

Our Racing Skaters.

Fen Parker, who last year was known as the "schoolboy flyer" but who proved himself sufficiently speedy to stand boldly alone as a fit rival for any of the local lights in the steel blade business, has open-



W. H. MERRITT.

ed up his racing season of 1900 with a victory. Perhaps his keenest rival was the popular Ned Dalton, also of Indian town, who has been always on the best of terms with Parker but who has twice suffered defeat by the newcomer. New Year's night Parker and Dalton met in Victoria rink and flew around the glazed circle for a half mile. Though Dalton has always been at home in short sprints like this, nevertheless he was outskated in 1.32.

FOR HUMANITY'S SAKE.

The Ambulance has been a busy vehicle this last year.

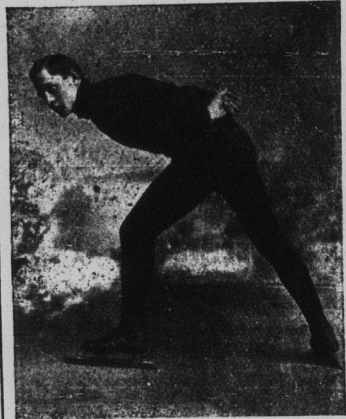
Now that another year has been commenced and it is quite in order to read of the statistics of 1899, it would no doubt be of interest to the general public and of particular gratification to the ladies of the Women's Council to learn what the ambulance has done during the last twelve months. That such a vehicle St. John had long been suffering for is now an established fact, and this adds emphasis to the pleas of those, who for humanity's sake, are for warding the project of a police patrol. If a patrol were to be purchased it would in all probability in a short time prove its usefulness, to even as marked a degree as has the ambulance.

Since January 1st, 1899 to December 31st, 1899 the ambulance has been called out about one hundred and eighty times. These "calls" include accident cases, removals to and from the General Public Hospital, removals from house to house and to and from the lines of transportation. In all the ambulance had been in much greater demand than in 1898, the prejudice entertained by many against it being greatly, if not wholly overcome. However, it seems hardly the thing that dead bodies found on seashores etc. are to be bundled off to the morgue in this hospital wagon given for the use of the ill and injured. Bodies a long time dead have been known to have been conveyed in it. True, most stringent are the measures taken to keep the ambulance properly fumigated and cleaned, but the mere fact of a morgue candidate having occupied it on a prior occasion must certainly cause the succeeding occupant to shudder.

The ambulance in 1899 cost the city about \$42. For each "call" Mr. J. B. Hamm, the livermen received one dollar. He boards the ambulance horse, which belongs to the city, and supplies the driver.

Next Tuesday evening between "bands," Billy Merritt and Parker will meet in a mile event for a medal. Considerable speculation as to the outcome of the match is apparent. Both skaters are training hard and their friends are confident.

Bert Duffey is soon to be heard from no doubt and it is the wish of Parker's followers that Duffey and the new skater should come together to decide the local championship. Last season Parker defeated Duffey, but it is only fair to state that Duffey was not in skating form. At present the ex-car conductor is in New York under the management of Mr. Fields, the McLean Stamp men, and introducing the Boston spring skate, the invention of Mr. Robert Bustin



FEN PARKER.

of this city. Duffey is expected home at any time now.

This week a PROGRESS representative had a chat with Hudson Breen of the noted Kennebecasis family of swift skaters. "Hud" had just arrived from Boston and said he had not by any means abandoned his quest for glory on ice. He will try conclusions with the local skaters later on in the season. At present he is out of circulation.

Wilson Breen, his professional skating brother, is working in Boston, but still finds time to take an occasional spin on his aluminum tubes. If everything goes well he will come to St. John this winter and meet Johnny Neillson, the world's professional champion, who spent so much time here last season. This arrangement is almost agreed upon by Wilson Breen and the champion, and should a series of races materialize St. John will once more become a centre of international sporting interest.

The Women's Council donated the vehicle. For the board of the horse and care of the ambulance Mr. Hamm received \$20 per month, or \$240 for the year. This added to the \$180 derived from "calls" makes the ex-warden for King's ward have a bill against the city for about \$420. Some aldermen are kicking about the expense, but as yet their kicks have not been of a very pronounced type.

The Yacht Club Lecture.

Wednesday evening at the Opera House Rev. Dr. Parker of Brooklyn, N. Y., delivered a good sized audience with his illustrated lecture "A Picturesque Tour Through the Emerald Isle," under the auspices of the Royal Yacht Club of which the reverend lecturer is Chaplain. This lecturer's eloquence and ready wit kept him in ready touch with his audience throughout the evening. His pleasing reference to the two great Irishmen, to whom the eyes of the empire are now turned, Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener, met with prolonged applause. Without doubt the lecture was one of the best heard here for a long time. During the evening appropriate Irish melodies were sung by Mrs. Chas. Taylor, Mrs. H. B. Schofield, J. A. Kelly and Robert J. Seely. The local yatchmen are a whole-souled and judicious lot of men, and in many of their undertakings in the entertainment line they have never yet presented anything unworthy of the best patronage.

Mr. Rowan's Sudden Death.

When Mr. Arch Rowan walked down King street Wednesday morning those who recognized him little thought that it was the last time the familiar erect form of the gas and electric light inspector would be seen on St. John's principal street. He died suddenly that afternoon from heart failure. Three sons and a daughter survive him. Mr. Rowan has been a prominent business and political figure in St. John

"77" COLDS

Keep the feet dry and warm. Keep out of draughts. Take plenty of outdoor and indoor exercise. Remove all wraps on entering a warm room. Always carry a vial of "77" and take a dose at the first chill or shiver—it restores the checked circulation, starts the blood coursing through the veins and "breaks up" the cold or grip. Ask your druggist or send for Dr. Humphreys' Manual free—tells about the care and treatment of the sick in all ailments.

Humphreys' Homeopathic Medicine Co., Cor. William & John Sts., N. Y.

and he leaves many friends to regret his death.

ORIGIN OF MARRIAGE CUSTOMS

The Oldest Love Letter in the World Sent to an Egyptian Princess.

The oldest known love letter in the world is in the British Museum. It is a proposal of marriage made to an Egyptian Princess, and it was written 3,500 years ago. It is in the form of an inscribed brick, and is therefore not only the oldest, but also the most substantial love letter in existence.

The first silver wedding dates back to the time of Hugh Capet. Two servants had grown gray in his service, a man and a woman, and what could he give them as a reward? Calling the women he said: "Your service is great, greater than this man's whose service is great enough, for the woman always finds work harder than a man, and therefore, I will give you a reward. At you age I know of none better than a dowry and a husband. The dowry is here—this farm from this time forth belongs to you. If this man who has worked with you five and twenty years is willing to marry you, then the husband is ready."

"Your Majesty," said the old servant, "how is it possible that we should marry, having already silver hairs?" "Then it shall be a silver wedding," and the king gave the couple silver enough to keep them in plenty. This soon became known all over France, and it became a fashion after twenty five years of married life to celebrate a silver wedding.

The practice of the wife's assuming the husband's name at marriage is a Roman custom. Julia married to Pompey became Julia of Pompey. In latter times married women signed their names in the same manner, but omitted the "oi." In Iceland the opposite has been the custom. There the husband assumes the wife's name.

The word wedding is derived from the wed or security which the Anglo-Saxon bridegroom gave at espousals for the due performance of his contract. This wed was held by trustees, and in addition to it the bridegroom wore an espousal ring. As for the wedding ring, it was first designed by Prometheus, according to tradition, and fashioned out of adamant and iron by Tubal Cain, and was given by Adam to his son to this end, that he therewith should espouse a wife.

The wedding cake is the remains of a custom whereby a Roman bride held in her left hand three wheat ears, and many centuries later, an English bride wore a chaplet of wheat. The bridesmaids threw grains of corn or small bits of cake upon the heads of the newly married and the guests picked up the pieces and ate them. The wedding cake did not come into general use until the last century and was then composed of solid blocks laid together, and all over, so that when the outer crust was broken over the bride's head, the cakes inside fell on the floor and were distributed among the guests. Bridal favors are of Danish origin. The true lover's knot was first designed by Danish hearts and derived its designation from the Danish truelofa—I plight my troth.

The throwing of the slipper comes from the custom of the bride of the father giving a shoe to the new husband in token of transference of power over her, the bridegroom lightly tapping the bride's head with it.

The best man is a survivor of the band of friends who accompanied the suitor in his wife-winning and kept watch for him over the bride's tribe, while the lover sought the opportunity to carry off his prize. The honeymoon journey is the hurried flight of the husband with his wife to escape the vengeance of the pursuing tribe. The presents given the bridesmaid and waiters are simply a relic of the rough bribery used by the ancient bridegroom among his personal friends so that they would assist in the capture of his chosen bride when the day arrived on which he had determined to carry her off. In the fifteenth century a

bride—if one of the aristocracy—often received twenty rings from her relatives and six from the bridegroom—two when he became interested in her, two for the espousal and two when they were married.

HOW GEN. LOGAN DIED.

He Was Aspiring to Raise a Wounded Corporal From the Ground.

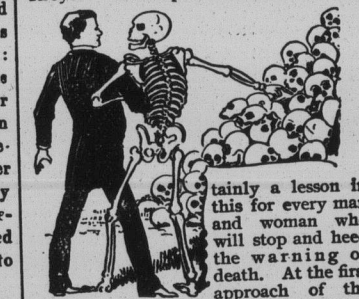
Major John A. Logan, Jr., here met his death through a combination of circumstances. On Friday night he called to dinner the several captains of his command. Usually of the most cheerful temperament, light-hearted under all circumstances, Major Logan's demeanor on this occasion, the night before, was in direct contrast to his usual appearance. He laid out the plan of campaign and remarked that every preparation must be made for a war encounter. The captains enjoyed his hospitality for the last time. Col. Luther R. Hare and Lieut.-Col. John J. Brereton dropped in and spent an hour in conversation. Major Logan knew that he was called upon to do the following morning.

Morley, Major Logan's valet, a little man of 45 once a famous teetotaler, a rider in England, is authority for the statement that Major Logan had a premonition that he would fall.

"Morley, you will stay behind in the ad-

THE GRIM MONSTER.

"All that tread the globe are but a handful to the tribes that slumber in its bosom." Of the multitudes that yearly join the multitudes already gone, one-seventh are the victims of that dread destroyer—consumption. There is cer-



tainly a lesson in this for every man and woman who will stop and heed the warning of death. At the first approach of the grim monster—consumption—the threatened victim should take refuge in the use of the only known cure for that disease. Many doctors say that consumption is incurable. They are mistaken and thousands who have been rescued from the brink of death, after they were given up by the doctors, and all hope was gone, have testified to the fact of their recovery. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures 98 per cent. of all cases of consumption. It cures bronchitis, asthma, weak lungs, spitting of blood, throat troubles, chronic nasal catarrh, and all diseases of the air passages. It acts directly through the blood, on the affected membranes and tissues, destroying all disease germs, allaying inflammation and building healthy tissues. It makes the appetite keen and the digestion perfect. It is the great blood-maker and flesh-builder.

Honest druggists won't insult your intelligence by endeavoring to persuade you to take an inferior substitute for the little added profit it may afford. "I have been troubled with bronchitis for several years," writes Mrs. Orlin O'Hara, of Box 114, Fergus Falls, Ottertail Co., Minn. "In the first place I had sore throat; doctored with different doctors and took various medicines, but got no lasting relief. We had had Dr. Pierce's book, the 'Common Sense Medical Adviser,' for a long time but had got careless about reading it. One day we saw a new advertisement in the paper in regard to this medicine, and as I was suffering and had been raising a good deal from my throat, a sticky substance like the white of an egg, and could not sleep, and had about made up my mind that I would hardly live through the winter, we made up our minds to try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and 'Pellets.' After I had taken one bottle we thought we could see a little change. We sent and got another bottle of the 'Golden Medical Discovery' and also one of 'Favorite Prescription.' I took them alternately, and in a few days I began to see that I was better for certain. I took eight bottles of 'Favorite Prescription,' and, really, I have not felt as well in years. I keep better than I have in twenty years, and am confident that if others have any such troubles they will be more than pleased if they try Dr. Pierce's medicines. I am not in favor of patent medicines. I have tried too many of them and found them a failure, but I do know that Dr. Pierce's medicines will do what is claimed for them if taken as directed and continued long enough."

"I took a severe cold with sore throat," writes Mrs. S. A. Everhart, of Oard Spring, Scott Co., Ind. "Soon I began to cough; my right side was so sore that when I coughed it seemed as though my side would burst. I summoned the physician and he said that I had pleurisy. I took his medicine for some time and got some better, but it seemed I could get so far and no farther. All the spring and summer I used mustard plasters and fly blisters on my side and lungs. Finally my right shoulder and back began to ache so badly that I could hardly endure it and at times I would feel almost smothered. My breath would be so short that I could scarcely talk. It was a miserable feeling indeed. I read of —'s Sarsaparilla being such a great medicine, so I concluded to try it. I got two bottles of it and when I had taken the medicine I was no better. I was becoming discouraged; several of my near relatives had died with consumption and I thought I was about to go the same way. I thought I would try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I took two bottles of the 'Discovery' and two bottles of the 'Pleasant Pellets.' By the time I had taken half a bottle I began to improve and when I had finished the two bottles of the 'Discovery' and two of the 'Pellets' I felt like a new person. That weak smothered feeling was all gone. I thought I ought to take more of the medicine but I felt so well I did not take any more. I would not take fifty dollars for the benefit I received from taking your medicine."

CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements under this heading not over five lines (about 30 words) cost 25 cents each insertion. Five cents extra for every additional line.

AGENTS WANTED for a genuine money-making business. No experience necessary. No capital required. Particulars free. Write to-day. The E. E. K. Co., 123 Victoria street, Toronto.

RESIDENCE at Bathurst for sale or to rent for the summer months. The property is pleasantly situated, known as the "Blue Bird" and is a half mile from Bathurst Station and within two minutes walk of the Kennebecasis. Rent reasonable. Apply to E. G. Tenny, Barrister-at-Law, Fugatey Building.

WANTED Good honest men in every locality, local or traveling, to introduce and advertise our goods, books, etc., on a commission basis. No experience needed. Salary or commission \$50 per month and expenses \$2.50 per day. Write at once for full particulars. **THE EMPIRE MEDICINE CO., London, Ont.**

vance to-morrow," he remarked. "Why, sir, am I not going with you?" Morley asked.

"One of us has got to go home," Major Logan said. He then turned over the pages of a book in his hand and went on: "If I am wounded cable this word to Mrs. Logan. If I am killed cable this to Mr. Bentley."

"Morley tried to remonstrate that his place was by the Major's side, but Major Logan would not hear of it. He retired a bit later, but never regained his wonted cheerfulness.

"The advance was made toward San Jacinto at 8 o'clock, the battalion, moving in line of fours and impeded greatly by the awful condition of the roads. The companies deployed upon approaching a village and the insurgents opened up on the battalion from their trenches 1,000 yards away. An advance was ordered, Major Logan being at the head of Capt. John Green's company. He reached a turn in the road where the fire of several sharpshooters were concentrated. One of the corporals was shot through the head and pitched forward on his face.

"One of your men is wounded, Major," yelled a newspaper man above the roar of the volleys that commenced to pour from the rifles of the Texas boys to right and left. In the meantime, Col. Hare and Lieut. Col. Brereton were directing the movements of the other battalions, coming up as fast as the men could move. Major Logan turned upon hearing the call and shouted: "I'll take care of him." He was dismounted and approached the wounded soldier. As he leaned forward to turn him over a bullet from a Mauser rifle crashed through his head and without a murmur he sunk down upon the man he gave his life to succor. A hospital steward ran forward to assist the Major and tell as he touched him with a bullet through his heart.

"A mighty roar rang from the lips of the Texas sharpshooters and one big Texan, named Yava, the crack shot of the regiment, dropped on one knee and carefully pulled on a black object 300 yards to the right and forward. At the crack of his Krag a dark something pitched from the top of a coccunut tree, while several of the insurgents' companions fell victims to the marksmanship of the Americans.

"Major Logan was carried to a nearby hut and attended by Dr. Greenwald. It was instantly seen that he was beyond all earthly aid, and, although he continued to breathe for several hours, the only motion made by him was a movement of his hands to clutch the locket on his breast containing the pictures of his wife and three children.

For Nobody.

The Detroit Free Press tells of a disappointed office seeker who at last obtained a gig through a late won humility. When he arrived at Washington, it was with the idea that he was a distinguished and prominent citizen; but after hanging about and swallowing disappointments, he began to suspect that he was not so very important after all.

Then he thought of home, and the means of getting there, and sought out Colonel Blank, the passenger agent of a certain railroad.

"I say, colonel," he remarked, persuasively, "I want to go home."

"Why don't you go?"

"No money! Can't you give me a pass?" The colonel stiffened.

"We give passes to nobody," said he.

The countenance of the disappointed candidate brightened with a smile of humility.

"Well, colonel," he pleaded, "then give me one. I'm nobody."

The colonel admitted the force of the argument, and gave the pass.

First Explorer—We are in terrible straits! The supply of champagne is reduced to 13 cases, the cigars are nearly gone and the mineralogist is half dead with gout.

"Cheer up, old man, the third relief party is due this month."

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