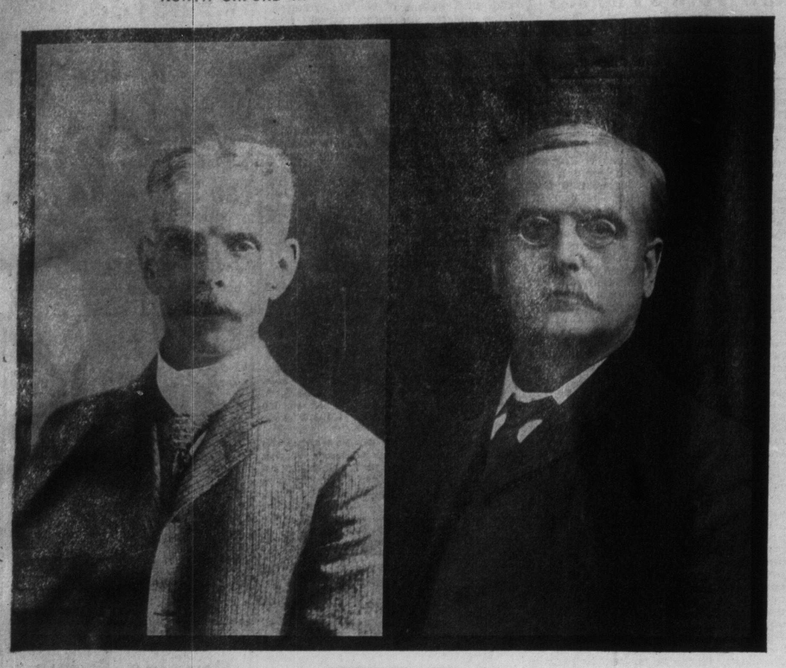
NORTH ORFORD IN THE DOMINION BY-ELECTIONS.



J. G. WALLACE, THE CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE. GEORGE SMITH, THE LIBERAL CANDIDATE.

Hunting Molly Cottontail.

Ex-President Cleveland Says it is a Dignified Sport.

GROVER CLEVELAND, ex-president of the United States, writes on rabbit shooting for the vacation number of The Independent. He says:

"Because rabbit shooting is seasonable only in late fall or winter weather the mention of it is calculated to suggest shivering chills, cold feet, numb fingers and all sorts of heavy clothing. At first blush, therefore, it may not seem to be exactly an appropriate topic to be given a place in a magazine designed for midsummer reading. On second thought, however, I hope it will not be deemed amiss that the torridity of such a magazine should be tempered by a cooling admixture hinting of recreation free from dog-day swelter, and reminding the reader that a season is on its way which brings with it outdoor sport exempt from summer heat and unvexed by the stings and arrows of outrageous gnats, flies or mosquitoes. It is quite within reason to suppose that the addition of rabbit hunting to the ingredients that simmer in summer recreative reading might be as refreshing as the addition of ice to an otherwise tepid summer tipple.

"Some hunters there are, of the super-refined and dudish sort, who deny to the rabbit any position among legitimate game animals; and there are others who, while grudgingly admitting rabbits to the list, seem to think it necessary to excuse their concession by calling them hares. I regard all this as pure affectation and nonsense. I deem it not beneath my dignity and standing as a reputable gunner to write of the rabbit as an entirely suitable member of the game community, and in doing so I am not dealing with hares or any other thing except plain, little, everyday plebeian rabbits—sometimes appropriately called 'cotton-tails.' Tho they may be 'defamed by every charlatan' among hunters of self-constituted high degree, and despised by thousands who know nothing of their game qualities, I am not ashamed of their pursuit, and I count it by no means bad skill to force them by a successful shot to a topsy-turvy pause when at their best speed.

"These sly little fellows feed at night, and during the day they hide so closely in grass or among rocks and brush that it is seldom they can be seen when at rest. Of course, no decent man will shoot a rabbit while sitting, and I have known them to refuse to start for anything less than a kick or punch. When they do start, however, they demonstrate quite clearly that they have kept their feet in the best possible position for a spring and run. After such a start the rabbit must in fairness be given an abundant chance to gain full headway, and when he has traversed the necessary distance for this, and is at his fastest gait, the hunter that shoots him has good reason to be satisfied with his marksmanship. I once actually poked one up and he escaped unhurt tho four loads of shot were sent after him.

"In the main, however, dogs must be relied upon for the real enjoyment and success of rabbit hunting. The fastest dogs are not the best, because they are apt to chase the rabbit so swiftly and closely that he quickly betakes himself to a hole or other safe shelter, instead of relying upon his running ability. The baying of three or four good dogs steadily following a little cottontail should be as exhilarating and as pleasant to ears attuned to the music as if the chase were for bigger game. As the music is heard more distinctly, the hunter is allowed to flatter himself that his acute judgment can determine the route of the approaching game and the precise point from which an advantageous shot can be secured. The self-satisfied conceit aroused by a fortunate guess concerning this important detail, especially if supplemented by a fatal shot, should permit the lucky gunner to enjoy as fully the complacent, pleasurable persuasion that the entire achievement is due to his sagacity, keenness and skill as tho the animal circumvented were a larger beast. In either case the hunter experiences the delight born of a well-fed sense of superiority and self-pride; and this, notwithstanding all attempts to keep it in the background, is the most gratifying factor in every sporting indulgence.

"Some people speak slightingly of the rabbit's eating qualities. This must be an abject surrender to fad or fashion. At any rate, it is exceedingly unjust to the cottontail; and one who can relish tender chicken and refuse to eat a nicely-cooked rabbit is, I believe, a victim of unfounded prejudices.

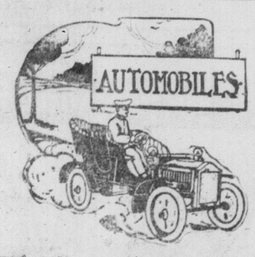
"Why, then, should not rabbit hunting, when honorably pursued, be given a respectable place among gunning activities? It certainly has every element of rational outdoor recreation. It ministers to the most exhilarating and healthful exercise; it furnishes saving relief from care and overwork; it is free from wantonness and inexcusable destruction of animal life, and, if luck favors, it gives play to innocent but gratifying self-conceit.

"Let us remember, however, that if rabbit hunting is to be a manly outdoor recreation, entirely free from meanness, and a sport in which a true hunter can indulge without shame, the little cottontail must, in all circumstances, be given a fair chance for his life."

Toronto's Financial Centre

THE NEW OFFICES OF OSLER & HAMMOND, CORNER OF JORDAN AND MELINDA-STREETS.

The engraving shows the new offices of Osler & Hammond, stock brokers, and of the big land company in the Northwest with which they are identified. The building, an old one at the corner of Melinda and Jordan-streets, has been reconstructed. The location of this firm at this corner is likely to make these two little streets the financial centre of Toronto. All the brokers are moving into them and the banks are all around them. And a wag broker has already dubbed it "Jordan's Strand."



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Stone Idols and Sacrifices

Dr. Tozzer of Harvard Has Made Some Interesting Discoveries in Southern Mexico and Guatemala.

AS a result of five months' investigation among the little-known sections of Southern Mexico and Northern Guatemala, Dr. Alfred Tozzer, instructor in archaeology at Harvard University, is able to present to the world a new set of ruins, heretofore absolutely unknown and presenting many side lights on the history of the ancient Maya Indians by whom they undoubtedly were erected. He encountered them in the Tzendales region of Chiapas, where the present-day Lacandone Indian lives his life exactly in accord with traditions handed down for centuries, and which have never been added to nor taken from by missionaries of the Christian faith—the latter never having penetrated into the fastnesses where the Indians live. Dr. Tozzer has visited the little-known regions of Yucatan, Chiapas and Quatemala for five successive winters, spending several months each trip. For additions to scientific knowledge secured by him on these trips, he has been given a fellowship in the Archaeological Institute of America, the same institution which has colleges at Rome, Italy and Athens, Greece. He is now in Mexico City, enroute to the United States, where he goes to lay before the Harvard board of scientists the information that he has gleaned during the present trip to Mexico. He was a guest at the Iturbide Hotel, but has left for the north.

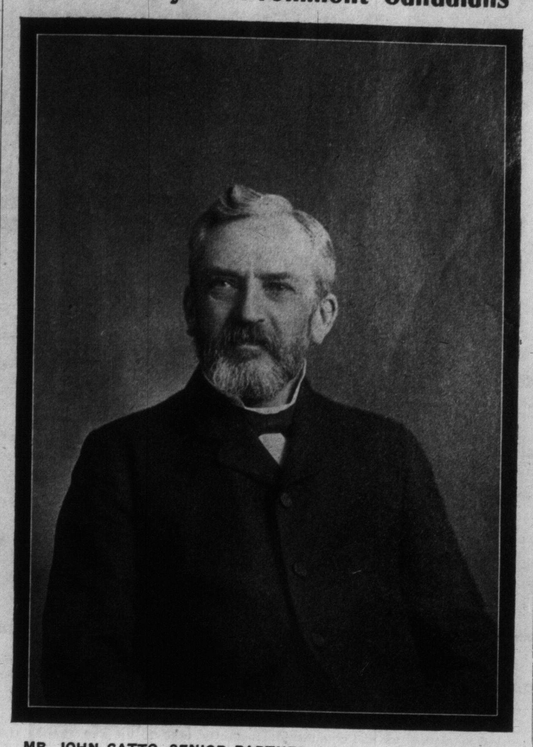
More to prove that the present-day Lacandone Indians inhabiting portions of Chiapas, Tabasco and Guatemala lying along the Usumacinta River were direct lineal descendants of the ancient Mayas, than for any other purpose was the five trips of Dr. Tozzer made. While he expresses no absolute opinion regarding any of his proofs and finds in those regions, Dr. Tozzer believes that the evidence which he has accumulated is of such convincing character that there can be no longer doubt but what the Lacandones and the Mayas of the present day are but descendants of the ancient latter tribe which has become scattered over a large area from perfectly natural causes. His greatest confidence is placed in the fact that he found a complete survival of religious rites and worshipping of stone idols among the Lacandones, which have been traced back to the Mayas during long years ago. Especially was this noticeable along the extreme southern border of Mexico and the upper parts of Guatemala, in which regions Dr. Tozzer pursued his investigations. Principally in the religious observations was his theory corroborated, tho the domestic life of the Lacandones was not dissimilar to that of the present-day Mayas as known in the eastern part of Tabasco and Campeche.

A feature worthy of comment, Dr. Tozzer states, was the finding that the Lacandone Indians show no evidence or influence derived from contact with the Spaniards or the early missionaries. Among the Mayas he says that there is yet a survival of certain pagan customs, but these are so intermixed with Spanish customs that there can be no doubt, but that at some time the Mayas were influenced by Spanish contact. On the other hand, the Lacandone Indians have not a single religious or domestic custom which in any manner portrays the belief that it was inherited from the Spaniards. They still have their stone idols and sacrifices are offered in front of them, which, while not human, are yet fashioned in the semblance of a human form which is burned to propitiate the gods of wind and rain. The piercing of the ear with rude stone knives and the insertion of earrings of stone beads or metal is yet practised among the entire Lacandone tribe as found in its aboriginal state. Men and women dress exactly alike and are more nearly allied with the wild tribes of prehistoric Indians than probably any other inhabitants of the world.

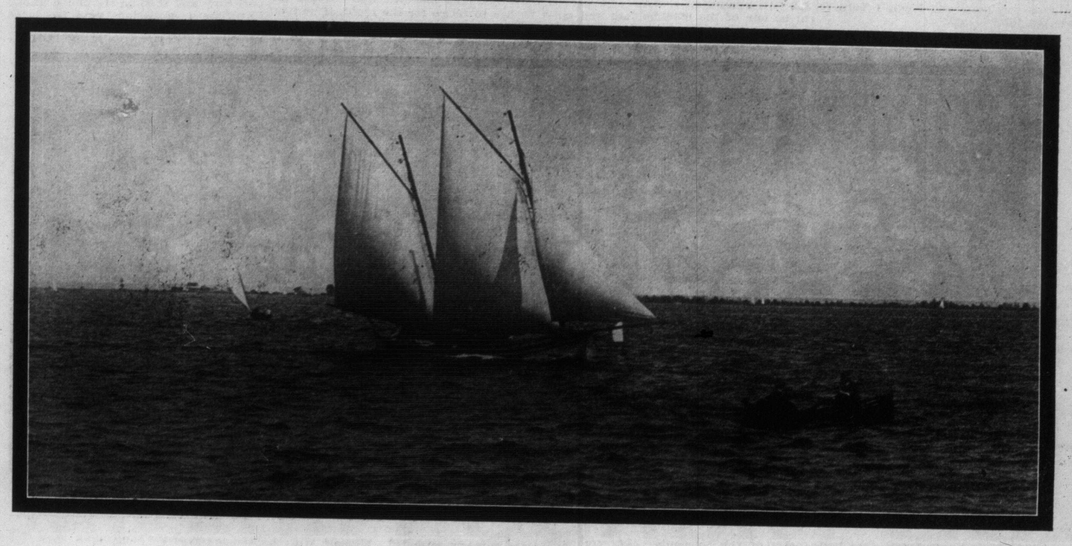
Regarding the new ruin which he found, Dr. Tozzer states that there can be no reasonable doubt of its having been the product of an ancient Maya semi-civilization which has contributed so much to the archaeological lore known of those peoples and times. Some photographs of these ruins were taken for preservation at the University and later he will return to study more fully the silent reminders of a past which, apparently, has left no record. Some of the best preserved walls bear inscriptions in hieroglyphs which have been proved, in other cases, to be of Maya workmanship. Few, however, are the written records of the ancient races, Dr. Tozzer says, altho enough has been left to place the race that made them in their proper niche in the human family. Relative to the antiquity of the inscriptions found in the new ruins and elsewhere in Yucatan and portions of Guatemala, he believes that they can be placed at least contemporaneously with the beginning of the Christian era. This is a matter which has engrossed the attention of many antiquarians, Dr. Tozzer states, and it is almost a matter of guesswork to place the age of the buildings in any given time.

A theory to which Dr. Tozzer, in common with other archaeologists, holds is that the inscriptions found on so many Mexican ruins were the work of the ancient pagan priests who had all learning and who were chary of giving it to the common classes of people. This theory finds more or less substantiation in the fact that while the present-day Lacandone and Maya Indians preserve their language and religious customs, which are known to be in conformity with those practised by their forbears, they know or profess to know absolutely nothing concerning the origin of the inscriptions and hieroglyphs which have proved such a source of work to present-day antiquarians. According to Dr. Tozzer the priests placed the writings as guides for priests following them, and as cabalistic marks indicating either religious truth or eras of history which it was desirable that they should pass along. What destroyed the priests and left the common class is unknown, and people can but conjecture now that they must have been wiped out by their own people or so persecuted that their power was lost, and thus was lost the reading of the inscripions. In either event, the theory holds good, and none more reasonable has so far been broached. Dr. Tozzer has explored more of the interior and desolate regions of Yucatan and Guatemala than probably any other delver into the race records of the past. He has studied and mastered several Maya dialects which were found to hold good when it came to talking with the Lacandone Indians and is conversant with all the intermixtures of Spanish and Indian tongues which have taken place since the Spaniards conquered portions of Yucatan and introduced their religions and language. Tho the Spaniards found easy work along the coast they did not penetrate into the interior of the country and thus the present-day Indians were left alone to send down their children in accordance with the religious and domestic methods and customs which had become part of their faith thru generations of usage.—Mexican Herald.

Our Gallery of Prominent Canadians



MR. JOHN CATTO, SENIOR PARTNER OF THE FIRM OF JOHN CATTO & SON, TORONTO.



THE MARY BELL ON TORONTO'S BEAUTIFUL BAY.—THE FAMOUS "ISLAND" IN THE DISTANCE. —Photo by Watson.

Novel Eating House.

With Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein as its president and Lady Layard and Miss Gertrude Kingston, an actress, as its proprietors, a novel eating house, which is to supply the people of the East End of London with wholesome and appetizing food at cost price, has opened its doors. From the first the princess has taken the keenest interest in this attempt to introduce the German "volkskuche," or "people's kitchen," into London. Premises were chosen by her in Mile End road some months ago, and now the princess has given her name to the new dining rooms.

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