾. He says that at King's station at 11¼ all was bright as day. Everything combustible was burning and people for a great distance around were fighting the fire. He says Peters' cartridge factory was a large three-story brick building, and it was still burning. The roadmaster of the Little Miami road informed him there were about 25 families living in cottages near the place of the explosion, but six hours' search had failed to find any trace of them. He says more than 10 were killed.

The Minnesota Cyclone.

LAKE CITY, Minn., July 15.—The lake shore was made to reverberate this morning with the thunder of dynamite, which was brought into requisition with the hope that it would bring some of the as yet unrecovered bodies to the surface. None, however, were found.

A resident victim of the Lake Gervais cyclone died yesterday. It was Mrs. John Clark, whose home at Little Canada was wrecked. Her left arm was torn off and her lung exposed. She died in great agony. A silver pierced her husband just above the heart, and although he hovers between life and death it is thought he has a chance to recover.

It is reported that Capt. Wethering of the wrecked Sewering has been jailed at Ellesworth at the instance of his friends to protect him from violence at the hands of friends of victims of the disaster. Forty-four funerals of victims took place to-day. The coroner began an inquest this evening, but being advised that no inquest could be held legally on bodies bearing no marks of violence dismissed the jury. The county attorney will have the grand jury investigate the disaster. The bodoy of Rikka Vieths, aged 13, was found this afternoon along the shore below Lake City. This was the only body recovered to-day.

To-day was the hottest of the summer, the thermometer registering 94 in the shade at noon.

While out sailing on the bay this afternoon John Kegan lost his hat overboard and jumped in the water after it. He was taken with cramps and drowned. The body has not yet been recovered.

Yesterday a Red Hot Day.

With the thermometer away up into the nineties and every probability of going higher, the demands for straw hats have been very much greater than usual. There was quite a rush at Dineen's yesterday, and to-day all the finer makes of straws will be brought forward and convenient to the main entrance, so that the salesmen in Dineen's can wait on customers more rapidly. There is no hat more cool and comfortable in hot weather than a straw hat, and you get greater value for your money buying a straw hat at the present time. Dineen has quite a variety of styles for gentlemen, as well as boys' and children's shapes. Their store is on corner King and Yonge-streets.

New Books.—Marie Bashkirtseff 25c., The Burnt Million 30c., Sowing the Wind 30c., A Woman's Heart 30c., Armorel of Nyonesse 50c., Century and Harpers for July at Winnifrith Bros., 6 Toronto-street.

United States News.

The drought in Indiana has destroyed the crops.

A hail and wind storm near Plainview, Minn., has done $100,000 damage to the crops.

Vernon Locke, E. W. C. Kimball and F. Goldsmith of Boston were drowned while on a yachting expedition by the capsizing of their boat near Rye Beach, N.Y.

John Roth, who outdid Tanner in his celebrated fast, died at the Galena (Ill.) asylum, having passed his 60th day of total abstinence from food of any kind or nourishment except a slight quantity of water.

Joseph R. Hunting, a justice of the peace and lawyer of East Williston, has pleaded guilty to one of several indictments charging him with embezzling $21,000 belonging to clients and he was sentenced to nine years in State's prison with hard labor. Hunting belongs to one of the oldest Long Island families.

Grand Summer numbers "London News" and "Graphic," 50 cents each. "Harper's Monthly" and "Century" for July at Winnifrith Bros., 6 Toronto-street. 136

THAT MUSICIANS' HUBBUB!

PRESIDENT MUSSON REPLIES TO CONDUCTOR HASLAM.

The Excitement Among the Members of the Toronto Vocal Society Is Still Quite Keen—A Batch of Letters from Both Sides—The Functions of the Committee Much in Dispute.

There is no abatement in the excitement among the members of the Toronto Vocal Society over the deadlock between the committee and Mr. Haslam. The World has received a big batch of letters on the subject, and prints as many of them this morning as space will permit. It may be stated that the letter of President Musson was received on Monday, but The World was unable to find space for it on Tuesday morning. The World has been strictly impartial in the matter, giving such information as it could gather on both sides. Mr. Haslam's explanations have been published side by side with those of the committee.

One of The World's young men met Mr. Edgar Buck at the house of one of the committee the other evening, and Mr. Buck asked the reporter for his source of information in stating that he (Mr. B.) was to be the new conductor. Perhaps the following card will fully answer the question:

MR. W. EDGAR BUCK,
(BARITONE),
Formerly Pupil of Manuel Garcia, London, England.
CONDUCTOR OF THE "TORONTO VOCAL SOCIETY."
RESIDENCE:
555 Church-street.
VOICE CULTURE. SINGING, ELOCUTION. ORATORIO CONCERT. OPERA ENGAGEMENTS.

PRESIDENT MUSSON IN REPLY.

He Gives Some Information on the Much-Vexed Committee Question.

Editor World: Your issue of to-day contains the report of an interview with Mr. W. Elliott Haslam, in which that gentleman accuses the committee of the Toronto Vocal Society of acting unfairly towards him in not giving him an opportunity to explain what changes he desired to have made in its constitution. In reply to this remarkable accusation I beg to subjoin a copy of a letter written to Mr. Haslam on June 19 last by the honorary secretary of the society:

SIR,—Referring to your letter of Jan. 30 last, in which you intimated that it was your wish to renew your relations with the Toronto Vocal Society, on its present basis, it was submitted to the executive of the society, and I have been directed by the committee to enquire what there was in your relations with the society during the past year upon which you decided that you would not renew such relations, so that the committee may give the matter consideration. H. BOURLIER.

Here, then, Mr. Haslam was afforded the opportunity which he now says was denied him, and to this letter of Mr. Bourlier Mr. Haslam returned a reply, parts of which I quoted in my former letter published on Saturday in your columns. He also declares in the same letter:

I cannot entertain any proposition from any musical society with such an absurd and impossible constitution as is the present one of the Toronto Vocal Society.

And he is reported as saying to you that "he was not engaged by them (the committee), but by the society, who would alone have the power to deal with his case."

Sec. 7 of the society's constitution reads, I would remind Mr. Haslam, as follows:

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to engage a conductor, to arrange the programs, to determine the acceptance or refusal of proposed members and to transact all matters pertaining to the interests of the society.

And Mr. Haslam was accordingly engaged by the committee and paid by its secretary.

To his further statement that the committee is a "so-called" one I have to say that the ladies and gentlemen who compose it were duly proposed and elected according to the constitution at regular meetings of the society.

From the tenor of his remarks Mr. Haslam seems to be under the impression that he not only conducts but also manipulates and in facts owns the Toronto Vocal Society. I must remind him that the committee, having been elected by the members, is the governing body, and the public will judge from the names of those composing this committee whether they are likely to be all wrong and Mr. Haslam right. GEORGE MUSSON,
Toronto, July 14. Pres. T.V.S.

FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

Some Severe Strictures on the Actions of the Executive Committee.

Editor World: Mr. Musson says in his letter to you that Mr. Haslam wrote to Mr. Bourlier saying that he wished the committee to be informed officially that he could no longer continue his relations with the society as conductor. Why does he omit the most important part, viz., *on the present basis!* He says Mr. Haslam has resigned. I take it Mr. Haslam's letter or any fact relating thereto should have been placed before the society, the reasons discussed that would call forth such a letter from a conductor who is bound up in his society and its welfare before there was any talk of a new conductor, for surely they had a voice in the matter, though this (then) high and mighty committee, these supreme judges of men and music, seemed to think not, but such a course was beneath their dignity. They were too far removed above the common choristers to need their advice.

The (then) committee at the last meeting of the society were asked, specifically and distinctly, if there was any intention of dispensing with Mr. Haslam's services. They as distinctly said there was not. I suppose they told the truth. The election of officers proceeded on that understanding. I also gave notice of motion, seconded by the late Mr. E. T. Coates, to alter that part of the constitution which says, "The committee have power to engage a conductor," by adding the words, "subject to the approval of the society." Perhaps Mr. Musson has forgotten this. It took him a long time to notice it at the time, and one of the (then) committee impertinently said that if such a motion were made he would resign. This shows whether they wished to take the society into their confidence or not. I would also like to ask Mr. Musson and several other members of the committee did they not resign at that meeting, and by what right or authority do they now pose and speak as representatives of the Toronto Vocal Society? They positively did resign, and asked that their names be taken off the roll. They remember all about Mr. Haslam's resignation, but conveniently forget their own, and the position their action placed them in.

Mr. Haslam started the society without these influential (!) members, imbued it with some of his own energy and piloted it on from victory to victory. And he will still lead us on to grander success than ever, notwithstanding a few cranky autocrats who would try to bring him to their feet and, failing that, crown another with his hard-earned laurels. WILLIAM C. FOX.
Toronto, July 14.

A PARTING WORD FROM H. ENGLISH.

Editor World: The questions at issue in the T.V.S. have been very freely ventilated in the city press, but I would just like to add a parting word for the information of the musical public. First, notwithstanding Mr. Hedley's statement, the members of the executive were not unanimous in their decision that Mr. Haslam's letter could be construed into a resignation, all the members of the committee were not present when the matter was voted on, and one at least of those who were there most emphatically opposed such a construction and again and again called the committee's attention to the expressed wishes of the society "that Mr. Haslam must be their conductor and things made agreeable for him." But they snapped their fingers at the society and voted him out, knowing that in so doing they were opposing four-fifths of the members. Second, that every arrangement is being made for Mr. Haslam's continuance of the work so successfully carried on by him since his conception of the T.V.S., and his friends kindly ask the musical public to await further arrangements and program for the coming season, which will be given publicity in a few days. H. ENGLISH.

WHAT AN OLD MEMBER SAYS.

Editor World: With reference to the dispute between the committee and the conductor of the Toronto Vocal Society, permit me to say, as an old member of the society, that at the last election of officers the committee were elected on the distinct understanding that Mr. Haslam's services be continued as conductor and the grievances of which he complained remedied. The committee have broken faith with the society and do not in their present action represent any one but themselves, as they will soon find out. Nine-tenths of the members were so disgusted with the committee that a vote of confidence in them was refused, and instead, a motion to adjourn carried. In justice to Mr. Haslam it is only right the public should know that he is sustained by the society in his action, and that the committee will soon find their heads in the basket. HIGH G.
Toronto, July 15.

DID THE COMMITTEE RESIGN?

Editor World: As a member of the society, I have read with interest the articles appearing in The World. It seems to me that the committee whose names appear in this morning's edition have no power to act for the society at all, or to usurp the name, "Toronto Vocal Society," seeing that they resigned at a meeting of the society, held on April 28 last, and the society itself only has the power to re-elect them, which it has not done.

If the late committee wish to act in a straightforward way they should call a meeting of *the whole society* together, and not one composed of those who are their supporters only, which I understand is the case.
Toronto, July 14. A MEMBER T.V.S.

THE FEDERAL DEAL.

Mr. Nordheimer Sues Two of His Fellow Directors for $75,000.

NORDHEIMER V. GURNEY AND KERR—The plaintiff's claim is against the defendants jointly and severally for contribution and reimbursement in respect of a sum of $75,000 paid by him to the Federal Bank of Canada in settlement of an action in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, known as Federal Bank v. Nordheimer et al; the said defendants being two of the plaintiff's co-directors of the said bank who participated in the transactions, in respect of which the said action was instituted and the said sum of $75,000 was paid, and who were jointly and equally responsible with the plaintiff in respect thereof, and for a declaration of the plaintiff's right to the same.

Such is the statement of claim contained in a writ issued yesterday by Hector Cameron, Q.C., against Edward Gurney and John Kerr and served on their respective solicitors. Mr. Gurney is the well-known foundryman; Mr. Kerr is a member of Kerr & Jenkins, assignees and accountants, Toronto-street. Both are men of means and therefore well able to join Mr. Nordheimer in bearing a share of the $75,000, if he can get a judgment against them.

The $75,000 is the sum that the bank recovered against Mr. Nordheimer, its president, on account of the transactions of the bank with the "little machine."

UNDER LOCK AND KEY.

A Special Room at the Examining Warehouse For Labelling Cigars.

Hon. Mackenzie Bowell left Toronto yesterday morning for the east. As a result of the Minister's visit a stringent regulation with regard to cigar stamps will go into force at the Toronto Custom House. The existing regulations, it should be explained, are stringent enough, and it is promised that in future they will be enforced. A special room will be set apart in the examining-warehouse to be used exclusively for attaching stamps to cigar and cigaret boxes. The door will be securely locked and all stamps will be affixed in presence of the appraiser.

Mr. G. W. Jessop, Dominion Appraiser, dropped into town yesterday morning from Ottawa. Mr. Jessop was in the city all day, but he was not visible at the Custom House. It is said Mr. Jessop has been sent up by the Department to take a hand in the investigations which are now in progress. He is the third official from the customs department who has so far reached the city.

Mr. Jessop was seen at the Rossin last night but he was as mum as the festive oyster is said to be on state occasions. "No news, my boy, for the press," was his laconic remark to the reporters.

WEEKLY WAGES.

The New York Law to Be Rigidly Enforced—Provisions of the Act.

ALBANY, July 15.—Factory Inspector Connolly will probably begin to-morrow to take steps toward the enforcement of the law for weekly payment of wages. The law took effect July 1, but Mr. Connolly allowed those affected 14 days in which to comply with its requirements. He will now through the Attorney-General bring action against all employers who have not lived up to the law. He holds that salaried officers are not exempt from the provisions of the law, as it expressly states that every manufacturing, mining or quarrying, lumbering, mercantile, railway, surface, street, electric and elevated railway, except steam surface railways, steamboat, telegraph, telephone and municipal corporations and every incorporated express company and water company shall pay weekly each and every employe engaged in its business the wages earned by such employe to within six days of the date of such payment.

Mr. Connolly will bring actions against all municipalities that refuse to obey the law. He claims that city officers and all employes generally come under the law, excepting, however, mayors and heads of departments who have appointing power.

Before you start on your Holiday Trip call up Telephone No. 2200 and have an Accident Ticket covering the loss of time or life through accident. It costs only 25c per day for $3000 and $15 weekly indemnity, or $4.50 for same for a month. Wilson Irwin, Dist. Agent Travelers' Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn. 136

Art in Dress.
More artistic garments than those we get up were never worn. The materials of which they are made are also very handsome and the general effect is that of appropriateness happily combined with elegance. Taylor & Co., art tailors, 89 Yonge-street. 136

Hay, Hay, Hay—Buyers will do well to call at 74 Colborne-street. Choice Timothy Hay selling at $9 and $9.50 per ton. 135

Stagnation in Railway Business.

CHICAGO, July 15.—Most of the western roads complain of stagnation in business, partly due to the recent rate war. A short crop in the Western States does not make the outlook encouraging and the managers are cutting expenses down. The Northwestern Railway yesterday discharged about 100 men employed in its shops because there was no work for them.

The Erie Railway Is the Only Line Running Through Pullman Toronto to New York.
Something every person should not forget who is going to New York, that you can step right into a magnificent pullman which leaves the Union Station at 4.55 p.m., arrive in New York early next morning. There is a fine dining car attached to this train every morning. You can also leave Toronto at 11 p.m. for New York.

**Housekeepers, see the Jewel Range, over 2500 in use in Toronto. Milne's,