ELIAS ROGERS & CO.,
BEST QUALITY
COAL AND WOOD.

The Toronto World.

ELIAS ROGERS & CO.,
BEST QUALITY
COAL AND WOOD.

SIXTH YEAR | FRIDAY MORNING DECEMBER 25 1885. | PRICE ONE CENT

IS THE SCOTT ACT VALID?

ITS AUTHOR DECLARES THAT THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

But Mr. Justice Henry of the Supreme Court Is Equally Certain That the Measure Is Ultra Vires and Can Be Thrown Out.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 24.—Hon. R. W. Scott, author of the Canada temperance act, "or Scott act" as it is commonly called, in a conversation, stated that the act in question was in no way affected by the recent decision of the privy council on the liquor license acts. The case of Russell vs. the Queen, decided by the privy council, three or four years ago was a test case under which the constitutionality of the Canada Temperance act was clearly established. In drafting the act of 1878 the powers conferred, under the 92nd section of the British North America act, upon the provincial legislatures were kept prominently in view, as will be seen by reference to sub-section 4 of section 99 of the temperance act, wherein provision is made that the druggists and other vendors who were to be permitted to sell liquors for medicinal and other purposes are to be specially licensed by the lieut.-governors of the various provinces. By section 24 of the liquor license act of 1884 the issuing of these licenses was attempted to be withdrawn from the provincial authorities, and was vested in the board of license commissioners. Under the recent decisions these vendors, who are now selling in what are usually called Scott act counties under licenses granted by the board, are selling illegally, and they subject themselves to all penalties contained in the act of 1878.

Mr. Justice Henry, of the supreme court, however, does not subscribe to this view of the case, and contends that the British North America act never intended that parliament should have the power it has exercised in the passage of the Scott act. He maintains that the recent decision in the liquor act, which has justified his contentions regarding the powers of the provincial authorities, is such as to make it clear that the Scott act is ultra vires. He thinks that if the licensed victuallers carry out their threat of testing the constitutionality of the Scott act they will destroy it.

CARDINAL MANNING'S OPINIONS.

He Opposes the Support of Catholics to Parnell.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—An article on the Irish question, supposed to have been written by Cardinal Manning, appears in this week's issue of the Tablet, the Catholic organ of England. The writer objects to the request of the Rev. Thos. Nulty, Catholic bishop of Meath, that the English Catholics continue to support Parnell's followers on the ground that Parnell's party desires separation, which might result in the banishment of Catholics from the English parliament.

The patriotic union has issued a manifesto enlarging the scope of the organization so as to include loyalists of all creeds who desire to preserve the unity of the empire. A guarantee fund has been opened by the union, and is well supported.

THE TONQUIN CREDIT.

Narrow Escape of Defeat by the French Government.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—The chamber of deputies adopted the Tonquin credit by a vote of 274 to 270. It is rumored that owing to the closeness of the vote the cabinet has resigned. Before the vote was taken Gen. Campenon, minister of war, spoke in opposition to the proposed evacuation of Tonquin. He also advocated the formation of a colonial army. M. De Freycinet, minister of foreign affairs, declared that it was impossible for France to evacuate Tonquin. After some discussion by M. Ferry and M. Clemenceau on the subject the chamber adjourned until the 29th inst.

SEVENTY-FIVE DEAD.

The Welsh Colliery Accident More Serious than Reported.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—A despatch from Ponty Pridd, Wales, this morning, says seventy-five corpses have been recovered from Ferndale pit, where the explosion occurred yesterday. It is feared that others are burned in the debris. The scenes in the vicinity of the mine are pitiful. At daybreak this morning a fresh body of volunteers began exploring the pit, and are working manfully in an attempt to discover the bodies. Out of the four hundred odd entombed 320 men have been rescued, seven of whom were so burned that they may die.

Petrified in the Prodigal Son.

SILVERTON, Col., Dec. 24.—The bodies of Burk Hovey and J. M. Scales, the two miners who were imprisoned in the Prodigal Son by a snowslide on Monday, were found late last night at the bottom of the shaft dead. Both were packed in the snow as in a mould. Hovey was found standing six feet from the bottom upon a pile of timber. Scales was standing at the bottom of the shaft with a candle in his left hand and his right over his eyes shading them and looking upward. Death was apparently instantaneous. Scales was from Texas and Hovey from Woodstock, New Brunswick.

The Boycott to Continue.

CORK, Dec. 24.—The representatives of the Cork Steam Packet company and of the Cattle Dealers' association met to-day to consider the concessions proposed by the steamship company yesterday. The conference progressed amicably until the last moment, when a quarrel arose, and the representatives refused to sign the agreement. In consequence of the failure the cattle dealers resolved to continue the boycott.

A Bankrupt Sculptor.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Richard Bell, sculptor, who some time ago recovered £5000 damages in his suit for libel against Charles Brunell Lanees, sculptor, has become bankrupt. It is alleged he borrowed £12,000 from Sir William Neville Abdy upon jewelry which is almost worthless.

CABLE NOTES.

A revolt has broken out in the Servian army before Widdin and sixty soldiers have been shot for rebellion.

The product of pig iron in Scotland during the year 1885 amounts to 1,003,562 tons and the stock now in hand is 381,995 tons.

The Turkish war authorities are enforcing the conscription law to such an extent in Thessaly that it is feared the country will be ruined.

It is said that the imperial government intends to prosecute one of the recently-elected Irish members for seditious language used at the recent meeting of the National league in Dublin.

The London Times suggests that the Irish difficulty could be solved in three months by the exclusion of the Parnellites from the house of commons and the proclamation of martial law in Ireland.

If you want help, have an article to sell or have lost a dog advertise in The World. Three lines Ten Cents.

A DISPUTE OVER A DOWRY.

Why William Sheehan Murdered his Mother, Brother and Sister.

DUBLIN, Dec. 24.—William Sheehan, who was convicted of having murdered his mother, his brother Thomas and his sister Mary, at Castletown Roche, near Cork, in October, 1877, has made a full confession of his crime. He exculpates his brother-in-law, David Browne, who is under arrest, from any participation in the triple murder. Sheehan says he was led to commit the murders by the persistency of his mother in demanding £300 dowry from Farmer Browne before she would consent to her son (the prisoner) marrying Miss Browne. Farmer Browne was willing to give his daughter a dowry of £170, but Mrs. Sheehan refused the offer. William then murdered his mother, brother and sister, and threw their bodies into an old well. He told the people he had given his mother £300 out of his marriage portion and that the three missing ones had gone away to see another place of residence. In a short time William married Miss Browne. He took possession of the farm and remained there about two years, when he was evicted for non-payment of rent. He then left for Australia. After his departure the three bodies were discovered, and he was arrested and brought back to Ireland for trial.

At the Nanticoke Mine.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 24.—The situation at Nanticoke remains unchanged. As far as can be ascertained the black damp has been cleared from the slope near where it is supposed the men are imprisoned. The rescuing party did no work in No. 1 slope to-day, and Superintendent Morgan will not ask them to again face danger there. The only efforts now being made are in the clearing of the main slope, which is solidly packed with sand and rock. This debris cannot be removed very quickly. As soon as the mining engineers meet and devise some new plan for reaching the imprisoned men, the mine company will at once begin to prosecute the search regardless of expense.

A Brief Budget From Hamilton.

HAMILTON, Dec. 24.—Telephone communication between this city and Toronto was restored to-day. The break yesterday near Springfield was caused by a limb of a tree falling and severing the six wires.

A $1000 check payable to James A. Munday, drawn on the Fourth National bank, Buffalo, was found on King street east last night by Joseph Towier, a mail driver.

Smuggling on the Frontier.
From the Chicago News.

At Detroit and Port Huron there is a good deal of smuggling done by ladies who go over to Canadian towns to shop. The trip across requires only a few minutes, and the inspectors on this side are not very vigilant. Why, merchants on the Canadian side induce many of their American customers to make large purchases by agreeing to deliver the goods on this side free of duty. Of course they have matters fixed with some of the customs officers to pass the goods. Another plan of merchants to secure American custom is this: Canadian tailors have agents visit all the large western cities with samples of imported goods, which of course are vastly cheaper there than here. The customer selects his cloth, his measure is taken, and in a week or two he receives his suit of clothes by express, at a cost from 25 to 35 per cent. less than he would have to pay for a suit of similar material and workmanship here. Of course the Canadian tailor has as a confederate the baggageman or sleeping-car porter of some through passenger train. The packages of clothes are delivered to him at the last station on the Canadian side, and he puts them into the express office at the first station on the American side.

Christmas and its Days.

If Christmas falls on Sunday there will be a fine and fair summer, and the child born on that day will be a great lord. If it falls on Monday the year will be stormy and the cattle will die in large numbers. If on Tuesday, women will die, ships be wrecked and kings and lords be slain. If on Wednesday, there will be a hard winter, with "hydeus wyndes," and a merry summer, much rain and many deaths of the young. If on Friday, there will be a hard winter and an early spring, a good summer, and whoever was born on that day will live long, but perhaps not exactly after the commandments. If on Saturday, the winter is to be dreaded for "it shall slay both man and beste."

Ice and Roller Rinks.

This promises to be a great day at the rinks. The ice at the Granite and the Spadina avenue rinks is in splendid condition; there will be a band at each, afternoon and evening. The Princess, Metropolitan and Toronto roller rinks announce extra attractions, with lots of music.

Mr. Howland and the Insurance Men.

Mr. W. H. Howland is president of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Underwriters' association. But Mr. Howland and the Queen City Insurance company, of which he is president, have not been pulling very well with the Underwriters' association; and the consequence is that all, or nearly all the insurance men of the city are opposing him in the mayoralty contest. Besides the Queen City, Mr. Howland is president of two other companies of the mixed mutual and cash system class, viz., the Hand-in-Hand and the Millers' and Manufacturers, a new concern. The Queen City has given notice of its withdrawal from the Underwriters' association. Prominent insurance men of the city with whom a World reporter yesterday talked said that Mr Howland was among the first promoters of the Underwriters association, the regulating power of insurance rates. Then Mr. Howland for some reason or other (to cut rates, they say), became the president of the association, and he and his companies, the Queen City, now want to withdraw. His other companies are non-tariff institutions, and have never been members of the association.

A Peep at Venus.

Anybody who wishes to take a peep at another world than ours has only to look at the planet Venus, which now shines brilliantly in the southwest after sundown. Venus is of nearly the same size as the earth, and astronomers think it may possibly bear life not altogether unlike that upon the surface of our own planet. Yet at the distance of some 80,000,000 miles its huge bulk appears reduced to the dimensions of a star, reflecting the sunlight to us like a pellicle of silver. We inhabit a wonderful world, but our world belongs to a still more wonderful family of worlds.

Venus was particularly bright last night, and several citizens who saw her thought it was the Star of Bethlehem.

Christmas Eve Service.

Music of organ and choir attracted passers into the church of St. George the Martyr, John street, last night. The rector, Rev. J. D. Cayley assisted by his splendid choir, conducted special Christmas eve services. The music was very fine. The rector made a few earnest, touching remarks on the words in Luke ii., 7, "There was no room." There was no more room for that Saviour now than there was in that distant Christmas morn. He entreated his hearers to make room, and concluded by wishing them what all present wished him, a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

Owing to the present situation of Irish affairs, Parnell says he cannot visit America at the date of the proposed convention at Chicago, and requests that it be postponed. In accordance with his request the officers have consented, and announce that President Egan will call the American league together sometime in January, by which time further information is expected.

THE FRENCHMAN BEATEN

SCHAEFER BEATS VIGNAUX IN THE BILLIARD TOURNAMENT.

Big Run by the New York Man—Proposed Encounter Between Sullivan and Ryan.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The lightest house of the season was attracted by the game to-night between Vignaux and Schaefer, in continuation of the balk-line tournament, made necessary by the triple tie. Only 200 people were present. In the betting Vignaux was favorite at odds of 100 to 90. Play began moderately, and Vignaux had reached 103 when Schaefer's string showed 78. In his seventh inning Schaefer opened out with a run of 82, which ended with a freeze and failure to count from the lay off. Vignaux entered upon a promising run, but stopped at 20 on a single cushion miss. He got another chance in the next innings and this time he nursed the balls very patiently for a run of 26. Schaefer struck a series of hard breaks and was tied up for four innings, but he cut loose in the twelfth with a run of 51. Score—Schaefer 226, Vignaux 161. Vignaux also had five barren innings but played his fourteenth to good purpose, realizing a total of 109 in a laborious and uninteresting manner. Schaefer responded with 37 and was 2 points ahead. Vignaux proceeded to pound out 60 rather ragged billiards, missing an easy masse. Finding the balls comfortably bunched Schaefer ran 16, and fell down on a masse and left a set up. Vignaux made 40, and stopped on a simple one cushion shot. Schaefer followed with 51, the greater part of which was made with balls on different sides of the line at the lower right hand corner. In his half of the nineteenth innings Vignaux scored 27, bringing totals up to 406 to 342 in his favor. Schaefer had struck a weak and barren streak of play, and for 4 innings made but 7 points. A wretched failure in the twenty first gave Vignaux a ready-made position, from which he realized thirty. Schaefer was now one hundred points in the rear, and when he had made sixteen he left another set up. Vignaux took up monotonous work again. At thirty he made a palpable scratch, when the miss would have left Schaefer a gift, and kept on till he had run 81. Score—Vignaux 527, Schaefer 362. Schaefer was having the hardest of luck, while everything was in the Frenchman's favor. The New York lad got a fresh start in the twenty-fourth innings and did some clever playing until a bad shot lost him control of the balls, and he stopped at 51.

After some uneventful play, during which the score was brought up to 600 to 489 in Vignaux's favor, Schaefer in his twenty-ninth innings came back with a beautiful run of 187, in which he played at the top of his speed, using the balk line nurse with marvelous proficiency. He missed with the balls lined and all touching the cushion. Vignaux was plainly upset, and let go of a good position after making two counts.

Vignaux played his thirtieth innings with great care, but stopped at 25 on a hard combination kiss shot, leaving the balls closely grouped for Schaefer, who reeled off 77 in fine style, ending with a foul on masse, when his ball was frozen to the red. Score: Schaefer 772, Vignaux 627. The balls were favorably left for Vignaux at the lower end rail, and he went to work as though he had no idea of giving up the game. Another failure to get the balls stopped him at 45 and gave Schaefer a set-up and he ran the game out. Score:

Schaefer 20, 0, 0, 25, 3, 30, 8, 82, 1, 5, 7, 2, 51, 9, 0, 37, 16, 51, 2, 3, 1, 16, 0, 51, 1, 15, 2, 58, 187, 77, 19—800.

Vignaux—1, 56, 0, 30, 4, 13, 20, 26, 2, 7, 3, 0, 0, 109, 60, 40, 2, 2, 7, 27, 10, 30, 81, 17, 24, 0, 3, 28, 1, 2, 44—671.

Schaefer's average 25, highest run 187.
Vignaux's average 21 20-31, highest run 109.

The Jockey Archer's Record.
From London Truth.

The papers have been thrown into paroxysms of enthusiasm by the "splendid," "magnificent" and "unprecedented" winning-score of Archer. His riding has been very fine this season, and probably there never were victories in which the merit was so much due to the jockey as those of Paradox in the Two Thousand, Melton in the Derby, and Minting in the Middle Park Plate. He also rode a wonderful race in the Hopeful Stakes, when Gay Hermit ran a dead heat with Modwena. It seems to me, however, that it is in the highest degree foolish and absurd to indulge in hyperboles of admiration because Archer has won 246 races. It is analagous to praising the skill of a man who plays with loaded dice, for everybody knows that Archer really has the pick of the mounts in almost every race. It is a queer commentary on his "grand score" to find the Sportsman announcing that a backer of Archer's mounts at £10 a race would have been out of pocket nearly £800 at the end of the season, and of course that amount would have been considerably increased by the time the inevitable expenses had been paid.

General Notes.

Hermit again heads the list of winning sires of the British turf, his progeny during the past season having won £30,121.

The English jockey club has fortified itself with a legal member in the person of Sir H. Hawkins, judge of the supreme court.

Sir Richard Sutton, the owner of the Genesta, is about to make a cruise in the Mediterranean in his schooner yacht, the Elmina, 335 tons.

More than half a million pounds sterling were raced for during the last racing season on the English turf, the largest sum by £30,000 ever known.

The P. C. Fox estate, Danville, Ky., has sold to the Dwyer Brothers the bay colt Tom Martin, four years old, by Longfellow, dam Athalaric by Gilroy, her dam Brenna, the dam of Bradamante. Price paid, $4500.

It is noted that British electors, whether whig or tory, view with a kindly eye a candidate who keeps a pack of hounds for the pleasure of his neighbors. More than one man really owes his return as an M. P. to being an M. F. H. (master of fox hounds).

On Tuesday Tom Kearns put up $250 forfeit on Paddy Ryan and Hugh Reilly of Washington put up a like amount on Sullivan for a fight for either $5000 or $10,000 or $20,000 with bare knuckles, to a finish, London or Queensberry rules. Kearns sent Joe Coburn to Chicago to bring Paddy Ryan to New York, and last evening Kearns and Reilly were to deposit $2500 and the articles of agreement were to be drawn. Sullivan said that after his posing engagements were finished he would fight Ryan and follow up on consecutive nights with McCaffrey, Mitchell, Burke and all who pine to get at him.

An Aldermanic Santa Claus.

The children at the Girls' home had a jolly spree last night. The managers and friends had supplied an abundance of gifts and sweetmeats, which were distributed to the youngsters from illuminated Christmas trees, by Ald. Frankland, who was costumed as Santa Claus. No little ones in the city went happier to bed last night than did those at the Girls' home.

Theatre Notes.

At the Grand this afternoon and to-night Irish Comedian Scanlan will appear in Shane na-Lawn, introducing several of his popular songs.

The People's theatre continues to play Muldoon's Picnic to large business. Good specialties are introduced. Performances afternoon and evening.

The Deputy Minister of Education Medalled.

The governor general has bestowed upon Dr. J. George Hodgins deputy minister of education, one of the Confederation medals, to mark his excellency's appreciation of Dr. Hodgins' "valued services both as a public officer and a man of letters."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AFFAIRS.

Market Bylaw—Talk About Auditors—Removal of the Lunatic Asylum.

Chairman Defoe, Ald. Adamson, Steiner, Pepler, Crocker, Elliott, James, Walker, Saunders, Irwin and Woods were present at an executive committee meeting yesterday.

City Clerk Blevins produced a bylaw for the issue of $51,000 debentures to buy land and erect thereon a cattle market. On motion of Ald. Walker the bylaw was laid on the table.

A bylaw was submitted, drawn in accordance with the statute, for the appointment of auditors for 1886. Ald. Walker wished to know to whom these auditors were subject. He had tried to get a special audit made and had not been accommodated. The chairman said that all the committee could do would be to fill the positions. Ald. Walker moved that the name of Mr. Badenach be substituted for that of W. R. Hughes. Ald. Pepler and Crocker thought that Ald. Walker should give some definite reason for his motion. The motion was lost.

The clause in the works committee's report, recommending the payment to Engineer Kivas Tully of $100 for professional advice, was laid over.

After some discussion the following clause in the water works report was struck out:

Your committee beg to report that plans have been prepared for proposed alterations in the offices of the department. The present desk and counter accommodation is altogether inadequate, in view of the largely increased quarterly payments, for the efficient transaction of the public business, apart from the inconvenience experienced both by the public and the officials. The committee recommend that funds be provided, and that the committee on property be instructed to carry out the proposed alterations. Estimated cost, $1800.

The exhibition committee's recommendation that Owen Cosgrove be paid simple interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum for seven years on the sum of $33, being the cost of stone taken by the city engineer from Mr. Cosgrove during the building of the exhibition buildings, was also struck out.

Considerable discussion followed the report of the special committee on the removal of the lunatic asylum. Ald. Walker was not averse to having a few breathing spots in the city; he did not wish to see smoke stacks in all corners of the city. Ald. Crocker said Ald. Walker would oppose any improvement in that ward. Petitions had come in year after year from residents to have the asylum removed. Ald. John Woods made a speech. The unfortunate people housed in the asylum were to be considered. The noise of the railways and the bustle of traffic were a source of great annoyance to them and generally served to aggravate their terrible malady. Ald Walker moved that the whole report be struck out, but his motion was lost. The sum of $20 was allowed the committee for printing posters for the mass meeting.

BREAD AND BEEF.

Annual Distribution of Christmas Cheer by the St. George's Society.

The annual distribution to the English poor by the St. George's society took place yesterday from 10 o'clock until 3.30, in an empty warehouse on Church street. Mr. Harry Symons, president of the society, superintended, and the following gentlemen were the white aprons of sides: J. Lugsdin, Jas. Spooner, George Plewes, J. W. Stockwell, George Beardmore, A. H Lefroy, R. W. Elliot and J. S. King. Secretary Pell checked off the tickets. Seven thousand pounds of beef and 2500 loaves of bread were distributed, besides tea, sugar, apples and candy. Over 750 families were supplied, besides a number of others, who got what was left when the English people were all served.

Tickets were given by members of the society to such English families as they thought deserving; these tickets were presented at the back door, and the person supplied according to the number in the family. If there were eight or over, the quantity was ten pounds of beef, two large loaves, half a pound of tea and sugar, some apples and a few kind words from one of the white aprons. The class of persons that applied were mostly mothers and sisters, yet there were quite a number of men, who were not ashamed to present a big basket or bag and carry off all they could get. It was quite a study to observe the bearing and appearance of the different applicants. There was the timid mother, showing evidences of refinement, though she was poor, and shrinking from the appearance of accepting charity, taking thankfully whatever was given her, and passing out as quickly as possible. A number of the applicants were girls of 17 or 18, on whose young shoulders rested the cares of the family. One was particularly interesting. She was tall and dark, with well-cut features, and neatly dressed, but she had a tired, overworked expression, and the black eyes, that should be sparkling with mirth this festive season, only reflected a heavy, mournful light. The only time she seemed real pleased was when her little brother and sister, who were with her were having their pockets filled with apples. Then there were a number of forward, pushing women, who were not afraid to ask for anything they didn't see, and who were not in the least ashamed to accept all that was offered. Among the men there were some laughable old curios. One man evidently did not expect much, for he came without a basket. When he saw the pile of meat and bread he exclaimed, "Wait till I run over to the market and borrow a basket." Another man didn't want to be seen carrying bread along the street, and asked if he couldn't have a double quantity of something else instead. Numerous tales of suffering and privation were heard When the distribution was over the gentlemen in the white aprons repaired to a photographer's and had their picture taken in costume, standing round a table covered with bread and beef.

—See the Wanzer Roller Skate for Christmas presents and New Year gifts at 82 King street west. x

A Colossal Christmas Pie.

Account of a Christmas pie taken from the Newcastle Chronicle of Jan. 6, 1770:

Monday last was brought from Howick to Bewick to be shipped to London for Sir Henry Grey, Bart., a pie, the contents whereof are as follow, viz.: Two bushels of flour, twenty pounds of butter, four geese, two turkeys, two rabbits, four wild ducs s, two woodcocks, six snipes, four partridges, two neats' tongues, two curleys, seven blackbirds and six pigeons. It is supposed a very great curiosity; was made by Mrs. Dorothy Patterson, housekeeper at Bewick. It was nearly nine feet in circumference at the bottom, weighs about twelve stone, will take two men to present it to table; it is neatly fitted with a case and four small wheels, to facilitate its use to every guest that inclines to partake of its contents at the table.

Good Things for Smallpox Patients.

Medical Health officer Canniff has made ample provision for the patients in the small pox hospital to-day. They will be served a regular Christmas dinner of turkey and plum pudding. Christmas fruit galore has been conveyed to them, together with bundles of illustrated periodicals. As all but two or three are convalescent, it will not be the fault of the health authorities if they do not enjoy themselves.

Christmas Carols at the Gardens.

One of the most appropriate entertainments for to-day is the cosy little concert of Christmas carols at Horticultural gardens. There will be a chorus of twenty-five voices and instrumental music by the Toronto Quartet club. Children's matinee at 2.30 for 10 cents. The evening performance will be at 8.

J. D. Wells's Cartoon.

Grip of this week has a cartoon advertisement illustrative of the insurance war, wherein J. D. Wells is depicted as a most handsome man introducing the assessment lion to the government who licensed it, to the great chagrin of the old line companies, the representatives of which are drawn with long faces and sad hearts.

BROKERS ON A JAMBOREE

CHRISTMAS EVE ON 'CHANGE AT NEW YORK.

Plenty of Fun and Lots of Good Humor—Care for the Nance Thrown to the Winds—An Example for the Scrooges of Toronto.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The members of the stock exchange enjoyed their annual circus to-day, and the entertainment was witnessed by hundreds of spectators who crowded the galleries. Among the spectators were many ladies. The performance began at 11.30 o'clock, when a crowd of brokers seized upon Mr. Clark, one of the oldest members of the exchange, and pushed him about the room among crowds of brokers who fell in behind the party and with drums and tin horns made a racket which was heard as far as Wall street and Broadway. After indulging themselves in this way for about ten minutes the members began to dance jigs with one another until they were called to order by one of the prime movers in the disturbance who, followed by a crowd, marched up to the superintendent's desk and in a short speech handed him a package neatly tied up and sealed with red wax. He said that the present was made to the president in token of his untiring efforts to maintain order, and it was the opinion of many of the members that he should have help in this laborious work. President Simmons unwrapped the package and disclosed an automatic stump speaker placed in a box and worked by a spring. The clock work was wound up and the stump speaker began amid cheers and howls of the crowd. For five or ten minutes the fun abated and a few brokers made some sales, but at 12 o'clock an organ grinder, accompanied by a woman and a diminutive Italian boy was led upon the floor of the exchange, and at once began to play. A shower of coin at once began to pour into the tamborine held by the woman, and even with the assistance of the boy she was unable to gather it in as fast as it fell, and a number of the messenger boys acted as collectors. One or two of the members danced around the room with the woman, and then began a fierce assault upon all high hats. Other hats did not escape, and for a time high hats and Derbys were used as footballs. The fun lasted for half an hour. At the cotton exchange the brokers also indulged in pranks upon each other, and at the produce exchange showers of grain were flung about the room and into the rings of the bulls and bears. The grain merchants decided to adjourn at 2.15 p.m., but the brokers blew horns and jammed each other's hats over their eyes throughout the whole session. A boxing match between two message boys was fought in the grain pit, much to the amusement of the brokers.

LOCAL HEALTH BOARDS.

Questions Affecting Their Organization and Management.

The Provincial board of health has issued circulars to members of municipal councils, of local boards of health, of the medical profession and editors, asking their opinion on the following questions affecting the local boards of health:

1. Do you consider that the appointment of local boards of health should rest with the municipal councils?

2. Do you think it desirable that the members of local boards of health should be elected by the people, in the same manner as municipal councillors?

3. Do you consider it advisable that persons should be at the same time members both of the municipal council and of the local board of health?

4. Do you think it desirable that members of local boards should serve for a term of years—a certain number of them retiring annually in rotation?

5. In England, local sanitary authorities are elected for three years from amongst the ratepayers, one-third retiring each year. Do you think this system a desirable one to be adopted in Ontario?

6. What in your opinion is the best way of providing funds for municipal health work? (a) By an annual grant of the council? (b) By accounts of local boards for expenditures being presented to the council for payment from time to time? (c) By a separate annual tax, such as the school tax?

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

Good news for skaters—first-class ice at the Spadina avenue rink.

Services will be held in the Anglican, Methodist and Catholic churches this forenoon.

Valuables to the amount of $150 were stolen from Horace H. Wiman's residence, 102 Seaton street, the other night.

The congregation of Jarvis street Baptist church Christmas boxed Rev. Dr. Thomas with a $200 gold watch and chain.

Father Clow will be at home to his friends from 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. to-day. Go around and get a piece of the great baron of beef.

Chief Constable Draper has received a letter from Newcastle, Ind., asking him to ascertain the whereabouts of James Bentiss, for his mother.

Another party for Florida leaves at 12.15 noon on Monday. For special rates and full particulars apply to the only Canadian agent Thomas Edward, 20 Queen street, Parkdale. Office open till 8 p.m.

Alexander Cunio, aged 13, living at 222 Chestnut street, was yesterday arrested for larceny. He stole a number of C. P. R. milk freight coupons from the Mail job department while in the office on an errand.

Mr. Hillie Coxwell, the popular foreman for Rastedo & Co., the well-known furriers, was surprised last evening by the young ladies in the establishment when they waited on him and presented him with a handsome gold-headed cane.

A Charter for the City.

Attorney-General Mowat yesterday afternoon received a visit from the sub-committee of the city council legislative committee to learn from them the legislation which the city would ask for at the coming session. Ald. Saunders and Frankland composed the deputation. The former stated that an opinion had been expressed by several aldermen that the city should be granted a charter. The annoyance of applying yearly for legislation would then be avoided. Mr Mowat said that there seemed to be a misunderstanding as to what powers would really be given by a charter. If it were granted there should be limited powers. The Don straightening scheme was discussed. Mr. Mowat said he was strongly in favor of the appointment of an inspector of plumbing. There was altogether too much faulty plumbing done in Toronto.

Signs of the Times.
From Grip.

Dentist—Teeth extracted without pain'.
Restaurant—A good place to die in, try it.
Quoemaker—Everybody gets soled here.
Bookseller—Our books are bound to sell.
Tailor—The place for fits.
Blacksmith—All hands are on the strike.
Butcher—We make ends meat.
Grocer—Lying in weight for customers.
Printer—Our business is pressing.
Carpenter—Plain board-shaving free.
Baker—We knead your support.
Lawyer—Pleas be brief.
Student—We study to please.
Barber—Notes shaved here. D.H.
Liveryman—We do a driving business.
Editor—We copy others' mistakes.

How Will it Be Received?

Louis Riel is no more, but his memory is to be preserved by the playright. A sensational drama with the title of Louis Riel is being written for production on the Canadian stage. Three acts of the play have already been finished. The stirring events in the life of the dead rebel will furnish the groundwork for the plot. A Toronto theatrical man will start the venture out on the road. How will it be received?

A Judge's Fortune.

The late Judge Morrison left an estate valued at $5,000. The sum of $3000 is left to Miss Mary Mahesey, deceased's housekeeper, and the remainder to his executors, Hon. A. S. Hardy and J. B. Morrison, to divide equally among his six children.

WHAT THEY FOUND IN THEIR STOCKINGS.

His Honor—A Second Term.
Collector Patton—A Bundle of Smuggled Cigars.
Sir John Macdonald—A Bleu Pill.
Oarsman Hanlan—A Birch Canoe.
E. S. Cox—A Grizzly Bear.
Mayor Manning—One Thousand Majority.
T. C. Patteson—A Raise in Salary.
H. W. Darling—Hugh Blain's Photo.
Simon Hamburger—A Three-base Hit.
Collector Stratton—A Keg of Swamp Whisky.
J. D. Edgar—A Gas Metre.
Magistrate Denison—Two Months.
W. H. Howland—The Goose.
Chief Justice Hagarty—A Bon Mot.
T. B. Pardee—A Bob-tail Flush.
A. S. Hardy—A Little Thunder.
The Minister of Education—A Plug of Blackstrap.
C. F. Fraser—A Case of Goulet.
The Little Premier—A Pass to Ottawa.
Edward Blake—Something Riel Hard.
Barlow Cumberland—A New Horn.
The City Solicitor—A Week's Holidays.
Major-Gen. Middleton—Some More Scrip.
Lieut.-Col. Otter—A Regular Regiment.
Capt. Mead—A Stray Shot.
Wm. Clow—A Baron of Beef.
James Austin—An Electric Lamp.
David Blain—A "Light" Contract.
Col. Arthurs—A Message of Love.
Duncan Coulson—A Big Deposit.
G. W. Yarker—A Partridge Pie.
The Deacon—A Copy of The World.
Harry Nolan—A Spanish Onion.
Tommy McIlroy—An Order for 100,000 Feet of Maltese Cross.
The Christmas Drunk—A Sore Head.

THE GRENADIERS.

Lieut.-Col. Grasett—A Military School.
Major Dawson—Compensation for Wounds.
Major Harrison—Orders for the Front.
Adjutant Manley—A Pension.
Capt. Mason—Perfect Recovery.
Capt. Harston—The Government *Policy*.
Capt. Trotter—A Pullet and Fillet.
Lt. Gibson—A Second Class Certificate.
Lt. Hay—The Gray Horse of Batoche.
Lt. Irving—A Can of Corned Beef.
Paymaster Kingsmill—The Overdue Pay.
Surgeon Ryerson—More "Loot."
Lt. Davidson—The Cumberland Cup.
Bandmaster Toulmin—Wind.
Lt. Lowe—A Cup of Cocoa.

THE QUEEN'S OWN.

Col. Miller—Indian title, "Old Some Other Time."
Maj. Allan—A Battleford Rabbit.
Maj. Hamilton—Anything Handy.
Surgeon Nattrass.—A Cocked Hat Like Leslie.
Capt. Delamere—Some Battleford Mush.
Surg. Leslie—North Shore Ozone.
Capt. Brown—A Victoria Cross for Cut Knife.
Lt. Brock—A Fat Brief.
Lt. Cassels—Some Squaws' Beadwork.
Capt. Midland—A Jackpot.
Capt. Blain—The Last Pay Sheet.
Quarter-Master Heakes—A New Outfit for the Q.O.R.
Capt. McDonald—Some Birch Lake Biscuits.
Capt. Mutton—The Adjutancy.
Lt. George—A Baby Carriage.
Private McSaid—Another pair of Boots.

THE MASONS.

John Ross Robertson—The District Deputyship.
E. T. Malone—A K. T. Uniform.
Dan Spry—The "Wires" for Windsor.
W. C. Wilkinson—An Egyptian Sphinx.
Josh Burns—A Ready-made Seat on the Board of G. P.
W. J. Hambly—A Bundle of Agnostic Tracts.
R. L. Patterson—A Hamilton Painted Fan.
Thos. Sargant—"The Ring."
Walter S. Lee—The Grand Registrarship.
R. J. Hovenden—A Copy of Folger's History.
James Bain—A New Organ for Toronto street Hall.
George McConkey—A Sugar-Knight.

THE THOUSANDS OF READERS OF THE WORLD—
A Merry Christmas.

Our Christmas Tree.

In		
the corner		
from the chimney		
where the stockings hung		
last night grows this		
Christmas Tree in		
splendor sparkling with		
its tapers bright and its green		
and graceful branches		
bending with their burden		
low, beareth wondrous fruit		
that only in the Fairy land can		
grow. All around this tree of		
gladness happy little children		
draw, gazing at its dazzling beauty		
lost in wonderment and awe. From		
its top a tiny angel smiles upon this scene		
so fair, which the old folks, more		
delighted than the joyful children,		
share. Now the fruit is ripe for picking		
and the children, come to earth, scramble		
for the shower of treasures, shouting merrily with mirth. Grandpa, Grandma, Papa,		
	Mamma,	
and the		
baby		
scream		
delight		
in this ne'er-forgotten frolic in		

the home on Christmas night.

And St. Nick behind his reindeers flying
homeward through the skies hears the children's merry voices that up chimneys to him rise

The French Vote and Sir John.
From the Montreal Witness.

On the other hand, it is possible that Sir John, relying upon the effect upon the English people of an appeal on the Riel question, will seize the opportunity to secure a majority independent of Room No. 8. It would be a just retribution upon the French representatives who have time and again wrung bribes from Sir John Macdonald by threatening desertion at critical moments, if they found themselves utterly impotent for some years in parliament, and we do not hesitate to say that it would be a great and joyful deliverance for the dominion. It would constitute a greater deliverance if both bribed and briber were overthrown.

Statistics Concerning Winnipeg.

Editor World: Will you kindly furnish me with the following information concerning Winnipeg: (1) Its assessed value; (2) rate of taxation; (3) amount of city debt; (4) population.
C. C. B.

[1. $19,711,695, as per last revised roll. 2. Sinking fund and interest on debentures, 10.10 mills; school purposes (protestant), 2.71 mills; school purposes (catholic), 4 mills; ordinary, 7.19 mills. Total protestant rate, 20 mills; total catholic rate, 21.29 mills. 3. Total amount of city debt, $2,500,000. 4. Population, 25,000.]

Lizzie and the Cathedral Clock.

Editor World: Is this machine laid up for the balance of the year? Have the funds run out, or what is the cause of its present stoppage? Where is John Laidlaw? Have the subscriptions for this clock not been paid? Is the clock tired? Will some of the big aldermen ask the mayor why the free and independent electors are thus humbugged by a clock that won't go, although they may be going themselves?
LIZZIE.

Toronto, December 24.

Clothing for the Sweepers.

Editor World: I have a request to make of the ladies of our city this Christmas morning, not to forget the crossing sweepers and when their happy boys have put on their Christmas suits to remind them that the little fellows are poorly clad and the old clothes would be very acceptable. I shall be happy to deal them out and send for them to any address. The boys are industrious and always take their earnings home to their parents. Hoping the citizens will encourage the sweepers, I am,
H. PIPER.

Municipal Leaseholders.

Editor World: 1. Can a person holding a lease with a municipality be elected for municipal honors? 2. Is a lease a contract?
READER.

1. The holder of a twenty-one years' lease is eligible for municipal honors, but cannot vote in the council on any question affecting any lease from the corporation. Leaseholders for a short period are disqualified. See section 77 consolidated municipal act, 1883. 2. Yes.

When regard is had for class and number of readers and price per line The World is the best and cheapest advertising paper in the city.