THE TORONTO WORLD

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SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23 1882.

CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY.

Rainy weather and sloppy streets are not the concomitants of our ideal merry Christmas. This year however the citizens of Toronto seem bent on making the present the most joyous festive season that has been witnessed for many a year, and that too despite the slush and down-pouring rain of the past day or two. Yesterday was dreary, dull and rainy, yet the number of ladies on the streets was unprecedentedly large, the shops were full and much business was done. One of the most striking street scenes is the Irishman bringing home his Christmas goose. The bird is firmly held b its talons, the neck sweeping the ground. Mrs. Moriarty lags five feet behind carrying a full basket. Her attention is equally divided between the shop windows and the festive figure of Pat and the goose. It is a query for philosophers to determine how much happiness the grass-nibbling goose enjoys as it waddles along the roadside, or to tell us if the anserine tribe are capable at all of experiencing disappointments, hopes, fears and favors. We ordinary men know that a goose, yes a goose, is capable of creating much happiness in the human breast. First of all the farmer's wife enjoys the anticipation of a large piece at Christmas for her feathery care, and there is a smile of satisfaction as she hucksters off the bird for seventy cents. Then comes the middleman who is made glad because it brings to his till another ten cent piece. Pat's satisfaction with the goose you can discern on his countenance and the easy way he smokes his pipe.

A "REASONABLE VIEW" OF THE BIBLE.

Rev. R. Heber Newton, New York, delivered a sermon on the bible in which he considered it in the light of the reason of the present day. After discussing the history in the old testament and the writings from a literary point of view, the preacher characterized the book of Jonah as "a bit of religious fiction, through which some true broad churchman of the time of Ezra pleads against the national exclusive tendencies of the ritualistic party then carrying everything before it. Thus this story is conveyed the idea to the people that pagans as well as Jews are the children of Jehovah. In these ancient histories the marvels which a childish age exaggerated into miracles, stories of savage cruelty and brutal lust in rude, rough times, acts of superstition, utterances which to us are blasphemous ascriptions to the eternal, are all inevitable in the literature which records a nation's growth from barbarism. But these are not the things to be dragged to the front in the study of the bible. What would we think of a man who would study Homer only to exhume those things which in themselves alone would be most disgusting to every sense, and hurl them as mud at the head of the venerable bard? The scorn with which we should regard him should be visited upon him also who seeks to cast defilement upon our bible from his own indecency of mind." "The bible," continued the preacher, "is not the word of God. It contains the word of God and those words proceeding out of the mouth of God, upon which man lives. It is the work of inspired men. It records a real revelation, but the inspiration denies no other inspirations." This the Tribune calls "a reasonable view of the bible."

THE five days carnival to be held in Montreal on January 23, and thereafter is likely to be followed by one in Quebec for the three days immediately following. The only thing that prevents the inauguration of a similar scheme in Toronto is the uncertainty of the weather. In Montreal you can name almost any day during winter with an almost certain assurance that snow will be on the ground and that it will be cold enough for water to freeze. It is quite different here, we are sorry to say. Toronto would be a much livelier place in winter than it is had we only the cold steady climate of Lower Canada.

ARCHITECTS give us to understand that we may yet live in glass houses. Owing to improvements in its manufacture, glass can now be made into columns and blocks suitable for building purposes. It does not necessarily follow because a house is made of glass that you can see into your neighbor's kitchen. Admitting the sun light from all quarters and retaining no impurities from the atmosphere, glass would be desirable from a sanitary point of view.

THE expenditure on account of pensions this year in the United States is estimated at one hundred million dollars, and next year it may reach one hundred and fifty millions, or more than one half the total expenditure of the government inclusive of the interest on the public debt.

BED AND DBREAKFAST V. NO BED.

(*To the Editor of The World.*)

SIR: Being a subscriber of your's, the people's paper, I take the privilege of referring to you a grevance of which I have long felt it my duty to ask for information—respecting the rules and regulations of hotelkeepers. It a rule I believe in Toronto with the so-called Ontario Benevolent association—properly called the Licensed Victuallers' association — banded together for all to work on a specified plan. For example, I was by force of circumstances obliged to seek an hotel for bed. At the Russell house I called kept by one John Hurst, I asked the lady behind the bar if she could give me a bed, (mark you, did not ask for breakfast) The lady told me she thought she could accommodate me. But when I told her my name, she stated she could not give me a bed unless I took breakfast, and the price would be fifty cents. I paid the fifty cents though I did not require the breakfast. Now sir, are the people of Toronto obliged to pay for what they don't want? I had no other alternative but to accept that lady's terms. Every hotel in the city works on the same system. A SUBSCRIBER.

Toronto, Dec. 20, 1882.

A CONUNDRUM FOR ANTI-ALCOHOLISTS.

(*To the Editor of The World.*)

SIR: By your kind permission, will Isaiah Ryder, M D, please answer the following through The World in support of his letter on alcohol in The World of the 20th instant, viz.: It must be generally admitted that all articles of food contain alcohol, or how could it be extracted therefrom? Then what is the average amount of alcohol consumed each day in food by the average adult? And if it kills the parts referred to, and in the way as stated in his letter? R. B.

Guelph, Dec. 21.

"Buchupaiba."

Quick, complete cure, all annoying kidney, bladder and urinary diseases. $1. Druggists.

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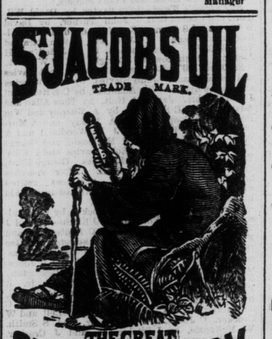

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Fitted to the hand to perfection for Ladies and Gentlemen.

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Ladies' 4 butt Black, first quality kid, $1.50. Real value $1.90.
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Ladies' 3 butt French kid, black and all shades, $1. Real value $1.40.
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A Perfect Fit and Quality Guaranteed.

Gentlemen's 2 butt first quality French kid $1.25. Real value $1.75.
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