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SIXTH YEAR — MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1886. — PRICE ONE CENT

AN ALL-ABSORBING TOPIC.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S ABRUPT RETIREMENT.

An Important Meeting of the Cabinet Will be Held Immediately on Hartington's Arrival—The Claims of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The resignation from the Cabinet of Lord Randolph Churchill still remains the all-absorbing topic of conversation, and interest in his action will probably intensify until the developments consequent upon the return of Lord Hartington from Italy have been made public by the Cabinet. The prevailing opinion at the clubs is that Lord Randolph has failed to effect the personal coup d'etat which he is supposed to have contemplated. His abrupt retirement does not appear in any way to have disrupted the Cabinet, and it is considered very doubtful that other resignations will follow.

It is expected that Lord Hartington will reach London by Tuesday, and an important meeting of the Cabinet will be held immediately after his arrival. He is now in Rome and several urgent summons have been sent him to hasten his departure. The divisions in the Cabinet that led to Churchill's resignation embraced questions of wide interest. Lord Randolph's disagreement with the chief spending departments commenced with a proposal to reform the entire civil service, including an investigation of the votes asked in the coming financial year. Hamilton and Smith, heads respectively of the Admiralty and War Office, while willing to consider a general scheme of future departmental investigations, declined to discuss the estimates now under preparation and were supported by a majority of the Cabinet. On the County Government Board Bill Churchill was defeated by a majority of one. On the question of the withdrawal of the army from Egypt he was supported by only four of his colleagues. On the protected cloture rules and coercive measures in Ireland he failed to carry with him one-third of the Cabinet. But an issue of far more importance to him as a leader of the Tory democracy was that of perpetual pensions. His position on this question rallied against him the entire body of permanent heads of departments, supported by every member of the Cabinet except Churchill's personal appointees.

The claims of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to reinstatement to the post from which Churchill dislodged him are being trumpeted by his friends, but the attacks showered upon him by the dominant classes for his failure in Ireland have sensibly weakened him in public opinion. The reasons, moreover, that suggested his removal from the leadership of the House, to make room for a more active spirit, are urged more strongly than ever. The matter hangs on Hartington's decision. If Hartington's personal feelings alone were concerned he would probably suggest, as the easiest way out of the difficulty, the appointment of Chaplin to the vacant seat in the Cabinet, leaving everything else untouched, and avoiding the confusion and perils of a general reconstruction.

The feeling in financial circles is, as usual, one of extreme timidity. The idea prevailing in the city is that war may come at any moment. Money may be had on call for Stock Exchange transactions very cheap, but long loans are negotiated with difficulty.

THE SNOW BLOCKADE IN GERMANY.

Railway Service Restored—Snow Three Feet Deep in Silesia.

BERLIN, Dec. 25.—Although the railway service was restored yesterday morning, traffic is still seriously blocked, especially in connection with Christmas deliveries. However, the snow-storm was a God-send to the unemployed. Thousands of men are employed in clearing the streets of Berlin, and for this work they receive 2½ marks per day. Advices from Saxony and Silesia say much work was suspended during the snow-storm. In the mines of Silesia the men were compelled to stop work. In Nuremburg the snow is three feet deep. A number of trains were snowed up, and passengers suffered great privation.

THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

Its Maintenance Dependent Upon the Czar, Who is a Drunkard.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Vienna correspondent of the Times says that Austrian statesmen declare that the maintenance of peace is entirely dependent upon the action of the Czar, and, as he drinks, delirium tremens may at any moment cause him to commit an act of folly which would precipitate a war. Austria must be ready for such a contingency.

The Pester Lloyd says that the Czar's fear of the Nihilists is excessive, and that he is suspicious of everybody with whom he comes in contact, including even his own wife and children.

Germany and Austria.

BERLIN, Dec. 25.—Advices from Vienna say it is reported there that a serious difference exists between the cabinets of Vienna and Berlin. It is claimed that Prince Bismarck is serving Russian designs without regard to the interests of Austria. Herr Von Tisza, the Hungarian Premier, it is stated, will soon hold a conference with Count Kalnocky, and will insist that the situation be discussed, and that Bismarck be asked to declare whether Germany is an ally of Russia or of Austria-Hungary.

Cut Her Children's Throats.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 26.—Charles Burger, a farmer living ten miles south of Bushville, returned home from town on Christmas evening and found his wife and three children dead in the house. His wife had been subject to temporary fits of insanity, and it is supposed that while out of her head she killed the three children and then cut her own throat with a razor.

Heavy Law Costs.

The costs in the Campbell divorce case amount to $175,000, and the Argyle family will have to subsist on oatmeal in the future. They rue the day when Colin married a beauty. He might better have been rubbing his back against one of the ancestral scratching posts, although he need not do that if he wore quinn's underwear.

Hartington in Rome.

ROME, Dec. 25.—Lord Hartington, accompanied by Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, a member of Lord Salisbury's former Ministry, attended Christmas services at St. Peter's and Santa Maria Maggiore Cathedrals, Rome. Lord Hartington will go to Monte Carlo on Monday. He will not reach London until January 10.

A Fisherman Suing for Damages.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The Temps says the owner of a French fishing smack at St. Brieux is suing the English Government for indemnity for losses, which he claims he suffered by the action of the Newfoundland people, who prevented him from fishing off the north coast of that province.

Kicked His Wife to Death.

PORTSMOUTH, N.H., Dec. 26.—John B. Lute, an employe of a brewery, kicked his wife to death in a brutal manner last night. Her head and body were terribly bruised and her throat was torn open, evidently by a kick. The body was nude. No motive is known.

The Convict and the Warden.

From the Detroit Free Press.

A Convict in the Michigan State Prison simulated Consumption so well that he was Pardoned out on the Grounds that he had but a few Days to Live. Soon after Regaining his Liberty he became Rugged and Fat, and the Prison Warden Met him and Upbraided him with:

"The Deceit and Hypocrisy which you practiced may oblige a real Consumptive to Die in Prison."

"Ah! Chestnuts!" retorted the Pardoned Man. "While there are a Hundred Different Ways of Working out of State Prison I Practiced only One of them."

Moral: Let the next one try a Tunnel.

JIM CUMMINGS CAPTURED.

Chicago Detectives Said to Have Secured the Express Robber.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Jim Cummings, the Adams Express robber, who entered an express car on the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway and stole $50,000 two months ago tonight, was captured in this city yesterday, together with two of his pals and his mistress. The Chicago Pinkerton agency made the arrest, under the direction of Robt. Pinkerton of New York, who has been in Chicago, St. Louis and other western cities for the past two weeks looking after the thieves in the interest of the Adams Express Company. On the person of Cummings $5300 in cash was found, which is presumed to be what he had left of the $50,000 haul. The names of Cummings' "pals" have not been made public. Last night the three men were handcuffed together and taken to St. Louis by six Pinkerton detectives, headed by Charlie Wappenstein, the Cincinnati agent of Pinkerton.

Early in November Robert Pinkerton took the case and his men had traced the thief all over Missouri and Kansas, and in his investigations Pinkerton made the discovery that Cummings had been keeping company with a woman in St. Louis. She was handsome and Cummings had been infatuated with her, but after the robbery he was careful to remain away from her for a time. She was kept under a close watch, however, and for a month no progress was made. At the end of that time Robert Pinkerton was informed by one of his operatives that the woman was preparing to come to Chicago. This aroused the suspicions of the cunning detective, and not only was she accompanied here by one of his men, but Mr. Pinkerton also followed close in her wake. Charlie Wappenstein was put to work and Cummings' lady friend being located on the West Side, could not make a move without being shadowed. About three weeks ago the expectations of Mr. Pinkerton were realised when Cummings joined his lady friend and began his carousal. Cummings seemed to suspect that something was wrong and was afraid of daylight. He seldom left his house until after dark. When he did so, he was never lost sight of by the detectives, who did not want to arrest him until they ensnared his partners. They "let him play his string out," until they had the accomplices in their clutch. Yesterday afternoon they went to the woman's house and found Cummings with her. He and the woman were taken quickly to the Pinkerton establishment on Fifth-avenue, and whether or not he made a statement is not known. W. A. Pinkerton, Chief of the Chicago Bureau, refused to talk about the case to-night. But he admitted that Jim Cummings had been captured, and that he is now in safe keeping.

Said to be a Fabrication.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Two local papers published this morning accounts of the arrest here yesterday of Jim Cummings, who has long been believed to be the perpetrator of the St. Louis and San Francisco Express robbery, and two of his accomplices. According to the accounts referred to, the men were arrested in a house of questionable repute and upwards of $20,000 was captured with them. The men are said to have been shadowed for some time on account of their lavish display of money. The Inter-Ocean will say to-morrow that these accounts have no foundation.

A MOTHER'S TERRIBLE CRIME.

The Christmas Eve Experience of a New York Entry Clerk.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Chas. Marston of 218 East One Hundred and Nineteenth-street returned home last evening to an appalling bereavement, rendered doubly so by the Christmastide festivities of his neighbors. He found his wife dead, by her own act, and his babe, a girl 2½ months old, dead with her. He had left his wife in the morning apparently happy and contented. Their Christmas preparations were nearly completed, having occupied their minds for several days. Mr. Marston is an entry clerk in a down-town store. He arrived home last evening shortly after 6 o'clock. His son by his first wife, Frank, a boy of 14, was waiting at the street door of the flat, as he had come home his work earlier, but had not been able to get into the family rooms on the third floor. Father and son supposed that Mrs. Marston was out with her baby. But they at last tired of waiting outside, and Mr. Marston sent the boy up the fire escape. The door was opened in this way and Mr. Marston went up toward the front room. The way led through a bedroom, and when the door of it was opened a volume of gas rushed out. This was the first hint that anything was wrong. Mr Marston ran into the front room and struck a match. The light disclosed the bodies of mother and babe in the bed, as though for a night's rest. The doors, windows and ventilators were closed, and the single gas jet turned on had quickly filled the little room to a suffocating degree. The bodies were yet warm, and medical aid was quickly at hand, but nothing could be done.

Before taking her life Mrs. Marston had set her house in order. A new bonnet that she had just trimmed was hung upon the clock in the front room and over it a piece of crape was draped. Another piece of mourning stuff was tied about the neck of the dead woman. Stuck in the frame of a looking-glass in the kitchen was a note in German written on the back of an envelope. It read:

"DEAR PAPA: Be so kind and let me sleep. I am so tired. Buy Frankie a new suit for his Christmas. Forgive me, dear Charley.

"Your loving wife, Augusta."

Mr. Marston is about 50 years old and a man of domestic habits. He said that he and his wife had lived very happily together. His story of the discovery of the tragedy was told with an evident effort at self-control that only the strongest exercise of will could make successful.

A TOUGH'S LAST SPREE.

His Companions Murder Him to Secure a Bottle of Whisky.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A gang of dock rats held high carnival at the foot of West Twenty-fourth-street Christmas eve. The growler was worked so freely that a number of the bibulous company soon became tired of beer and craved something stronger. There was not enough money in the party to furnish all with the "real stuff," but Dennis Kearney, a 17-year-old "tough," managed to fill a flask at a groggery in the vicinity. On returning from the place Kearney exultingly waved the bottle in the face of his companions, shouting: "Boys don't yer wish yer had a swig?" and started on a run up-town. This was about 10 o'clock. An hour and a half later his dead body was found in front of the tenement, No. 542 West Twenty-seventh-street, with a stab wound over the heart. It was discovered by Policeman Westlohorn of the Sixteenth Precinct. He called for assistance, and the body was removed to the station house in West Twentieth-street. An examination of the remains showed that the victim had apparently been murdered with a large pocket knife. The blade had been driven through a coat, vest and heavy jumper, inflicting an ugly wound, which must have proved fatal almost instantly. He is supposed to have been killed by members of his gang to secure the whisky.

Killed by a Fellow Workman.

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 25.—Mike Hadderman, a leader at the Connellsville Coke and Iron Company's works, shot and killed a fellow employee named John Gibson at an early hour this morning. The men had been drinking together, quarreled over the great strike of last spring, and Hadderman, drawing his revolver, fired four shots into Gibson's body, killing him almost instantly. Hadderman has been arrested and claims the killing was in self-defense.

A Bullet for a Stone.

ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 25.—At Galhtzin to-day a man named Gregg was shot and killed by a brewer named Aukaubauer. Gregg was intoxicated and threw a stone through Aukaubauer's bar-room window, whereupon the latter seized a gun and shot him, death resulting soon after.

—Wire mats may be left out of doors in the rain, as all the parts are thoroughly galvanized and japanned, and will not rust or injure carpets or painted floors. 361

DISCONTENTED KNIGHTS.

OPPOSITION TO POWDERLY SAID TO BE STEADILY GROWING.

The Twenty-five Cent Assessment Causes Murmurings, as Also Does the Anarchist Matter—Movement for a Special Session of the General Assembly.

NEW YORK Dec. 25.—The dissatisfaction of the Knights of Labor and the alleged unconstitutional action of the General Assembly at Richmond in increasing Mr. Powderly's salary to $5000, creating an office for Charles H. Litchman at $2000, reducing Frederick Turner's salary to $2000, adding two members to the General Executive Board at $4 a day and expenses, and increasing the term of office to two years, is widespread and increasing. Besides, the unfortunate ending of the big strike of butchers in Chicago, the letter of Mr. Powderly denouncing the Chicago Anarchists and forbidding District Assemblies 24 and 57 from paying over any money that they had collected for the defence of the Anarchists, have added to the discontent, and the last assessment of twenty-five cents ordered by the General Executive Board, in the face of the fact that the expenses in the item of salaries alone have been well-nigh doubled, has started a movement which will in all probability lead to a special session of the General Assembly. Several district assemblies have already refused absolutely to pay the last assessment, on the ground that it is illegal and unnecessary, and many more separate local assemblies in various parts of the country have done the same.

It is necessary under the laws of the order for five district assemblies in as many different States to demand a special session, and then the General Master Workman is bound to call it. District Assembly No. 24 of Chicago, to which the Anarchist circular is addressed, has taken the initiative in the matter and will in all probability prefer charges against the General Master Workman before the General Executive Board for exceeding his authority in issuing his circular in regard to the Anarchists and in ordering the Chicagoans at least declared than he would make it a special point not to come to Toronto on Sunday while such a state of affairs existed. "Had I known how it was," he remarked, "I would have remained in Hamilton all night."

AMUSEMENTS.

Grand Opera House.

To-night the Madison-square Theatre's greatest success, "Held By the Enemy," will be presented to a Toronto audience for the first time. Its will be given with the same cast (including the veteran Mr. Couldock), scenery and equipments that made such a success at the Madison-square Theatre. The New York Telegram says: "The piece is a gem. Every member of the cast was painstaking and powerful, and it is the strongest and most popular work upon the stage." Besides the regular Wednesday matinee a special matinee will be given to-morrow afternoon and in the evening the management has made arrangements to have the election returns read from the stage as fast as they arrive.

At the Toronto.

Mr. Neil Burgess will play in "Vim" to-night and to-morrow night with a special matinee Tuesday afternoon. "Vim" is funny. Haverly's Minstrels will fill up the remainder of the week. Their seats will be on sale today.

Socialists Warned to Leave.

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—The Frankfort Zeitung says a number of Socialists, including Herr Sabor, a member of the Reichstag, have been warned to leave the district included in the state of siege, by Tuesday.

The Robber and the Cashier.

From the Detroit Free Press.

An Enterprising Robber, who had long had his Eye upon a certain Bank, took Advantage of a Dark Night to break into the Institution and Secure a Fortune. He had Effected Entrance, after hours of Hard Work, when a voice observed:

"Had I known that you Desired Admittance I would cheerfully have Opened the Front Door."

"Who are you?"

"The Cashier."

"But I am a Robber."

"Oh, well, there need be no Quarrel between us, as the President has got Ahead of Both in Cleaning out the Bank."

Moral: It is better to rob a Bank President than a Bank.

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

Items of Interest Received by Mail and Wire.

The house of Mr. Olde at Yarmouth was badly damaged by fire on Thursday.

The Mounted Police now number one thousand men, who use nine hundred horses.

Judge Buchanan of Montreal has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted.

Lord R. Hamilton, a brother of Lady Lansdowne, has arrived on a visit to Rideau Hall, Ottawa.

Another seizure of copies of the Sporting World has been made by Ottawa customs officials.

A little boy named Fleming was run over by a train at Bothwell on Thursday and was fatally hurt.

Mr. Deschenes, M.P.P. for L'Islet fell at a roller rink carnival in Quebec on Wednesday night and broke his arm.

Mr. Lewis, postmaster at Stromness and belonging to William Dongher was destroyed by fire on Thursday night.

The grocery store of Mr. Webb at Port Stanley was completely destroyed by fire on Friday morning; loss $2100; insured for $900.

On Saturday St. Andrew's Benevolent Society in Hamilton distributed many baskets of groceries, poultry, etc., to the poor of that city.

Two dollar Dominion counterfeit bills, so finely executed that their defects can scarcely be detected, are said to be in circulation in Quebec.

On Thursday at Christ Church Cathedral, Hamilton, Miss Elizabeth Smith, M.D., of Hamilton was married to Prof. Adam Short, of Queen's College, Kingston.

On Monday Rosetta Phelps, a young woman from Gainsboro, aged 22, pleaded guilty to stealing a horse from David H. Schasbaugh, near Attercliffe, and was sent to the Mercer for six months.

Messrs. Delorme and Bickerdike have made an offer to the Montreal City Council to take over the cattle markets and abattoirs on a twenty years' lease, paying therefor $16,000 a year and all the annual charges in addition.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

The Delaware cotton mills at Newark, Del., were burned on Saturday morning; loss $200,000.

Dr. H. Andrews of Brooklyn, N.Y., committed suicide by shooting while in a fit of despondency on Saturday.

John Dudley was shot and killed in a Cleveland saloon on Saturday by Charles Anderson in a quarrel about a girl.

The freight brakemen on Jackson division of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad are on strike and the tracks are blocked with cars.

Miss Norah Bartlett, formerly a member of the Boston Museum Company, will be married to Mr. Ogden, of New York, this week.

Powers & Walker's casket factory, at Grand Rapids, Mich., was burned Saturday afternoon. Loss $15,000, covered by an insurance of $10,000.

Mrs. Martin, of Toffeyville, N. J., built a fire in her stove on Saturday and started for the grocery store. During her absence thieves stole the stove.

As a Christmas present H. H. Warner, of Rochester, gave to his responsible employes a choice of $250,000 worth of stock in Warner's Safe Cure Company or, if they prefer, the same amount of cash.

Harrison Simmons, a machinist employed in Plunket's mills, Adams, Mass., went to search for a gas leak with a lighted lamp in the mill building on Saturday and the result was an explosion which fired the building and Simmons was burned to death.

Ichi Ban.

—All Toronto is flocking to see the biggest umbrella in the Dominion. Thirty-six feet in circumference; on view at Ichi Ban. The handsomest folding screens ever seen in this city are shown at Ichi Ban. In fact the largest and finest assortment of Christmas goods ever seen in any one store in Canada are on sale at Ichi Ban. All imported direct from Japan. 81 Yonge-street. x

THE MAYORALTY.

Mr. David Blain, who has gained unprecedented popularity since he entered the field for the mayoralty contest for 1887 will be nominated this morning by Mr. W. D. Matthews, Second Vice-President of the Board of Trade. His seconder will be Mr. Charles Rogers, who has been long and prominently connected with the manufactories of the city.

On every hand glowing accounts of Mr. Blain's chances are heard.

NO CABS AT UNION STATION.

One of the Disagreeable Drawbacks of the New Police Regulation.

The first effects of the Police Commissioners' ukase to cab-owners anent Sunday carriage-hiring was manifested at Union Station yesterday. There are half a dozen trains arrive and depart in Toronto every Sunday. They are all through or connections of through trains. When the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific express trains arrived in the city yesterday morning it was found that there were no carriages to receive passengers that might want to be driven to their homes or hotels.

It might be remarked in this connection that a couple of well-equipped private carriages were there to receive their masters or their friends, but for the public convenience there was nothing visible in the carriage line.

This uncalled for restriction was doubly felt when No. 12, the train that carries passengers for Toronto converging at Hamilton from both East and West, reached the city. This train brought down fully 300 passengers. As an instance, it might be mentioned that one gentleman had with him two young children, one of whom was very ill. There were no pub-lic conveyances of any kind to be had. The only explanation of this fact was that the cab-drivers who generally make it part of their business to meet the trains at Union Station on Sundays were timid about turning out in face of the notice sent them by Chief Grasett at the instigation of the Police Commissioners.

Now one of the worst features of this restriction is manifest in the utter disgust expressed by at least eight American passengers on the train who were desirous of driving to their respective hotels or stopping places. One gentleman at least declared that he would make it a special point not to come to Toronto on Sunday while such a state of affairs existed. "Had I known how it was," he remarked, "I would have remained in Hamilton all night."

A HOTEL FIRE.

The Clifton House at Marquette Burned to the Ground.

MARQUETTE, Dec. 25.—At 6.25 this morning the night clerk in the Clifton House at the corner of Washington and Front streets, one of the leading hotels of this city, discovered a fire between the brick veneer wall and the inside plastering. An alarm was sounded and the guests made their escape with but scanty attire. The fire department was quickly on the ground, but the blaze was too great to be overcome. The building was four stories, of brick veneer, was built twenty-six years ago, and was owned by Capt. W. Hackett. It was valued at $40,000. W. H. Volk, lessee, lost nearly all the furniture. Brown Bros., druggists, lost part of their stock. The guests lost nearly everything. The insurance on the hotel is $7000, on the furniture only $3000; on Brown Bros.' stock $2000. The loses will amount to $40,000 on the hotel, $10,000 on the furniture, $3000 by the guests' property, and $2000 on Brown Bros.' stock.

Steel wire Mats are now in use in all our principal churches, schools, banks and public buildings. Offices and factory, 6 Wellington-west. 136

COLLISION AT KOMOKA.

Two Engines Wrecked, but the Passengers Escape Uninjured.

KOMOKA, Ont., Dec. 25.—A collision occurred here about 7 this morning. The Pacific express due here at 5.47 ran into a special freight during switching. Both engines are a total wreck. The tender on the express train telescoped the baggage car. The second class car was wrecked and first class cars slightly damaged slightly. Both engineers were slightly injured, but the firemen escaped. No passengers were injured. The Sarnia branch and the main line are blocked.

J. A. Proctor's Candidature in Cardwell.

TOTTENHAM, Dec. 25.—During the past week Mr. J. A. Proctor, the Liberal candidate, has addressed large meetings of the electors at Bradford, Beeton, Loretta, Stroud, Thornton, Tottenham and Bolton, and everywhere has met with a most cordial reception. Although and writing a strong Conservative, the impression one would have gleaned from expressions of feeling manifested at the meetings is that Mr. Proctor has a strong hold on the electors. If the people in Cardwell should select Mr. Proctor, they will have secured an able and polished speaker as well as a clear-headed and advanced political thinker. Mr. Proctor in his address advocates the giving the right to vote to women, the abolition of the system of pensions to civil servants and the abolition of the office of Lieutenant-Governor, substituting the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal instead thereof at a small salary. His program is quite a democratic one.

An Illicit Still Found Near Guelph.

GUELPH, ONT., Dec. 25.—On Friday morning the internal revenue officers seized an illicit still in full operation in the cellar of Edward Johnston's hotel, at Eden Mills, a village seven miles from here. Some distilled spirits and a considerable quantity of wort in different stages of fermentation were found. Johnston made a determined effort to escape, but was arrested after a hard chase. He appeared at the Police Court here yesterday and was committed for trial.

Hoke, the Embezzler.

OTTAWA, Dec. 25.—The officials of the Department of Justice are at present engaged in correspondence with the authorities at Montreal in regard to the case of Hoke, the American embezzler, who will be delivered up to the American Government January 2. An order for the extradition of the prisoner was recently granted.

Accident on the C. P. R.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 25.—Two cars of a passenger train on the Rocky Mountain division became detached and ran three miles down a heavy grade, jumped the track and were smashed. The express messenger and an unknown passenger were killed. Twenty passengers were badly shaken up.

Poisoned By Canned Peas.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25.—The family of Joseph Seidlote, a carpenter, consisting of himself, wife and 6-year-old son were poisoned yesterday by eating canned green peas. Seidlote died last night, but his wife and child may recover.

A Magnetic Storm.

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Dec. 26.—A great magnetic storm was noted here to-day at 3.45 p.m. The pole of a needle two feet long swung over an arc of ten degrees. The strong earth currents thus indicated may account for the bad working of the Atlantic cables.

Fire at Des Moines.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 26.—The larger part of the stock of Perkins & Gatch, dealers in Queensware, was destroyed by fire this morning.

Xmas Cards, Xmas Books, for boys and girls, Children's Toy Books, Annuals, Pocket Diaries, etc., and an immense assortment at Winnifrith Bros., 6 Toronto-St. ed

A Merry Xmas to All.

—Mr. Strathern in thanking his numerous customers for their liberal patronage in the past, assures them they will be treated in the same welcome and satisfactory manner in the future, and wishes them all the compliments of the season. In addition to this a cordial invitation is given to the ladies to come and bring along with them the children to see the fine assortment of toys, dolls, etc., etc., such as was never seen before in Toronto. The immense throng of people who have visited this great toy and fancy goods emporium—179 Yonge-street—speak of it as being the handsomest and most complete show in Canada. x

SELECTIONS OR THE BIBLE?

REV. J. P. LEWIS DECIDEDLY IN FAVOR OF THE LATTER.

A Discourse Full of Calm Reasoning and Solid Argument—The Whole Bible Needed to Warn, Enlighten and Instruct—The Compilation an Impiety.

Rev. J. P. Lewis, Rector of Grace Church, preached Sunday morning on the vexed question of a text book of scriptural selections versus the whole Bible. He declared emphatically in favor of the latter. The discourse was listened to by a large congregation.

Before commencing his sermon Mr. Lewis said he had been asked to explain his attitude in regard to the action of the Synod in the matter of the Ross selections. He stated that he was in Syria when the matter first came up, and afterwards the proceedings which were said to have been an approval of the Ross Bible by the Synod were in fact only the work of a small committee, and what was done was done in great haste amid the rush of the closing hours of the Synod. He repudiated any responsibility in the matter or any sympathy with the work of substituting a book of selected passages for the whole Bible.

Passing from this personal defence, he declared his conviction to be that the Bible as a whole was essential to the stability, the prosperity and the unity of Canada. He would prefer a nation being every a national unity, or our ever becoming a homogeneous people, bound together by common laws, unless the Bible in its entirety were allowed to become the supreme influence in moulding our national and our social life. As the dew of Hermon fell on the mountains of Zion, so water to the flocks, so was the Bible as a whole essential to the growth and the very life of this Dominion. All we had now in which to glory, all promise of permanence in this Empire, we owed to it, and we enjoyed by us as a direct outcome from Bible teaching. The Bible as a whole, in its perfect unity, was in our constitution, our laws, our language, our literature, our benevolent institutions and our real life, of all which the beauty, the strength, the purity and permanence came from the Bible as a whole. The Word of God is no gift to a class or to an age, it is God's great gift to humanity. No man, no class of men have authority to cut out part of God's divine message to mankind. No man can tell what portions are of especial interest to others, or what passages are charged with a peculiar blessing or influence for individual souls. Mr. Lewis told how Psalm 118 was read by him recently to a poor old woman, and to his surprise the words of verse six filled that sad soul with divine light and comfort; that verse was God's revelation of Himself to her, and in an expurgated Bible there would be missing hundreds of passages specially adapted to the needs, and calculated to meet the mysterious wants of certain souls. The unity of the Bible gave power, meaning, spiritual and moral influence and divine force in teaching what the revealed Will of God was as expressed in the whole Bible.

The Scriptures were a trust. No man as a trustee could mutilate a trust deed or withhold part of the trust property without committing a grave crime. So with the Bible, we were trustees, to tamper with the deed which expressed God's desires, to cut away portions such as we did not like was a crime against the majesty of God. Thousands of educated people knew little of the Bible—he had seen a lady looking for the Book of Revelations in the Old Testament. To Bible readers the glorious oneness of the Bible was a familiar fact; they knew that the Bible was even more perfectly a living unity, having all its parts vitally associated, than even the human frame. Every year a passage of the Word and all its links and bonds are recognized, the life of the whole is seen and felt in each portion. But to the vast mass this is not so. Dr. Nelles tells us he reads the expurgated Bible in his family worship. But Dr. Nelles and his family know the Bible almost by heart—read any texts to him or them and their minds call up without effort how all the Bible is linked by living threads to what he or they are reading. But to children and to the people at large Bible extracts convey no such ideas of unity. They convey rather irreverent notions of the Word of God being a thing of shreds and patches, a disjointed, fragmentary, lifeless compilation. Hence the habit of reading the Bible must result in concealing from God's children portions of their Father's message, thus falsifying His Divine Testament, and must inevitably destroy all reverence for the Holy Scriptures.

The scraps read in the Ross Bible are now read like a secular book. Parts of Scripture are handled in a secular manner, and with great emphasis the preacher said that nothing is so destructive to the soul as the habit of handling sacred things in a secular way.

The Bible is not the property of the Ontario Government. It is no right of that Government to say what part of God's Word shall or shall not be read to the young. When the Ontario Government cut out sections of God's Word it was done at the suggestion of, or to satisfy Archbishop Lynch. The stamp of that Bishop's approval was needed, and whatever was likely to be objected to by him was most carefully left out before it was placed in his hands. What a Roman Catholic had to do with our Bible, Mr. Lewis was unable to understand, since Roman Catholic children were not allowed to hear read even Mr. Ross' selections. If to one man or to one church was conceded the right to cut out from the Bible all passages such man or such church disliked, then the Bible was practically abolished, the divine authority was destroyed and the Word of God was turned into the word of man. This indeed had been done, and in our own church men having no regard for the Bible as a whole had set up as teachers and thrown discipline and order and authority to the winds in their passionate desire to exercise their private fancies. The charge that the story of Joseph is impure comes from those only who bring their own impurity into the narrative. The holiest of men for countless generations have read that story and blessed God for the warning and moral teaching it conveys. Human nature is such as to demand such a sublime example of virtue sustained amid terrible temptation by the fear of God. To withhold from young people all plain teaching and keep back from them God's light to guide them in the dark hours of temptation is to abandon the young to their passions and to leave both sexes an easy prey to the most dangerous of all temptations. The cry of impurity against part of the inspired Scriptures sullies the whole Bible, it slanders the church which orders it to be read publicly, and it declares that those who raise this impious charge against the Word of God are holier and wiser than the Almighty! Where do we find female honor so high, family life so pure, as in Bible-reading Britain? Where are impurity and sexual crime so rampant as in the lands where the Bible is not a familiar book? Has the God of Holiness inspired a book so impure as to be unfit reading for the young? The very thought is blasphemy. That so-called Christian men can utter or to any extent approve of such a slander against the Holy Bible and against its Divine Author, only shows to what depths of shame men can sink in their passion for party interests.

Mr. Lewis then showed how those who had caused the Bible to be expurgated had demanded that a traitor with the blood of hundreds of murdered victims on his head should not be subject to the laws of Canada because he was a Frenchman and a Roman Catholic. Had Louis Riel not been brought to his righteous doom, the foundations of our civil liberty would have gone from under us. "Is it better to defend our rights now, he asked, or to await their being taken away and be compelled to win them back by a revolution?" As wise men, he commended these thoughts to their earnest reflection.

God's Bible was a living unity, it was the gift of God to man, it was therefore impious for any man, or any Government to mutilate the Divine record. God's Bible was intended to warn and guide the young in their sore hour of temptation. Whoever destroyed the warning and took away that guide had cast up against the Holy God a foul and impious charge by stigmatizing His revelation as impure, and had committed a terrible wrong to all for whom God had sent the Word they condemned as a lantern to their feet.

In conclusion Mr. Lewis declared that he cared nothing for any party, but he cared much for his country.

A HORSE DASHES INTO THE ARMY.

A Lively Scene in King-street east on Saturday Afternoon—Two Arrests.

There was a lively scene in King-street east on Saturday afternoon. At 4 o'clock a young man named Frank Crone was driving a spirited animal down Jarvis-street. At King-street he encountered a branch of the Salvation Army, who were making plenty of noise. Mr. Crone's horse became uncontrollable and dashed through the army's ranks. This annoyed the soldiers very much, and the horse was seized by the head by a dozen ready hands. There was quite a scene for a few moments. When Policeman Reburn arrived he concluded to take Crone into custody for disorderly conduct. While the officer was conducting him to headquarters the army fell into line and sang: "He is Not a Lover of the Lord." Subsequently Charles Brown, a hostler at the Clyde Hotel, went to bail Crone out and he, too, was locked up on a charge of participating in the disturbance. Crone's defence is that his horse was unmanageable, and the knocking down of a couple of soldiers was a matter of pure accident.

THE Y. M. P. C.

Grip's Cartoonist Makes an Election Speech on the Sabbath.

There was a fair-sized gathering in the Pavilion Music Hall yesterday afternoon when the Young Men's Prohibition Club held its regular Sunday temperance meeting. Mr. Ed. Hespeler was in the chair. The speakers were Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. James Gray and Mr. J. W. Bengough. Dr. Potts touched on municipal and Dominion politics. He advocated the claims of Mayor Howland for a second term, and said that he respected the pride of Mr. Blake on the prohibition question. He thought Mr. Blake sincere, and he did not favor the formation of a third party.

Cartoonist Bengough, referring to Mr. Dalton Blain's candidature for the mayoralty, said that the "cabinet had at last got a figurehead. He knew Mr. Blain to be a good-natured man, but he did not think he was so good-natured as to allow himself to be put up with the certainty of being "maltreated," as he would be by the vote of the people on election day.

Magazines and periodicals at publishers' lowest rates. No charge for delivery or postage to any address in Canada. McAinsh & Ellis, opposite the Postoffice.

An Erroneous Report.

Messrs. Nolan & Hickson report that the views published by the Telegram of December 22 on the effect of elections on trade as coming from them is merely an election ruse and entirely without foundation. Their expressions to the reporter were "that the holiday trade had been wonderfully good and they had therefore no reason to complain, but as this is their first year they had no precedent to judge of the effect of elections, although undoubtedly elections at any time would not improve business." The Telegram has since corrected the item but has not given the correction the necessary circulation to dispel the impression of the first item.

Christmas Day in Toronto.

Christmas Day, like all its predecessors, was spent in a quiet way in Toronto. Morning services were held in most of the churches and were well attended. Many enjoyed themselves sleighing and skating, as snow and ice were both plentiful. The weather was cold but not unseasonable. The charitable institutions and the city's poor were remembered by the charitably-disposed, and every effort was made to have all classes of the community enjoy the happy occasion.

Visited By the Midnight Gentlemen.

A couple of burglaries were committed during Saturday night. Early in the evening a party entered Coolican's auction premises, Toronto-street, and carried off an old flint-lock gun. It is said the visitors were bent more on mischief than plunder. At 2 o'clock yesterday morning the premises of Telfer, Harold & Co., shirt manufacturers, 6 Johnson-street, were entered by a rear window, and goods to the value of $100 removed.

Convention of Music Teachers.

The second annual convention of the Ontario Music Teachers' Association opens in the Normal School Theatre Tuesday at 10 o'clock. The proceedings promise to be largely attended and of great interest to those engaged in the musical profession. In the evening a sacred concert will be given in Carlton-street Methodist Church, and the talent, as will be seen by reference to the advertisement in another column, is first-class.

A Persian Coat for Mr. Turnbull Smith.

Mr. Turnbull Smith, manager of Shaw-street Roller Rink, was made the recipient on Christmas Day of a Persian lamb coat by the proprietors of the rink, and of a chain and locket by Anderson's band and the employes. The rink has been doing big business lately, and the efforts of Manager Smith were recognized in the above handsome way.

Christmas Number of Montreal Star, London Society, Belgravia, London World, London Truth, Graphic and London News, Scribner's New Magazine etc., at Winnifrith Bros., 6 Toronto-st. ed

CABLE NOTES.

By royal decree the Spanish Cortes have been closed until January 7.

Christmas in Paris was gayer than usual this year owing to brisker business.

The Belgian Government is having built an improved van for the safe conveyance of valuable mails.

A number of Buddhist priests have visited Gen. Roberts and offered their assistance in the pacification of Burmah.

The Socialists of Brussels Saturday opened a co-operative provision and recreation house, and many members of the party gathered to celebrate the event. The "Marseillaise" was sung and violent speeches were made, but further than this there was no disorder.

The towns of Liege and Namur, Belgium, have sent a petition to the government asking that the ancient citadels at those places be demolished. The petitioners say that in the event of an invasion these citadels would furnish a powerful fort for a bombardment, while they would be useless for purposes of defence.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

Judge Morgan will not hold