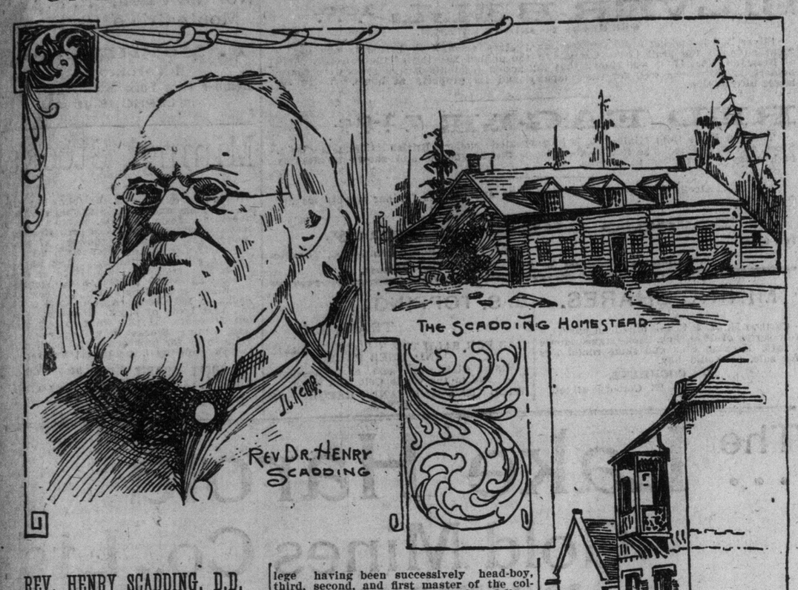
Second Section.

The Toronto World.

Second Section.

TWELVE PAGES—SATURDAY MORNING DECEMBER 5 1896—TWELVE PAGES

ONE OF TORONTO'S OLDEST PIONEERS.



REV. HENRY SCADDING, D.D.

The Interesting Life of a Toronto Man Who Links the Present With the Past.

Toronto has many prominent citizens, men who occupy distinguished positions in civil life, legal circles and in learned, fashionable and social spheres. Probably no one in any of these respects is more honored and esteemed than the subject of this sketch, the Rev. Dr. Scadding. He has exceeded the allotted span of life, and in the course of seven decades has witnessed the uprising and great development of Toronto, the city of his adoption and the place which he so dearly loves. No one has done more than he to give the present generation graphic and picturesque descriptions of Toronto of old.

The present article is not intended as a biography, but merely to give a sketch of the career of one of the men whom all delight to honor and revere.

THE SCADDING HOMESTEAD.

In 1856 the corporation of the city of Toronto purchased 103 acres of what used to be known as the Scadding farm, just outside the limits of the city, on the east side of the River Don, to secure a site for a new prison for the city and county. This caused the demolition of the Scadding homestead, which was situated a little to the northwest of the present jail.

The Scadding farm originally extended from the bay northward to Danforth-avenue. The first patentee from the Crown was Mr. John Scadding, a well-to-do emigrant from Lupgit, in Devonshire. He erected a log house and barn by the side of Kingston-road. The bridge leading into York (now Toronto) over the Don was known as Scadding's Bridge. The life of Mr. John Scadding was brought to a sudden end in 1824 by injuries received from the falling of a tree.

Rev. Dr. Scadding was the youngest son of this pioneer settler. At an early age the future historian of Toronto began to develop literary and archæological tastes, and in the lean-to shown on the right of the homestead sketch, he wrote in his rustic study and developed the tastes which led him to become a well-known divine, a successful schoolmaster and local historian.

THE DOCTOR AT HOME.

A representative of The World had a pleasant chat with Dr. Scadding at his cosy residence in Trinity Square. Here is a wonderful collection of books, of all branches of literature, archeological and historical predominating, also cabinets of coins and medals, portfolios of Canadian views and portraits and other historical bric-a-brac.

Sitting in the room in the library in which Dr. Scadding wrote "Toronto of Old," and many other literary contributions, the venerable gentleman chatted of the days gone by. He said it was a mistake to say that he was Canadian born for his birthplace was in lovely Devonshire. He was only eight years of age when his father emigrated to Canada. "For 70 years," said the Doctor, "I have lived in and about Toronto, save only when I was at St. John's College, Cambridge, where I successively took my B.A., M.A. and D.D. Of course I traveled in Europe, visiting France, Switzerland, the Rhine district and Italy. The latter country I visited particularly for study." Then in cheerful tones the Doctor told how pleasant to him in his octogenarian years thees recollections are.

HIS SCHOLASTIC CAREER.

In an account of the annual public examination of the old Royal Grammar School at York, in The Upper Canada Gazette, it is stated that the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Peregrine Maitland, announced that certain lands belonging to the school were to be "King's scholars," implying thereby that they should enjoy the privilege of a free education in the school. Second on the list occurred the name Henry Scadding.

The Doctor states: "I was placed on the list through the interest and influence of Rev. Dr. Strachan, Archdeacon of York, who ever befriended me, remembering, as he did, so well the sad accident which had deprived my father of his life soon after his settlement here, and before he was able fully to acquire the provision to make for the welfare of his family. The king's scholarship at the Grammar School was thus a most welcome boon and had the happy effect of keeping me much longer at my books than might otherwise have been possible."

It was the generosity of Lady Simcoe that enabled Henry Scadding to proceed to Cambridge, Eng., and his continuation there till he took his degree. This kindness of Lady Simcoe was connected with the fact that Dr. Scadding's father, before emigrating to Canada, was agent for the extensive estates of ex-Governor Simcoe in Devonshire.

Henry Scadding entered St. John's College, Cambridge, from which he graduated in 1837, and three years later took his M.A. degree. After graduating he entered Holy Orders, and in 1838 was ordained a priest. In the same year he returned to Toronto, and became classical master in Upper Canada College. For a quarter of a century he was identified with the college having been successively head-boy, third, second, and first master of the college he loves so well. No one has followed the varying fortunes of the school with more interest than he, and the old gentleman never fails to be present at the public functions at the college.

On the formation a year or two ago of the Upper Canada College Old Boys' Association, there was a general desire and request that Dr. Scadding, the oldest boy, should be president. Owing to his age and other engagements, the Doctor declined the honor, but takes the liveliest interest in the association.

AS A CITY CLERGYMAN.

Dr. Scadding greatly assisted the late Bishop Strachan in the formation of the parish and congregation of Holy Trinity, of which church he became the first incumbent. Faithfully he discharged his parochial duties and was beloved by his flock and highly esteemed by those who knew of his worth, although they did not conform to Church of England usages. When increasing years caused the Doctor's retirement from the active and onerous duties of a city clergyman, many were the regrets; but the late incumbent has never failed when circumstances and health permitted, to join with his clerical brethren in the celebration of the time-honored services he loves.

IN OTHER CIRCLES.

Dr. Scadding is an estimable man. This everyone who has the pleasure of his acquaintance gladly acknowledges. He is affable and genial spite his many years, and the chief infirmity he suffers from is dimness of sight—paralysis of the optic nerve, superinduced by severe study. Otherwise the venerable scholar is in good health, and during the cold weather of the past week has not foregone his usual constitutional walk.

Never is the Doctor more at home than when rambling with and presiding over the Society of York Pioneers and the Canadian Institute, and seldom does he fail to read a historical paper or bring out of his treasury things new and old of more than local interest.

Venerable in aspect, with long white hair and flowing beard, Dr. Scadding's portrait is an object of interest to all visitors who the City Hall, the Council Chamber of which it conspicuously adorns.

Dr. Scadding's unostentatious kindness, his quiet benevolence and cheery counsel, apart from his scholarly acquirements, endear him to the troops of friends who honor his old age and wish for him the best of blessings.

THE VARSITY BUDGET.

Unique Speech From the Throne Presented to the Mock Parliament by the Government.

The first meeting of the mock parliament was held last night, when the usual amount of forensic eloquence was displayed. The following is the speech from the throne and the members of the cabinet:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

It is with sensations of deepest delight that I welcome you to this session of Parliament, to advise, deliberate and cogitate upon matters which vitally affect the interests of this University.

Allow me to join with you in congratulations upon the fact that the environment and vicinity of the University has been magnificently enhanced by the numerous improvements in landscape gardening.

I have much pleasure in announcing that the school question has been solved; separate schools will be established for boys and girls.

Legislation will be introduced to provide for: The inauguration of the Curfew bell in residence; the abolition of fines at the Library.

Owing to the recent gold discoveries in British Columbia, it is hoped that prohibition legislation will be rendered unnecessary.

The government will be in favor of dividing the University funds amongst the students before the next robbery.

You will be asked to provide for the erection of a branch of the Sick Children's Hospital for the benefit of freshmen injured in the hustle; together with an isolation hospital for plugs.

It is proposed to enlarge the prayer room for the benefit of those anxious students who are forced to remain at the door.

The commission appointed last session have decided in favor of converting the front lawn into a combination cornfield and potato patch to give freshmen a physical foundation for their course.

A bill will be introduced to force students to attend the University College dinner and the Glee Club concert.

The Rugby Football Club will be sent to Ottawa to learn the game.

You will be asked to provide for the erection of a shed for Earl Spencer's buggy.

The aqueduct scheme will be rendered unnecessary by the construction of a tunnel to the Caer Howell.

The judicial committee of the privy council will be asked to decide whether this institution was made for the professors or the students.

THE CABINET.

H Boultbee, premier and president of the council; W H Greenwood, minister of justice; J E Wallbridge, minister of public works; B K Sandwell, minister of finance; W A MacKinnon, minister of marine and fisheries; J G Inkster, minister of agriculture; W B Scott, minister of railways and canals; W A Sadler, minister of trade and commerce; K C Watt, minister of militia and defence; F H Barrow, minister of interior; A McDougall, postmaster-general; G C Pringle, solicitor-general; Alfred Mitchell, controller of customs; J D Ruthven, controller of inland revenue.

The adoption of the speech from the throne was moved by Mr. G. F. Kay and seconded by Mr. W. C. Good.

Mr. J. H. Gillespie is about to be gazetted to Mimico, and Mr. J. B. Coyne to the Aurora Borealis.

Hon. Mr. Fitzgerald will be commissioned to the North Pole to report upon the advisability of supplying the city with pure ice.

Earl Spencer has been commissioned to the Shades to enforce the 7 o'clock closing act on Saturday.

Arrangements for the great dinner on Tuesday night are rapidly nearing completion. Some of those who have signified their intention of being present are: Hon. George E. Foster, Hon. G. W. Ross, Dr. Peterson of McGill.

The gallery will be reserved for ladies.

Collided With a Trolley.

Frank Lombard, 163 Centre-street, collided with a trolley on Queen-street east while bicycling, at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. He was picked up on the fender of the car and was badly cut and bruised. The wheel was wrecked. Lombard was taken to St. Michael's Hospital, but is not thought to be seriously hurt.

CIVIC POLITICS GET HOT.

A Swarm of Candidates are Already Out.

MR. EPHRAIM RODEN'S CLAIM

He Now Wants $8000 for Loss of Alleged Rights on the Don

Caused by Straightening the Muddy River—How the Railway Companies are Getting the Best of the City—The Vacant Lots and the Snow Bylaw—That Verdict in the Appeal or the Toronto Railway Company is Unpopular—Superintendent Gunn's Joke About Crowded Cars.

The first week in December is always prolific in the crop of candidates for municipal honors, and this year is no exception to the rule. There are already two candidates for the Mayoralty in the field, with the addition of a third man in the near future a moral certainty. A partial list of the probable candidates in the various wards according to present indications is as follows:

No. 1 Ward—Ald. Allen, Russell, Small and Leslie, Messrs. Edward Blong, J. M. Purvis, J. C. Jones, I. J. Radcliffe, T. S. Lobb, Geo Wellings, T. E. Washington, W. T. Stewart, Elgin Schoff.

No. 2 Ward—Ald. Thomas Davies, Lamb, Hallam, Spence, Messrs. P. H. Drayton, Thomas Foster, W. H. Beale, Dr. Thompson, George Anderson.

No. 3 Ward—Ald. Saunders Shepard, Boustead, Messrs. John Shaw, Alfred McDougall, N. L. Steiner, W. J. Hill.

No. 4 Ward—Ald. Crane, Hubbard, Jolliffe, Burns, Messrs. William Carlyle, H. E. Crews, George Hall, John Lesher, J. O. Paterson, John McCaffrey.

No. 5 Ward—Ald. R. H. Graham, John Dunn, William Bell, W. T. R. Preston, Mr. F. H. Woods, Dr. Fraleigh.

No. 6 Ward—Ald. James, Scott, Dr. Rowe, James Gowanlock, J. J. Graham, Messrs. John Laxton, Dr. Lynd, Rev. D. C. Hossack, Joseph Pocock, John Carlaw, Hugh McMath, J. T. Knox.

AN IMPORTANT ARBITRATION.

It is a popular idea that the city is a good milch cow and that any claim against it, however remote its reasonability is perfectly legitimate. There are some claims, however, which are legitimate, as the citizens have found to their cost, when called upon to foot the bills. A great deal of indignation is cosmoblingling with and pelting over the action now proceeding before the official arbitrator upon the claim of Mr. E. P. Roden, Secretary of the Works Department. Mr. Roden owns 2 1-6 acres of land on the west side of Broadview-avenue immediately north of the Don and hospital property. He asserts that his property extended from Broadview-avenue to the old bed of the Don, and because of the removal of the channel to its present location he claims $8000 damages for the loss of his alleged riparian rights upon the river. The basis of his claim is novel, and the result will be of no little importance to the taxpayer, as upon it may rest other claims from owners who may have lost their frontage on the river owing to the straightening of the channel. The corporation counsel have discovered old deeds and plans which show that between the property in question and the old bed of the river there ran a road connecting the one with the Scadding property with the other. The counter claim is set up, however, that the title to the land occupied by the road has been acquired by squatter's rights. In support of the claim it has been stated that a road has always existed over the property an excellent bed of clay for manufacturing bricks. And it is contended that the facilities for bringing in supplies and taking out the brick by water would have enabled the manufacturer to derive enhanced profits.

As stated above, the amount claimed for loss of these facilities is $8000. A glance at the assessment rolls shows how utterly unreliable the work of the assessors has been in the past, and is at the present. If the arbitrator finds the property has been damaged to this extent, and as a consequence, how much the City Treasurer has lost in taxes during the last ten years! In 1886 the property was assessed for $540.00; in 1887 for $1083; in 1888 for $2166. In 1889 the assessors valued it at $3035, but upon the appeal of Mr. J. A. Macdonald, and against the earnest opposition of the owner, the county judge increased it to $6500. The next year high water mark was reached at $7583, where it continued until 1894, when it fell to $7072. The next year saw another fall to $6242; and the decline continued in 1896 to $5315, and in the assessment just confirmed upon which taxes will be levied next year the low value of $3086 is placed upon it. It will thus be seen that at the height of the boom the property in question was never assessed for as much as the owner claims as damages for losing a frontage upon the muddy Don.

IS IT OPEN OR CLOSED?

The claims for damages by lessees of the water lots west of Yonge-street are piling up. The Canada Permanent Company have a nice little bill of $4000 for loss of rental and a further large sum for loss of business which it is alleged they and their tenants have sustained by being shut off from the proper access guaranteed them in their lease from the city. This is but one of a number of similar claims, and as the claimants are acting in unison there is promise of the city having a troublesome case on its hands. The average citzen is under the impres ion that York-street, south of Station-street, is closed, and he is confirmed in this impression when he finds his way barred by a strong iron fence. The municipal authorities, however, assure him that he is laboring under a delusion and display to him a plan which shows that the public street is open from Front-street to the water front. When the City Fire Brigade responded to the alarm on the occasion of the burning of the yacht club house they also thought the street was closed, and acting under that belief they turned and went back to Bay-street before they could get across the tracks to the burning building.

The facts are that another bungle has been perpetrated. The railway companies were required by the Esplanade agreement to pay the city $15,000 between them, and to build York-street bridge in return for the privilege of closing the street where it crosses the tracks. One of the companies has paid its share of the money, but the other has not. The bridge has not yet been erected, but for upwards of a year the railways have enjoyed possession of the public street, which they have enclosed with a fence. A bylaw closing the street was put through several stages, but awaits its third reading, which it is not likely to receive until the bridge is finished. In the meantime, the railways have everything they want, the city gets nothing, and the lessees of city property on the water front have to make a detour around by Bay-street in order to reach their boat houses. Some official has evidently neglected his duty in allowing the street to be closed without authority.

VACANT LOTS AND SNOW.

The proposition to obtain legislation enabling the Street Commissioner to step in and clear away the snow from sidewalks in front of vacant houses and lots in a shorter space than 24 hours from the time that snow ceases falling will meet with a strong opposition. There are too many unfortunate individuals owning vacant lots or houses who find it difficult enough now to get along without having additional charges for snow cleaning placed upon their tax bills. Many of them are employed at their business and the only time they have to clean off the snow opposite vacant property, perhaps half a mile from their residence, is in the evening. If the limit of 24 hours is reduced they will in many instances be debarred from doing the work themselves unless they leave their employment and lose their time and money. To do the work themselves costs them nothing but their own labor. If the city does it for them they have to pay the cold cash, which they neither have the inclination nor the ability to do. On the other hand, if there are any who want the city to do this clearing for them regularly, there is no obstacle to their entering into an agreement with the Commissioner whereby they waive their right to the 24 hours' grace.

AN UNPOPULAR VERDICT.

The decision of the tribunal of county judges who heard the appeal of the Toronto Railway Company against the assessment of their rails, poles and wires, was the cause of some surprise and no small amount of dissatisfaction in civic circles. An effort will be made to have the law constituting the court amended at the coming session of the Legislature. The Act appears to have been framed with a single eye to the needs of rural districts, and consequently the county judges of two adjoining counties were called in to do at considerable expense, the work that could have been done just as well by the other two judges, who are stationed in Toronto. It is worthy of notice that the decision in favor of the railway companies was given for different reasons, by the two judges from outside municipalities, one of whom only became aware of the fact that in Toronto a special Court of Revision is constituted, different to that in any other municipality, after he had heard all the evidence and drafted his judgment. He was, therefore, compelled to withdraw a certain portion of his written judgment as being wrong in fact, and substitute therefor a later date when the court was in accordance with the law. Although that portion of this particular judgment referred to was not perhaps of vital importance to the issue, the incident has given strength to the feeling that in a matter of this kind, which is a case governed by special legislation applicable only to the city of Toronto, it would be much better to allow the three local county judges, who may be reasonably supposed to have a more intimate knowledge of the procedure and operation of the Act, to constitute the court. Toronto is probably the only city in the province where it would be possible to so constitute a court, a fact which appears to have been overlooked in framing the legislation. Judge McDougall was more emphatic in his assertion that the assessment was valid than his learned brothers were to the contrary, but the majority prevailed.

The point at issue in this case is whether the poles, wires and rails of the street railway are "real" or "personal" property. The Superior Court having decided that the gas mains of the Consumers' Gas Company are assessable as real estate, the assessors Department placed an assessment of half a million dollars, in round figures, upon the wires, poles and rails, which would make the company liable for about $8000 per annum in taxes. Under the Act the personal property of street railways is exempt from taxation. One of the judges found that the property was personal; another found that the rails were personal property, and that the wires and poles were real estate, but read into the Act a distinction between the city and the company which he held did not contemplate the taxation of the company on this property. The third judge simply held that the property was real estate. Unfortunately for the company, a court appears to be final, and there is apparently no other course open to the department but to again assess the company next year in the hope of better results.

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S JOKE.

That last letter of the Street Railway Company to the Mayor respecting the over-crowding of street cars must surely have been a joke. But as no one has hitherto dared to accuse the eminently respectable and staid Scotch Presbyterian who superintends the operation of the railway of perpetrating a joke, it might possibly have been intended for a fine piece of sarcasm. The company doubt whether the cars are ever crowded, and in order to convince the directors of the fact that they are specific complaints are asked for. The officers and directors must undoubtedly possess at least one of the instincts of the ostrich, if they have not already become aware of the fact from personal observation. It is now in order for every one who is jostled and crowded on the cars about noon hour and five o'clock in the evening, immediately upon his arrival home, to sit down and drop a postcard to the City Engineer specifying the number of the car and the hour at which he suffered the inconvenience.

Scalped From Exchanges.

Barrie's 15 Public school teachers receive salaries ranging from $225 to $1000 per annum.

The case against two young men, Fidgett and Crawford, charged with setting fire to Albert Stewart's barn, was proceeded with further at Goodwood yesterday.

Whitby Town Council is discussing the question whether cows may pasture on the streets on payment by the owner of $2 for a tag or shall be permitted to range without a tag.

Mr. Robertson, a traveler from Rochester, N.Y., was buying cigars in the Barrie Hotel bar on Saturday. He put down his purse, containing $30, and left, forgetting it. The purse and money had disappeared when he returned.

A Big Day at the Cinematographe.

In spite of the weather yesterday, the Cinematographe building at 96 Yonge-street was well filled in the afternoon and evening. To-day continuous exhibitions will be given from 10.30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Two ladies' schools have engaged to attend in the afternoon, and in the evening a couple of firms have secured admission tickets for their employes. Children and families would do well to attend in the morning and avoid the throng of the afternoon and evening.

The Cantata Ruth.

Next Thursday night may be pleasantly and profitably spent in Westminster Church. The choir intends to repeat the cantata "Ruth," by request of many who heard it last spring. To the regular soloists of the choir, Misses Dickenson, Bousall, Collett and Grant and Messrs. MacLean, Arlidge will be added, also Mr. Percival Parker. Mr. A. M. Gortle is conductor, and good music is therefore assured.

WE WILL HAVE CHEAP LIGHT

When the Manufacture of Acetylene is Under Way.

MACHINERY NOW IN PLACE

And So Far as Tried the Illuminant is a Great Success.

A World Representative Who Went Through the Works at Merritton Tells All About How the New Gas is Produced—Electric and Water Power Have to be Used—Carbide Made Into Pigs by Intense Heat Produced by Electricity—An Industry That Promises to Revolutionize Illuminants.

Merritton, Dec. 4.—(Special.)—During the past two weeks the factory of the Wilson Carbide Works has been busy placing in a lot of new machinery for the manufacture of acetylene gas. This machinery is now in place and the production of the gas goes on day and night. The gas as yet is but an experiment, although it is fast becoming an article of commerce. Its trade is daily increasing and its rivalry to the other illuminating gases is becoming greater almost daily. Not only is its sale confined to the Canadian and American cities, but a vast market is being opened up in European countries. Moreover this big foreign market will be left for the Canadian factory to supply, simply because the article cannot be produced in any other country at a price which can compete with the Canadian product.

Mr. Wilson, the patentee of the gas, took out patent rights covering the whole of the United States and Canada. He has disposed of several American rights, but in such a way that he has no fear of competition from that source. Thus the field to the foreign markets is clear.

Considerable water and electric power is necessary in the production of the gas, and the benefit of Niagara's wasting power to a factory of this kind is glowingly apparent.

A WORLD MAN'S VISIT.

A visit was made to the works at this place yesterday by a World representative. The works are in an old flour mill and in addition to this a large furnace room, power house and office has been built. The crushers, mill stones and all the machinery of the roller mill is utilized in the preparing of the carbide for the furnace.

The composition of the carbide is made up from coke and lime. The former comes from Pittsburg, Pa., and the lime is taken from the Port Colborne lime kilns. These minerals are unloaded from the car into the hoppers of the mill, where they are crushed, ground, shifted and mixed into proper proportions, coke being used in greater quantities than the lime. When this process is completed the carbide, having gone through a system of elevators, is on the top floor of the mill, ready to be fed into the furnaces by an overhead carriage.

THE FURNACES.

The furnaces are solid brick structures, with open fronts, which are gradually built up as the contents increase. The heating power used is electricity, the current being brought from one side of the dynamo to a crucible in the back of the furnace, and the current from the opposite side of the dynamo is brought over a flexible cable to the top of the furnace and down through a carbine 12 inches wide by 6 inches thick to the crucible. This produces an intense heat and the carbide is gradually fed into the furnace until it is melted into a pig of about 400 lbs. weight. The carbide is hauled up in the pig grows, by a chain through the top of the furnace. It usually takes about six hours to melt one pig. At present there are two furnaces in operation night and day, but the foundations are laid for 10 more, which will be built as the trade demands them. The air in the furnace room is very thick with dust, and the men at work there wear dust-proof eyeglasses. After a pig has been taken from the furnace it is left on the floor to cool, which takes about 12 hours, and the remnants in the furnace are gathered up and thrown into a huge iron mill, where they are again sifted and mixed, and fed back to the furnace. This mill is worked by underground shafting, connected with the water wheel. The machinery of the large preparing mill is run by a separate water wheel.

THE POWER HOUSE.

In the rear of the furnace room, built over the top of the race way, is the power house and motor room. Here there are two flumes, carrying through two streams of water 7 feet 6 inches in depth and 18 feet wide. The water has a fall of about 10 feet, and runs two pair of wheels, each pair with independent pulleys connecting directly with their pulley dynamo. The dynamos differ somewhat from the ordinary dynamo, inasmuch as the armature revolves instead of being stationary. The effect of this is that it lessens the current to be handled. The voltage is constant and the speed of the dynamos is regulated by a system of meters in the furnace room. A dynamo only gives sufficient electric current to run one furnace, and only two dynamos can be run at each lock. The works are on Lock 10, but another power house with equipments for running two more dynamos is being built on Lock 9 and will be completed by the end of the month, when two more furnaces will be added to the works. As soon as the winter weather breaks up more flumes will be put in at Lock 8.

THE GENERATOR.

In the power house of the works is the gas generator for illuminating the buildings. It is a small cast iron cylinder box, containing a tray into which the carbide is cast. It is tightly closed and the water, under a slight pressure, is run in, and this, coming in contact with the carbide, forms the gas. Beside the generator is a small tank or holder, which holds the gas as it is generated. When sufficient gas has accumulated the pressure prevents the water running in and thus the further generation of the gas. From the tank it is piped throughout the buildings.

The light is very clear and brilliant, far more so than electricity. The largest burner used in the works gives a light of 37 candle-power, and this consumes but three-quarters of a foot per hour. One thousand feet of this gas gives a light equal to 14,000 to 16,000 feet of ordinary artificial gas.

THE PIGS ARE BROKEN UP.

The pigs of carbide, after cooling, are broken up and shipped in air-tight drums of 1000 pounds capacity, but for local consumption the drums are substituted by coal oil barrels. Before being shipped it is all tested by a very delicate meter, and if any falls short of five feet to the pound it is thrown aside. It is sold at $80 per ton, and 10,000 feet of gas is guaranteed.

The Riordon paper mills of this place have been using the gas for illuminating their works for some time and it is entirely satisfactory. Other large mills all over the country are giving it trials.

A VOICE FROM FORMOSA.

Interesting Letter From Rev. G. L. Mackay, Missionary, to His Brother in Toronto—Plague of Locusts.

The following letter was received by Rev. R. P. Mackay, Foreign Missionary Secretary of the Presbyterian Church, from his brother, G. L. Mackay, Formosa:

My Dear Brother: On the 27th ult., when travelling inland, indistinct sounds were heard far ahead. These grew louder as we approached. Looking towards the east was seen in appearance a perfect snowstorm advancing rapidly westward. We halted on the pathway, and with a rushing noise swarms of locusts on the wing flew ten feet high over our heads. On and on with the wind the insect army pressed forward, until the air was thickened and the sun darkened. In a moment they settled on the waving rice fields, of green, and with great rapidity that color gave way to a brownish hue.

Crowds of farmers, their wives and children were wild with excitement, and were jumping, running, yelling and cursing the destroyers; I clapped my hands, not only to assist in driving the voracious hosts away, but also from real joy, because these eyes saw what accurate observers the inspired naturalists were. Bamboo groves have been stripped of their leaves and left standing like saplings after a rapid bush fire. Rice crops have been made to resemble oat fields in Canada after the army worm has marched through. And grass has been devoured, so that the bare ground appeared as if burned. Hence the name Locust.

The Hebrew name of one species is truly appropriate, Arbeh (to multiply).

These insects belong to the order Orthoptera, and are gregarious, migratory and vegetable feeders. They closely resemble the (Locusta migratoria) of Linnæus. The heads, body and legs of the majority are yellow, while others are reddish brown in color. Their antennæ are short and thick. The front wings are straight membranous and four inches in length when stretched at right angles. The hinder ones are sallike, translucent and three and one-half inches long when spread out to fly. One specimen in my museum is so gaily colored that it might be mistaken for a gaudy butterfly.

What splendid and accurate descriptions are the following: "And when it was morning the east wind brought the locusts." "All thy trees shall the locusts consume." "The locusts have no king, yet they go forth all of them by bands."

"The land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness."

As there are countless numbers in the larval condition, and as eggs are being deposited in the ground, it is to be feared they will swarm next year in invade and devastate vast regions in North Formosa. As this is their first appearance here the natives are amazed and alarmed. Many declare there are letters on their wings and are a scourge somehow connected with the coming of the Japanese, and many have burned incense sticks and invited the locusts to leave Formosa and go elsewhere. Christians declare they understood better than ever one of the plagues of Egypt. I am yours sincerely,

G. L. Mackay.

A CANADIAN HONORED.

Dr. George M. Dawson of Ottawa Elected President of the Geological Section of the British Association.

Dr. McCallum, President of the local committee of the British Association, which meets in Toronto next year, received a telegram last night from London stating that, at a meeting of the Council of the British Association, the position of president of the geological section for the Toronto meeting was given to a Canadian, Dr. George M. Dawson, director of the Geological Survey, Ottawa. This is a high honor for a Canadian scientist.

Depredations at Lorne Park.

Inspector Greer has arrested two men named Denison, who live on the Middle-road, near Port Credit. They are charged with breaking into the Lorne Park Hotel and stealing a quantity of household silver.

Mr. Greer has also locked up a man named Jack O'Neil of Port Credit on a charge of highway robbery. He is thought to be the man who robbed James McFarlane, driver for Charles Wilson, about 10 days ago, near Lorne Park.

Bonar Church Choir Concert.

The second annual concert of Bonar Presbyterian Church Choir was held on Thursday evening last in Bonar church. Those assisting were Miss L. James, soprano; Miss Anna Rutland, contralto; Mr. Chaney, contralto; Miss Alex. Ramsay, elocutionist; Dr. N. W. Sparrow, tenor; Mr. R. G. Kerby, baritone; and Mr. F. T. Verrall, bass. The platform, decorated with palms, ferns and roses, thanks to the kindness of Mr. J. H. Dunlop, presented a very pretty appearance. Mr. A. H. Greene, organist of the church, conducted the concert, and the large audience thoroughly enjoyed the numbers rendered. Rev. Alex. Macgillivray, pastor, was chairman.

Pictures of People.

"Pictures of People," by Charles Dana Gibson, is a new book, containing 85 of Mr. Gibson's latest drawings, including the Studies of English Society, recently exhibited at the Fine Art Society in London. It is entirely printed from new plates, on beautiful paper, made especially for the book, and handsomely bound in white vellum and imperial Japan, bearing the imprint of one of the most charming figures Mr. Gibson has ever drawn. Large folio, 12 x 18 inches, each copy enclosed in box. This beautiful table book is shown exclusively by The Harold A. Wilson Co., 35 King-street west, Toronto.

Voices From the Mountain.

Hamilton Spectator (Con.): Hon. Mr. Foster had a "moment of weakness" at Cornwall yesterday, during which he talked a lot of rot about the "constitutional" aspect of the Manitoba school question. Mr. Foster had better let that dog lie.

Hamilton Times (Lib.): Somebody ought to hint to Mr. Foster that the Manitoba school question is settled and coercion dead beyond hope of resurrection.

Hamilton Herald (Ind.): The silence of Archbishop Walsh is more eloquent than the furid eloquence of Archbishop Langevin.

SHE MUST COME TO CANADA

And Stand Trial for the Murder of Her Husband.

CASE OF MRS. STERNAMAN

Decided by Commissioner Fairchild at Buffalo Yesterday.

Evidence Deemed Sufficient to Warrant Extradition—The Accused Woman and Others Mistook the Words "Herein Sufficient" for "Here Insufficient," and for a Time Evinced Pleasure—Attorney Thayer at Once Gave Notice of Appeal.

Buffalo, Dec. 4.—Mrs. Olive A. Sternaman, charged with poisoning her husband, George H. Sternaman, in Cayuga, Ont., last August, was brought before Commissioner Fairchild at 10.15 o'clock this morning to hear his decision in regard to her being extradited to Canada. The court room was densely crowded with the usual number of persons interested in the case, among whom were Mrs. Sternaman's two children and her sister. Mrs. Sternaman looked calm and seemed to feel confident that she would be acquitted of the charge. At 10.30 o'clock Commissioner Fairchild ruled that the evidence was sufficient to hold Mrs. Sternaman for extradition papers, which will have to be issued by the Canadian authorities within 60 days, or she will be discharged. Mrs. Sternaman seemed entirely unconscious as to the verdict.

THE DECISION.

The Commissioner's decision was as follows: After a very careful examination and hearing the great amount of testimony in the case, and reading the laws and reports and decisions in extradition proceedings, I deem the evidence herein sufficient to sustain the charges under the provisions of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, and I will, therefore, certify the same, together with a copy of the testimony taken before me, to the Secretary of State of the United States, and will issue a warrant of commitment in pursuance of section 5170 of the laws of the United States.

A PECULIAR MISTAKE.

Mrs. Sternaman's face brightened up and she almost rose in her chair from excitement; her cheeks flushed and a smile spread over her features. She thought the judgment was in her favor.

It was a peculiar mistake, and others in the court room erred in the same way, especially the women. Mrs. Sternaman imagined the Judge said he deemed the evidence "here insufficient," whereas he said he deemed the evidence "herein sufficient." She thought he meant that there was not enough evidence to extradite her, whereas he said there was enough evidence.

When she discovered her mistake her face fell, but she betrayed no other sign of her disappointment.

NOTICE OF APPEAL.

Attorney Thayer immediately gave notice that he would appeal from the decision of the Commissioner to Judge Coxe, by way of habeas corpus and certiorari.

Judge Fairchild said that he would be ready to listen to the motion at any time, but could not say whether Judge Coxe would hear the appeal in Utica in Chambers, or whether it would have to go to the Circuit Court. He will listen to the preliminary motion, and it will be made before the extradition judge to-morrow morning.

Mrs. Sternaman was taken back to jail.

Railway Briefs.

Chief Engineer Hobson of the G.T.R. is in town.

It is said that at the first of the New Year the Grand Trunk will commence to pay its employes by cheque issued on the last instalment of each month.

The Joint Traffic Association has rescinded its order discriminating in favor of the G.T.R. and against the C.P.R. as to certain Northwest traffic.

EDGEWATER.

Written for The World.

One by one they pass away,
Days, like white ships which sail peacefully
From the shore, yet come not back again.
And their freight is Life, and Love, and lesser things.
Yet as beautiful and good. And ever they set sail
Under golden suns for sea,
Till the summer is gone and shadows fall all gloomily,

At Edgewater.

When the winds of autumn blow
Through the brown vines swinging mournfully,
Calling for the sun disconsolate,
And the rain falls and the spirit of the deep,
Grieving for the summer, chants the death-song of the sun,
It is lonely by the sea
And the heart is haunted by unhappy memory

At Edgewater.

Yet again a golden day
Glids the blue wave flowing tranquilly,
And a sudden splendor lights the shore,
And the heart of autumn, trembling, turneth warm,
As though summer loitered in it, dreaming of the sun.
By-gone dreams, and dreams to be,
Tiejr white shadows on the soul reflect ceaselessly

At Edgewater.

—Helen M. Merrill.

FOR A MILLION BUSHELS.

Supt. Leonard and Other C. P. R. Officials Talk Over the Building of a Grain Elevator at Owen Sound.

Owen Sound, Dec. 4.—(Special.)—Yesterday afternoon Messrs. J. W. Leonard, superintendent of the Ontario and Quebec Division of the C.P.R.; Mr. Williams, assistant superintendent of the same division, and E. Tiffin, general freight agent, made a visit to this town to discuss with the town officials the proposed erection by the company of another large grain elevator here. In the evening they had a conference with the Mayor and members of the Town Council, and with the Executive of the Board of Trade. When the matter was brought up it was proposed, on behalf of the company, to build an elevator with a capacity of 1,000,000 bushels, and to enlarge and improve the company's freight sheds and buildings generally, it being found to be absolutely necessary to have increased facilities here owing to the great quantities of grain coming down through here from the West, and the merchandise going up. The company will ask the town for bonus if these improvements are carried through, which will probably be granted. The interview was in every respect a most favorable one, and the prospect of arrangements being concluded at an early period with the company.

A Monument to Burns.

Editor World: I am pleased to see in The World of December 2 a letter signed James Knowles, jr., regarding the erection of a monument to Robert Burns in Toronto. For the information of that gentleman I may say that this is not a new suggestion. Some six or seven years ago the question was raised in Burns' Camp No. 1, S.O.S., and quickly spread to the other camps and various societies in the city. A committee was appointed with Mr. Alex Fraser convener. One meeting was held in the Queen's Hotel, and that seems to have finished the movement, as nothing more has been heard of it since. It is indeed surprising that in Toronto, with its wealthy St. Andrew's and Caledonian Societies, the Sons of Scotland are in a flourishing and prosperous condition, and in a large and well-to-do Scottish population, this has been lying dormant so long. Let us hope that the letter of Mr. Knowles will have immediate effect, and that ere long we may see erected in Toronto something worthy of him who among his last words said: "Aye, Jean, lass, I'll be better appreciated a hundred years hence" (prophetic words).

J. D.

East Toronto, Dec. 4.

Dr. Rowland Hastings Dead.

At half-past 5 o'clock yesterday evening Dr. Rowland Hastings of 535 King-street east, succumbed to an attack of pneumonia. A week ago he was pronounced convalescent, after an illness from scarlet fever, but he ventured out too soon, and caught a chill last Monday, which speedily developed into pneumonia. Deceased, who was in his 34th year, was a native of Orangeville. He attended the High School there, and thence proceeded to Toronto University. Dr. Hastings was unmarried, a member of the Foresters, the Orange Order (621), Chosen Friends and other societies. He was a Methodist, and identified with the People's Church, King-street east. He was a most affable man, and his numerous friends will regret his decease at such an early period, in what promised to be a bright and successful career.

A Swedish Countess in Winnipeg.

A distinguished resident in Winnipeg is Miss Frida de Tersmeden, a Swedish Countess, and musician of remarkable ability. She is planning a series of concerts throughout Manitoba, and in the interval giving music lessons to a few select pupils. It is a compliment to the Heintzman & Co. piano that, having, with her critical ability, investigated the various pianos in Canada, she has settled entirely on the use of these makers' instruments, which for purity of tone and lightness of action she considers unequalled by any other piano in the Dominion. When we remember that it was the Heintzman & Co. piano that was selected by Madame Albani, Ellen Beach Yaw, Madame Van der Veer Green and Watkin-Mills in their celebrated concerts, there is good reason to congratulate these manufacturers on having attained to such eminence in piano-building.

A Noted Tenor at the Pavilion.

A large number of our citizens will, doubtless, avail themselves of the favorable opportunity to hear the popular tenor singer, Mr. F. X. Mercier, to-morrow afternoon in the Pavilion, at the C.T.L. temperance meeting. The speaker will be an old favorite with Toronto audiences,