

THE STEPHENS TESTIMONIAL.

We present our readers to-day with a portrait of Mr. George Washington Stephens, representing the West Ward in the City Council, in connection with a magnificent testimonial presented him last week by many of his constituents and a number of influential friends as a tribute of gratitude for his official services. The testimonial, which we reproduce on the opposite page, consists of a beautifully executed statuette in solid silver. The figures most prominently represented are Justice with her sword and scales, with a very well modelled figure of a handsome dog, "The Faithful Watchdog," representing the soubriquet with which Ald. Stephens has been designated by the citizens owing to the part he has often assumed in Council on the questions that come before that body. The figures are supported by a pedestal sexiform and with six panels of frosted silver which rest upon the base of solid silver heavily moulded, and this in turn is supported upon the heavy ebony foundation, also sexiform and polished, and moulded handsomely. Standing on the silver base on each side of the pedestal are the figures representing trade and commerce (a sailor with coils of rope and barrels), and manufactures (a mechanic with hammer, anvil and implements of machinery). At the foot of the pedestal, where it swells to form the base or the front, is the lion rampant and motto in scroll, "*Virtutis Amore*," and on the reverse side the monogram "G. W. S.," while on the other four spaces are beavers and maple leaves. On the face of the solid silver base is inscribed the following:—

Presented to
GEORGE W. STEPHENS, ESQ.
By his fellow-citizens,
In testimony of their appreciation of the long and
faithful services rendered by him
during the past 10 years as an
ALDERMAN OF THE CITY OF MONTREAL,
April, 1877.

On the reverse side is a view of the city of Montreal engraved, while the remaining four panels reflect the arms of the city of Montreal. The whole of this work was executed in Montreal, and as such reflects the highest credit on the well-known house of Mr. Hendery, St. Peter street. The skillful designer was Mr. E. L. Paris.

On the occasion of the presentation the following address was read, to which Mr. Stephens aptly replied, after which he entertained his guests:—

"DEAR SIR,—The responsible position which you have maintained with credit to yourself and benefit to our city during the past ten years, and your willingness to continue at your post, entitle you to the esteem and gratitude of your fellow-citizens.



ALDERMAN G. W. STEPHENS.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY NOTMAN.

"The largely extended area of Montreal, and the multiplicity of its public works, have increased taxation until it has become a painful grievance. But we are aware that you always have endeavoured to restrain excessive expenditure; and, however unsatisfactory our municipal affairs may appear to be at the present time, we believe you have been instrumental (aided by those members who acted in unison with you) in preserving our city finances from serious waste.

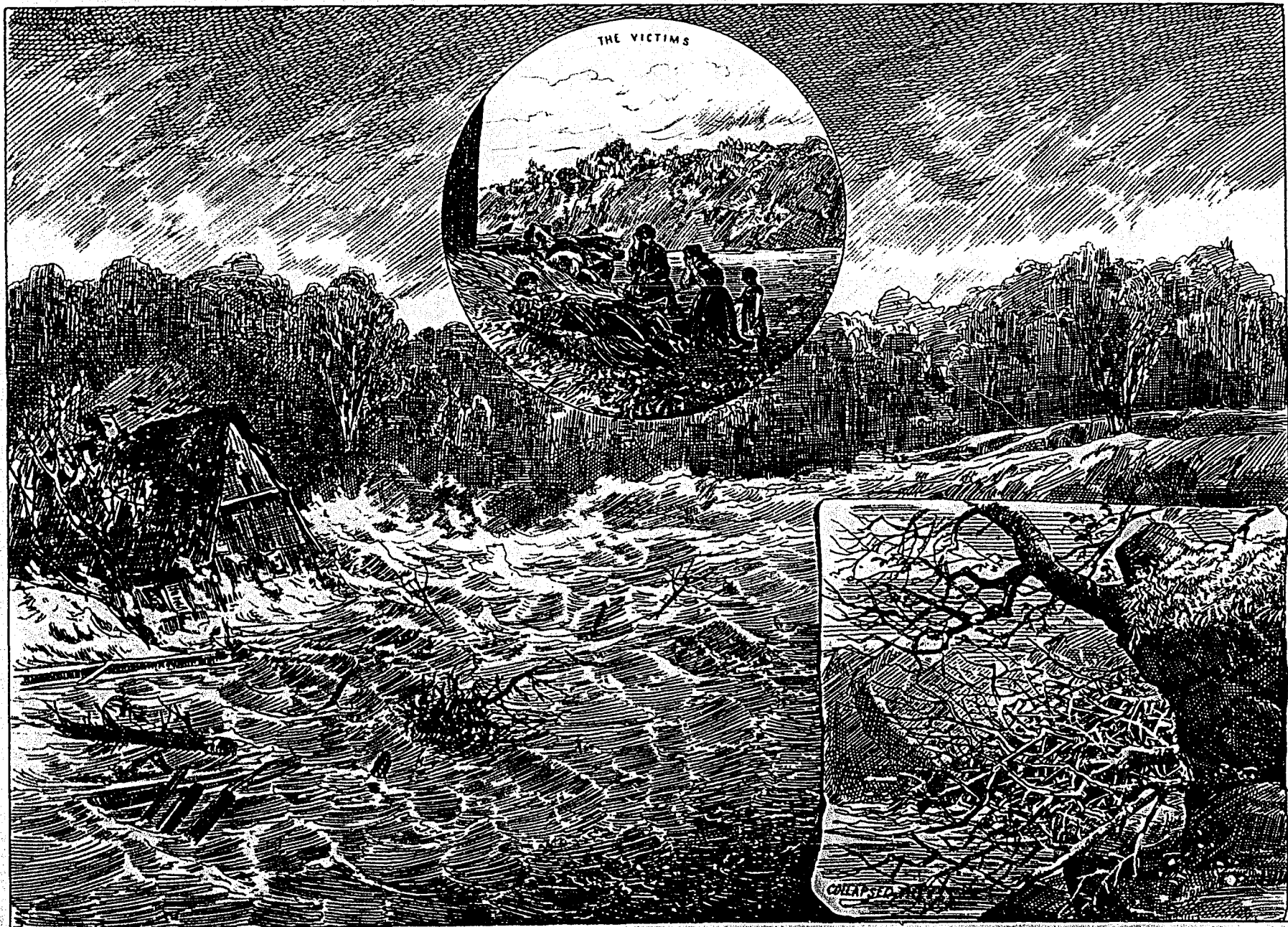
"At this period of development, Montreal requires civic legislators of intelligence and education—men of unsullied reputation who should aim at nothing short of justice—men who can look above and beyond the boundaries of race, creed or party politics. We have reason to believe that you have given your fellow-citizens many proofs that you possess these qualities, and we feel confident they will not be weakened by time.

"Prompted by these considerations, we have much pleasure in manifesting our appreciation of your labors in the City Council, by presenting you with this silver centre-piece, not on account of its intrinsic value, but as an object that may serve through future years to remind you of the respect entertained by your fellow-citizens, and their acknowledgment of your fidelity in connection with municipal affairs.

"The moral of its symbolic teaching speaks for itself in the types of Justice, Vigilance and Honesty on the one hand; Industry, Commerce and Art on the other—the whole being suggestive of the great interests committed to your care, and which have hitherto received your protection.

"Accept this testimonial of our regard, and with it our heartfelt wishes that many happy years and merited honors are reserved for you, and that your devotion to the cause of our city's welfare may be held in grateful remembrance by us and by our children."

Mr. Stephens is a native of Montreal, and was educated in the High School. He is a graduate of McGill College, taking the degree of B.C.L. His early life was devoted to commercial pursuits, but lately he studied law and was admitted to practice in 1863, gaining some considerable distinction in conducting the *cause célèbre* of Connolly vs. Woolrych to a successful issue. While actively practising he was a member of the legal firm of Perkins & Stephens, who had an extensive business. He entered the Council in 1868, and few meetings of that body have been held during the past nine years from which he has been absent. He is an active investigator. We may recall, in this connection, the great Road Committee investigation; Drill Shed investigation; Water Committee investigation; and more recently the famous letter "S" investigation. One result of his labors is that spe-



THE LANDSLIDE AT ST. GENEVIEVE, NEAR THREE RIVERS.