



"THE PIPING TIMES OF PEACE."

SOME NOTES ON THE ORIGIN OF NAMES.

THE origin of the names of places is an interesting study, and the omnivorous beak of GRIP, in pursuing it as a diversion from serious thoughts, has picked up many a curious bit of local history. He has been able also to clear away many cobwebs of local misconception and error regarding the derivation of Canadian names, and has pleasure in giving the reader the benefit of these investigations, which can be absolutely relied upon.

It was supposed by some that Orillia was an unknown Indian word, and by others that it was of Spanish origin, there being a district of that name in Spain. The true derivation was this. The oldest inhabitant was a man named O'Reilly, who became ashamed of his old Irish name and changed it to O'Riella, to give the impression he was of foreign extraction. The people soon dropped the apostrophe, and O'Riella soon dropped dead — a solemn warning to those who get ashamed of a decent, honisht Irish name and want to put on frills.

The St. Lawrence River was named after St. Lawrence Ward, Toronto. Most of the good things in Quebec are imported from Toronto. Toronto is a most importing centre.

Hamilton is so called from Fearman's Hams, of which none are genuine without his trade mark.

Pubnico, N. S. took its name from one of GRIP's most esteemed subscribers Probono Publico, who settled there many years ago. The spelling was afterwards slightly changed — for the sake of euphony.

The origin of Port Credit is interesting. Before the rebellion of '37 farmers who wanted tick went there to trade. This was the beginning of the Credit system, and Port Credit never amounted to much, while Toronto, which would have nothing to do with the Credit system went forward "by leaps and bounds." If writers in trade papers would leave off arguing on this subject and go back, to the simple historic fact, there would be some chance for the poor merchant to reform.

It is well known that Halifax was formerly spelt with twol's, and was founded by an Englishman who knew it all, and therefore assumed that he had Hall-the-fax.

A few people of the family of St. John will insist on pronouncing their name Sin-jin. It was one of these dudes who founded St. John, N. B. But nature had her revenge, and twice the city has received such a singin' as will never be forgotten. The place will be completely burnt up again

—at the end of the world. To anticipate this catastrophe the corporation have recently erected an elevator of large capacity, and at great outlay have acquired "the finest winter port in Canada," in order to have an ample supply of very cold water. Meantime they have repented so far as to call the city plain Saint John.

It was generally thought that Toronto took its name from an Indian phrase, signifying "Trees-id-the-water," but the true origin was more like "snakes-in-his-boots." The "oldest settler" once got drunk and went down King street with his legs so tangled that a man called out "he walks like a Tarantula!" The word stuck, and became corrupted to Taranty, and finally to its present more poetic form. It seems strange that Dr. Scadding and other local historians have glossed over or completely ignored this fact and its obvious deduction, yet the circumstances are fully set fourth in the old records of the License Commissioners.

When old McGouche decided to leave his native settlement in Nova Scotia and took ship for the distant harbor of Pugwash, the settlers gathered on the shore and with much emotion sobbed "Ta-ta! McGouche!" Hence the name of the charming sea-port village of Tatamagouche, N. S.

Of course there are many places the derivation of whose names is self-evident, such for instance as Antigonish from old Aunty Gonish; Merigonish, from Mary Gonish; Beeton, from the numerous beets that were found there—some are now dead—; Don, from the editor of *Saturday Night*; Pakenham, where the business of packin' ham was first started; Aurora, where Northern Lights were first discovered, but where, alas! they have not even electric lights now.

We have never been able to trace the name of Lake Erie, but it was so called long before the present Erie.



THE CRUELLEST YET.

SHE.—"Is your mother-in-law *dangerously* ill?"

HE.—"Yes; the doctor says she is quite certain to recover, now!"

MATCHED AT LAST!

THE action of the Prohibition Convention was another illustration of the adage that it is "the unexpected that happens." The Attorney General's pledge that he would bring a Bill for Prohibition if the judicial decision enabled him to do so, was received with cheers and enthusiasm. The Government is now definitely bound on the great issue, and all further dodging made impossible. That is apparently regarded as a sufficient victory for the present.