

A DEATHBED MYSTERY.

Dying Lumberman Knows That His Father is Killed.

YOUNG GIRL HEARS HIS CRY

Clergyman Vouches for Facts—Tragedy in a Canadian Camp on Christmas Eve—Marie's Vision—Heard Her Lover Call—Father's and Son's Strange Deaths.

Hull, Que., Jan. 20.—Believers in what is occult or the telepathic will perhaps find no difficulty in accounting for the following occurrences in a Gatinagu lumbering shanty. Ordinary mortals of conservative ideas find it not easy to explain them. The facts are vouched for by a clergyman.

Dead Man at Log-Pile. A party of lumbermen were engaged in piling logs on Christmas eve. They made the piles unusually high. The teamsters expostulated with the log rollers for doing so because of the danger to the lumbermen, if their cant-hooks should slip while they were rolling the heavy logs to such an elevation.

Joseph Gingras, a young French-Canadian, had just made some jesting reply when his foot slipped and the forty-lb. thirty-foot log slid down upon his shoulder and rolled over him to the ground. His companions carried him to the shanty, where he was immediately put to bed and made as comfortable as possible.

As night came on he fell into a kind of stupor. From this he awakened in a high fever, talking about his father. "I knew you would come, I was sure of it, father mine. You had better hurry; step along, come quick, my father," he kept calling.

After a time he went on, "Keep away from that railway; don't rest there; get away from the logs. And then, in greatest excitement, "Then just what I told you I oh, he's killed, he's killed! I know it. Mon Dieu, it's so true!"

With that a quantity of blood gushed from his mouth, and he fell back in the rigor of fast approaching death. There was just one last sobbing cry, heard above the low wailing of his comrades, as they knelt around him in the old habitation fashion. "Marie, oh, Marie!" and he had gone.

Perhaps it was natural that on Christmas Day some of the idle men should make their way to the pile of logs, the scene of the accident of the preceding day. But they were quite unprepared for what they found there.

During the night several of the logs had bulged out of their places in the heap and rolled down to the level way. And underneath their crushed into the snow, and of course, stone dead, was an elderly man, and near by a little valise he had apparently set down while resting on the pile.

The body was carried to the shanty and laid in the next bunk to that occupied by Joseph Gingras' body. In trying to learn the man's identity the lumbermen discovered in one of his pockets this letter, written by Joseph Gingras:

"My Dear Papa: All goes well so far and now I am going to the winter near Catfish Lake. You must know the place—just near the Tomahawk portage road, three or four miles north of the lake. But yet I know not why I stay, unless it be to forget all about Marie and her devilries. For the work I like not, and I am not here, after all. No matter, the good God will not let him escape for what he has done to me with his lying tongue."

"And me? My father, you must do just this one thing for me: Come to the home. Come for the Noel sure. Maybe you will see me never more if you come not now. I did wrong to leave you, to persuade you not to come with me as before. Sure, sure come for the Noel. Your affectionate son, "Joseph."

So it was father and son, killed within a few hours of each other, at the same spot, were lying in neighboring berths in the same shanty in the stillness of death at the Noel or New Year's eve.

Just two days later the clerk of the shanty and one of the teamsters were in the office awaiting their turn to report to the local manager of their employers' firm at River Desert, when they heard a voluble, showily dressed woman asking for the address of the shanty where Joseph Gingras was employed.

Marie's Vision at Night. Her sleigh was outside and she was distracted until she could reach that place. Monsieur would not believe her, for truly, she had been told in a vision of the night and in her own soul she felt that she was wanted.

Two, three days before had she heard her Joseph call to her and go to him she would, to leave him never more, no matter what people said any more. And the old man Gingras had himself said to her, "Come to make haste and go to River Desert if she wanted to meet Joseph once more."

And the lumbermen were compelled to tell her that the bodies of father and son were even then on the sled at the door.

It was at 11 o'clock on Christmas eve, when Marie was putting on her wraps in the hallway of her home, that she distinctly heard her lover call her name in agonizing tones, she fancied from the head of the stairs. At which hour the man she had parted from in anger because of evil reports of his sayings respecting her was only 300 miles away with her name on his lips.

INFANT MORTALITY IN RUSSIA

In Some Districts Reaches 50 Per Cent.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 21.—The medical reports presented to the local authorities by the doctors of the Zemstvos reveal an alarming state of things with regard to the infant mortality. It appears that in many of the Governments the proportion of the children who die during the first year is as high as 40 and even 50 per cent. In isolated cases it is even higher. The reports ascribe this terrible mortality mainly to the ignorance of the peasants and to the fact that the mothers have frequently to neglect their children in order to work in the fields. In support of this view it may be pointed out that the death rate is considerably higher in summer than in winter in spite of the severity of the climate.

Another cause appears to be the growing practice of employing wet nurses, with the result that the mother's own children have to be fed by artificial means. In this connection it is pointed out that the rate of infant mortality is much lower among the Mohammedan population, where law obliges every mother to nurse her own children. In one of the Governments, for example, the rate of infant mortality among the Mohammedans is only 14.04 per 1,000, but among the Christians 34.21.

CHINESE PIRATES FIGHT.

Attack Made on Houseboat on the Canton River.

THE BULLETS FLY THICK.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 20.—C.A. Burckhardt, the representative in Canton, China, of a European silk house, tells a thrilling story of adventure with Chinese pirates and has two severe wounds to show in verification of his tale.

In July last Burckhardt and three companions, M. Spallinger, a Swiss; G. E. Huijgen, a Hollander, and V. Hogg, an Englishman, were bound up the Canton River to Shun Tack in a houseboat owned by Burckhardt. The Canton River houseboat is of peculiar construction. It is much like one of the stern-wheel river steamers so familiar on the shallow low streams in America, but the wheel, instead of being turned by a crew of coolies, who stand watches turning a series of cranks arranged after the manner of a treadmill. For this work on Burckhardt's boat a crew of 18 Chinese were carried. They were in charge of a boat, in which acted as captain of the craft. Besides there were several servants. All went well until the second night of the journey, when the boat was about thirty miles from Canton and almost opposite San Young Kee. Burckhardt and his guests had retired soon after midnight, when they were awakened by a shot being fired from the boat and through the side of the house and struck Burckhardt in the foot as he lay in his bunk. An artery was cut and he bled profusely. At four men at once seized their rifles, but by that time bullets were flying about the boat.

Boarded by Pirates. "I was fast losing strength from the wound, and I tore a strip from a blanket and bound it up as best I could," said Burckhardt in telling of the attack. "Before I had my foot bound a stink pot had been thrown on the roof of the house, and I crawled to get to our cabin. I climbed up to where it was, but as I reached the place I met the boatman. The fumes from the stink pot were awful, but we succeeded in getting out of the boat and were at work a bullet struck the boatman, and he died a few minutes later from the wound. I got down into the cabin, and in a minute or two later I was struck in the right leg. The pirates had boarded our boat and the bullets were coming from all directions. One of the pirates got upon the roof of the boat and threw a bomb, that came rolling along the deck, the fuse burning steadily. I picked it up from the floor and hurled it through a window, carrying the glass and the shell with it. Just outside the window it exploded, and the side of the cabin was shattered with the force of the concussion. My two wounds were too much for me, and I fell."

"As I lay on the floor one of my companions handed me a revolver, and I had the satisfaction of shooting two of the pirates as I lay there. I was hit by another bullet in the left shoulder. Luckily the last bullet made only a slight flesh wound. Another bullet clipped a piece out of my scalp. My companions did good work with their rifles, and after about half an hour they succeeded in driving our assailants off. Spallinger was shot through the left arm soon after the fight began. The bullet barely missed the bone, but he tied a handkerchief about it and kept in the fight to the last. The Chinese of the crew jumped into the water, and most of them clung to the paddles of the wheel.

Final Route of Pirates. "After the pirates had been driven off the new rigger, and with their help we turned the boat down the river and about daylight anchored close to a Chinese gubaoat, and asked for protection. The crew of the vessel made no effort to pursue the pirates. The bodies of eight of the pirates were found in the river with bullets in them from our rifles. We secured a launch from a Chinese official that day and in it we got to Canton, though we were ten hours on the journey. There we got the services of a surgeon. I was two months in a hospital there, and then was sent to a hospital at Yokohama, where I remained about two months more."

"The Chinese Government paid Mr. Spallinger and myself \$10,000 each, and also gave the others of the party some indemnity. They also gave the widow of the Chinese boatman that was killed a pension."

CENSUS TOTALS NOW COMPLETE.

Parliamentary Representation Will be Affected.

HOUSE OF 210 MEMBERS.

Ontario Will Lose 6, New Brunswick 1, Nova Scotia 2, and Prince Edward Island 1—The Yukon to Have a Representative.

Ottawa, Jan. 15.—(Special)—The Census Department gave out to-day the official figures of the census of 1901 for the whole Dominion. The total population is 5,369,666. The population of the provinces is as follows:

	1891.	1901.
P. E. I.	109,078	103,259
Nova Scotia	450,396	459,574
N. Brunswick	321,263	331,120
Quebec	1,488,535	1,648,898
Ontario	2,144,321	2,182,932
Manitoba	152,506	254,947
Br. Columbia	98,173	177,272
N. W. T.	158,941	158,941
Yukon unorganized.	27,167	25,540
Territories	32,168	35,540

Total.....4,833,239 5,369,666

The unit of representation is therefore 25,567. It is found by dividing 65, the number of representatives in Quebec, into the population of that province.

The representation by population will therefore stand as follows:

British Columbia 7
Northwest 6
Manitoba 10
Quebec 56
New Brunswick 13
Nova Scotia 18
Prince Edward Island 4
Yukon 1

Total.....210

This shows that British Columbia will gain 1 member, Northwest 2, Manitoba 3, while 1 goes to the Yukon.

The losses are 6 members in Ontario, 1 in New Brunswick, 2 in Nova Scotia, and 1 in Prince Edward Island. The representation in the present Parliament is 213. It will have to be deducted, making a difference of 3 less than at present.

BLEW UP WARSHIP MAINE.

A Nebraska Man Said to Have Confessed.

WANTED REVENGE ON WEYLER.

Chadron, Neb., Jan. 20.—News reached here to-day from Pine Ridge agency, South Dakota, that a Spanish captain, born in Cuba, who has been working on a ranch near the agency, has confessed that he was the author of the blowing up of the battleship Maine. Captain Manuel de Silva Braza, as the Cuban affirms his name to be, is said to have laid out the whole story. The confession states that Braza, because of his Cuban birth, was forced to submit to the atrocities of Weyler, and that he protested to the Spanish authorities against his general. The protest was intercepted and he, together with two of the sergeants of his company, was arrested, court-martialed, publicly disgraced and discharged from the Spanish army.

In revenge he sought to get Weyler in trouble in connection with the war, which was then in progress between the United States and Spain. The confession states that at first he thought of blowing up some of the Spanish vessels since he knew the location of 101 mines in the harbor, but thought that this would not cause as much stir as though one of the large American battle-ships were blown up. He avers that he waited till a time when nearly all the officers and crew of the Maine should be on board.

Instantly he changed his clothes and in the excitement escaped on board a schooner as a sailor and made his way to Matanzas; from there to San Domingo and thence to New Orleans.

A CURZON PAGEANT.

Celebration of King's Coronation in India.

London, Jan. 20.—The Allahabad correspondent of the Daily Mail says he learns that a gorgeous pageant is being prepared to be held on January 1, 1903, at Delhi, to celebrate King Edward's coronation. Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, is arranging for the attendance of all the feudatory chiefs. There will be present a vast array of European and native troops, for the purpose of impressing the people. It is expected that the Prince of Wales will represent the King.

The function is destined to eclipse Victoria Lord Lytton's durbar when Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India, and to outrival in splendor anything recorded. The Amir of Afghanistan will be specially invited.

X-RAYS CURE CANCER.

Remarkable Case Reported From New Haven, Conn.

New Haven, Conn., Jan. 21.—That cancer can be successfully treated by means of the X-ray has been demonstrated by Dr. C. E. Skinner, in this city, who has just cured Mr. L. S. Manville, after a course of treatment of five weeks' duration. The cancerous growth was of three years, and was not susceptible to the usual treatment. It was as large as two ordinary apples, eleven inches wide and seven inches deep. It had arrived at a stage where Mr. Manville's family physician thought he was certain to die in a few weeks. The physician suggested X-ray treatment. To-day a blemish on the left side of his face and neck and only a skin-deep scar are all that remains to mark the site of the cancer.

Twenty minutes every day the patient sat before the X-ray machine. He states that the light rays pierced the growth with intense burning sensation, eating through and through. The growth diminished gradually, until at the end of five weeks the patient is declared cured. Up to three weeks previous to the X-ray treatment he had not been able to sleep more than twenty minutes a day, despite the fact that he took a spoonful and a half of laudanum daily.

MARRY AT FIRST MEETING.

Pair Who Have Never Seen Each Other to Wed.

COURTSHIP FOLLOWS A JOKE.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—Two persons who will be married in Chicago to-night will have never seen each other. They will not meet until after the wedding, and the romance which unites them grew out of a mere joke.

Josephine Mulock, of Middletown, N. Y., will be the bride, and Dr. Andrew Stewart Hackney, of Kansas City, Mo., will be the groom. Miss Mulock is 24 years of age and Dr. Hackney is a widower, 55 years old. Miss Mulock came to Chicago last night from her home in the east and went to the residence of a distant relative, Mrs. F. C. Osborne, 4,455 Grand avenue, where she was married to arrive until late this evening. His fiancée will meet him at the station and the two will go to some Chicago rectory and there be married.

While Miss Mulock has never met Dr. Hackney, she has been introduced to him by letter through a mutual friend. One day last summer the friend said to Miss Mulock: "I have a very dear friend, a doctor, in Kansas City, who has but recently been widowed. All his children are married, and he is extremely lonesome."

Chooses Husband in Jest. "Ah," said Miss Mulock, in a mere jest, "that is the very man for my husband."

"You ought to correspond with each other," replied the friend. "I will introduce you by letter and then both of you can share your own course. Correspondence with one you do not know will be an innovation at least, and I am sure Dr. Hackney will not object."

Accordingly the introduction was made and the correspondence was begun. Entertaining letters and proposals of marriage finally came. Dr. Hackney. After a time he was accepted. He did not want to leave his practice long enough to go to Middletown to be married, and so a compromise was made on Chicago. Miss Mulock said last night that she did not know where she would be married, since all of the arrangements would be made in Chicago. By wire he had told her that he knew several clergymen in Chicago and would go to one of them. He will tell her some time this forenoon in a telegram where the wedding is to take place.

Miss Mulock is one of ten children. All her brothers and sisters are either married or dead. She lived with her mother until the aged woman died, and then Miss Mulock was left alone, mistress of a large fortune.

Neither Mrs. Osborne, whose husband is the local banker and and the local banker, had seen each other until yesterday. Miss Mulock wrote to Mrs. Osborne some time ago, asking her if she would be at home on the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 15th. In this letter she said she would be there that evening, and would probably be married the following day. Mrs. Osborne's answer was an invitation to Miss Mulock to remain at her house until she was married.

The bride and groom will remain in Chicago for a few days, after which they will leave for Kansas City.

NEARING END OF WAR.

The King's Cheerful Words to Guards To-day.

IS PEACE NEAR AT HAND?

London, Jan. 20.—King Edward has given the royal endorsement to the belief current among the public that an early declaration of peace is in the air. The war might now be regarded as approaching its conclusion, were the words used by His Majesty this morning in addressing the officers of the 1,200 of the Grenadiers, Coldstream and Scots Guards, who start for South Africa to-morrow.

The King's speech, otherwise, was not important. He was accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cornwall, the Duke of Devonshire and Lord Roberts, surrounded by brilliant staffs. A large gathering of privileged guests viewed the function.

BLUNDER LED TO BLOODY BATTLE.

Colombian Divisions Fought for Hours.

EACH MISTAKES THE OTHER

For a Body of Revolutionists—18 Men Killed and 63 Wounded—Trouble Brewing for Venezuela—France Means Business Too.

New York, Jan. 20.—News of a serious mistake in which a force of government troops fought another body of revolutionists, thinking it was composed of Colombian revolutionists, has been brought to London. The revolutionists, who were the counterpart of the rebels at that place. The mistake happened in the vicinity of Maricao, near Rio Hacha, and it resulted in 18 men being killed and 63 wounded.

Captain Merritt, of the General Pinzon, says that that vessel landed 400 men in Maricao to drive back the revolutionists. The revolutionists retreated toward Rio Hacha, when the government troops advanced. It was declared to divide the government forces into two bodies in order to capture the rebels. One of these met the rebels, and after a sharp engagement the insurgents retreated. The other body of government troops then came up, having heard the firing, and the mistake followed. Thinking that it was opposed by rebels, each force started firing. The fight was kept up for four hours, when General Pinzon discovered the mistake and stopped the battle, which had been evenly fought.

Trouble Brewing for Venezuela. Willmarstad, Island of Curacao, Jan. 14.—The Venezuelan revolutionary steamer Libertador (formerly the San Right) was sighted Tuesday evening near Cape Guayana, east of La Guayra. It is supposed that she landed arms there. Numbers of insurgents are in the field in that vicinity.

France Takes Action. Paris, Jan. 20.—The French Government this morning cabled to Caracas, instructing the French consul there to insist that M. Secretat, who recently arrived at La Guayra on the French line steamer St. Laurent, from Bordeaux, be allowed to land.

M. Secretat when he reached La Guayra, was on his way to Caracas, in order to protest there against the seizure of the estates of General Matos, the revolutionary leader which had been legally leased to him. He was prevented from landing by the Venezuelan authorities.

THE GRAND TRUNK.

Will Double-Track From Chicago to Montreal.

MAMMOTH FREIGHT ENGINES.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—The management of the Grand Trunk has decided to have a double track all the way from Chicago to Montreal. A large portion of the system is now double-tracked, and the work will be prosecuted with vigor in filling up the gaps, the largest of which are between Port Huron and Montreal. Of the 335 miles between Chicago and Port Huron, 161 are double-tracked, and work is being prosecuted on 78 miles between Detroit and Battle Creek.

The double track now in operation on the western end consists of 50 miles between Chicago and Selkirk, Ind., and 81 miles between Port Huron and Detroit. Thirty miles being constructed between Stillwell and Grangers, Ind., through South Bend. In the prosecution of the work between Detroit and Battle Creek twelve new steel bridges will be constructed. The greater portion of the Grand Trunk proper from Port Huron to Montreal is already double-tracked. The officials have also decided to add materially to equipment, and eight new mammoth freight engines have been received as a starter.

PRICE OF A WIFE.

New Yorker Swapped His for Two Cows and Three Dogs.

Middletown, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Isiah Peters and Henry Masters, who live on farms a few miles from here, came to this city Saturday, and hunting up a justice of the peace, asked him to draw up a contract by which Masters' wife might be transferred to Peters. The justice explained that he could not draft such a document, but asked for particulars as to the deal and Peters explained.

"It's this way, squire. My wife died two months ago and I'm tired of living alone. Mrs. Masters is a mighty fine woman, and a good housekeeper, and Masters don't really need her, 'cause he's got a sister he can get to look after things for him. I made an offer for her several days ago, and this morning we came to terms. I'm to give him two cows and three sheep dogs, and she's worth 'em."

Asked what Mrs. Masters said about being traded off, her lord and master answered: "Why, nothin', of course. We didn't ask her how she liked it, but she didn't kick when we told her that we made a deal."

Although disappointed at not being able to have a paper drawn that would make the transfer legally binding, Peters and Masters declared that they would make the swap on honor, and left town together to complete the trade.

ITEMS OF NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Chicago fears a strike tomorrow.

Mr. Arch. Campbell's majority in West York is 111.

The later election returns show that Mr. Leonard, Conservative, was elected in Laval.

Mr. Bergeron, the defeated candidate in St. James, Montreal, will demand a re-count.

Chester D. Massey has been elected Third Vice-President of the Chautauque Assembly.

The Montreal Diocesan Theological College has received a gift of \$40,000 from Miss Eliza Duncan.

The British sloop of war, Condor, long overdue from Victoria, has not yet arrived at Honolulu.

Fire at the Union Station in Chicago destroyed the ticket office and an immense quantity of railway tickets.

Lord Strathcona, who attended the funeral of the late Mr. Dobell, caught a cold on that occasion, and is now slightly indisposed.

A despatch from Launceston, Mich., says the Pere Marquette steamer, No. 3, is on the beach there. A 75 mile an hour gale is blowing.

Messrs. Lemire & Hartmann, of Montreal, have been awarded an \$80,000 contract for dredging by the Government of St. Pierre, Alouette.

It is rumored that King Edward has decided to establish a permanent bodyguard of a squadron of Indian cavalry, which will be quartered in London.

Emperor William has commissioned Prince Henry to meet the prominent New York yachtsmen and invite them to participate in the Kiel regatta, beginning June 16th.

Fire, which started in the west end station of the old Royal Electric company, on Queen street, Montreal, caused extensive damage to that and adjoining buildings.

Scotland Yard officials have been notified by the police of New York that a large gang of "wildcats" are gradually making their way to London, arriving there in batches.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has invited the members of Parliament to send a message to the king.

A despatch from Bon Africa, says twenty-five chiefs have been captured by British at Aro. It is the backbone of the rebellion.

The Chicago & E. Railroad is preparing a system of electric lights to prevent accidents, and displays a signal on the locomotive.

Mr. James Smart, secretary of the Immigration Commission, is securing offices in 1 purpose of making a study of the immigration problem, with a view to encouraging emigration.

The Figaro, a French daily, says it is pacific and says it should be coming from the head of an immense Empire, whose name is hydropathy.

The imports of France in 1901 were valued at 4,714,548,000 francs, compared with 4,677,800,000 francs in 1900, and the exports totaled 4,163,165,000 francs, compared with 4,108,690,000 francs in 1900.

His Excellency the Governor-General has declined to interfere in the case of Frederick Lindsey, alias Smith, convicted of the murder of Mrs. Craig at Sault Ste. Marie, and the condemned man will accordingly be hanged on February 7th.

The Secretary of the Imperial Admiralty, Admiral Von Tirpitz, and the chief of Emperor William's personal military staff, General Von Plessen, are to accompany Admiral Prince Henry of Prussia on his visit to the United States.

Fashion states that King Edward recently appeared in a frock coat with velvet cuffs. This has induced hundreds of London's well dressed men to order coats of the same description. The cuffs are three inches deep, and are turned up from inside the sleeves.

The London correspondent of the Daily News says the military authorities of India have taken precautions against a possible uprising of the native regiments during the winter. Manoeuvres to this end, the correspondent says, are now proceeding.

Harvey Logan, who was arrested at Knoxville, Tenn., on a charge of having stolen bills of the First National Bank of Montana, of this city, in his possession, and who made a desperate attempt to escape, is said to be no other than "Kid" Curry, of Northern Montana.

The Russian Finance Minister, Dvoret, said in his report that the Empire's finances are in a perfectly satisfactory condition. "Our monetary system," says the Minister, "leaves nothing to be desired, and our railroads continue to develop under good conditions."

The Vienna evening papers announce that Russia is trying to organize a commercial alliance against the proposed German tariff. Austria, Italy, Denmark, Switzerland, Serbia and Roumania are represented as being willing to cooperate in what would prove a virtual boycott of Germany.

The vacancy in the management of the Canada Mortgage Corporation, created by the death of Mr. Walter S. Lee, has been filled, the first vice-president, Mr. A. Herbert Mason, having, at the unanimous request of the executive committee, consented to accept the position, with the title of managing director.

Lady Frances Balfour, acting on behalf of the Woman's Local Government Society for the United Kingdom, has addressed a number of other women's organizations both political and educational has presented Lord Salisbury with a memorial praying that the Government's new Education Bill, which will shortly be introduced in Parliament, provide for equal representation of women on local education authorities.