We wish You a Merry Christmas

Did you get?
a Box of
Tom Smith's Crackers
or
A Box of
MICHIE'S Cardinal Creams
or any of
MICHIE'S Fine Confections
or Fancy Groceries.
If not remember
New Year's Day.

MICHIE & CO.,
TWO STORES,
5 1-2 & 7 King-St. West.
466 & 468 Spadina-Av.

THE BOTHWELL OIL WELLS.

Mr. Blue Reports That They Will Afford a Permanent and Profitable Supply of Petroleum.

Mr. Archibald Blue, the Ontario Mine Director, has returned from the Bothwell oil fields and Western Ontario generally, where he had gone to report on the prospects of success in the drilling operations.

He also inspected the Hamilton blast furnace, and learned that the past year had been a very successful one. There are some 15,000 tons of pig iron now awaiting shipment. During the year a large portion of the ore which was formerly obtained in the States has been found in Ontario. Bog ore has been mined in Norfolk and Kent, and has proved a good mixture with the harder ores of Michigan.

"The work of exploring the oil fields of Bothwell," he said, "has been carried on much more intelligently than it was 20 years ago. Pumping operations were then carried on only on the six days of the week, while on Sunday the work was stopped. The result was that nearly the whole of Monday had to be spent in pumping out the salt water which oozed in during the idle day.

The first oil he reports to be found at the top of the great limestone, and wells from this horizon yield upwards of 100 barrels a day. Another strike is made at a depth of from 50 to 100 feet in the limestone, and this also yields largely. The third strike is located in the sandstone beneath the limestone, and this supply seems to be a permanent one. The various wells average from 6 to 30 barrels a day. Much difficulty is experienced in sinking the wells through the drift, which varies in thickness from 150 to 200 feet and is composed of alternating beds of sand, gravel, clay and quicksand. The oil in the sandstone is found at depths varying from 360 to 410 feet, according to the surface contour.

In the fields of Essex and Pelee Island, a number of wells have been drilled during the past year, but not enough of them to permit of an estimate of the capacity of the oil-bearing rocks. Large quantities of gas are supplied by pipe line to the towns of Windsor, Walkerville, Detroit and Sandwich, however, by the wells in the Townships of Gosfield and Mersea.

The village of Leamington, the Inspector states, has drilled two wells near the lake shore, and more than supplied the needs of the district. In fact the daily output of 11,000,000 cubic feet is many times over the amount required for domestic purposes. It costs but $1.50 per month for gas for cooking, while the rate for furnaces, boilers, etc., is fixed at $5 per annum. The village rate of taxation has been reduced from 25 to 12 1-2 mills on the dollar by the venture.

Mr. Blue will publish an official report.

Dyspepsia or indigestion is occasioned by the want of action in the biliary ducts, loss of vitality in the stomach to secrete the gastric juices, without which digestion cannot go on; also, being the principal cause of headache. Parmalee's Vegetable Pills, taken before going to bed, for a while, never fail to give relief, and effect a cure. Mr. F. W. Ashdown, Ashdown, Ont., writes: "Parmalee's Pills are taking the lead against ten other makes which I have in stock."

That Mission to Washington.

Hon. John Dryden, who accompanied Hon. Sydney Fisher to Washington, to confer with Secretary Morton regarding changes in the present quarantine regulations between the two countries, returned yesterday. Although nothing definite can be stated as yet about the result, it is believed that a satisfactory understanding has been arrived at, and awaits but the approval of both Governments.

Messrs. John Catto & Son
Wish Everyone
A Bright and Merry
Christmas
CATTO
DRY GOODS ONLY
25th December, 1897.
To Sustain
The Holiday
Excitement
We are showing a great number of pieces of French Plaid Blouse Silks at 75c a yard that are worth $1 per yard any time.
A fresh shipment of beautiful Eider-down Quilts, covered with choicest satteens, at $5 each.
To effectually clear out
All Mantle Stock
We have decided to begin on Saturday, 26th inst., by offering every Mantle, Coat, Jacket and Ulster in the place at force-sale prices. Come and see the values we will then be offering. All must be cleared out. We have decided not to allow marked prices to stand in the way.
MAIL ORDERS—
are filled same day as received.
John Catto & Son,
King-st., Opp. the Postoffice.

"CONTINUE THE FIGHT"

For a Reduction in the Price of Gas to Citizens,

SAY THE CONTROLLERS.

An Unsuccessful Tenderer Comes Down in His Figures

And Gets the Contract for Cast Iron Pipe—But Citizens Will Get Employment—Controllers Admit the Principle is Bad, But They Do It Anyway—Contracts Awarded for Supplies—An Important Question Regarding Contracts for Pavements.

The regular meeting of the Board of Control was held yesterday morning. The Mayor was not on deck at the hour appointed, and the other members of the Board proceeded with the business in his absence.

A letter was read from the St. Lawrence Foundry Co., explaining that under the existing commercial conditions they had determined to reduce their price from $48.50 to $44 per length for 24-inch pipe, rather than let the work go out of the city.

Ald. Lamb admitted that there was no doubt strict principle would demand that the lowest tender be accepted, but this was an exceptional case. It had been explained to him that the St. Lawrence Foundry Co. have not the necessary plant and patterns for the casting of such large pipes, and in preparing their tender had included the cost of the new plant, as they did not know they would ever be called upon to construct any more pipe of that size for the city. Now they were willing to deduct a portion of this charge, and take chances upon the city requiring more 24-inch pipe in the future.

PRINCIPLE BAD, BUT—

Ald. R. H. Graham admitted that upon business principles the proposal was wrong, but the statements of Ald. Lamb were quite true. It is not fair and right.

Ald. Lamb: It is not right.

Ald. Graham: And perhaps it is not in the best interests of the city. The council would not accept our recommendation to accept the tender of the Hamilton firm. In order that the citizens might have work during the winter perhaps it would be better to accept the amended tender.

The motion of Ald. Lamb accepting the amended tender of the St. Lawrence Company was adopted unanimously.

TORONTO-STREET PAVEMENT.

Mr. A. W. Godson appeared before the board, and asked that he be paid the drawback on his contract for the Toronto-street pavement. He explained that his firm took a contract to resurface the street, and at the urgent request of the City Engineer they did the work late in the fall in bad weather, completing it on Nov. 17, 1891, but as there was some doubt on the part of the city at the time as to their ability to do the work they agreed to allow their money to remain in the city's hands until the next spring. This was done, and as a consequence the final certificate was not given them until June. They had only guaranteed the pavement for five years, which, he contended, expired on Nov. 17 last.

City Engineer Keating was sent for, and explained that the whole question of the exact meaning of the contracts for asphalt pavements was involved in this matter. The point was whether the contractors should be compelled, under their guarantee, to not only keep the pavements in repair for the guaranteed period, but to leave them in a good condition. The Engineer declined to give a certificate in November, 1891, and he himself would not be able to certify that the pavement was in good condition at the present time. He had called upon Mr. Godson to resurface the street, but Mr. Godson repudiated his liability to do so under the contract.

TENDERS ACCEPTED.

The City Engineer reported on tenders for supplies, recommending that the following tenders be accepted:

Curbing stone, Thomas Murray, 18 inches deep, 25c, 45c, 35c, 34c and 45c per foot; 24 inches deep, 32c, 55c, 45c, 44c, 55c.

Paving brick—Tender No. 1, Ontario Paving Brick Co. Although this tender is 25 cents higher per thousand than that of No. 2, the bricks are of a larger size, and consequently fewer are required per square yard. This tender is therefore the lowest, $14.75 and $9 per thousand.

Sewer pipe—J. H. New & Co., conditional that suitable samples be furnished before the contract is signed, at 6, 12, 15 and 20 cents per foot.

Sand—Constructing and Paving Co., west of Simcoe-street, and Edwin Ashton & Son, east of Simcoe-street, on condition that satisfactory samples be submitted.

Special castings—Galloway, Taylor & Co.

Hydrants—Ontario Engine and Machine Co., $32 and $59.25 each.

Lead pipe—James Robertson, $4.10 per 100 for all sizes.

Brass and bronze castings—Wilson & Cousins.

Cast iron pipe—St. Lawrence Foundry Co.

Coal and wood—Standard Fuel Co.

Iron and steel—Meredith & Co.

Brass work for house services—Wilson & Cousins.

Lumber—The Reed Co.

Rubber valves—Gutta Percha and Rubber Co.

Wire nails—Rice Lewis & Son, $2.20 per 100 pounds.

Cedar posts—D. L. Van Vlack, at $4.70 per cord; $4.40 for culls.

Gravel, east of York-street—Edwin Ashton & Son, 57 cents and 85 cents per cubic yard. West of Yonge-street—Constructing and Paving Co., 58 and 95 cents. Samples are to be submitted.

General stores—Aikenhead Hardware Co.

Horse feed—Moses Hunter.

It was decided to convey to the Medical Health Officer an intimation that it was the wish of the board that he should refuse to grant permits to cut ice to any firm who would not enter into an agreement to pay their employes at least 15 cents per hour.

The board unanimously agreed to grant the sum of $3000 to the House of Industry to be expended in outdoor relief, principally in coal, in order to assist the board in meeting the very heavy demands made upon it.

The treasurer was ordered to provide the necessary funds to pay the police force salaries for December at once.

Ald. McMurrich, having another engagement, at this stage, retired from the meeting.

WANT ANOTHER EXPERT.

Ald. Lamb suggested that in view of the importance of the interests involved in the suit of Johnston v. Consumers Gas Co., it would be advisable to call in an expert accountant who was entirely free from bias, to go over the work done by Mr. Hughes, and advise the council whether the city was justified in going on with the case. He was prompted to make the suggestion from a desire that the city be absolutely sure of its ground before incurring any further expenditure for costs. He suggested Mr. Cross as a suitable man for the work.

Ald. R. H. Graham had no hesitation in saying that the reports showed the Consumers' Gas Co. had for years been filching money from the consumers' pockets to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mr. Hughes deserved great credit for the way he has gone into the matter and worked up the city's case. The judgment of Vice-Chancellor Ferguson placed a mark of approval on Mr. Hughes' work, and the board should hesitate before calling in a second man. He preferred to go on and fight the case until the company brings down its price. At the same time he gave Ald. Lamb credit for being sincere.

Ald. Lamb appreciated the compliment paid to him by Ald. Graham, especially in view of the compromising position in which he was placed. He declared that no man was more ready than he to insist on the rights of the gas consumers being protected. But he did not want to go on fighting simply to please public sentiment or to show the people that they are taking up a big fighting position on the matter.

THE MAYOR SAYS [illegible]

The Mayor had satisfied himself that Ald. Lamb was consistent in his course on this question, but he was equally satisfied that in making this proposition Ald. Lamb was entirely on the wrong track. They had the judgment of Vice-Chancellor Ferguson, which upheld Mr. Hughes' contention most emphatically. Whatever reason there might have been for calling in a second man four or five years ago before the suit was entered he would take the strongest ground against such a tion now. At the time referred to Mr. Biggar had advised them the city had no standing in the courts and that the contention of Mr. Hughes was wrong. But now they found that, after one of the most able arguments ever heard in the court, Mr. Hughes' position was upheld and had never been upset upon the merits. The city was deeply indebted to Mr. Hughes for the persistency and ability with which he had followed the case, and the citizens would probably never know the great value of his work. The only question which troubled the Mayor at present was whether they should not at once enter a new suit as advised by Mr. Robinson, at the same time continuing the old one.

Out of deference to the very strong expression of opinion by the Mayor, Ald. Lamb then withdrew the suggestion.

The board agreed to pay Mr. Hughes $400 for his services, and adjourned to meet on Tuesday to complete the details of the formation of a labor bureau.

NOTES.

The Scavenging Department will take a holiday to-day and to-morrow. The routes usually covered on the two days mentioned will be traversed on Monday and Tuesday.

The police force as well as the fire brigade and civic officials, in accordance with the usual custom, received their monthly salary cheques for December a week in advance.

The Property sub-Committee to arrange the schedule of fire insurance upon civic property met again yesterday afternoon, and completed its labors. A large reduction was made in the amount of insurance to be placed upon some of the property, the total amount of the schedule being reduced from $850,000 to $700,000.

The Dominion Government will not close the Custom House to-morrow, but will give one half the staff a holiday.

The fire engine which the Waterous Engine Co. promised to loan the city pending the delivery of the new fire engine which they are constructing arrived in the city yesterday, and was found, upon being tested, to answer the purpose.

McNamee & Co. recently filed a claim amounting to $44 000 for extra work in connection with their contract for dredging, etc., at Ashbridge's Bay. The City Engineer, to whom the claim was referred, has thrown out the claim with the exception of a few small items.

Instructions have been issued for the erection of electric lights at the following localities: Walmer-road, cor.

THE ROBERT SIMPSON CO.

CHRISTMAS DAY—STORE CLOSED ALL DAY.

Christmas Chimes are Ringing.

A world's thoughts reach beyond the material things of a day and are possessed of those better aspirations idealized in Him whose birth we celebrate and cherish.

Giving finds its inspiration in Him who gave to a world the one great gift of the ages.

The spoken word and the unuttered thought partake of the sweetness and love of Him who was all love, forbearance, consideration, kindness—who thought not of Himself, but of others.

It is children's day—a memory of Him who took a little child in His arms and made it the personification of purity and love.

The little ones will make merry. Home pleasures will prevail. Families will gather together. Charity will rule our spirits—drinking in the spirit of good will and peace on earth to all men—a spirit which this store breathes and sends forth to its thousands of friends the wide Dominion over.

STORE OPEN SATURDAY—8 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

THE ROBERT SIMPSON CO. LTD.
S.W. COR. YONGE AND QUEEN-STREETS,
170, 172, 174, 176, 178 Yonge-street. 1 and 3 Queen-street West

A Merry Christmas

To the Shareholders of the Colorado Gold Mining and Development Company and the Kootenay Exploration Company, Ltd., we wish you all a Merry Christmas.

J. GRANT LYMAN, Managing Director.

Offices of the Colorado Gold Mining and Deve opment Company,
22 King Street East, Toronto, Ont.

Mistress and Maid

both have their part in the great savings that come from Pearline. Suppose you're the mistress There's the economy of it—the saving of time, etc., and the actual money that's saved by doing away with that steady wear and tear on everything washed. Suppose you're the maid. There's the saving of labor; the absence of rubbing; the hardest part of the house work made easier and pleasanter.

But suppose you are mistress and maid, both in one, doing your own work. Then there is certainly twice as much reason why you should do every bit of your washing and cleaning with Pearline.

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Beware of Imitations. Pearline

BLACKSMI[illegible]
C. [illegible]
Has Red[illegible]
HORS[illegible]
Send Your Orders in Ear[illegible]

RED EAGLE, 7½c.

Nine assays show $24.80, $42.70, $934.80, $11.87, $85.40, $17.70, $54.95, $285.03, $161.69. Owing to rich strikes made on this mine, price is subject to advance without notice. Write for prospectus.

SNOWDROP, 4c.

Will soon be advanced to 5c. This is positively the best low-priced stock on the market. Write for prospectus.

SILVER BELL, 10c.

will be a great mine. Ore ready to ship to smelter on completion of Red Mountain Railway. Write for prospectus.

NORTHERN BELLE, 11c.

500-share lots. Wire orders.

TORONTO MINING AGENCY,
Cor. Toronto and Adelaide Sts.
Tel. 2010. Send name and address for our weekly market report.

Mining Stocks.

Headquarters for the following good low priced stocks:

Ibex (adjoining Silver Bell)	4c
Silver Bell	10c
Vulcan	6c
Yale	Write for Special Quotation
Cariboo	46c
Alf	12½c
Saw Bill, low price for quick sale.	

Having our own special agents in Rossland and Spokane we can furnish very low quotations on all the standard stocks.

COULTHARD & CO.,
28 Victoria-St., Toronto.
Agents wanted to sell stocks. Tel. 640

COLORADO

Gold Mining & Development Company's shares at 30c.

Two blocks of 50 shares each, two blocks of 100 shares each, one block of 250 shares and one block of 500 shares.
Box 86, World. 56

FOR SALE.

AMERICAN HOTEL, PARIS STATION. Property, Furniture and License. Immediate possession given. Apply to
GEO. BERNHARDT,
Galt, Ont.

Bernard-avenue, opposite entrance to Technical School, cor. Lippincott and Lennox-streets; Lowther-avenue, west of Avenue-road, Buchanan-street, between Teraulay and Yonge-streets; Rusholme-road, cor. Hepbourne-street; Dovercourt-road and Harrison-street; Lake-street, west of Bay-street; Esplanade, cor. Jarvis-street; Don Flats Skating Rink, during winter season.

PLENTEOUS CHRISTMAS FARE.

The English and Irish Benevolent Societies Were Lavish in Their Distribution.

The annual distribution of Christmas fare was made by St. George's Society yesterday. About 700 families were supplied with beef, bread and groceries. The provision made was ample—five tons of meat, 1000 loaves of bread, 1000 pounds sugar, 400 pounds tea, 200 pounds candles.

The following officers of the society superintended the distribution: Percival F. Ridout, president; George Stanway and George Gooderham, vice-presidents; James Spooner, David Plews, J. Herbert Mason and W. W. Allworth, past presidents; and Messrs. Henry Lucas, George Musson, H. V. Green, R. W. Barker, E. Henderson, H. S. Pell, F. Sole and D. T. Symons, who formed the committee, with John E. Pell, secretary.

I. P. B. DISTRIBUTION.

In the Yonge-street Arcade the Christmas distribution of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society took place. Those who superintended the good work were Vice-President J. J. Kingsmill, Past Presidents Henry O'Hara and R. B. Hamilton, Mr. William Wilson, Mr. Robert Moon, Ald. Crane, Mr. James Aikin, Miss Baillie, Mr. Thomas Kerr, Mr. Frank Somers, Mr. A. Purse. About 170 families received baskets of provisions, making Christmas fare for 590 persons, at a cost of $210.

Mr. Claude Francis, one of the officers of the constabulary force of British Guiana, is in town on a visit.

Cucumbers and melons are "forbidden fruit" to many persons so constituted that the least indulgence is followed by attacks of cholera, dysentery, griping, etc. These persons are not aware that they can indulge to their heart's content if they have on hand a bottle of Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Dysentery Cordial, a medicine that will give immediate relief, and is a sure cure for all summer complaints. ed

GOLD MINE QUOT[illegible]

Special figures on the follow[illegible]

Saw Bill, Emp[illegible]
California, R. E.
St. Elmo. Northern[illegible]

WRITE FOR QUOTATIONS

F. McPHILLI[illegible]
1 Toronto St.
Member New York Mining Ex[illegible]
TELEPHONE 1800.

TO THE GOLD MIN[illegible]

The Cheapest Route to the Kooten[illegible] is via the

GREAT NORTHERN RAIL[illegible]

Because it is the

SHORTEST, QUICKEST and BE[illegible]

H. G. McMICKEN,
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2 King-st. E., Toronto

Mining Shares

"Golden Cache".....$1.70
"Nest Egg".....10
"Deer Park".....20
"Cariboo M. & M. & S.Co." 45

R. COCHRAN, 23 COLBORNE-ST.
TEL. 316.

Mining Stocks.

We would recommend the following British Columbia and Ontario mining stocks to investors: Josie 63 cents, Monte Cristo 20 cents, Evening Star 25 cents, Kootenay-London 12½ cents, Mayflower 17 cents, Lily May active and advancing, 20c; St. Paul, a gilt edged property, first issue of stock, 12½c; Iron Colt, first issue of stock, 20c, only 50,000 shares on the market; St. Elmo, a good property, 14 cents, in blocks of 100 shares; Algoma Coal Mining Co., first issue of stock, 30 cents; Silver Bell, 10 cents. If you want to buy Canadian Mining Stocks it will pay you to write to us for prospectuses and particulars. Assays made by a competent assayer.

CAMPBELL, CURRIE & CO 52 YONGE-ST., TORONTO.
Tel. 172.

MINING STOCKS.

Homestake	.17	Nest Egg	.14
Cariboo McK.	.46	Palo Alto	.12
O. K.	.31	Monte Cristo	.10
Blue Bird	.10	Mayflower	.16
Great Western	.18	Georgia	.20
St. Elmo	.12	Diamond Dust	.06
Eureka Con.	.09	Butte	.04½
Josie	.58	Northern Belle	.12

Send for quotations on following: Deer Park, Grand Prize, Golden Cache, Vulcan, Mugwump, Colonna, Gertrude, Silverine, Alberta, Virginia.
Mining claims in Kootenay and Cariboo.
A. M. BANTING,
28 Bernard-avenue,
Toronto.

TRAIL CREEK MINING STOCKS

SAWYER, MURPHEY & CO.
OFFICES:—Canada Life Building, Toronto; Rossland, B.C.; Spokane, Wash.; Montreal, Que.

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Special attention given to "Trail Creek" properties. Information, references, or special quotations on any stock carefully given upon request. Correspondence solicited.
Buy and sell mines and mining stocks on commission only.
Special mining expert's report given on any mine in this section.

MINING SNAPS.

Grand Prize, adjoining the famous Deer Park mine, 6½c; Snowdrop, a good buy in blocks of 1000 shares, 2½c; Poor man, 9½c; St. Elmo, 12c; Burton, 4½c; British Can. Gold Fields, 23c; Vulcan, 4½c. BOX 81, WORLD.

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HAS FOR SALE TOWN LOTS IN TRAIL AND DEER PARK.
Mining Claims for sale near Rossland, Trail and in the whole Columbia basin.
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Shares in the—
GOLDEN CACHE MINES CO.,
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TWO FRIENDS MINES a specialty
Rossland and Trail District stocks.
Quotations by wire.
Clough's and Moering and Neil's codes.
Mr. Jones is Managing Director of the Gold Range Exploring and Mining Company of Vancouver.

Optical Removal Sale. $30,000 Stock Must be Sold. Now is your chance to select from one of the finest assorted stocks in Canada in this line. Prices will surprise you. Call and inspect. 245
ARONSBERG'S, 71 King-Street West.

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The Grea[illegible]
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A Gift to
Sick and [illegible]

The Hospital for [illegible]
$10,000. Nearly [illegible]
grand institution [illegible]
$30,000. But $1[illegible]
The balance mu[illegible]
hearted public.

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Please send don[illegible]
Chairman of the [illegible]
Toronto, Ont.

Pelee Islan[illegible]

St. Augustine
Isabella
Dry Catawba
Sweet Catawba } 40[illegible]

CONCORD AT 25c. PER BOT[illegible]

All other wines reduced 25 per c[illegible]
Have you tried our "Domestic Whisk[illegible]
Best value ever offered i[illegible]

T. H. George, [illegible]

Do not forget we are the only ones in the city that s[illegible] Kent" Ale and Stout—quarts, 80c; pints, 60c per dozen.