

PICNIC OF ALL PICNICS AT SPRINGBANK PARK WAS THAT OF OLD BOYS AND GIRLS

Fifteen Thousand Persons Went to the Favorite Resort to Help Make the Visitors
Have a Real Good Time—Great Crush on the Street Cars—
Five Bands on the Grounds.

Not to be outdone by the record-smashing attendance at Queen's Park on Monday, Springbank Park yesterday took a hand in the game and landed a tremendous crowd at the shady spot down the river. It, too, was a record breaker. Not less than 15,000 people—men, women and children—were carried by the London Street Railway. Not less than a thousand more drove, wheeled and automobilized to the park.

The Old Boys again "owned the earth." A splendid programme had been provided for them by the able committee, and they entered into the contests with zest. Every event was well filled, and the fun was continued for hours.

Thousands upon thousands gathered in the shade of the spreading trees to watch the sports, while thousands upon thousands with tastes running toward a quieter time, whiled away the hours in the deeper shade of the nearby woods.

Picnic of All Picnics.
As far as Springbank was concerned, it was the picnic of all picnics. The hundreds of acres swarmed with a crowd of merry makers such as it does one good to see. Laughter and sunshine made all things glad at Springbank yesterday.

Everything passed off with a smoothness and finish which told of careful preparation of the programme by the committee. There were no waits, and the spectators never for a moment had an opportunity of criticising, even had they been so inclined.

The street railway company had made special preparations for handling the throng, but the cars were nevertheless crowded, westbound, all afternoon. About 6 o'clock there was a slackening in the jam, but inside of

half an hour the crush again took place. Those who had been in the shops and offices all day found it necessary to wait some time in order to get a seat in a car to reach the park. The last of the picnickers did not reach the city until after 1 o'clock this morning, the breaking of a trolley wire causing a serious delay to the homecomers.

A Memorable Scene.

The scene on the park grounds yesterday was a memorable one. The thousands of former Londoners mingled with the thousands of present Londoners in crowds which almost hid the green sward from view. Everywhere the dainty summer costumes of the ladies enlivened the scene. Hundreds of carriages were drawn up along the drives, while the occupants of the vehicles sat and enjoyed the scene. In every jungle of the cool woods, picnic parties could be seen enjoying lunches which they had taken the precaution to bring along, and one and all of the park visitors appeared to be having the time of his or her life. Yesterday was indeed a grand day for London and for London's guests.

The people show no signs of weariness as the days of the reunion speed on. Up early, and late to bed, they still throw their hearts into the pleasures of the day, and the result is such as to cause the stranger to envy London and her homecomers.

"Is it possible for such enthusiasm to exist elsewhere?" they ask themselves. "London appears mad with delight."

Not even a wrangle, much less a row, occurred at the big park all day. There was no one there to give offense, and no one to look for trouble, even if anyone had been disposed to make it.

None are short tempered when they're with the old folks at home.

Music Galore.

The music of five bands greeted the ears of the picnickers at the park. These were the First Regiment Band of Chicago, the Toledo Newsboys' Band, Channer's Band of Detroit, the Cleveland Band, and the Dunn Band of Sarnia. At different places on the grounds each band gave a concert, and the applause of the greatly-pleased audience was hearty. Such tunes as "Swanee River," "Old Lang Syne," and other old-timers, made many a man and woman pause and allow their minds to run back to the days that have been. The Chicago Band, under the leadership of Bandmaster J. T. Hostrawer, made an especial hit with the crowd. The leader was once a member of the Seventh Band of this city, and about 25 years ago was a bandsman in Toronto.

The reception and entertainment committees of the Old Boys had not forgotten the ladies, and yesterday they provided a dainty and appetizing luncheon for them at the park. Two marquee had been erected on the west grounds. Here the ladies were accommodated with luncheon and cool drinks. Chairman MacRobert, of the general reception committee, was on hand, while Mr. John Stevely was master of ceremonies at the marquee. These gentlemen were assisted by President Carrothers, and Messrs. M. E. Holden, Wm. Skinner, John Carling and Al. Davis. All of these made capital waiters and showed the ladies that a man could be made to wait on himself at home if a way could only be found to make him.

The thoughtfulness of the committee in providing the luncheon won warm praise for the Old Boys from the ladies.

The heat on the grounds was intense, and there is not the slightest doubt that the care the committee exercised in behalf of the ladies obviated many prostrations from the heat. The gentlemen who waited on the marquee were the big fellows on the grounds yesterday—at least, in the opinions of the fair sex.

At night a reception and dance was held in the pavilion and a thousand or more merry-makers held forth at different times until midnight.

The Chief Hustlers.

As usual, Bob Carrothers, Barney McCann, Tom Gillean, E. J. MacRobert and Jack Stevely were chief among the hustling members of the home guard. They appeared to be at all places at the same time, and they also appeared to be imbued with but one idea, and that was to make people feel at home. They cared nothing for their personal convenience. It was the welfare of the guests they labored for, and they worked harder than if they had been put to work with shovels in a clay bank. But there were many others of the Old Boys who worked, too, and they deserve a great deal of credit for the success of the day.

When the afternoon's sporting events had been concluded a baseball match between two teams of the Old Boys was played, and it proved so very funny that half of the spectators were almost prostrated with laughter. Such games should not be pulled off too frequently. The lives of the public are endangered when Barney McCann and Tom Gillean conspire to make fun. Chief Williams should see that they do not get their heads together again this week. The people want to do something else besides laugh.

After the ball game the Toledo Old Boys presented Mr. Nicholas Wilson with a handsome silk banner, bearing the name of the London Old Boys' Association of Toledo. Mr. Wilson made a neat reply, and appeared to be much affected by the thoughtfulness and kindness of the Old Boys of Toledo.

A Lively Street Scene.

The scene on the downtown streets last night eclipsed that of any previous night. The illuminations were perfect and until 1 o'clock this morning the corner of Dundas and Richmond street resembled the market square on a busy day. That tired feeling appears to be an unknown quantity in London. All the evening bands paraded the streets followed by singing, cheering, (Continued on page 5.)

Officers of International Old Boys' Association.

Honorary President—Mayor
Cl. T. Campbell, London.
Honorary Vice-President—
Wm. Eggleton, Toledo.
President—Eph. Plummer,
New York.
Vice-President—R. McF. Eliot,
Winnipeg.
(All Presidents of Associations are
also Vice-Presidents.)
Secretary—B. C. McCann,
London (re-elected).
Treasurer—Thomas A. Duff,
Toronto (re-elected).

TILSONBURG CASE IN THE COURTS

Brown Acquitted of Felony Charge Before the Magis- trates at Woodstock.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Woodstock, Aug. 8.—The hearing of the several charges arising from the sensational escape of Frank Mero, charged with seduction, from Tilsonburg, took place here this morning before Magistrates Bell, Hare and Buchanan. The charges were against W. C. Brown, for compounding a felony; John McFero and Mayor Fero, of Tilsonburg, in breaking into the lock-up, and W. Smith and Constable Pick, with bribery.

The case against the barrister was first proceeded with. W. Smith, father of May Smith, who it is alleged was seduced by Mero, the prisoner who effected his escape, going on the stand, and swearing that Brown drew up an agreement, whereby he was to receive \$100 from Frank Mero, and thus relieve him of all future liability. This Smith signed. Smith declared his daughter was over 16 years of age. On this testimony Brown was acquitted.

Mayor Fero admitted breaking open the lock-up to get Mero medical attendance, but contended that he had the power to do so. This case is now in progress.

Shure escaping from Constable Pick, who had him in charge, Mero has not been located. The hearing will last until tomorrow.

CANNIBALS ATE 2,000

Eight Victims Were German Colon ists, the Remainder Negroes.

Antwerp, Aug. 8.—Passengers from the Congo Free State, who arrived by steamship today, state that a report is current in the colony that a tribe of cannibals, known as Niems, have killed and eaten 2,000 negroes and eight German colonists.

The Canadians went to bat, and

Barney's Bunch Bumped In International Game

"Curvilinear Wonder" McCann Hit Hard and Starts a Riot.

Say, did you see the international ball game? It was the feature of this whole show. As a laugh-producer, it had Roger Brothers or any other aggregation faded to a whisper. Two whole innings were played and then the game ended in a most disgraceful row. More of that anon.

Barney McCann, and W. A. Small, of Chicago, got their heads together, and then it happened. First the uniforms. Barney's bunch were regaled in red silk shirt, with Union Jacks decorating the manly forms. Knickerbockers or white "panties" formed the rest of their suit. The Americans had blue American flags wrapped around them in touching disarrange. Umpire M. W. Munce was uniformed in a Brother Jonathan garb, and what he knew about the game was fine. What he didn't, well, he made them play ball according to the rules. B. McCann, the curvilinear wonder, was in the box for the "home brews." Small, the big man, was first up. B. C. uncorked a drop, and Small laid on the ash. Dixon, in left field, headed for the river. Small, who is not small, got as far as second, when they found the ball. Weston hit Barney's next offering for a single. Oh, my! The fans began to yell "Kill the pitcher!" "Chase him!" "Kill him!" But the umpire raised his little mitt, and the multitudes became silent as the kindergarten. Two runs trickled in, and Barney looked worried. He called up his catcher, W. Carrothers, and they talked the situation over. That gave Humphrey time to rest. He needed it. McCann and Chittick scored when Bill McLoud on third let a couple percolate through him. No, Bill did not get any errors, for he did not touch the ball, so there! Fox struck out on three balls. Carrothers knocked a fly to Gillean that he almost caught. The darn thing went into his hands, but it would not stick. Now, this boy Carrothers stole bases like a robber. The Yankee pitcher was good to Barney, and the "boy slinger" tossed them over. The next man—Abram—was an easy out. He made a terrific drive, but Barney, who can cover acres of ground—when he falls—eyes, and smote. Well, say that ball went in south, because it looked like a hit, but Barney beat him at first by the greatest piece of fielding seen on those grounds since Noah took a sail. Side retired—six runs. It may be remarked here that the umpire was bad, and the righteously indignant B. McCann was making sundry remarks to his longest friend—Munce.

Marsh, when both passed under the tape. G. Ingram and Mortimore were not in the race this time, but it could not have been more exciting than as it was. Time, 5:15.

The course, by the way, was not straightaway, as it was in the last regatta. It included a turn just west of the County Club, and the competitors finished up where they began.

The second event, a senior double scull, was won by G. Ingram and Mortimore, who are a pair hard to be beaten, from S. Fraser and W. Obernesser, by about three lengths. Mortimore and Ingram, it will be remembered, are the champions in club doubles this year.

Next came the junior single scull, which was won by F. N. Phelps by three lengths. His opponent, E. Post, is a comparatively new addition to London rowers, and looks good for future races. Time, 6:05.

A Crew's Misfortune.

The next race, the junior four-oar, was not as good as it should have been, but this fact was due to bad fortune. One of Spence's men was missing, and although a good rower was taken on in his place the crew as it now stood had not worked together. This crew, moreover, covered more of the river than was necessary, and lost more time still by turning the wrong buoy. Ward's crew won by about nine lengths, after doing good work. The individual members of the other crew have good rowing stuff in them. Time, 4:50.

The crews: H. Willis, R. Whetter, B. Spittal, G. Ward (stroke), H. Little (cox).

W. Obernesser, E. Post, G. Rowland, P. Spence (stroke), H. Wood (cox).

Keene's new steel boat won the gasoline launch race from the Lotus launch with comparative ease. This race is a new and good feature in London aquatic this year.

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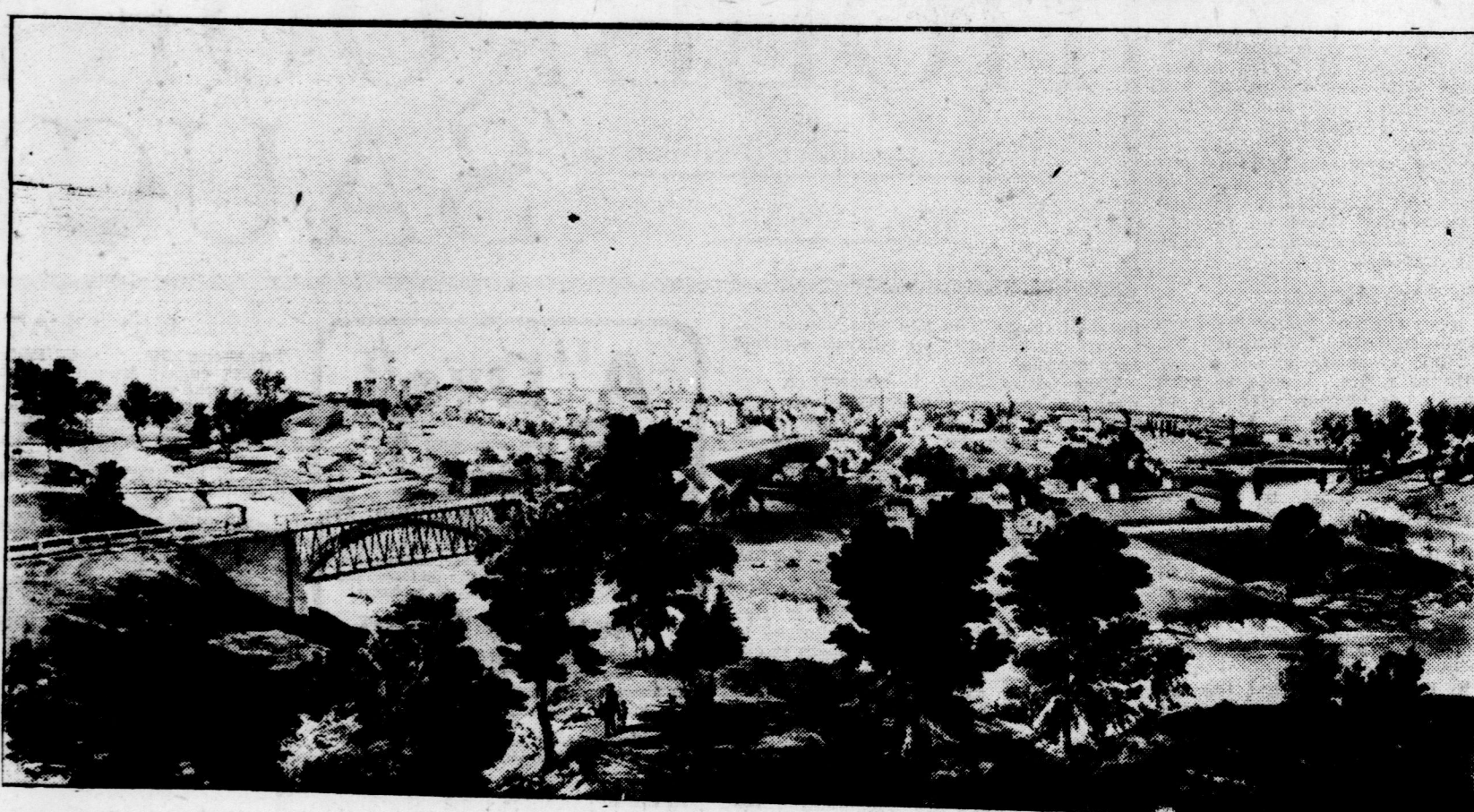
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FROM A PHOTO TAKEN OF AN OIL PAINTING DONE IN 1855, THE YEAR OF THE CITY'S INCORPORATION. In the foreground, to the left, is shown the old Grand Trunk bridge, over the Thames, south of York Street. To the right is the old Victoria bridge. (Ridout street). In the upper left-hand corner are the courthouse and all.

Did Old Boys and Old Girls Have Fun? Well!

You Should Have Been at Springbank Yesterday to See How They Enjoyed Themselves.

The sports for the visiting Old Boys and Girls at Springbank Park yesterday afternoon were enjoyed not only by those who participated in them, but also by the thousands who looked on. The latter kept the police busy, driving them back to give the committee room to run off the several events. The entry list was large, and the enthusiasm with which visitors entered into the occasion would have done one's heart good.

And did the visitors enjoy it? Well, most of the Old Boys have not had so much fun since they played "hooky" from dear old Nick Wilson's school.

The first event was tilting the ring. The winners were Chittick, of Winnipeg, and S. Fox, of San Francisco. Chittick was in line in almost everything, and won several events during the afternoon. He and his partner negotiated the ring in the second attempt. Toledo and Woodstock teams had to run off for the second prize. The Toledo team, Rev. W. W. Hodgins and C. W. Counter, won second money.

laughing. Funny? That's not quite the adjective necessary to describe it. The winners were J. Brown, Toronto; Frank Chittick, Winnipeg, and C. Stoll, Detroit.

The fat man's race brought out many heavies, and the winner turned up in W. Brown, Lindsay, who can almost beat Barney McCann. The second man was Dick McRae, Toledo, and S. Molland, Chicago, was third.

There was a large number of contestants in the 100 yards dash, and as pretty a race as you would wish to see was the result. There were but a few inches between the winners. F. Chittick, Winnipeg, was first; R. Pearce, Butte, Mont., second, and S. Molland, Chicago, third.

CZAR TO DECREE RUSS ASSEMBLY

Conference at Peterhof Approves of Plan To Be Announced Friday.

ST. PETERSBURG, AUG. 8.—THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PROJECT WAS FINALLY APPROVED AT PETERHOFF THIS EVENING, AND WILL BE PROMULGATED SATURDAY, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF GRAND DUKE ALEXIS NIKOLAEVITCH, HEIR TO THE RUSSIAN THRONE.

AT LAST A RUSS VICTORY

Gunboat Bombs Small Village on the Isle of Crete.

Canoe, Crete, Aug. 8.—The Russian gunboat Khraby has bombarded and destroyed Castell, on the north coast of the island of Crete, about 18 miles east of Retimo, because the insurgents there opposed the landing of a Russian force to take over the customs house. A boat party which was sent ashore from the Khraby, was repulsed, whereupon the Russian commander, after warning the insurgents to remove the women and children, opened fire. The insurgents returned the fire with

First Touch of Winter.

Newberry, Mich., Aug. 9.—This section has had its first taste of winter, one-half inch of snow falling. Some of the crops were badly damaged.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Warm and Thunder Showers.

London, Wednesday, Aug. 9. Sun rises, 1:15 a.m. Moon rises, 2:30 p.m. Sun sets, 7:31 p.m. Moon sets, 12:16 a.m.

Toronto, Aug. 8-8 p.m. A few scattered thunderstorms have occurred today in Manitoba and New Brunswick. Elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fine. Temperatures have exceeded 80° in most districts west of the great lakes.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 58-78; Vancouver, 54-80; Edmonton, 50-84; Calgary, 50-84; Qu'Appelle, 58-78; Winnipeg, 56-80; Port Arthur, 48-58; Fanny Bay, 58-80; Toronto, 58-78; Ottawa, 57-78; Montreal, 62-78; Quebec, 54-74; Halifax, 62-80.

FORECASTS.

Wednesday, Aug. 9-8 a.m.

Moderate south to southwest winds; fair and decidedly warm; thunder showers in many localities, chiefly at night, and the early part of Thursday.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather.
Calgary 59 59 Fair
Winnipeg 58 54 Clear
Toronto 56 58 Fair
Ottawa 58 54 Fair
Montreal 68 62 Clear
Quebec 62 56 Cloudy
Father Point 58 58 Fair

WEATHER NOTES.

Local thunderstorms are reported in Northern New Brunswick, the Lake Superior district, Manitoba and Northern Alberta, but the weather generally has been everywhere very fine. Thunder storms are now indicated for Ontario, and more locally in the Northwest.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES