

News Summary

G. H. Bertram, Liberal member for Centre Toronto, is seriously ill.

Robert Brown, a well-known shipbuilder who went to Vancouver from Richibucto, died on Sunday.

James Kent, at present superintendent of the Montreal division of C. P. R. telegraph, has been appointed manager in succession to C. R. Hosmer.

London Truth announces that Emperor William has induced Queen Victoria to give a conditional promise to visit the Prussian Court during the last week of April.

A freight train collided with a local at Pinworth, Ont., Monday. Fireman Ellison, of Rat Portage, on board the freight engine, jumped. The tender fell on him killing him instantly.

The Buffalo express, east-bound, while waiting outside the depot on the Delaware, Lackawana and Western road at Paterson, N. J., Wednesday evening, was run into by a swiftly moving accommodation train bound from Phillipsburg, N. J., to Jersey City. At least five persons were killed.

Sir Edward Clarke, Conservative member of Parliament for Plymouth since 1880, and from 1885 to 1892 Solicitor General, has addressed a letter to his constituents announcing his intention to retire at the next general election; in view of the fact that he is not in agreement with the government's policy.

It is announced that Pierpont Morgan has given \$350,000 to the new lying-in hospital in addition to the \$1,000,000 already given by him for the building. He has also conveyed to the societies the properties 236-8 E. 18th street, adjoining the hospital site, this making 21,750 square feet of building space available.

A Toronto despatch says:—So much lumber has been run over to Buffalo during the past season that there is now a famine scarcity of it in Canada. Already the box lumbermen have put up rates 100 per cent. higher than they were this time last year, and to meet this the box manufacturers of Toronto will also go up fifty per cent.

During his presidential address to the British Medical Association, Dr. J. Ward Cousins mentioned that it had recently been stated by a French observer that fleas were dangerous disseminators of the bubonic plague. As the result of a series of experiments, that observer affirmed that fleas taken from rats suffering from plague could communicate the disease to healthy rats, which, in their turn became centres of infection.

The author and composer of "Shall we gather at the river?" "Where is my wandering boy to-night?" "I need thee every hour," and other such popular religious songs, has passed from earth at the age of seventy-three. He was Rev. Robert Lowry, native of Philadelphia, who became a Baptist minister and held several pastorates, among them that of the Hansonplace church in Brooklyn; he was for a while professor of belles lettres at his college, the university at Lewisburg, Pa., but since 1874 his home had been Plainfield, N. J.

The New York World publishes a letter from Havana stating that United States officials, after months of secret investigation, have discovered that the battleship Maine was blown up by gun cotton torpedoes planted in the bay for the purpose. The gun cotton, seven hundred pounds of which were used, was sent from Barcelona to Admiral Manterola, commanding the port of Havana, and was either stolen from the magazine where the stuff was stored or taken away with the knowledge of the officials in charge. The torpedoes were exploded by contact with the keel of the Maine as she swung at anchor.

The I. C. R. authorities find it necessary to secure more room on the northern side of the yard at the St. John station, and they will be compelled to take possession of Lombard street. In doing this, of course, they will be obliged to make a new street, and for that purpose will have to take properties now facing on the street. The operation will seemingly be an expensive one, as property has become very valuable in that locality. Property owners have been approached, but the prices they have asked are considered so high that expropriation proceedings may be resorted to.—Globe.

The students of Aberdeen University of which Lord Strathcona was recently elected rector, have an additional spice to academic life in the shape of a long-standing feud with the engineers' apprentices of the town. Lord Strathcona's election was celebrated by a torchlight procession, which was guarded by police on account of a threatened onslaught by the mob. But the 'prentices broke through the cordon of police, and came to close quarters with their hereditary foes. They found, however, more than their match, for the torches proved very handy weapons and, as the students laid on with a will, several of the attacking party were badly hurt.



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NO effort has been spared to make the forthcoming volume of The Companion worthier than any that has gone before it. Among the many articles and stories of absorbing interest to appear during 1900 are:

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A Long Chase,	Edward W. Thomson.
The Boyhood of Napoleon,	Prof. W. M. Sloane.
A Historic Game of Football,	Walter Camp.
How Rosamond Made Up Her Mind,	Margaret Deland.
Photographing the Stars,	Prof. C. A. Young.
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Farming in Shakespeare's Day,	Prof. W. J. Rolfe.
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The Youth's Companion, Boston, Mass.

Literary Notes.

With its drawings by such artists as Howard Pyle, Frank Du Mond and C. K. Linsion, and its reproductions of some of these in color, and its beautiful, seasonable special cover, McClure's Magazine for December is a very notable artistic achievement. But it is no less notable from the strictly literary standpoint. In the introduction and prologue of Dr. John Watson's ("Ian MacLaren's") "Life of the Master," there is a more than satisfactory opening of what promises to be a unique and valuable feature throughout the year. Dr. Watson frankly announces that he does not expect those who follow his work will be much the wiser regarding sites and dates, but he does let himself hope that they "will have a clearer vision of the august figure who invites the judgment of each man's conscience, who lays his hand on each man's heart."

Joel Chandler Harris contributes to the Christmas number of the Saturday Evening Post an authentic account of the daring attempt to warn the Confederate cabinet of the great movement whereby Grant and Sherman were to co-operate in crushing the Confederacy. How the attempt failed and why it failed are the subjects of a chapter of the little-known history of the Secret Service. Mr. Harris has his facts first-hand, and he has woven them into a story of such absorbing interest

that it might easily be mistaken for pure fiction. The Christmas number of the Post will be on all news-stands December 21st.

'Suspense,' by H. S. Merriman. (Published by the Copp, Clark Company, Limited, Toronto.) Price, Paper, 75 cents; Cloth, \$1.25. There is a subtle strength about Mr. Merriman's men and women which is very difficult to put into words. The personality of each seems to impress itself upon the reader without his knowing exactly why it does so. We would emphasize that word personality in speaking of them, for it is the personal rather than the intellectual or physical element in them that influences us and makes them so different from the creations of many other authors. They are not paragons of wit and beauty, and yet they are far from being commonplace. There is in his heroes and heroines a quiet forcefulness of character which is very pleasing, a certain reserve force, as it were, which gives the reader confidence in them in any emergency. And Mr. Merriman has the art of bringing his readers into very real contact with his people, so that one experiences, after reading the book, much the same feeling of invigoration that comes from meeting strong, self-reliant men and women whose very presence effects us.

A word about lesson helps: Are you using the best in your school? By best

we mean those that distinctively teach Baptist doctrines; those whose articles are prepared by the best biblical scholars; those whose editors are abreast with the latest methods of Sunday school teaching and training. We can unqualifiedly state that the Baptist Periodicals published by the American Baptist Publication Society are today the very best periodicals for Baptist schools, and in addition to being the best, they are also the cheapest—two good reasons why they should be used in every Baptist Sunday school.

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J. Malette, seventeen years of age, mill hand, who worked for J. R. Booth, while jumping on the front end of an electric car at Chaudier Wednesday night, fell and was run over and killed.

The Porte has addressed notes to the powers re-demanding the suppression of the foreign post offices in Turkey. It is not believed the demand will be acceded to.

A neglected cold is very dangerous, and the farther it goes the faster it goes. A very small quantity of Adamson's Botanic Balm will cure a "young" cough. An older one requires more Balm to stop it—but no cough is too old for it to cure. 55c. at all Druggists.

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