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WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 7, 1887.

President Cleveland's Message.

This time the President's Message is unusually brief, which many people will say is one merit at all events. More remarkable still, it is wholly devoted to one great subject, or to two subjects which are practically one—those of tariff and revenue. One other subject he does mention, but only to intimate that a brief history of the transactions of the Department of State since last year may furnish the occasion for a future communication. The reference is obviously to the fishery negotiations, the result of which, whatever it may be, will be communicated to Congress.

It is essentially a Free Trade message, although Free Trade, as such, is disclaimed. President Cleveland tries his best to ride two horses at once; we cannot look for it that he will succeed in the difficult attempt. In one respect, however, his success promises to be phenomenal. He will bring on the greatest and the fiercest struggle that ever convulsed any nation on the exciting issue of Protection or Free Trade. Whether the similar struggle of forty years ago in England will afterwards continue to retain its place of first importance in the world's history time must tell. President Cleveland's message, confined to the one joint subject of tariff and revenue, symbolizes and foreshadows the *one great issue* upon which the election contest of next year is sure to be decided. We may safely say that now there is room for none other in the United States until this be settled and done with.

But if President Cleveland be really trying in his message to do the non-committal act, and to ride two horses, how reconcile that with the idea that he has taken such decided Free Trade ground as must precipitate immediately an "irrepressible conflict?" We answer: Just because he has tried to do something impossible. Evidently what he aimed at was compromise. He thought to be able to join together in harmony both wings of the Democratic party; and to unite with them all moderate Protectionists among the Republicans, if any such there are. The compromise indicated must prove impossible; and now the "irrepressible conflict" must come on with a rush. And we need take no small views of it, for it will be on the most gigantic scale.

From this until the great event be decided, in November of next year, nothing but tariff and revenue will be talked of. All over the United States there will arise a perfect howl. Or, rather—there will be two howls, and between the two the country will have no ears to listen to anything else. We believe it quite within the limits to say that the most gigantic conflict yet known between the two principles of Protection and Free Trade has now opened. And it should not seem superfluous to add that, after we see how our neighbors have decided what their policy on the trade question is to be, it will be time enough for us to consider what arrangements with ourselves that policy appears to admit of.

A Man to be Afraid Of.

There is not dispute just now over the question which way the cat is likely to jump during the session of the American Congress just opening, on the exciting question of protection or free trade. It has to be noted that while there are only very few Republicans who are for free trade, there is a pretty strong minority among the Democrats who are stiff Protectionists. The leader of the latter in Congressman Randall of Pennsylvania, and it is allowed that so far he has shown himself "nobody's fool," as the saying is. Ever since the Democrats got a majority in the House the Free Traders have expected to see some great sweeping measure passed to suit them; but somehow or other the thing wished for has not "materialized." They did, indeed, manage to get a measure of tariff reduction passed in 1883; but it was so little, so they said, that it only made them "mad" to think of it. One thing it did do, however, though we suppose that was not satisfactory. The tariff reductions of 1883 had the effect of increasing considerably importations of foreign goods, and at the same time of increasing the customs revenue collected upon them. This, again, caused the annual surplus to grow bigger instead of diminishing, a result which was not desired. Whereupon some people are beginning to doubt whether reducing duties on foreign goods be really the right plan for lightening home taxation. And many are not as sure as they were that a "tariff for revenue only" is the cry of the country, after all.

Free Trade Democrats have fastened upon the chief cause of all their stubborn adherence to the tariff—they would some time have to admit that they will stand it no longer; and that he "must go." The tug-of-war is now "on." Their demand upon the President of the Republic and the Speaker of the House is that Randall be cut off from any position of honor or influence in the party, and that, in fact, he be crushed out of public life, which is what they really mean.

This is really a crisis for the Democratic party, and it is no wonder that the air is filled with contradictory stories. Week before last Col. McClure, editor of The Philadelphia Times, affirmed, on the alleged authority of Cleveland and Carlisle, that these two would take special good care not to offend Randall, or to do anything against him. According to Editor McClure, within the party everything was lovely, and the goose hung high. But other Democratic papers repudiate the story altogether; and now despatches are flying thick to the effect that the President's message will certainly proclaim a policy of Free Trade and tariff reduction to "astonish the natives." But—

Spite of all this, The New York Tribune declares that every Free Trade Democrat you meet in Washington appears to be afraid of Randall. They talk as if he was of no account, and intimate that Carlisle is about to squelch him altogether. But suppose he should refuse to be squelched. That is the dread possibility which it seems they cannot quit their minds of. He must be a terrible man, this Sam Randall, and we really begin to get quite interested in him. To appearance he is "the under dog in the fight;" but what if he should win, after all?

The Migratory Instinct.

We are again reminded by statements which come from Maine that the migratory instinct is strong in man, and particularly in man born in countries of magnificent distances. He does not always find a change an improvement, but distant hills are green, and we have all inherited a drop of vagabond blood from our far-back forebears, who tramped to live and lived to tramp. The westward movement from the New England States has for two generations been enormous, as is attested by many a shrunken hamlet and many a deserted farmstead. The eastern cities have absorbed a percentage of the rural population, but even the cities have been principally recruited from Europe. It is only lately that Canada has had any great west opened up to the occupation of her enterprising sons, and still more recently since older Canada created manufacturing industries to employ a portion of them in their native provinces. Up to yesterday, as it were, they had no other outlet than the United States, but all that is being rapidly changed now, and the defect will be repaired as have been many others incidental to national formative processes.

The old and long-established State of Maine, with her seaboard, her timber wealth, her enormous water power, and all the politico-commercial advantages that membership of the Union can confer, complains bitterly of the steady drain upon her population. In 1880 there were 132,257 natives of Maine resident in other states of the Union, to say nothing of the contingent that must have drifted into Canada, and notwithstanding that immense areas of the state remain unsettled and uncultivated. Upon the theory of Canada's ill birds to the effect that an American population of 60,000,000 means a market of thus dimensions this could not be; but there is the fact. Let them get around it if they can.

The Powers of President and Congress.

The pending fishery question is one between Canada and the United States, but it is this and something more. It is likely also to be made the occasion for determining what the powers of the American Government and Congress are respectively, in the way of making important appointments, and particularly those touching dealings with foreign powers. It is said that the right of the President to appoint fishery commissioners will be disputed on the floor of the Senate. He may, indeed, make appointments while the Senate is not in session, but only to fill vacancies—that is, vacancies in offices actually before existing. But in the cases of Messrs. Angell and Putnam, he was not merely filling vacancies, but creating new offices. And on this ground it will be argued that he has exceeded his powers and that the appointments are invalid, and all the acts of the appointees of none effect.

It is said that the same objection will be raised in the case of the Interstate Railway Commissioners, whose appointments were to new offices created at the time, and not to fill vacancies arising in offices before existing. Lawyers will be found to argue that for this reason all the proceedings of the Railway Commission are void in law; so that the question as to powers is seen to be, on the whole, a very serious one for our neighbors. It *might* happen that the Senate will promptly ratify all the appointments referred to; though whether this would give legal force to acts of the Commissioners in either case, done before the formal ratification, is something that it must be left to lawyers to say. The Interstate Railway Commission is so popular, and it is believed to be doing such good work for the country, that the Senate will scarcely dare object to it, on its merits. Nor do we see how on their merits the American Fishery Commissioners can be objected to, either. But, perhaps, the Senate may say it objects to the appointment of any Fishery Commissioners at all.

Therefore it is not alone a question between the United States and a foreign power that is now pending. Another question also hangs in the balance, and that a domestic one, which concerns the American people only—one touching the constitutional powers of Executive and Senate respectively. Before us rises the contingency that the settlement of the foreign question may have to wait, until the home question (for the American people) has been determined. With this in view it may appear to the Canadian people generally that there is wisdom in the counsel more than once before urged in these columns, viz.: that we had better take our time, and "go slow" in the matter of reciprocity with our neighbors.

The importance of this view of the situation is further emphasized by the President's Message just sent to Congress. Sweeping and very extensive changes in the tariff are recommended, although whether Congress will do as the President suggests remains to be seen. But would it not seem to be the part of wisdom for us to make no more reciprocity offers to our neighbors, at least until we see what tariff changes they may adopt on their own account and of their own choice. Then, surely, we can better tell what we should do in the premises. All this seems so straight in line with reason and common sense that it is hard to discover what objection can fairly be taken to it.

The Same Song.

In the great fight of 1888 over the border, the Republicans expect to win, if they win at all, on the issue of Protection *vs.* Free Trade. They take every opportunity of pushing it to the front; whereas the Democrats, or most of them, profess to believe that it is not an issue at all. It is the same here. In Canada, as in the States, every Protectionist proclaims himself one, and glories in it; while Free Traders, those especially who are candidates, frequently try to conceal the fact. Just now American Protectionists act as if they meant to "push things." Last week they started a new daily paper in New York, called The Press. We notice that The Herald, which is on the other side, says it gives good promise of being a frank and outspoken journal. Which was to have been expected. No Protectionist ever pretends to be a Free Trader; but very frequently a Free Trader is found pretending to be a Protectionist. Some philosopher please explain. Why is this thus?

The New York Tribune is astonished that The Globe should think Sir Charles Tupper deficient in backbone, but if The Tribune editors resided in Canada they would not be astonished at any foolishness that the poor old woman in the lane might be guilty of.

Gen. Miles thinks that the Federal Government should expend a portion of its surplus in collecting and storing water for the irrigation of the arid soil of Arizona. This would certainly be an improvement upon the Californian and Colorado system, under which the waters of earth and air are monopolized by syndicates and doled out to the settler at exorbitant rates. It seems odd to a Canadian that the farmers of a great and prosperous country should have to pay a price for the dews of Heaven, designed by a beneficent Providence for the sustenance of plant life. If the tribe of Gould could only get a corner on the atmosphere they could triumphantly sing "breathes there a man we do not own?" Let us be thankfully content, brethren, that we have a country which needs no artificial watering:

"A heritage, it seems to me,
A king might wish to hold in fee."

The proverb maker has it that "those who own orchards get gifts of apples." This proverb is worth considering now, when Christmas gifts are in contemplation, and when those who need least are likely to receive most. It were better at such a time for the well-to-do to be less profuse toward the members of their own class in order that they may be more generous toward the less fortunate. There is no "merry Christmas" where the flour barrel is empty.

Probably no other man ever resigned a cabinet position with greater ease and satisfaction than the Hon. Frank Smith resigned his. As a man of affairs, he is right here in Toronto at the head of a considerable government of his own, taking one thing with another.

The World's reliable Ottawa correspondent is of opinion that the next session of Parliament will not be called upon to deal with much important business, barring what the fisheries negotiations may throw upon its hands. In such case Sir John will have plenty of time to pay some attention to the agitation for reform in the banking laws. Holding, as we believe he does, that some such reform is desirable, he should be able to find a to-morrow upon which to urge it.

For at least two days The Globe has not attacked Sir Charles Tupper's backbone in its spinal column.

It has been suggested to The Hamilton Spectator that the Minister of Education may next authorize a school book teaching the advantages of Commercial Union.

The sheriff of the Brants and his pants fill a paragrapher's long felt wants.

A problem in proportion: If it takes so much cloth to make the sheriff of Brant a pants, how much would it take to make him a scarf?

The Montreal Post denounces "British selfishness and Canadian misrepresentation" in the Washington negotiations. Of course the generous and truthful Yankees are never guilty of such sins—in the eyes of anti-Canadian Canadian editors. We heard a good deal of that same sort of talk from The Post and its allies during the Riel its craze and we know what came of it.

Yesterday was a December dream. It was a section of Indian summer projected into the winter holidays—a bit of September sunshine laid over and served up anew. It was a fine day.

The Concise Imperial Dictionary. McAinsh & Ellis, opp. Postoffice.

TAYLOR'S GREAT FRAUDS.

The Committee Reports on Ontario Investment Affairs.

LONDON, Dec. 6.—This evening the Board of Trade rooms again resounded with long personal and acrimonious discussions of Ontario Investment shareholders. Henry Taylor's friends were there in full force. The feature of the meeting was the report of the Investigating Committee elected to examine the books and report on what specific charges could be laid against any directors, officers or employes of the association.

The preamble of the report stated that time had allowed them only to speak with certainty of Henry Taylor, Chas. Murray, Benj. Cronyn and Walter Pavey. The committee expressed surprise that any director would doubt the guilt of the parties accused with the convincing evidence, documentary and otherwise, which they had before them.

Speaking of the guilt of the parties referred to the report says: "In April, 1885, Taylor appropriated $5300 to his own use without warrant or authority and entered it on the books against the profits of a supposed loss in a stock transaction. In July, 1886, he took $6000, which he said was to cover his accounts in the savings banks which were heavily overdrawn, and these amounts were falsified by entries in John Hunter's account. In October, 1881, Samuel Crawford got a loan of $7500, which he afterwards repaid in full only $2500 of which was taken by Taylor for his own use. In February, 1882, Samuel Crawford made application for a $15,000 loan, which was objected to by W. R. Meredith. Notwithstanding the securities being returned to Crawford, Taylor and Murray secured the $15,000 in the mortgage ledger and drew and used the money themselves. In April, 1882, for land speculation in Windsor, organized by Murray, Crawford and Taylor, $24,000 was first taken on a check payable to Crawford and afterwards $13,360. This loan was falsely entered as to John Hunter. Other sums were taken from time to time, and falsely by the loan, if you are polite enough to call it such, amounted to $86,000. In January, 1887, a dividend check for $1680 came into Taylor's hands as manager in trust, and in May he drew this amount with interest and charged the same to debenture expenses. Taylor appears to have used the association for his private benefit, paying his business bad debts which he made in it, and realized the cash by transferring them. Your committee report that false entries were made in books during the investigation, and as long as Taylor remained at large and had any control or entry to them.

The report concluded by saying there was ample evidence to convict all the mentioned parties of conspiracy to defraud, falsifying books and papers, misappropriation of funds, probably larceny and embezzlement, and as to some of them, perjury. "In reference to the employes of the association, your committee find they have all been aware of irregularities in the books and published statements, some being more active parties than others to the transactions. But all were quite aware of them and, therefore, guilty. As to what charge may are amenable to it is a question for the solicitor. Your committee consider that the directors owe to themselves and to the shareholders an immediate criminal prosecution against Taylor. Failing to do so your committee and we believe the shareholders and public can only draw one conclusion and that one we will be reluctant to publish." (Signed) James Griffiths, Richard Thompson, A. O. Graydon, J. Johnson.

W. R. Meredith said the report would not be received, as he shouldered the responsibility of the prosecution on the directors. He held it wrong to prosecute a man who was within an inch of death. A long discussion ensued and a stock vote on the report threw it out by 395 yeas to 955 nays. Four hundred and twenty-three way votes of John Labatt and 195 nays by Mr. Farrestal were objected to on the grounds that Mr. Labatt was a large debtor to the association and Mr. Farrestal had hypothecated his stock. The objections were noted and afterwards ruled out.

Christmas Cards in great variety, suitable for sending to friends in the old Country. McAinsh & Ellis, opp. Postoffice.

An Unanswerable Argument.

From The Monetary Times.

The question which Commercial Union presents is, in the opinion of The London Economist, "whether Canada is willing to have her finances governed, not by her own needs or desires, but by the resolutions of the Government at Washington," for "nothing is more certain than that the United States will not agree to have their tariff dictated to them by Canada." "Commercial Union between Canada and the United States," The Economist says it no many words, "involves a surrender by the Dominion of its fiscal independence." This is an independent opinion, and it comes from the foremost commercial journal in the Empire. It is worth pondering by Canadians.

C. E. Would Ruin the N. P.

From La Presse, Montreal.

The chief argument of the partisans of Commercial Union is that in the United States there are more manufactures than in Canada, and that with a treaty of reciprocity the Americans would be able to sell us a larger quantity of manufactured articles, to receive, in exchange, fish and other products. This may be a good reason for American manufacturers, but what about Canadian industries? Looked at from this standpoint the principal effect of Commercial Union would be to make us consumers of the products of our neighbors who would flock here to sell the surplus of their products to the detriment of our own.

Senator Macdonald's Offer to Hamilton.

From The Spectator.

That was a noble offer made by Senator Macdonald at the anniversary meeting of the Hamilton Young Men's Christian Association. All the same, it will be a lasting disgrace to Hamilton if he be obliged to pay the $1000 that he promised. To some minds, jealous of the honor of the city, it will seem a reproach to this town that such an offer, coming from a man who is a citizen of a neighboring town, should be considered necessary.

Another Patriotic Man Heard From.

Editor World: You are right in saying that The World is extending its circulation simply on its merits, and that your readers are synonymous with being patriotic Canadians. I used to read The Mail, but since its turnover to Yankee speculators I cannot have patience to read it, and there are thousands like me. I took to reading The World then, and I must confess that, though I always thought well of The World I had not, up to the defection of The Mail, been a constant reader of your paper. The World has laid every loyal Canadian under obligations to it for its loyal, manly and intelligent defence of Canadian interests when those who had been trusted and nursed into influence, went over to the enemy.

Ottawa, Dec. 1, 1887. CANADIAN.

"Roman" or "Romish."

Editor World: "The termination *ish* may be accounted in some sort a degree of comparison, by which the signification is diminished below the positive, as *black, blackish*, or tending to blackness; *sick, sullish*, or having a little taste of sale." These are the words of our venerable friend, Mr. Lindley Murray. In Saturday's paper you inform us that Lord Lyons "has joined the Romish Church," and then go on to say that he was "received into the Roman Catholic Church." Now the Roman Catholic Church is most decidedly positive, while, according to the above quoted authority, *ish* is below the positive.

Romish is not *Roman*. In reality the *Romish* people are those who imitate the Roman Catholic Church, but have not the courage or honesty to join her communion.

W. J. MACDONELL.

TORONTO'S NEW BALL TEAM

THE PLAYERS ENGAGED TO RETAIN THE PENANT NEXT YEAR.

Seven Men Signed—Manager Cushman Says They Are All Good—Their Batting and Fielding Averages—Hanlan Challenges Clifford or Kemp.

The International Association clubs are fast completing their teams for 1888. London is the only one that has not several men under engagement, but the woods are full of players and Manager Phil Powers, who is now visiting the eastern cities, will undoubtedly secure a team that will be a credit to that city. Syracuse will have a team which should be well up at the end of the season. Inability on the part of the manager to control last season's nine is responsible for the unfavorable showing it made. Buffalo is weak in its pitching staff, and should Walsh's arm again give out the Bisons will not prove formidable. Hamilton has a number of reliable men, but championship honors seem to be beyond their reach. Rochester has so far only signed Barr, a twirler of recognized ability. Its management, however, intend to secure a club that will do the Flour City credit.

Manager Cushman has been doing "sledge-hammer work" for Toronto, and has signed eleven men. Shepherd has not yet signed, but "Doc" may be relied upon to wear a Toronto uniform. In a long and interesting letter to The World Manager Cushman comments upon the teams, and furnishes the figures of their individual records in batting, fielding and base running. Here are the records of the men for 1887:

	Batting.	Fielding.	S.B.
Decker, c. and r.f.	.333	.923	31
Oldfield, c.	.338	.893	13
Thayer, c. and c.f.	.307	.866	33
Atkinson, p.	.281	.947	13
Shepherd, p.	.325	.950	6
Lally, p. and c.f.	.308	.883	5
Hartnett, 1 b.	.412	.976	34
Kearns, 2 b.	.300	.889	32
Rickley, 3 b.	.316	.837	18
McLaughlin, s.s.	.381	.914	46
Burke, l.f.	.388	.821	41
Connors, c.f.	.316	.860	15

Of Decker, Manager Cushman says he was the best player, take him all in all, Toronto had last season, and with this opinion everyone who saw Decker's consistent work will readily agree. No finer display of back-stop work was given in the International League last season than Decker's in the Rochester game on the Toronto's last trip. It was exceptionally brilliant work, and such base runners as Cline dared not to venture the theft of a base. "Davy" Oldfield was one of the favorites of last year's team. Quiet and unassuming, he made hosts of friends. When Trafley's hand gave out Oldfield was assigned to receive Crane's cannon delivery, and it is no reflection upon the Baltimore catcher's ability to say that Oldfield was the more acceptable. The record alone would certainly indicate that Cushman has picked up a treasure.

Atkinson, the pitcher, is regarded by ball players in Philadelphia as superior to Crane. "He is the best so far signed in the International Association, if I am a judge," is Cushman's strongly expressed opinion of the Athlete's former pitcher. In several games he held the St. Louis Browns down to eight hits. Charlie Mason, one of the Athletics' directors, offers to bet $100 he will win more games than any other pitcher in this league.

Lally is the "wonder," Cush says, if newspapers and managers are to be believed. He is a veritable giant in size, being six feet three inches in height. He was the recognized slugger of the New England League, and managers, especially Spence, are kicking because they allowed Toronto to secure him. Lally was with Haverhill, a club from which Slattery, John Irwin, McGarr and Elmer Foster graduated. Hartnett, the Worcester catcher, is highly recommended; Crane, Slattery and McCormack, who have played with him, consider him one of the finest fielders at first in the country. "Dasher" Kearns, the mascot, is too well known to require extended notice. He is a dashing player in every sense of the word. Manager Cushman, the new short stop who was with Newark last season, is a star infielder. He covered this infield position for Louisville and the Mets. He is a good batter and base runner, and as to left-fielder, was a Scranton player. His record this season is not by any means a fair criterion of his ability, as he was placed at third base and shortly after a season's trial was released. Cushman thinks he will fill Slattery's place acceptably. Connors, for whom Toronto made a big fight in 1886, completes the team. He is a fine fielder, and is a hard left-hand hitter.

"Now, there's the team for next season," Cushman writes in conclusion. "What do you think of it? I think it is stronger than this year's, and I am anxiously awaiting the time when I can with pride lead this team on the field and say the 'conquering heroes come.'"

Dust from the Diamond.

Manager Cushman says he hears every week from Crane and Slattery, who are doing everything for their health. They speak highly of the team and Toronto. "Jerry" McCormack says he hopes Toronto will again win the pennant, and that when he is not chasing flies in St. Louis next summer he will be "pulling" for the Torontos.

Norman Baker has signed with Newark.

It is not likely Buffalo will go into the American Association, where it would be the tail end without doubt.

Crane has pitched a couple of games for the Phillies on the Pacific coast, and has been hit hard. He is, however, fielding finely and is batting with the best of the eastern players.

The Sporting Life's millennium plan, which appears this week in its entirety in that paper, would commend itself upon one ground alone, its advocacy of protection to minor leagues. There are other features just as salient and apparently as highly commendable, but that of the proposed equalization of playing strength is so revolutionary of existing methods that it is doubtful if it will meet with favor.

No.

Editor World: Has Toronto engaged a pitcher by the name of Cushman? SPORT.

Hanlan Challenges Clifford or Kemp.

MELBOURNE, Dec. 6.—A match has been made between Clifford and Kemp to row for the championship on Feb. 11. Hanlan has issued a challenge for a match with either Clifford or Kemp for $2500 a side.

Gossip of the Turf.

Garrison, the jockey, makes public in an interview that he has signed a contract to ride for Mr. J. B. Haggin for next season at a salary of $12,500 and $25 for a winning and $10 for a losing mount. He engages to ride at 103 pounds.

The chief two-year-old winner of 1887 is "Lucky" Baldwin's Emperor of Norfolk, a colt bought for about $2500, bred in California. Of the eighteen starts he won twelve times and won $37,140.

The added money of the Coney Island Jockey Club for the racing season of 1887, twenty-two days, was $128,200. There was paid out to winning owners in 1887, resulting from stakes, entries and added money, $326,069. It is expected that there will be an increase of fully 30 per cent. over these figures next year.

The Coney Island Jockey Club has issued, as usual at this time of year, a beautiful stake book, the cover adorned with a faithful portrait of The Bard, with Hayward up in Mr. Cassatt's tri-color, the whole set off with a background very nearly true to nature. On the back cover of the stake-book appears a most suggestive group of mares and foals, illustrating the famous Futurity Stakes. The club officially announces that the June meeting will last ten days and the Autumn meeting equally as long.

Old-fashioned turfmen point out the fact that there is not enough added money to the Coney Island Cup and Coney Island Stakes, two races which usually have as entries the best horses of the 3-years-old and upward. In 1887 the value of the cup was $2100, that of the Coney Island Stakes $2700. The latter, especially, was a sensational race last year. It brought out the two best mature horses of the year, Troubadour and The Bard, and the series of great races begun at Sheepshead Bay was continued at Monmouth Park, The Bard winning the last race of the most sensational meeting seen of late years.

According to The Chicago Inter-Ocean old Lelex was once very nearly becoming the property of a Chicago bookmaker. John Dowling, in the early spring of his 3-year-old form Mr. Dowling offered Major Thomas, his then owner, the sum of $7500 for him, which offer was refused. After he had broken down he was offered to John as a saddle-horse for his daughter to ride; but as John's daughter was a little girl at the time, and he being a great friend of the late John Forbes, suggested that it be given to the Woodstock horseman, which was done.

The Dwyer Bros. in the last four years have started horses 823 times, winning 230 times, running second 140 times, and third 111 times. Their early winnings have been in that time: 1884, $63,309; 1885, $96,897; 1886, $208,549; 1887, $169,242. Total, $537,998.

The once famous steeplechaser Trouble is now performing behind the footlights in "A Run of Luck" at the Boston Theatre.

Spots of Sport.

The Toronto Athletic Club has made arrangements with the Wanderers' Bicycle Club to share the house of the latter for four months, beginning Dec. 13, on which day the Wanderers will give the Athletics a reception.

"A THREE-TIME WINNER."

Has Hanlan Lost His Grip?—Philosophical Training Demanded.

The defeat of "Ned" Hanlan by Teemer at Toronto in August indicates the "end of the glory" of the doughty champion.

He has sustained his record with admirable pluck and success, but the tremendous strain of years of training must certainly some day find its limit.

Apropos of this we recall the following interesting reminiscence of aquatic annals:

On a fine, bright day in August, 1871, an excited multitude of 15,000 to 20,000 persons lined the shores of the beautiful Kenebecassis, near St. John, N.B., attracted by a four-oared race between the famous Paris crew of that city and a picked English crew for $5000 and the championship of the world. Wallace Ross, the present renowned oarsman, pulled stroke for the Blue Noses crew, and "Jim" Renforth, champion sculler and swimmer of England and of the world, was stroke in the English shell.

Excitement was at fever heat.

But three hundred yards of the course had been covered when the Englishmen noticed that their rivals were creeping away.

"Give us a dozen, Jim," said the veteran Harry Kelly, ex-champion of England, who was pulling No. 3 oar.

"I can't, boys, I'm done," said Renforth, and with these words he fell forward, an inanimate heap in the boat.

"He has been poisoned by book-makers," was the cry, and belief.

Everything that science and skill could suggest for his restoration was tried; but after terrible struggles of agony the strong man, the flower of the athletes and pride of his countrymen, passed away.

The stomach was analyzed but no sign or trace of poison could be found therein, though general examination showed a very strange condition of the blood and the life-giving and health-preserving organs caused by years of unwise training. While the muscular development was perfect the heart and kidneys were badly congested.

The whole system, was, therefore, in just that state when the most simple departure from ordinary living and exertion was of momentous consequence. His wonderful strength only made his dying paroxysms more dreadful and the fatality more certain.

Hanlan is now in Australia. Beach, champion of that country, is a powerful fellow, who probably understands the liability of athletes to death from over-training, the effect thereof being very serious on the heart, blood and kidneys, as shown by poor Renforth's sudden death.

Within the past three years he has taken particular care of himself; and when training always reinforces the kidneys and prevents blood congestion in them and the consequent ill effects on the heart by using Warner's safe cure, the sportsman's universal favorite, and says he "is astonished at the great benefit."

Harry Wyatt, the celebrated English trainer of athletes, who continues himself to be one of the finest specimens of manhood and one of the most successful of trainers, testifies over his own signature to The English Sporting Life, September 5th, saying: "I consider Warner's safe cure invaluable for all training purposes and outdoor exercise. I have been in the habit of using it for a long time. I am satisfied it pulled me through when nothing else would, and it is always a three-time winner" for me.

Beach's and Wyatt's method of training is sound and should be followed by all.

TORONTO RELIEF SOCIETY.

What It is Doing for the Destitute of Toronto—The Officers.

The Toronto Relief Society has begun its winter's work, which it is feared will be more arduous than it has been in years past. The organization is one which commends itself strongly to public sympathy and support, its objects being purely charitable and undenominational. Through the instrumentality of the society hundreds of deserving poor have had not only their immediate wants attended to, but have been placed in a position to earn for themselves. An industrial room has been established, in which sewing is prepared and given out to women. Some sixty or eighty are thus supplied with a means of earning during the winter months, when the members of the family are often out of employment. Needy strangers arriving in the city find in the Toronto Relief Society a channel through which they may obtain useful and reliable information, and pecuniary assistance if required. The systematic manner in which the good work is carried on is highly creditable to the ladies who undertake it. The city is divided into ten divisions, each division having a superintendent, and a number of other ladies who take up the work of their sub-sections. They visit the poor, administer to their wants, and report as to their condition. The committee make an earnest appeal for funds, and will thankfully receive contributions of coal, provisions, articles of furniture, or any such gifts which can alleviate the sufferings or add to the comforts of the poor. Meetings of the society are held first Monday every month at the Industrial Room, corner of Richmond and Sheppard-streets, at 2.30 p.m., at which all information can be obtained.

The officers of the society are: Mrs. Brett, 31 Bloor-street east, President; Mrs. Richardson, 46 St. Joseph-street, Vice-President; Mrs. Barnett, 84 Gloucester-street, Treasurer; and Mrs. Sydere, Walker House, Secretary.

Sir Andrew Clark and Abstinence.

Editor World: It is with some degree of surprise that I read for an open letter from the Rev. W. J. Taylor to the Rev. D. J. Macdonell published in The Mail newspaper of this date, that Sir Andrew Clark is credited "with advocating in the strongest and yet the most temperate language total abstinence for health's sake as the rule of life."

That Sir Andrew advocates a temperate use of alcoholic liquors no one can doubt who has consulted him; but that he advocates total abstinence I take the liberty of contradicting.

In the summer of last year I consulted him, and on July 12, 1886, he wrote me the general directions as to dietary and other matters. He wrote, after prescribing for breakfast and lunch: "Dinner . . . drink one pint bottle of claret or of stale moselle or of sauterne . . . no alcoholic drink except at late dinner." From this and from a long acquaintance with my late father and other members of my family, I have no hesitation in saying that Sir Andrew Clark entertains the same views on total abstinence as contained in the letter of Mr. Taylor of Nov. 29.

Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 2. W. LYNN SMART.

Western Methodist Church, Bloor-street.

On Monday evening the Young People's Association gave their first entertainment in the form of a dairy maids' social. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. C. H. S. Dinnick in quaint dairy maid fashion; the large number of young ladies who appeared in dairy maid costume added very much to the interest of the occasion, and they have secured for themselves in the future a full house at any time they may be pleased to give another social. Proceeds about $50.

A Plea For the Branch Libraries.

Editor World: There is quite a little tempest in North Toronto over the proposal of Mr. Pearson of the Free Library Board, to do away with the branch libraries and to place boxes in grocery stores where people can leave their books and apply for others. Frequenters of the library want to know why they are to be deprived of the privilege of the reading room, etc. Such a scheme as proposed by Mr. Pearson would be a great inconvenience to the public and would be worse than useless. BOOKS.

Collegiate Institute in the West End.

The trustees of the Toronto Collegiate Institute passed this resolution at their last meeting:

That in the opinion of this board, and in view of the rapid increase of population in this city, the time has arrived for the establishment of a High School in the western part of it, and that a committee consisting of Messrs. James Lobb, Walter S. Lee, Wm. Houston, ex-Ald. Pepler and Principal MacMurchy be appointed with instructions to ascertain and report what steps should be taken with a view to giving effect to this resolution.

Something New.

Bargains can be obtained at the great clearing sale now going on at the old reliable stores, Petley & Petley. Visit them and judge for yourselves. We are perfectly satisfied that they keep up the reputation which has justified them in asking for a continuation of the custom of their old and tried friends.

Bright Prospects for Customers at the "Bon Marche."

On Monday next, Dec. 12, the great sale of the handsome and magnificent stock of fancy goods bought by Mr. Cousineau. Owing to the very short time between now and Christmas, by which time the stock must be sold out, bargains without end and never dreamed of before will be given to all patrons of the "Bon Marche" during that time. See special advertisement on Saturday next.

Contempt as a Weapon of Annihilation.

From L'Etendard, Montreal.

The press seems unanimous in deploring the attacks made on the Salvationists at Quebec. In fact it would be better not to pay any attention to those wretches and annihilate them by sheer contempt.

Don't fail to procure Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for your children while teething. It has been used by millions of mothers during the last forty years for their children. Cures wind colic, diarrhœa. Be sure and get Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. 25c a bottle.

NO CHANGES AT PRESENT.

THE RUMORS REGARDING THE TORONTO POSTOFFICE ARE UNTRUE.

There Are no New Developments With Reference to Hon. Frank Smith's Resignation—The Vacancy in the Government May Not be Filled for Some Time.

OTTAWA, Dec. 6.—In conversation to-day with reference to the revival of the rumors that Inspector Sweatman was likely to be transferred to Ottawa and several changes be made in the staff of the Toronto postal division, Postmaster-General McLelan said there was no truth in the rumors, as there was no intention of making any changes in the Toronto office at present.

There are no new developments to-day with reference to Hon. Frank Smith's resignation. There was no meeting of Council and consequently the matter could not be formally discussed. An evening paper shows its want of information by giving the names of several gentlemen from Montreal, Quebec and St. John, N.B., as likely to fill Hon. Mr. Smith's place. As Hon. Mr. Smith was taken into the Cabinet specially as the representative of the Irish Catholics of Ontario, it is hard to see how a gentleman from St. John, N. B., or the Province of Quebec, could "fill his place." There is an impression that in the event of Mr. Smith insisting on the acceptance of his resignation, no appointment will at present be made in his place, but that in the reorganization of the Cabinet, which must take place when the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Solicitor General and Comptroller of Customs and Inland Revenue, provided for by the Legislature of last session, are made, the Irish Catholics will be given a representative. With reference to this reorganization, it does not look now as if it would be made until after next session, and the probability is that the Government will meet Parliament as it is.

Mr. Collingwood Schreiber, Chief Engineer of Government Railways, reports traffic on the Intercolonial as steadily increasing. For the first five months of the present year it very much exceeds a similar period in 1886. Freights to the United States and Canada are unusually brisk. Ocean freights via Halifax are active, while the importations of raw sugars from the West Indies are very heavy this winter. The snow-sheds along the line are nearly all completed and the management hope that the same serious obstructions will not have to be encountered during the present winter as in the past. The line is in excellent working order.

In the Exchequer Court to-day before Judge Fournier the case of R. H. McGreevy against the Crown, arising out of an Intercolonial Railway contract, was postponed to Jan. 12.

The lighthouse at Cole's Shoal above Brockville is to be repaired. A boat harbor will be built at the pier protected by loose stone riprap.

Work on the western section of the Cape Breton Railway is being well carried on by Messrs. Isbister & Reed in spite of wet weather interfering with the grading. They have a very fine outfit on the water and have opened good quarries which will supply the stone for the completion of the necessary work on the eastern section. Messrs. Sims & Slater, the contractors, have made much poor progress that the work has been taken out of their hands and other arrangements made by which it is expected the work will be greatly expedited.

Hon. Dr. Harrison, Commissioner of Public Works, and Hon. A. A. C. Larivière, Provincial Treasurer of Manitoba, arrived here to-day. Neither of them seems to make any statement as to the object of their visit.

Mr. J. C. Wilson, M.P. for Argenteuil, has been furnished with the plans for the construction of the proposed new railway to Ottawa, via St. Eustache, St. Andrews and Carillon. Mr. Wilson has arranged for an interview with Mr. Wainright, Assistant Manager of the Grand Trunk, to-day, and will urge on him that the company should go on with the construction of the new line.

The Public Works Department has let the contract for the erection of the new postoffice at Gananoque to Mr. George Wilson of Ottawa, and for harbor works at Collingwood to Mr. J. D. Silcox of Brighton.

Mr. Davis of Montreal, who holds a patent for a railway safety appliance, had an interview with the Minister of Railways, with a view of having it introduced on Government railways.

A number of Ottawa capitalists have organized a company and purchased a tract of 300 acres of land at what is known as Lemer Beau, about thirteen miles from this city on the Montreal-road, for the purpose of boring for natural gas, which is believed to exist there in large quantities. Machinery will be imported at once and a trial well sunk, and if gas is struck, as is confidently expected, pipes will at once be laid to the city, and Ottawa may become a second Pittsburg or Bessemer. There is an unlimited supply of iron ore in the Gatineau district, and if cheap fuel can be found no doubt large smelting works will be erected here.

Opening of the Sessions and County Court.

At noon yesterday His Honor Judge McDougall opened the December meeting of the York County General Sessions and County Court. County Crown Attorney Ridgeway was in his place. Mr.