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A MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

ROBERT ORME OF LONDON TOWNSHIP FOUND DEAD.

On His Way Home From Lucan a Bullet Sent by an Unknown Hand Pierces His Brain—The Post Mortem and Inquest.

LUCAN, Jan. 18.—Robert Orme, a farmer residing on the 16th concession of the Township of London, attended a cheese factory meeting here yesterday. At 10 o'clock last evening he left the village on his return home. About three miles from the village, when nearing his own residence, he was met by some party, evidently only one person, who must have got into Orme's cutter, as every appearance indicates a severe struggle between the murdered man and his assailant.

The horse and cutter arrived home without the driver and robes. When the man's son, who had been awaiting his father's return, found the horse he immediately got into the cutter and retraced the road, supposing that the horse had run away and left the driver on the road. One mile and three-quarters from his residence he found the dead body of his father and the robes on the side of the sleigh-track. He deposited it in the cutter and drove home. He then came back to Lucan and gave the news to his friends.

Several of the villagers proceeded to the scene of the tragedy, and upon a close inspection found the man's cap, a trail of blood for a short distance, and also the revolver with which the deed had been committed.

The man's overcoat and other garments were open, which evidences the fact that robbery was the object. It is supposed that there was not much money on his person, as no money was paid out at the meeting of the cheese manufacturers, and on examination of his pockets a $2 bill was found in one of his pants pockets. He had no weapons of any kind on his person. He owned a revolver, but it was at his house with all the chambers empty. Neither was there any ammunition in the house.

Apparently nothing was disturbed on the murdered man's person. Only the overcoat and undercoat were unbuttoned. A memorandum book in the breast pocket of his overcoat was not disturbed. The revolver found was a first-class one, thirty-two calibre, with silver mounted pearl handle. Four chambers were empty.

THE MURDERED MAN.

Little Light Thrown on the Tragedy at the Inquest.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Robert B. Orme, the victim of last night's tragedy on the town line between Biddulph and London, was about 40 years old, born on the eleventh concession of London and had been a life-long resident of the neighborhood. He was a member of the Methodist Church, as were also the rest of the family, and was a well-to-do farmer. Rev. James H. Orme, the Methodist minister at Wardsville, and J. W. Orme, proprietor of The Lucan Enterprise, are brothers of deceased.

The inquest held to-day by Dr. Hossack of Lucan failed to throw much new light on the tragic event. Whitfield Orme, 17, eldest son of deceased, testified that when his father left for Lucan yesterday to attend the cheese factory meeting he was apparently in good health and spirits. Whitfield described the return of the horse and cutter last night about 10 o'clock without a driver. The horse was not heated. Witness and his brother found their father lying beside the road about a mile from home. The robe and horse blanket were partly under him. The body was still warm, but showed no signs of life. When the boys got their father home they found the bullet hole in his head.

John H. McConnell of Lucan testified that blood was traced for over 100 paces toward Lucan from the place where Orme's body was found, and here his cap lay in the snow with blood on the front of it. Near the cap a revolver was found and the side of the cutter was covered with blood.

Ernest Orme, a younger son of the victim, corroborated his brother's evidence and the inquest was adjourned for a week.

The post mortem made by Dr. Sutton of Clandeboye showed that the bullet, a 32-calibre one, had entered the right side of the skull and lodged in the lower part of the brain on the left side. The weapon was a new self-cocking six-chambered revolver, 32-calibre. Four chambers had been loaded. One was charged when found. There were three empty shells in the pistol, one shell being an old one and slightly rusty while the other two will been recently exploded.

A few days ago Orme drew $150, his share of profits in a cheese factory. He spent $50 or $60 of this money in London, but the balance is not accounted for.

In the absence of any clue to the murderer there is talk of suicide, but no plausible reason can be assigned why Mr. Orme should have taken his own life.

AN ANIMATED DISCUSSION.

Over the Proposition to Continue Banker Taylor's Examination in His Cells.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The proposition to hold another judicial seance in Banker Taylor's cell to-day gave rise to a very animated discussion in the corridor of the Court House between County Crown Attorney Hutchinson, Mayor Cowan and Taylor's counsel, Mr. James Magee.

Mr. Hutchinson questioned the right of Mayor Cowan to preside at the examination. The Mayor stated he had been requested by the magistrate to do so, but admitted he had no written authority to that effect. Mr. Hutchinson then emphatically declared the trial of the case must be held in the Court House or not at all. The Mayor said that in consideration of Mr. Taylor's physical condition the examination would be held in the debtor's cell.

Mr. Hutchinson: "If Taylor was able to go before the Chief Justice he is able to come up in open court on these charges. I'm going to have no more hole and corner business."

Mr. Magee: "Let us get Dr. Smith, the jail's surgeon, and hear what he has to say."

Mr. Hutchinson: "You need not trouble yourself. I decline to be governed in this matter by the opinions of any one, especially a man like him. I place no confidence whatever in him."

The jail surgeon here appeared on the scene and Mr. Magee appealed to him.

Mr. Hutchinson: "The conduct of Dr. Smith in this case has convinced me that there is no use placing the least reliance on him. I decline to pay any attention to what he may say."

Dr. Smith: "I don't ask you to take my statements for it. Here are the certificates of Sir Henry Clarke and Dr. Woodruff."

Mr. Hutchinson said he didn't care for any certificates. Anybody who saw Taylor before the Chief Justice knew they were all tomfoolery.

The Mayor then read the certificates. That from Sir Henry Clarke stated that it would in all probability endanger Taylor's life to mete out to him the treatment of any ordinary criminal. Dr. Woodruff's was to the effect that he was suffering from an acute form of heart disease.

Mr. Hutchinson said he would let the information lapse and bring Taylor before the Grand Jury at next assizes direct. Subsequently, however, it was agreed between Mr. Magee and Mr. Hutchinson that the case should be adjourned till Monday, when the Police Magistrate would take it up.

Death of an Old Resident of Oshawa.

OSHAWA, Jan. 18.—Flags were at half mast here to-day on account of the death at Brooklyn, N.Y., yesterday of Mrs. Harriet Hall Glen, wife of T. W. Glen, ex-M.P. for South Ontario. Mrs. Glen was a resident of Oshawa for over twenty-five years. She was a generous and charitable Christian woman, and her philanthropy was widely extended to the needy and poor.

THE CHURCH AND THE LEAGUE.

Prof. Galbraith's Choice—Father Ryan Released—Mr. Balfour in Danger.

DUBLIN, Jan. 18.—The Conference of the Church of Ireland, in session here, has sustained the view taken by the primate of the church, that the position of Prof. Galbraith as a member of the Finance Committee of the church is incompatible with his membership of the National League. Prof. Galbraith has, in consequence, intimated that he will resign from the church committee.

Crowds Greet Father Ryan.

DUBLIN, Jan. 18.—Father Matthew Ryan, who was imprisoned at Limerick for a month for inciting the people to illegal acts in connection with the plan of campaign, was released to-day. Ten thousand persons were collected around the prison, and he was received with loud cheers. The Mayor, Sheriff, Municipal Council and many clergymen congratulated him upon his release.

The crowd escorted Father Ryan fourteen miles to his parish at Herbertstown. The police followed the whole distance but were delayed when half way to Herbertstown by a car which had been drawn across the road. Father Ryan was thus enabled on his arrival home to address the people without interference. He advised the tenants to adopt the plan of campaign, which he said was moral and just, notwithstanding everything that lords, both spiritual and temporal, said to the contrary. A Nationalist meeting announced to be held at Ballygawley, County Tyrone, tomorrow has been proclaimed.

Mr. Balfour's Peril.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—The Tribune's London despatch says: Official anxiety about Mr. Balfour has much increased. The police authorities say he is in greater danger of assassination than ever Mr. Forster was, whose repeated escapes were nothing short of miraculous. Plot after plot to murder the Chief Secretary has been formed and frustrated. The Vice-Regal lodge, where the Chief Secretary lives, and Phœnix Park, in which the lodge stands, swarm with detectives, and he is never allowed to take a step alone.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

The Irritation Increases—M. Flourens' Warlike Message to Signor Crispi.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—The strained relations with Italy depressed commercial and financial business to-day. The Bourse was heavy. Several evening papers violently attack Italy, and La France alludes to Premier Crispi as "Bismarck's valet." The French consul at Florence has received instructions as to the course to pursue in case the incident is prolonged.

It is semi-officially announced that Count de Mouy, the French Ambassador at Rome, having informed M. Flourens that the Proctor of Florence had intimated his intention to remove on Friday the seals affixed by the French Consulate to the documents relating to the Hussein succession, M. Flourens has requested Count de Mouy to inform Signor Crispi that if such an act of violence is committed the French Government will hold Italy responsible.

The Paris urges the Government to demand complete satisfaction from Italy for the indignity offered to the French Consulate at Florence, and, in the event of a failure by Italy to comply, to sever the relations between France and Italy and expel all Italians from France.

M. Flourens, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Count Menebrea, the Italian Ambassador, had a friendly interview this evening. An early settlement of the dispute over the Florence incident is now certain.

Will Postpone Removing the Seals.

ROME, Jan. 18.—The Riforma announces that the Government will postpone the removal of the seals placed on the Hussein documents by the French Consulate at Florence but declines to be responsible for the acts of the judicial authorities there.

Don't forget St. Paul's Church Concert in Pavilion to-night.

AMERICAN CIVIL ENGINEERS.

A Canadian Elected to the Presidency—A Torontonian Honored.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—The American Society of Civil Engineers to-day elected I. C. Kiefer, of Ottawa, as President.

A Toronto Man Elected.

BOSTON, Jan. 18.—The sessions of the Bricklayers and Masons' Convention to-day were almost entirely devoted to the election of officers, which resulted: President, Alex. Darrach, of St. Louis; Vice-President, Andrew McCormick, Toronto, Ont.; Secretary, Thomas Odea, Cohoes, N. Y.; Treasurer, P. Murray, Buffalo, N. Y.

Portugal Renounces the Dahomean Protectorate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—The Government of Portugal has notified the Secretary of State that it has renounced the protectorate over Dahomey, which it assumed by a treaty concluded in 1885. The efforts of Portugal to control the King of Dahomey and abolish human sacrifices and other barbarous customs have proved unsuccessful and the Portuguese Government has therefore renounced the protectorate and declared itself absolved from all responsibility for the future actions of the Dahomeys.

A Perjury Case at Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Jan. 18.—John Stuart was charged by John Glasgow with perjury. It appears that Stuart rented a farm near Waterdown from Glasgow and as Mr. Glasgow had boarded out there during part of the summer there were contra accounts between landlord and tenant and the plaintiff claims they exchanged receipts in full. Stuart afterwards made affidavit that Glasgow owed him $200, and the arrest of the defendant followed. The case was adjourned until to-morrow.

Perilous Ride on a Cowcatcher.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Word was received here to-day that a farmer's sleigh was struck by a Canadian Pacific Railway train last night in the vicinity of Woodstock. The sleigh was smashed to fragments, and Wm. Hutchinson of the fifteenth concession, East Zorra, and Thos. Dell, a laborer of Woodstock, both sustained severe injuries, one of them being carried seven-eighths of a mile on the cowcatcher. They were taken to Woodstock and cared for.

The Trafalgar-Square Riots Trials.

LONDON, Jan. 18—The trial of Cunninghame Graham, M.P. for Lanarkshire, and Mr. Burns, the Socialist leader, for participation in the riots near Trafalgar-square on Nov. 13, was concluded to-day. The prisoners were declared not guilty of the charges of rioting and of assault, but guilty of the charge of taking part in an unlawful assembly. They were sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment.

A Disturbance in Rouen Cathedral.

PARIS, Jan. 17.—A priest in the Rouen Cathedral personated God in a dialog with the Devil. The congregation became incensed and hissed and sang the "Marseillaise" and "Revenant De La Revue." The police were called upon to quell the disorder. They made several arrests, but failed to clear the cathedral.

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Agricultural Society Meetings.

HAMILTON, Jan. 18.—The annual meetings of the North and South Wentworth Agricultural Societies were held in the city to-day. The treasurer's report of the former showed a balance of $61, and of the latter a deficit of $53.

Boiler Explosion at Jordan.

JORDAN, Ont., Jan. 18.—The boiler in the saw mill owned by R. Thompson & Co. here exploded this morning about 9 o'clock. O. Holland, engineer, and P. Flannagan, mill hand, were badly injured. The mill is a total wreck.

WHAT RETARDS MINING.

TOO MANY MINE HOLDERS WAITING FOR PURCHASERS TO APPEAR.

A Fort Arthur Paper's Opinion—Silver and Gold at the Soo — Interviews With Messrs. Cozens and Plummer—Proposed Amendments in the Mining Law.

For eleven days The World has been advocating that the Ontario Government should take steps to promote the development of the great mineral resources of the premier province, and the course this journal has taken has met with flattering recognition and well-nigh universal endorsement.

The time for dallying and red tape routine has passed, and something definite and tangible is on every hand expected from the Provincial Legislature. Our mineral stores are unquestioned and unsurpassable, but hitherto prospectors and capitalists have been working in the dark. Authoritative surveys should be at once made and the results immediately tabulated and published. These reports would delimit the mineral districts, show where railway extensions would be desirable, and inform Canadians and the world at large of the rich stores the country possesses. It is only a matter of wearisome iteration to publish the many statements as to the teeming wealth which lies buried in many districts. The reports already given have told our readers this, and not a single contradiction or qualification has been received. The spring will witness a great boom in individual enterprise, but if the question be shelved upon any pretext whatever by the Legislature, murmurs not loud but deep will follow, and Mr. Mowat will place the Government in a false position.

To make the most of what we have is surely a patriotic object, and that Canada, especially Ontario, has not been doing this is palpable to every one who has given impartial consideration to the subject. Subsidiary questions may for the time be left on the principle of the survival of the fittest, such as the establishment of a Mining Exchange, publication of a mining journal, subsidies for railroad promotion, company combinations, etc.; but that the Government should expedite and facilitate exploration, give official information, undertake assaying at a reasonable charge, further develop a School of Mining and throw its ægis over the mineral development of the province is on every hand regarded as its undoubted duty.

This is in the interests of the province, and would be also in the interest of the investors, for thereby they would not be likely to be easily duped by interested statements of mining speculators. An important suggestion which has been made is that of compulsory working of mining property by leaseholders and the compensation of parties who have expended capital in mine development.

Subjoined are specimens of many communications which The World has received on this important subject:

They Can be Successfully Operated.

Mr. Joseph Cozens and Mr. W. H. Plummer of Sault Ste. Marie, who are staying at the Queen's, were interviewed last evening by The World. They stated they heartily approved of the action of this journal in urging the development of Ontario's mines. The riches of these could not be over-estimated, and only the expenditure of capital and facilities of development were required to place them on a successful basis. If this were done the province would receive much benefit. Investors were often unreasonable, and expected too large and early a return for their capital. Mining was like other businesses, and undue profits should not be expected.

Each of the gentlemen interviewed had been largely connected with mining development in the extensive district of Sault Ste. Marie, where the present prospects are remarkably good. More capital was needed, but this was being supplied alike from Canada, the United States and Great Britain. All rash speculation injured mining development.

"In the Sault Ste. Marie district," they added, "are very valuable deposits of dolomite, iron, galena, silver and gold. The galena deposits had recently shown a large percentage of silver. Northwest of Lake Superior large iron deposits and native copper are known to exist. Within the last few months gold had also been found in that locality.

The mineral resources of Canada are at the lowest extent, and are yet in their infancy. Disappointment has resulted from some efforts, but this is owing to mis-direction, lack of capital, and want of reliable information. In some districts only surface work has been done owing to want of capital, and in others, where this has been forthcoming, there has been a rich return. Very few of the mines in Michigan proved remunerative at first, but when mining was persevered in and a good depth reached, success rewarded the efforts made. One instance is that of a mine who expended $95,000 and got no return in an iron mine on Lake Superior, but when the capital was increased to $100,000, and the work further prosecuted, success came, and last year $500,000 worth of ore was obtained. Another mine on Lake Superior, at first very valuable, had to be sunk 2000 feet before any ore was obtained.

Canada is the finest country in the world for mining development, and it only requires to be properly known for capital from America and England to flow in. Lack of enterprise is the great drawback, but with accurate information and more exploring development with follow.

In this district are large granite deposits of high value, the finest in the world, which are prized in Chicago as well as the marbles which are the best in the country. A strong company has recently been formed to work these departments.

The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway demonstrated the fact of great mineral wealth in its course. Enterprise is only needed to develop these stores. Of the ultimate results we have not the slightest doubt."

Mr. Cozens added that he had himself expended over $100,000 on the best of his interests in explorations on the part of British capitalists, who were satisfied with the results obtained. A very large development was expected in the summer in the Sault Ste. Marie district. The Victoria silver mines, fifteen miles eastwards, were very valuable, but a temporary disagreement has impeded progress. Railways had now made the district accessible and busy times might be looked for in the present year.

What Retards Enterprise.

From The British Whig, Kingston.

The Toronto World is conducting a vigorous campaign against the Ontario Government and its mining policy, and with some of its points we have really no fault to find. But we have some knowledge of the manner in which the development of the mines has been deterred through the exorbitant demands of private owners, and in view of the facts consider a change in the regulations concerning the ownership desirable and indeed imperative. By reserving the title to minerals in all lands owned by the province, and allowing any person or persons to work mines on leases subject to a Government royalty, the development of mines would be helped and a handsome addition made to the public funds. To prevent the speculation in and monopoly of such lands it would be necessary to make the conditions for retaining a lease obligatory in such a manner that the holder would be compelled to work the mine or forfeit his lease. In fact it would not be going too far, in the opinion of those who have had some experience in mining, and in the interests of the people, to expropriate the titles to all minerals in the province that have passed out of the hands of the Government, compensating those parties only who have expended capital in the development of mines.

We do not know how far The World can coincide with our suggestions, but we are bound to say that something must be done in the direction we have noted in the reconstruction of the province's mining policy.

The World has simply to say that it believes there is a great deal of force in what The Whig says, and suggests that in the future conditions be inserted in the patents making development obligatory, within, say, two or three years. We have no sympathy with the men who have grabbed valuable lots for a few dollars and who are sitting quietly down awaiting an enterprising man or company to come along and buy it from them at a big price. It is not in the interest of these gentry that The World has started the agitation.

An Algoma Paper's Opinion.

The Algoma Pioneer, published at Port Arthur, used some very bad English in telling The World that the Ontario Government has done all that "the most exacting could desire" in the way of developing mining. Here is a specimen extract:

The Toronto World has had an article advocating a mining policy for the Ontario Government, and it is, perhaps, not amiss for that The World should know so little of what the Ontario Government has done to aid in developing our mining enterprises, for if it had known how much has been done for us it might not have had the gall to make the splurge it has about its little article. The Ontario Government has had a mining policy for many years. The policy has been to make mining possible by constructing roads out to the mines and by selling lands cheaply and making their acquirement as devoid of red tape as possible.

The wind up is to the effect that with a mining school at Port Arthur the Government's policy would be complete. We do not think Mr. Mowat thinks he has done all that it is possible or rather advisable for him to do in the matter. We believe that he is prepared to go further on in the good work. He must have seen from the discussion that has taken place that much more remains to be done to start the mining industry on its feet.

Compressed Air Engines for Mining.

With regard to the development of the mining industries of Ontario, we have been furnished by Mr. Herbert C. Jones of this city, who is a correspondent for two of the mining papers of New York, with an account of a new and simple device of service in mining. It is explained in a letter of Dr. James Blavan of Virginia City, Nevada, in The Financial and Mining Record.

It states Mr. E. O. Teermo of Gold Hill, Nevada, is the inventor of a meritorious device for propelling cars. It is to supersede steam, cable and horse-power where the grade is an ordinary one for railroad locomotive transit. The motive power is compressed air, its application new, and it is well adapted for tunnel transportation as well as elevated railroads. Between the rails on the track is laid a wrought iron tube varying in size to the amount of the traffic. The locomotive or propelling engine is of ordinary construction with the exception of a "conductor" which is similar to an endless flexible hose with valves on top and bottom. This conductor is ingeniously connected with the locomotive. The application is cheap. One engine at a terminus to manufacture air will drive any desired number of locomotives from one to 100 miles. Air can also be furnished to run light machinery. There is a proposition to test the merits of this invention on the Satro tunnel and do away with mules, as using coal or wood-burning locomotives is impossible. The tunnel project will manufacture its compressed air by aid of a turbine water wheel and the waste water. Cars could be run much faster and much more rapidly than they are now drawn by mules and much more transporting could be accomplished in the same space of time. This invention may have a great effect in expediting mining operations.

Silver and Gold Discoveries.

The Soo Express says: We are on the threshold of a mining boom which, according to present indications, will be one of great extent. The Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma mining district has been explored and surveyed during the past season by keen mineralogists, and we can safely infer that our mineral resources which have been latent for so long a time are about to be developed. The following companies have been formed here during the past season: The Silver Creek Mining Company, located on Silver Creek, in the Township of Tarentorus. According to late assays made, the specimens show from $43 to $80 the ton. The Gros Cap Mining Co., located at Gros Cap, the head of the St. Mary River. The Echo Lake Mining Company which is composed of American capitalists, have mineral lands and locations in several parts of this district. They intend rushing things next spring. The greatest "find" yet discovered is the Ranger Mine, twenty miles south of Sudbury. The mineral is gold, and according to assays made, gives a showing from $900 all the way up to $35,000 to the ton. The capital stock subscribed for the working of the mine is $240,000. The precious metal can be seen on the surface of the vein which is fifteen feet in width and about one mile in length. The latest discovery is the Dunn Mine, so called after the discoverer, Dan Dunn. The location is east of Sudbury Junction twenty miles; a syndicate of Sooites has been formed for the purpose of developing the mine."

Our Mineral Deposits.

Editor World: Sir—During the present excitement respecting the mines and mining lands of the Dominion a good deal of obloquy has been cast on the Geological Survey of Canada from the supposed remissness of its officers in not making known more fully our mineral wealth. Permit me therefore to call attention to the recent issue by the survey of a closely printed volume of eighty-six pages under the title of a "Statistical Report on the Production, Value, Exports and Imports of Minerals in Canada during the Year 1886 and Previous Years." This report has been drawn up by Eugene Coste, assisted by D. D. Ingall, mining engineers attached to the survey; and an additional report, giving returns, so far as these can be obtained, to the close of 1887, is promised without delay. Copies of the present report can be purchased for 25 cents. If this publication, in conjunction with the catalogs of the economic minerals of Canada previously published, be not sufficient to awaken the attention of capitalists in Europe and the United States to our mineral wealth, I do not think that any effort on the part of the Provincial Government would be more successful.

Much has been published in the newspapers during the last few weeks in which the Ontario Government is loudly called upon to develop our mineral lands; but how this is to be effected we are not informed, except in the very vaguest manner. Most of our mineral lands within the more settled districts are already taken up, and surely it is not the duty of the Government to spend public money in testing for the benefit of speculators or the owners! But in the more remote and practically inaccessible lands, Government aid might be judiciously applied in opening up roads and in encouraging by small land grants, or otherwise, the building of mineral railways. Until this be done any mineral deposits that may be discovered there are practically locked up and unworkable.

We have been told that the Government should erect, or assist in erecting, blast furnaces for the reduction of our iron ores. I do not believe in this. Private enterprise will put up these furnaces whenever they can be made to pay. At present there is not wealth enough nor population enough in the country to encourage this enterprise. Its day is to come. Two or three blast furnaces in active work would make more iron in a couple of months than the province could use up in a year. If Free Trade existed with the United States, we might send our surplus there, it is true; but then two could play at that game, and I am afraid a good deal more iron would be sent into the province than we could send out of it.

I have also seen it urged in recent articles that the School of Practical Science in Toronto should be called upon to make assays and analyses of ores at merely a nominal charge. Permit me to say in reply that the duty of the school is to impart instruction to its own special students and to the natural science students of the University of Toronto, and this work alone taxes all its resources. Assaying and the practical determination of minerals are taught there amongst other branches, and several of its students are now getting their living as practical assayers. I may add also that its professors are always willing to give every information in their power to those who apply for it. Speaking for myself, not a week passes without at least three or four applications being made to me by letter or otherwise for information on mineral samples. And this information, often at much personal inconvenience, I have always given free of charge. But if assays or analyses, involving evening work and taking up spare time, are wanted, payment for the same is legitimately demanded. Could assays be obtained for nothing, a perfect flood of rubbish would be poured in upon the unfortunate assayer.

A final word as to mining statistics. Unless verified by shippers' books or custom house entries, these statistics are of very little value. Exaggerated statements are too commonly made by owners of mineral properties, and in many instances access to mines is forbidden under the fear that an inspection might hurt their sale. We might as well expect a merchant to allow his books to be examined in order that his amount of business might be ascertained and published to the world.

As regards Ontario, therefore, my opinion comes to this, that the Government might fairly be called upon to open roads through our mineral districts, and to encourage the building of mineral railways, leaving the rest to private enterprise. In the face of the publications already issued by the Geological Survey and others, it is useless to pretend that nothing has been done to make known the mineral resources of the province. In addition to these publications, a well-conducted mining journal is issued monthly at Ottawa, in which all new discoveries, and statistics of mining outputs, etc., so far as these can be obtained, are at once made known. In the Geological Museum at Ottawa, examples of all the economic minerals hitherto discovered in the Dominion are open to public inspection. A room or two in the new parliament buildings, here, might be set apart for a similar collection of economic products of Ontario.

E. J. CHAPMAN,
Professor in University College and School of Practical Science, Toronto.
Jan. 18, 1888.

POLITICS IN MANITOBA.

The Fifth Portfolio Still Unassigned—Mayor Jones Declines.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 18.—The Free Press announces this morning that The World did several days ago, that the new Cabinet will consist of Greenway, Jones, Martin and Smart. The fifth seat, usually accorded Frenchmen, is left vacant, but will be secured by Prendergast. A. F. Martin pressed hard for it, but the Reformers feared that unless Prendergast was taken in they would lose one rote. The latter will be Minister of Agriculture.

The Conservatives hold a caucus to-morrow, when doubtless they will decide to oppose Prendergast in La Vérendrye, and Jones and Smith in Winnipeg. There is a strong feeling in Conservative circles against both Jones and Prendergast.

It is learned that so strong is the opposition to Mayor Jones that he has wired declining a seat in the Greenway Cabinet.

How Little Bill Got Away From Kellert.

"Billy" Bingham was the defendant in the Division Court yesterday in an action brought by J. D. Murphy to recover $90. It was from Mr. Murphy that Bingham chartered the steamer Kathleen to convey him on the night of Nov. 3 last to Lewiston, a point he was anxious to reach so as to be out of reach "Detective" Kellert, who had a warrant for his arrest in connection with the Bethune—Unknown foot race at Ottawa.

It came out in evidence that no specified sum was agreed upon for the trip. Bingham was told that it would be an expensive one. He was charged $150, of which sum he paid $60. The boat had been laid up for the season; a special crew had to be procured; the weather during the voyage was so boisterous that 52 hours were required to make the pass to Lewiston, where the boat remained some time before returning, owing to the gale. Judgment was given for Bingham on the ground that a reasonable sum would have gone to the mouth of the river and learn whether it was safe to cross the lake, and his failure to do so should be considered as responsible for the length of the trip.

The Meeting of the Premiers.

What a happy reunion it must have been when Sir John Macdonald, Sir Alex. Campbell and the Hon. Oliver Mowat shook hands in the state drawing-room at Government House on Tuesday last. All three were law students together in Kingston years ago. What happy memories the meeting must have awakened. What youthful pranks it must have recalled. Sir John will now, no doubt, see that Ontario's Premier is knighted, and then the three students whose pranks of those days used to be the terror of old Kingston town, will each be dubbed "Sir," a fitting tribute to worth and statesmanship. Dineen, the batter, will be glad to see it. In the meantime he will sell at his fur palace, corner King and Yonge streets, all kinds of furs cheaper than ever.

Sudden Death of the Police Headquarters Janitress.

Mrs. Woods, the caretaker of Police Headquarters, died very suddenly at noon yesterday. Although she had for some time been suffering from lung and heart disease and had been seen by a doctor ten minutes before her death, she was active enough to walk about, and her sudden death was totally unexpected. She was crossing the floor of the dining-room when she fell. Her daughter, Mrs. Allworth, picked her up, but she died in a few minutes. Her husband, who for many years keeper of the building for ten years, died suddenly out Yonge-street about two years ago.

The Y. W. C. T. U.

The Y.W.C.T.U. held their semi-monthly devotional meeting yesterday afternoon in the parlor of the Y.M.C.A. building. The lady president was in the chair and there was a large attendance. Miss Fairclough read a paper on "The Power of Prayer," which was supplemented by contributions in Scriptural language from each of the members present. Devotional exercises, followed, and then arrangements were made for the Union's concert in Association Hall on Feb. 16. Among others who will take part are the following: Mrs. Caldwell, Mr. Warrington, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Ramsay.

A Successful Ice Carnival.

The carnival at the Granite Rink last night was the largest of the season, over 2500 persons being in attendance. There were two bands to supply music. There must have been 300 persons in character on the ice in the largest rink. A great many of the costumes were well gotten up and creditable to the costumers. The ice was in splendid condition, and Mr. Badenach and his assistants were given full credit for the way in which the entertainment was conducted.

Young Lady True Blues.

Seven young women received the rites of the Ladies' Advance Society, True Blues, at 81 Portland-street, the home of Bro. Stewart, the other evening. The interest which the members are taking in the society and the rapidity with which ladies are joining show its growth and serve to point to a prosperous future. Shall we have lady True Blues? will be for she Grand Lodge to decide in May next, when it assembles at Kingston.

Three Men Killed.

MARQUETTE, Mich.—This morning three men were killed at the Champion mine, in this county, by the accidental dumping of the skip which was bearing them to the surface. Their names were John Casey, Carl Johnson and W. R. Chaddock. Two men escaped by clinging to the chain.—Insure in the Manufacturers' Accident Insurance Company.

The McMaster University.

The Board of Trustees of McMaster University have decided to call a meeting of the Baptist Convention at Guelph on March 27 to discuss and decide the question as to whether McMaster University shall remain independent or federate with Toronto University. The location of the institution will also be decided.

Zion Alter as English Pastor.

The congregation of Zion Church, Toronto, is trying to secure as its pastor the Rev. Jackson Wray of Whitfield Tabernacle, London, England. They have offered a salary of $4000, but have not received a decisive answer.

THE GOVERNOR'S BIG BALL.

TWELVE HUNDRED GAY REVELERS AT THE GUBERNATORIAL DANCE.

A Crowded Scene of Gayety, Music and Flowers—A Bevy of Charming Debutantes—The Social Event of 1888—Many Merry Men and Women.

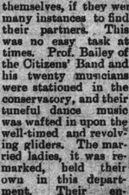
COLD AND CLEAR above the stars above Government House and its ample grounds last night. Blue and red lamps lighted the way to prancing steeds with jingling bells up the drive to the canopied King-street entrance. Sleigh load after sleigh load of maidenly and matronly beauty found an ingress through this door. Gallants in conventional evening dress and officers of the Garrison, with bespurred boots and clanking swords, accompanied these fair ones.

Inside the greatest throng ever seen within the walls of the gubernatorial mansion had assembled by 9.30. It was the first "big ball" held there since Sir Alexander Campbell and Miss Marjorie Campbell became its host and hostess. Of the latter charming young lady, all the encomiums that have been heaped upon her by the society writers in the Toronto press were apparent last night. On her almost solely rested the happiness of the twelve hundred gay revelers who came there to do her official father homage.

Twelve hundred people at a ball! And about two-thirds of them ready for the dance. That would lead the reader to believe that it was a pretty robust party indeed. It was just so large that every room in the building was brought into requisition, if for nothing more in some instances than a breathing space. Over fifteen hundred invitations were sent out, with twelve hundred acceptances.

The brilliantly-lighted parlors, the reception-rooms, the library, the conservatory, the broad hallways, the ante-rooms, overflowed with social Toronto. It was agreeably noticeable, to the masculine eye at least, that the ladies had the call as to numbers. They were there in the proportion of four to three. The throng was too dense to enable even a critical spectator to properly estimate the richness and beauty of the hundreds of feminine costumes. The delicate shades of blue, white, gold, cardinal and pink were too close blended to harmonize effects.

Those than engaged in the mazy dance did so in very confined quarters. The engagements on the program numbered twenty, and were made up of the only correct numbers now known to the refined ballroom — the waltz, polka, quadrille, lancers and schottische. The dancers thoroughly enjoyed themselves, if they were fortunate enough in many instances to find their partners. This was no easy task at any rate. F. E. Bailey of the Citizens' Band and his twenty musicians were stationed in the conservatory, and their tuneful dance music wafted in upon the well-timed and revolving gliders. The married ladies, it was remarked, held their own in this department. Their engagement cards were not noted for their blanks. In fact some of their single sisters WHERE'S MY PARTNER? were heard to remark that they were having it too much of their own way.



Sir Alexander and Miss Marjorie spent over an hour in receiving their guests when they began to arrive. The Governor was sans uniform, and not a few of the inquisitive wondered thereat. They expected to see Sir Alexander bedecked in a cocked hat, plumes, yards of gold lace and a sword. They will probably have to wait till the Legislature opens next Thursday for this display of military pomp and shell. Miss Marjorie looked lovely in white tulle as she assisted in the early reception. She was the admired of the many and the happiness of all.

Of course masculine speculation ran high as to who would be declared the belle of the ball. The honor was a difficult one to pronounce upon. It was reduced by common consent to a half a dozen or so of social debutantes. Outside of Miss Marjorie these were Miss Annie Laidlaw, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Jessie Morson, Miss Amy Gimson, Miss Mabel Heward, Miss Alice Bunting and Miss Bessie Macdonald. They were all worthy of the distinction, and The World will leave it to their numerous admirers to award the prize.

The queenly matrons were as numerous as they were pretty, and it is not for a newspaper reporter to indulge in criticism. Reporters as a rule are poor judges of such matters and they too often make sad mistakes.

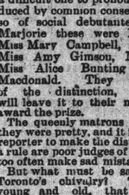
But what must be said of that throng of Toronto's chivalry? The handsome men, young and old, that filled those noble halls and parlors. The officers in bright uniform. They were the fascinating spots on the kaleidoscope. Looking over the gentlemen it was said by an excellent authority that Capt. Davidson, R.N., was the handsomest soldier and Warden James Massie the ideal civilian. Is this so? Perhaps it is. Capt. McMurrich, C.A.A., was voted the most accomplished and energetic dancer in uniform. Col. G. T. Denison and Col. Gray looked too soldierly and warlike for the ballroom, albeit they do love to arrange military pageants.

Hon. O. Mowat, Hon. A. S. Hardy and Hon. G. W. Ross did the honors for Sir Alexander's constitutional advisers, and as is usual with these astute politicians, they did it well. The Attorney-General was frequently quizzed about his meeting with Sir John and the Governor on Tuesday, but he was too deeply concerned in the gay scenes around him to talk about such trivial matters. By the way, the gentleman from Brantford who presides over the State Department is really an attraction to the ladies on such occasions.

To give a list of all who were there would fill half a page of The World, and during these busy times such an attempt would be out of the question. But almost everybody who is known in social circles was at the ball, which, barring the slight over-crowding, was a unique success. Capt. Law, A.D.C., had perfected the arrangements to a nicety, and the gallant captain himself was omnipresent to see these details carried out.

Refreshments were served in three places. Lemonade and ices were dispensed upstairs and two supper rooms were kept going on the ground floor.

An hour after midnight the guests began to depart and by 2.30 this morning the halls of Government House were pretty well deserted, with naught else left but the fragrance of the flowers and exotics, the still brightly illuminated apartments and the lingering vestages of a gay feast. This, the first ball at Government House under the present regime, which may be designated as on a large scale will be remembered by those who attended as Toronto's great social event for 1888.



THE NEXT MORNING.

Because the ladies all enjoyed themselves thoroughly is no reason why our artist should have suggested the accompanying sketch as representing a belle the morning after the ball.

Mr. Torrington will conduct the concert to-night in the Pavilion. The event of the season.

Crowds Are Rushing Yet.

—The excitement never seems to die out, crowds are all the time rushing to 178 Yonge-st. They seem never to get satisfied. No sooner they get a big bargain than they come back for another. The big department sale is still in progress at the big housefurnishing house and toy emporium. Mr. Stratford is giving such bargains in every line of housefurnishing goods as never before was known in the city. This "snap" won't be kept up much longer, so make of your chance quick at the noted 178 Yonge. x

THE CENTRAL BANK.

How the Work of Liquidation Proceeds—Forty Cents on the Dollar in View—Proceedings Before the Master—The Niagara Central Notes.

The work of liquidating the Central Bank goes slowly forward. The announcement in The World of yesterday that not 40 cents on the dollar would be realized by depositors, cast a gloom over North Toronto and Guelph where much of the money on deposit came from. The effect of the failure in Guelph is luminously set forth in an extract given below from a Hamilton paper. All the information that could be gathered yesterday confirms the view of The World, viz.: