

## CASUALTY.

A little daughter of Mr. Thomas Bland, London, Ontario, got a cent stuck in her throat a few days ago and the doctors could not remove it and she was reported to be suffering very much. A boy of eleven named Overholt, at Dunville, Ontario, jumped on a sleigh loaded with ice, but was pitched off in turning a corner, and a heavy piece of ice falling upon him crushed him to death. Captain Michael Wilson, of Nova Scotia, shot lately with a bullet from a gun "supposed not to be loaded," snapped at him in fun by a young friend, has died from the wound. A flat boat on Tuckaseegee River, North Carolina, was lately sunk and eighteen convicts, hired by railway contractors from the State Prison, were drowned. About thirty convicts were being ferried as usual in the morning across the narrow but deep stream, when a false alarm that the boat was sinking caused them to rush all to one side of the boat, sinking it. The survivors were saved by swimming ashore, and more might have been rescued had they not clung to each other in knots of twos and threes, and thus been carried down the rapids. The opening of the skating season on the bay at Toronto, Ontario, on Saturday last, was signalized by six accidents, one man being drowned, four others who broke through being rescued with difficulty and a child of seven driven away by the wind and froze to death. The steamship "City of Brussels," of the Inman line, was run into on Saturday morning last while anchored in a heavy fog in the estuary of the Mersey River, England, by a new steamship named the "Kirby Hall" on her trial trip from Glasgow to Liverpool. A huge gap was made in the hull of the "City of Brussels," and she sank in about twenty minutes, taking down ten of her crew and two Italian stowage passengers. By all accounts the accident was caused by incompetence and reckless navigation on board the "Kirby Hall," for bells and whistles were sounded on board the other vessel for forty minutes and the ordinary lookout was increased. Three children of Nathan Danzig, age, in McDuffie county, Georgia, were left home alone by their parents and after locking the door went to bed, and the house took fire and all perished in the flames. Henry Smith, aged thirteen, died in agony of hydrophobia in New York, having been bitten by a small terrier. The record of marine casualties kept in New York shows that two hundred and eighty-four steamships and large river steamboats met with disaster last year, and only a few have been floated and repaired again. The aggregate lost tonnage was three hundred and twenty thousand and the number of lives lost two thousand. A hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, called the New Hall House took fire at three o'clock on Wednesday morning, and the flames spread so rapidly as to cut off the escape of the inmates. The appalling result is that fifty to sixty persons, many being women, lost their lives, the majority being killed by jumping from the upper windows.

THE EXAMPLE OF MONTREAL, in holding a grand week's festival of Canadian winter sports, as relaxation and amusement for its own people and an attraction to visitors, was quickly followed by the sister city of Quebec, where a similar enterprise is in active preparation. The falls of Montmorency in the neighborhood of the city, which constitute one of the most striking natural beauties on the continent, are to be illuminated at night with the electric light. An ice palace, wherein refreshments are proposed to be served, is to be cut out of the natural cave formed by the frozen spray of the cataract.

## THE WEEK.

THE TERRITORY of Utah last year produced over ten million dollars' worth of minerals.

ABOUT SEVENTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS have been given by citizens of Lyons, France, to the Garfield Memorial Hospital fund.

A KEEN BATTLE is expected in the current session of the Wisconsin Legislature upon the question of an amendment to the State constitution prohibiting the making or selling of intoxicating drink.

SMALL-POX is epidemic in Baltimore, Maryland, and in Salem, Virginia, and surrounding towns have established quarantine against the infected places, and in the latter business is stopped and the schools are closed.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION has been given by the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of bonds issued in 1868 by the city of Parkersburg, West Virginia, for the purpose of lending to manufacturers. The bonds are declared void on the ground that the city exceeded its lawful powers in issuing bonds for such a purpose.

SOMEBODY IN ONTARIO sent through the mails to different persons post cards containing foul language and signed with false names. The post-office inspector for the division in which the offence was committed managed to fasten the guilt upon the offender. The latter, hearing that an officer was in search of him, escaped arrest by leaving the country.

PHILANTHROPY is apparently abounding in Philadelphia. Mr. Joseph M. Bennett some time ago gave two acres of land with a house to a Methodist Episcopal orphanage, and has now given to the same institution his farm of twenty-five acres beside the former gift. The land adjoins Fairmount Park, one of the finest and largest pleasure grounds in the world, and is valued at fifty thousand dollars.

A YOUNG MAN named Kavanagh, highly educated and who served in some recent British campaigns in the East, whose father was a famous British Civil Service officer in the East Indian mutiny of 1857, and whose friends had lately established him upon a coffee plantation in the island of Ceylon, is at present living in a destitute and degraded state through the mastery of strong drink.

THE RETIREMENT of Old Ocean from about three hundred feet of the land at Atlantic City, New Jersey, during the past twenty-seven years, has given rise to a lawsuit. The Camden & Atlantic Land Company brought action to eject the holder of the new strip of beach, Mr. Edward Lippincott, but the case was decided in the latter's favor. Had the Company won the suit, it was understood it had others of a similar kind to prosecute.

A REPORT prepared by the secretary of the Prisons and Asylums Ass. Association of Louisiana shows the majority of those institutions in that State to be kept in a most barbarous and inhuman manner, many of them being unfit for beings much less human beings. Some prisons are rattle log cabins, and one is described as having no door, the prisoners being hoisted in and out through a hole in the roof. Many goals are overcrowded and most are filthy, while the insane in some cases fare as badly as criminals.

A STRANGE DISEASE has appeared and become epidemic at Binghamton, New York taking down over two thousand persons, but happily not producing any deaths. The malady attacked travellers and visitors to the city almost as soon as they arrived. Bad water is thought by some to have caused the sickness.

CHICAGO CAPITALISTS have their eyes upon about two and a half million acres of land in the Indian Territory, which they want to lease from the Government for grazing purposes. The coveted ground belongs to the Cherokee and Cheyenne Indians, but the capitalists represent that these are willing to sell their claims.

THE STATEMENT made some weeks ago, to the effect that a Union of all the Methodist churches in Canada was all but accomplished, was a little premature. The Union Committee cordially agreed upon a basis of union, but it was subject to the acceptance of the various bodies interested, and the London (Ontario) District Meeting has rejected it as unsuitable, while expressing a desire for a scheme of union more acceptable in certain indicated points.

GENERAL LOGAN, the United States Minister to Chili, is coming in for sharp criticism for having, as it is alleged, over-ridden his commission. It appears he wrote a letter to Montero, the provisional governor of Peru, advising that the latter country should accept Chili's terms for closing the crucial pact has now lasted about two years between the two countries. The Minister's interference is said to have deferred peace arrangements rather than forwarded them.

THERE ARE ABOUT forty-seven thousand post-offices in the United States, and last year's increase was only a few less than two thousand. Returns from eighty-nine letter-carrier post-offices show an increase of ten percent in the business of the past six months. If the business of the current year shows as satisfactory progress throughout, it is believed the postal receipts will exceed the estimates by over a million dollars. Bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives creating a postal telegraph for the United States.

MOST, THE SOCIALIST, who came from Europe to spread his doctrines of murder and plunder upon American soil, has, it is gratifying to say, not been able to do much more than the useful service of showing us just what a hideous thing is Socialism. Meeting with no enthusiasm in the North beyond the applause of the vilest herds of New York and Chicago, he has gone South, where it is to be hoped he will get a reception that will convince him that the ideal of liberty in America is not government by the mob, nor general prosperity dreamed of as a result of raising lazy loafers to a life of luxury through the despoilment of either earned or inherited wealth.

THE PROHIBITION of the Chinese has been defined by the Attorney-General of the United States to apply only to laborers and others intending to stay in the country. In other words, Chinese who come to spend a holiday or their money in the country may enter freely, but those who come to sell their labor have the door slammed in their faces. The people of China will henceforth teach their children concerning America what American children have always been taught regarding China—that it shuts itself out from the rest of the world by both material and moral walls, as if afraid to allow the learning, inventions, handicraft, manners, habits and religions of other nations to be brought into comparison and competition with its own possessions in those respects.

THE MESSAGE OF GENERAL BUTLER, the new Governor of Massachusetts, in opening the Legislature of that State, was a strong document and has attracted much attention and called forth much comment. He recommends a thorough inspection of prisons, asylums and poor-houses, and sweeping reforms in the civil service. At least one-third of the salaried State official he would dispense with, and reduce the pay of some of the remainder, and all vacancies occurring thereafter would be filled by competitive examination. Referring to the fact that the total amount of taxation for the year was between thirty and thirty-one millions, the Governor said a large amount of property owned by wealthy citizens unjustly escaped taxation. He professed to be bidding for no personal advantage in his recommendations of reform, as he would not again be a candidate for Governor. It is well understood, however, that the General is looked upon in influential quarters of the Democratic party as their next candidate for the presidency of the United States.

THE REIGNING KING of the Hawaiian Islands, Kalakaua, succeeded to the throne some years ago, but the ceremony of crowning him has not yet been performed. The coronation is, however, shortly to take place, and great preparations have for some time been making for the event. The king is very extravagant in his ideas of the pomp and circumstance befitting his position, and as his subjects have to pay for his expensive and semi-barbaric tastes there is reported to be a feeling of strong disapproval among them with regard to the heavy outlay for the coronation ceremony and celebration. It is expected that three United States war vessels will be in the port of Honolulu, the capital, on the occasion, and also that all the naval powers will have war vessels there, and although the ostensible object of so strong a naval muster is to pay proper deference to royalty, yet the real object is said to be the protection of foreign interests—which are by no means light on the Islands—in the event of a revolution that it is feared may break out owing to popular opposition to the monarch's costly display.

THE PEOPLE of the town of Niagara Falls, Ontario, have met together and agreed to condemn and resist the chartering of a company forming to make a park at the great cataract after which the town is called. They desire to have the park owned and managed by either the Dominion or Ontario Government. It is hard to see, however, why the Legislature that charters the company cannot make regulations to govern the management of the enterprise so that the rights of the public would be protected in all respects. The fruits of Government management under party rule are liable to be contract jobbery and the production of a park as much a paradise for political hacks as a pleasure ground for visitors to the Falls. If business men cannot be found who will engage to carry out the enterprise acceptably to the property owners of the locality as well as to the public, then it would seem to belong more appropriately to the town itself to carry out the very desirable project than to either Federal or Provincial Government. Were the Dominion of Canada and the State of New York to buy land on both sides of the river and present it to a company of United States and Canadian capitalists as a subsidy to create an international park, to which there would be free admittance and which would return sufficient revenues to the proprietors from amusements and refreshments furnished on the grounds, the best solution possible of the whole question would be obtained.