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The World has the largest circulation of any morning paper in Canada.

Minneapolis to the Ocean.

The comparative rise and fall of cities and countries in modern times is as much dependent on the strength, ability and prescience of the rulers of any given country as it was a couple of thousand years ago. And it is equally true now as then that the leaders of the people, a few of the people, or possibly one man among them, can make or mar a country's future. "When their kings lose their senses the Greeks fall a prey to their enemies." In old times when tyrannies were in vogue one-man-power played a hit or miss game more independent of public opinion than it can now. We have a free press and the right of public meeting to protest against any act of madness that our rulers or their constitutional advisers may propose to commit. But we are equally dependent on their energy and alertness to seize opportunities for the aggrandisement of the country over which they rule. If we have not tyrants armed with sceptre and axe to work their wills for good or evil to their subjects, we have our princes of commerce and our steamboat and railway kings, who, by a stroke of the pen, can do more than any stroke of the sword ever accomplished in days of old. It is theirs by this or that line of policy to build up or destroy. Obedient to their dictates, commerce flows to our doors or is carried in the opposite direction. They are kings, and with all the grave responsibilities of rank. The history of some places is a history of lost opportunities; of others it will be said: So-and-so did this or that at a critical moment, and made this place what you see it. For ourselves, we have always thought that Toronto is immeasurably indebted to the energy of Mr. George Laidlaw, whose construction of railways centring here enabled our city to fully avail itself of its favorable position, and to collect within itself an aggregate of forces that spread over a radius fifty or sixty miles in diameter would have been of no use to Toronto and of little comparative use to the province, of which it is the capital. Mr. Laidlaw was in his day what the slang of the Covenanters would call a chosen instrument to push the fortunes of Toronto. As this juncture the fortunes of Canada, it seems to us equally clear, are in the hands of Mr. VanHorne. What will benefit Montreal and Toronto beyond the wildest dreams of railway optimists is the full natural outcome of the new connection at the Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. VanHorne is a man of Western origin and experience, now domiciled in Canada as the working head of our greatest railway corporation. If ever man could be pointed to as a chosen instrument, there he is, we should say. Entrusted with the means to reap in the fullest degree whatever benefit can arise from the situation; able, vigorous and decisive, the General Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway has a great responsibility upon his shoulders. It is for him to show that the Retaliation Act means only be a dead letter, a policy of suicide that the maddest enemy of Anglo-Saxon rule on this continent would hesitate to invoke. He is peculiarly conversant with all the surroundings of the case. He is exceptionally gifted in natural and acquired qualifications for the lead in a new departure of such magnitude as perhaps only his experience and knowledge of the situation can fully grasp. It is for him to make our national highway the connecting line between Minneapolis and the ocean. Geography has made room for us; but diplomacy, skill and genius must be brought to bear on the full development of a project fraught with momentous issues affecting the future of our country commercially and politically. We believe Mr. VanHorne to be perfectly equal to the emergency; and that it is a fortunate thing for Canada that Sir George Stephen placed the destinies of his road in hands so capable.

Worth Reading.

Everyone does not read The Globe these days, and therefore everyone does not know of the wonderful editorial vagaries of that paper under its present management. Lest we might be charged with unfairness to our venerable though rattled contemporary, we reprint in full an article from The Woodstock Sentinel-Review, a journal certainly entitled to speak the views of the County of Oxford, and more or less for the whole of the western part of the province. When papers like The Galt Reformer, still supposed to be inspired by James Young, The Sentinel-Review, controlled by the Patullos, and The Guelph Mercury, the property of James Innes, M.P. for one of the Wellingtons, feel constrained to repudiate The Globe as not voicing the opinions of the Liberal party, there must be something wrong.

The Globe, of course, is perfectly free to indulge in any vagaries it chooses, so long as it does not endeavor to drag the Reform party with it. But that is just what it is doing and it therefore behooves the party to decline responsibility for The Globe, and The Globe to come forward and say it is simply speaking for itself.

Perhaps The Globe is about to step down and out—in favor of The Mail.

Kingsford's History of Canada.

The History of Canada. By William Kingsford. Vol. I. (1608-1632). Toronto: Rowsell & Hutchison. London: Trubner & Co.

A work such as Mr. Kingsford has produced should be approached in a generous spirit. A satisfactory history of our own country, written by one of ourselves, founded on a personal examination of our archives, and the result, technically speaking, of Canadian workmanship, ought to be regarded as a gratifying evidence of our progress and advancement.

In criticizing such a work its object should be borne in mind. Its purpose is to teach us our past so that we may regulate our future as a nation. The first requisite for such a narrative is truth, without fear, favor or affection. The second requisite is good style. Each writer has his own style, and to some degree the question on this point is one of taste, as to which there can not easily be discussion. One canon can, however, be safely laid down and that is that the writer's style should be natural. What is natural is more powerful than what is artificial. Again, there must be sincerity. The writer must feel the dignity of his subject. As he composes his work he must bear in mind that he is dealing with a sacred trust. If he succeeds, posterity will consult his pages, statesmen will appeal to his record. The reputation of those who have already acted their parts in the drama of public life will be much as he makes them. On the other hand, should he resort to misrepresentation or falsification, Time, the avenger, will inflict its punishment, and he and his useless labors will be brushed away into oblivion. Finally, the mechanical execution of the volume must be looked at. A handsome setting is never amiss in the rarest gem, and every reader knows how pleasant it is to peruse a clear well printed page. Every man with books on his shelves knows how pleasant it is to see a good binding. Every man knows how irritating and unsatisfactory are bad type, bad paper or bad binding.

On considering the volume before us we are glad to say that the book is a credit to Canada as far as mechanical work is concerned. The paper, the printing, the binding, are all good, and the appearance of the book is decidedly in its favor.

With regard to the work as a history, certain general considerations must be regarded. A history of first rate reputation is, as we have said, a union of truth and style. Truth without a good style may be repulsive. A good style without truth is dangerous. A combination of the two qualities is rare. When they appear together the work stamped by their joint impress takes its position, never to be challenged. Macaulay's brilliancy has in our time caused his history to be the most famous work of its day. His one-sided coloring will in the next generation cause it it to lose much of its charm. Hallam's Constitutional History, apart from the innate difficulty of its subject, approaches most of all English works to the ideal history. Thucydides and Tacitus among the ancients appeal to our modern sense of what is right just as much as they did to the men of their own time. There is, on the contrary, an uneasy feeling, in reading authors of the type of Froude among Englishmen and Thiers among Frenchmen, that they have been carried away by admiration of their hero and cannot be relied upon. Mr. Kingsford's history must be tried by the test we have proposed. From our perusal of his pages we are convinced he would be satisfied with no other standard. Will his history be a mere memoir to serve some more fortunate author who will mention his name with civil patronage, or will his book be referred to as the authority on Canadian history? On this point public opinion will gradually come to a fair conclusion. The ordinary reader who does not aim to pose as a critic will probably be quite satisfied if he finds in his hands a book which he can read without hesitation, and which as he reads gives him the impression "This is true." So far we have no hesitation in saying that Mr. Kingsford's first volume will be found entirely satisfactory. Beyond the ordinary reader will be found the critic. An author would be fortunate who could escape his lash. An absence of particles is in his eyes as grave a matter as an offence against the Decalogue. But between the ordinary reader and the critic stand the men of literary tastes and habits, who are not so learned as to have lost their common sense, and after all it is their verdict which gives a book its standing. We have read Mr. Kingsford's volume with some anxiety to ascertain how far it will bear the criticism of the men we have last referred to. After making allowance for some blemishes in matters of detail, which can be removed in a second edition, we have little hesitation in saying that Mr. Kingsford's History, if carried to the end with the same truth, vigor and candor as are found in the first volume, will fill the void hitherto felt in our national literature. It is certain to be referred to as the standard authority on many hitherto disputed points, and the position to be taken in our history by Cartier, Champlain, Mme. de la Peltrie, Laval and la Salle will be fixed by his pages. We will not deprive our readers of the pleasure of coming to their own conclusion in the matter by themselves perusing the work. We urge them to do so. We congratulate Mr. Kingsford on the result of his labors so far as they have gone, and we hope that the generous encouragement of his countrymen will enable Mr. Kingsford to place in their hands his remaining volumes as soon as possible.

Unhappy Dakota now counts her blizzard victims by the thousand, and the returns are not all in. It is to be feared that when all the afflicted States and Territories are fully reported the dead will number thousands. Nor will the advent of spring guarantee the safety of the settlers in those regions, for then will come the tornado, which is pretty much of a blizzard with the chill off. It is a lamentable fact these atmospheric disturbances are becoming every year more frequent and destructive in the Northwestern and Southwestern States, and there is reason to believe that the ruthless destruction of trees is a contributing cause of this condition of affairs. Even the sparse belts of timber along the prairie streams, which did something to break the wind, have suffered, and occasional areas of timber have been slashed unsparingly. The result should be a warning to those Canadians who are so anxious to throw our woodlands open to the same axes that have denuded the United States of timber.

No matter how low the thermometer gets it is never beneath notice.

Members of Congress are being solicited to vote for Ben Butterworth's Bill, not for its intrinsic value, but to put the Canadian Government in a hole, the latter being pledged to oppose any complementary measure. As they have the people behind them in this hole would not bother them much.

The South African gold fields are now said to be the richest in the world. It is claimed that some of the ores yield ten ounces to the ton, and others average five and six ounces. These new finds are in the Transvaal and the English residents are chagrined because Britain permitted that territory to pass from her control. Johannesberg, but recently a rude frontier hamlet, is now a bustling town of ten thousand people, with all the appliances of modern civilization. This is a sample of what may be done by developing the underground wealth of a new country. Successful operations of a similar character would add hundreds of thousands to the population of this province, and create new and profitable home markets for our farmers and manufacturers.

The statesmen of Halton are at sea in the Scott Act storm. The Tory opponents of the act threaten to fire upon Mr. Henderson's rear, while a parallel split among the Reformers appears so threatening to Mr. Waldie that he has announced his intention of not again being a candidate. There is some talk of a third candidate, an Independent, on whom the mugwumps of both parties could unite, and such a one may loom up before many days.

It is not often that the mayor of a city can step down and out from the Chief Magistrate's chair leaving behind him such an excellent record as ex-Mayor Henry of Brantford. During his term of office the increase on the real estate assessment for the year 1887 was $202,890, on personal property other than income $177,650, on taxable income $22,689, making a total increase of $403,220, an item which should earn for him the lasting gratitude of the poorer class of taxpayers. Mayor Henry's action in compelling the Slater Wincey Mills to pay taxes was much commented upon at the time, but the withdrawal of their appeal in the matter fully justified the course he had pursued. Brantford may thank the ex-mayor for its splendid electric light service, one of the best on the continent. In railway matters Mayor Henry took a great interest and he secured many valuable concessions for his city. His Worship leaves office with the finances of the city in a healthy condition, the city's debentures selling at 104½. Had Canadian cities and towns more Chief Magistrates like ex-Mayor Henry of Brantford it would be well for the Dominion.

Mr. Wm. Ure is a prominent citizen of Glasgow, Scotland, who recently made a tour of Canada and the United States. He is a Free Trader and a Liberal, and therefore cannot be denounced as an ultra loyal Tory because he says a good word for this country. In a letter to his cousin, Mr. John Watson of Ayr, Ont., the manufacturer of agricultural implements, he speaks highly of the condition of the Canadian farmer. He found great wealth lavishly expended in the great cities of the Union, but he also found a more even distribution of the good things of life and a higher average of comfort in the Dominion. His observations tally with facts repeatedly published in these columns. He found our farmers more comfortably housed and thriftier than those of the United States, who declared their own business to be the worst in the country. They are hardly the people for the Canadian farmer to depend upon for a greater degree of prosperity than he at present enjoys.

Our Republican neighbors began the energetic development of their mineral resources long before anyone thought of Canada as a mining country, and their efforts in that direction have been richly rewarded, but The New York Sun says that the field for that sort of enterprise is by no means exhausted. The Federal Government maintains a Geological Survey that assists largely in the development of national wealth, but the State Governments help themselves, and, particularly in the West, have achieved important results. For a long time gold and silver only were sought, but attention is now being turned to the minerals of commerce, and also to opening up new fields of petroleum and natural gas. What is being done there can be done here, if our statesmen prove equal to their opportunities. A once favorite theory with parish politicians was that the Creator intended this for a purely pastoral country, but it has been exploded in these latter days. Agriculture is receiving proper attention, our manufacturing industries have the benefit of moderate protection, and when we shall have done our duty by our mining interests our pursuits will be profitably diversified.

THE THEATRES THIS WEEK.

Lizzie Evans and E. H. Sothern at the Grand—Bella Moore at the Toronto.

Miss Lizzie Evans made a splendid impression when she played "Fogg's Ferry" here several seasons ago, and she has been climbing the ladder of fame ever since. She will open to-night at the Grand in her successful new play, "Our Angel," of which The Chicago Interocean says: "The play is neat, refined, brisk and interesting. No young actress now before the public has made so rapid and substantial an advance as Lizzie Evans. A little beauty, and vivacious and bright from the first, she has developed genius for her work and become an artiste. She is little, but she is a dramatic gamen, clear cut. It is understood that Miss Evans brings a capable company, at the head of which is a Toronto boy, Mr. W. C. Donaldson.

"The Highest Bidder."

This play, in which E. H. Sothern and his company will be seen at the Grand Opera House the latter half of this week, and which ran for over 100 nights at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, is said to possess the elements to please all classes of theatre-goers. It is insensely funny, with been made into a strong dramatic situation; and here and there a bit of sentiment. Several scenes in it are particularly dwelt upon by the critics. These are a comical breakfast scene in the first act, a burlesque auction sale in the second, and two love scenes in the third. These love scenes are said to be exceptionally funny, a genuine mixture of humor and sentiment. The scene of the auction sale, it is said, brings the actors before the curtain half a dozen times every evening.

"A Mountain Pink."

Miss Belle Moore will be the attraction at the Toronto Opera House all this week in "A Mountain Pink." The Erie Herald says: "The Mountain Pink" is one of the best of sensational dramas. The scenes are laid in the mountains of North Carolina, and the people are "moonshiners" on the constant lookout for the "revenues." The plot is simple and direct. "The Mountain Pink" is a young girl brought up in the camp of the "moonshiners." She is as good as she is devoid of education, and sharp as she is stupid of the requirements of polite society. Miss Belle Moore is the heroine, and comes to the audience as Sincerity Weeks. She has a lovely face and figure, a charming voice, and is a fine actress.

"The Battle of Sedan."

Saturday was ladies' day and Saturday night people's night at the Cyclorama. The attendance was large both afternoon and evening and the interesting battle picture was as usual much admired and studied.

An Old Man Desires a Home.

Editor World: I desire to ascertain through your valuable paper if there is any institution in this city or in any other place in Ontario where old men can find a comfortable home by paying for their board and attendance.

Toronto, Jan. 23. OLD MAN.

Mr. Boswell of Cannington Did Not Fail.

Editor World: I notice in your paper of this date that my name is printed as having made an assignment. Please correct this error. I merely sold my stock of goods to Messrs. Woodward Bros. on Dec. 31 last, and give them a lease of my store and premises. I feel myself badly injured by this error and will hold you responsible. JOHN S. BOSWELL.

Cannington, Jan. 19.

[The item in question The World took from the lists issued by the mercantile agencies of this city. We used them just the same as the other Toronto dailies do. Mr. Boswell's new letter will set him right as far as The World is concerned.—ED.]

A Domestic's Big Steal.

A domestic named Annie Diamond, aged 19, hailing from Trenton, who entered the employ of Mrs. W. J. Morrison of 244 Huron-street a short time ago, levanted last night about 6.30 taking with her two watches, a lady's diamond ring, a lady's seal coat, a pair of gold bracelets set with rubies and generalds and a purse with a $5 bill in it.

The Napanee Incendiarism.

KINGSTON, Jan. 22.—In the inquest as to the cause of the fire in Scott Act Inspector Rose's store in Napanee, last October, the jury decided that the fire was of an incendiary character, but that it was unable to say who did the firing. The evidence exonerated Inspector Rose, who, one Wray declared, had left the premises shortly before the flames burst forth. Rose proved that he was home some hours before the fire occurred.

The Striking Cigarmakers.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—Last night at a meeting of the striking cigarmakers it was announced that permission had been given to three more shops to strike and that they would go out on Monday. This will add 700 to the unemployed men and women in that one trade.

Thirty Degrees Below at Owen Sound.

OWEN SOUND, Jan. 21.—Last night was the coldest of the season. The thermometer registered 30° below zero. The bay is frozen entirely over, the earliest for years.

CHAT ACROSS THE CABLE.

The great shipyards at Granville near Havre have been burnt.

The report that the Austria-Hungarian diplomatic staff had been withdrawn from Sofia is denied.

It is announced that the difficulty between France and Italy arising from the Florence incident has been settled.

The authorities have proclaimed a number of meetings of the National League which it was proposed to hold at Kilrush, County Clare, and in the vicinity.

A Trifle Unreasonable.

Countryman (to waiter): What kind o' fish have you got, mister?

Waiter: Date's whitebait, sah.

Countryman: White bait? I don't want no bait of any color. D'ye expect a feller to keich his own fish?

Poor Billy Bigpurse, the Homely Man.

"O beauteous being,
whom my heart
Hath made its joy
and pride!
How shall I woo thee,
tenderest one?"
"By proxy," she
replied.

LONDON AND ERISCO.

A Conversation Yesterday Over 8100 Miles of Wire—What Was Said.

VANCOUVER, B.C., Jan. 22.—Mr. Henry Norman, the special commissioner who is making a tour through the different colonies that form the British Empire, arrived here last night, and to-day carried on a conversation over the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's wire. At one end of the line was Mr. Hearst of The Examiner, San Francisco, and at the other end Mr. Stead of The Pall Mall Gazette, London. There was an unbroken telegraph circuit extending from San Francisco to New York, 4500 miles; the distance from New York to London via Canso, N.S., being 3500 miles, or 8100 in all. The telegraph lines ran from San Francisco to New York via Vancouver, B.C., and Montreal.

The conversation was kept up for a couple of hours. Among other things, Mr. Norman said: "This is something more than an exhibition of telegraphic prowess. I have sailed in an English ship, the Polynesian, 3000 miles across the Atlantic with the English cable below, traveled by an English railway 3000 miles through primeval forests, by the greatest lakes in the world, across splendid prairies, the wheat fields of the Empire, over four colossal mountain ranges to where I can see the Pacific, and in a few days shall start for a 4000 miles voyage in another English ship, the Parthia, over another ocean, yet am able here to report myself to you, and talk as quickly and easily as if we were speaking through the tube in Northumberland-street. Is not the wire which unites us a most striking symbol of our Imperial unity, and an unfailing Mercatelier of the federation which will one day girdle the globe? And is not the click of this key, heard in two hemispheres, more eloquent than all the arguments of Empire ever penned?"

POSTAL RATES.

Hamilton Board of Trade Will Memorialize the Government for a Reduction.

HAMILTON, Jan. 22.—A fine screw steamer, 120 feet in length, is being constructed by Mr. M. Simpson at Zealand's yard, foot of McNab-street. It is understood that she is to run as a pleasure steamer between Toronto and the Humber. The new boat for the Hamilton Steamboat Company, which is being built in the Old Country, and which will be for the Beach-Hamilton-Toronto service, will be completed in April and will be here early in May. She will take from seventeen days to three weeks to come across the ocean and up to Hamilton.

Simeon Jones of St. John, N.B., the commissioner appointed by the Dominion Government to enter into negotiations with the Argentine Republic and the West Indies with the object of establishing trade relations between those countries and the Dominion, spent a busy day in town yesterday visiting the principal manufacturing institutions of the city. He left Hamilton last evening for Montreal.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Trade was held yesterday afternoon. In pursuance of the recommendation of the council for a reduction of the postal rate it was voted that W. F. Findlay, M. Legat and T. B. Macpherson be a committee to draft a memorial to the Government, urging upon them its consideration of the reduction of the postal rate on letters from 3 to 2 cents, in harmony with the United States.

The Canadian Pacific Railway exhibition car, containing a large and varied collection of specimens of the Northwest, was at the siding near the Northern freight sheds yesterday morning.

BIG BEAR DEAD.

The Noted Cree Chief Dies at Battleford—Stirring Incidents in His Career.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 22.—Information has been received from Battleford, N.W.T., of the death there of Big Bear, Chief of the Plain Crees.

Big Bear, or in the Cree tongue Mis-ta-ha-mus-qua, was chief of a nomadic band of Crees, who refused all advances of Government agents to settle on a reserve and make a treaty, preferring to wander about at will. Big Bear's name became well known in Eastern Canada during the progress of the Northwest rebellion. Among the exploits of Big Bear's band, it will be remembered, were the capture of the Hudson Bay post at Frog Lake, the capture of Fort Pitt, which was unfortunately deserted by its defenders, the three days' fighting at Frenchman's Butte and the actions in which Major Steele's command of the Mounted Police covered themselves with glory at Loon Lake. The massacre at Frog Lake was a shocking incident of the capture of that post. When General Middleton's force united with that of General Strange at Fort Pitt Big Bear's bands took to the wilds north of that place, taking a number of white prisoners with them, and it was a month before he was captured. Big Bear was tried at Regina and sentenced to a term of imprisonment. He was, however, pardoned before the expiration of his term and returned to his tribe.

A Clever Swindle.

DETROIT, Jan. 22.—A clever swindle was yesterday played on Miss Hattie Van Horn of Adams-avenue east. Miss Van Horn had a beautiful Newmarket sealskin, valued at $300, recently purchased of T. Heine. About 11 o'clock a cutter containing a young man and boy dashed up to the residence. The young man alighted and asked to see Miss Van Horn. The servant informed him that Miss Van Horn was at a neighbor's. He then stated that Mrs. Heine sent him, and asked to be allowed to take Miss Van Horn's sealskin sacque, as Mrs. Heine desired to show it to a lady at the store. The man was told where he could find the young lady. She wrote an order to let him take the sacque, and it was handed over to him. That is the last that has been seen of it.

Thrown from a Sleigh and Killed.

ST. MARYS, Jan. 22.—The wife of Henry Stennett, a prominent farmer and beekeeper of the township of Blanchard, was killed on Main-street here to-day by being thrown from a sleigh while returning home from church. The horse became unmanageable and Mr. Stennett, losing control, was first thrown out. The horse then ran away and Mrs. Stennett was thrown against a post. She only lived a very few minutes after the accident. The streets were crowded with people returning from church and several barely escaped being run down by the runaway horse.

Delighted With the Route.

MONTREAL, Jan. 22.—Gen. Washburn, President of the Minneapolis and Sault Ste. Marie Railroad, Mr. Underwood, the General Manager, and the other executive officers, have arrived here over the new route, having left Minneapolis on Monday night. They declare themselves delighted with the route, saying that on an even basis it can compete with other routes to the seaboard, and with its present advantages can give them all the "go by." The president says that if Montreal will wake up and increase its labor accommodation it will in a few years compete with New York, and the greater part of the flour of Minneapolis will find its way over this route.

Pay Goes Down With The Price of Iron.

READING, Pa., Jan. 22.—At the Brooke Iron Company the following notice was posted yesterday:

"Owing to the price of pig iron we must ask you to accept a reduction on Feb. 1 to the wages paid before the last advance. The iron has been costing more than we receive for it, and as a similar reduction has been made at several other furnaces we hope you will cheerfully accept it."

The men received a ten per cent. advance some time since. The employes have taken no action yet.

Fooled With a Revolver.

BROOKLYN, Jan. 22.—Willie Hogan, the 13-year-old son of Matthew Hogan of Bath Beach, shot and killed his sister, Aggie, aged 16 years, yesterday morning. The two were alone in a room in their father's residence and the boy was fooling with a revolver when one of the chambers was accidently discharged, the bullet lodging in the girl's head. The boy was arrested.

A Farmer's Sudden Death.

DUNDALK, Ont., Jan. 21.—Wm. Lang, farmer of Osprey, dropped dead from heart disease last night in the bar-room of the Anglo-American Hotel here.

SOME OF 1888'S DATES.

THE SCHEDULE COMMITTEE OF THE N.B.B.L. AT WORK.

A Prize Fighter Killed at Fort Hamilton—The Tam O'Shanters' Tramp to the Humber—A Hockey Practice—Spots of Sport.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 21.—The Schedule Committee of the National Baseball League was in session without interruption from 11 o'clock this morning until 8 o'clock this evening. When the meeting adjourned the members stated that the schedule was not more than half arranged and that another meeting would be held on Monday. The committee refused to say what had been accomplished, but from the best information obtainable it was learned that it had been decided to open the season on April 26 and close it on Oct. 6. Detroit will begin the season at Chicago, Indianapolis at Pittsburg, Washington at Boston and New York at Philadelphia. On Decoration Day Boston will play at Pittsburg, Washington at Indianapolis, Detroit at New York and Chicago at Philadelphia. On July 4 Pittsburg will play at Boston, Indianapolis at Washington, New York at Detroit and Philadelphia at Chicago. While these dates are not official they are believed to be correct.

A FIGHT TO A FINISH.

Between Tom White and Billy Dempsey at Fort Hamilton—The Latter Killed.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—A party of sporting men went down to Fort Hamilton late Saturday night and stopped at the Live Oak House. Among them were the light-weight pugilists Tom White, better known as "Swipes, the Newsboy," and Billy Dempsey, who was employed in the press-room of a morning paper in this city, who were matched to fight to a finish with skin-tight gloves for a purse amounting to about $80. There were about twenty in the party. The men took possession of a room and the principals were soon in fighting costume and began work.

Dempsey led with a stinging blow on Swipes' face. In fighting followed and then Dempsey received a blow on the right side over the short ribs; he staggered forward and was met by a swinging blow on the temple that sent him to the floor unconscious. His seconds raised his head and said he had a fit. He did not recover consciousness and Swipes was declared the winner. The latter declined to take the purse, saying he would wait until Dempsey recovered and fight it out. Dempsey did not recover, and the party became alarmed. Thompson, the hotel-keeper, was told of the mishap, and sent four men in search of a doctor, but they failed either to get one or return. Those who remained suddenly discovered that Dempsey was dead, and there was a general flight.

Justice Church and Coroner Rooney were notified to-day. Dempsey's body was removed to his late residence. Although Dempsey was but 22 years old he had been married a year and a half and leaves a widow and a 3-months-old child.

An autopsy will be held to-morrow. Swipes surrendered himself and was locked up. It is probable that all the others concerned in the fight will be arrested.

Canadian Skaters Win.

NEW YORK, Jan 21.—The twenty-five mile skating race for gold, silver and bronze medals was contested at Fleetwood Park to-night. F. W. Craft of St. John, N.B., won first prize, G. O'Brien and S. D. Lee of New York second and third respectively. Time 1 hr., 51 min.

The Tams Tramp to the Humber.

Seventeen members of the Tam O'Shanter Snowshoe Club took part in the tramp Saturday afternoon. They were joined by a contingent from the Wanderers' Club. A start was made at 4.30 o'clock, and heading across country at a rapid pace the Humber River was reached at 5.45. A good dinner was prepared at Hicks' Hotel, which, judging by the done justice to by the hungry snowshoers, the large hall was brought into use. The boys had a jolly time until 10.30 o'clock, when they tramped back to the city. The weather, which was intensely cold, made the tramp all the more enjoyable, but it evidently had the effect of keeping some of the tenderfeet away.

During the evening President Daniel of the Wanderers' Snowshoe Club invited the Tams to a tramp on Wednesday evening. The Tams will gather at The Guns, Queen's Park, at 8 o'clock on that evening to engage in the tramp with the Wanderers.

Snowshoers' Steeplechase at Montreal.

MONTREAL, Jan. 22.—The Emerald Snowshoe Club held their annual club steeplechase over the Mountain yesterday afternoon. There were six entries, these being the first three: P. C. Grilvie 22 mins. 47 secs., James Lumsden 22 mins. 58 secs., D. W. Malone 22 mins. 59 secs.

Some of the competitors were frozen when they arrived at the winning post. The members went in advance to make a track, but owing to heavy snowdrifts this was of very little if any use. The St. George's Club did not hold their steeplechase to Lachine owing to cold, and two members of the local club who went to Lachine with them were badly frozen.

Scalling Matches at the South.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 21.—Arrangements have been perfected for a series of great international scalling races at Punta Gorda, on Charlotte harbor, Fla., Feb. 10 and 11, between John Teemer, Albert Hamm and John McKay.

A Hockey Practice.

The Wanderers and Athletic Club's hockey players will meet at the Caledonian Rink at 8 o'clock to-night for practice.

Spots of Sport.

Miller and Randolph, two colored heavyweights, met in a six-round glove contest at the Pop's rooms Saturday night. Randolph was so badly punished that he refused to continue upon the conclusion of the third round.

Ed. Hanlon, of the Detroits, is quoted as saying that none of the old Detroit men have signed contracts for next season as yet, and he did not know if he would go to New Orleans with the Detroit club or not.—[Exchange.

Said a chicken fancier: "A chicken fight is the safest contest to bet on, and that is the reason so much money is wagered. A horse can be pulled, a prize fighter dosed, a racing shell greased, and nearly all other forms of contest tampered with, but when you see a game cock dropped into the pit and bet your money on him you know he is going to do the very best he knows how to win the fight."

The Debate at the L. L. and S. Meeting.

At the meeting of the Osgoode Legal and Literary Society Saturday evening President Fullerton occupied three-quarters of an hour in going over a part of the Indictment Act, with the members present, in a pleasant and practical manner. The President then asked Mr. Davis to take his place as chairman, as he had to absent himself on business. The debate for the evening was: "Resolved, That Judges should be elected by the people."

Mr. Cook and Mr. Roswell supported the affirmative on the ground that as the people were most nearly concerned in the selection of judges they should have the election of them; that the present system tended too much to the centralization of power. They quoted examples of the success of the election system in the United States. Mr. Cary and Mr. Hughes took the negative side of the question, and proceeded to refute the arguments of the other side, advancing as proof positive of the success of the present system the present high status of the bench in Canada.

Chairman Davis, in summing up, complimented the speakers, and as he had been chosen critic made some practical remarks on the styles of the different debaters. The honors of the debate were put to the vote, which was given in favor of the negative.

In the Assize Court.

Saturday the case of Heintzman against Graham was finished before Mr. Justice Falconbridge, the jury awarding plaintiff the piano claimed, the costs and $5 damages. Mrs. Eliza McCleary, living in Trafalgar Township, sued the Town of Oakville for $2000 damages, claiming that on Nov. 7, 1885, she was thrown from her carriage in one of the town streets and severely injured. The accident was claimed to have been caused by an open ditch, but the trial resulted in a nonsuit.

Mr. Justice Street will not sit again at the present court. Mr. Justice Rose will assist Judge Falconbridge with the balance of the docket, criminal and civil.

The criminal side will be opened this morning with a heavy docket. Mr. Wm. Lount, Q.C., will conduct the crown business.

IN MEMORIAM.

Tributes to the Late Rev. John Smith of Erskine Presbyterian Church.

Peculiarly solemn were the circumstances under which the worshippers at Erskine Presbyterian Church, at the head of Simcoe-street, assembled yesterday. Early on Friday morning death suddenly summoned the respected pastor, and the handsome church was yesterday extensively draped in mourning. The organ-front, the pulpit and the face of the gallery were enveloped in crape, and the services were very impressive. The organist played the Dead March in "Saul," "Shall we Gather at the River?" "There's no Place Like Heaven," and other suggestive music, followed by the singing of Psalm xxiii.:

Yea, though I walk in Death's dark valley,
Yet will I fear no ill.

Rev. Dr. Gregg conducted the service, reading Ps. xc., as to human fragility. Then came the paraphrase on I. Thess. iv.:

Take comfort, Christians, when your friends
In Jesus fall asleep,

And concluding:

A few short years of evil passed,
We reach the happy shore
Where death-divided friends at last
Shall meet to part no more.

Another short prayer, appropriate anthem by the choir, the singing of Mackay's beautiful hymn, "Asleep in Jesus," and the Doctor announced his text, I. Peter:

5. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
4. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you.
5. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Eloquently Dr. Gregg discoursed of the Christian's hope here referred to—its Author, foundation, object and security—and in conclusion paid an affecting tribute to the deceased pastor, who had only on the previous Sunday night preached in that pulpit from the text "Prepare to meet thy God." His voice was now hushed in the silence of death. Let them not forget his last appeals.

The Doctor then outlined their pastor's career. He was born at Armagh, Ireland, in March, 1824; in infancy came to Canada, received his training for the ministry partly at Knox College and partly at Toronto University, and in 1851 was ordained to the charge of Bowmanville congregation, where he labored for twenty-four years, and where he was most useful and highly appreciated, his memory being still fragrant there. In 1875 he accepted the second call of Bay-street (now Erskine) Church.

Dr. Gregg here sketched Mr. Smith's course of usefulness and the progress of the church under his pastoral charge. It was the Doctor's privilege for nine years to attend their late pastor's ministry, and he bore testimony to the faithful presentment of the fundamental truths of the gospel and the whole counsel of God. He faithfully urged the discharge of all Christian duties. He was not a mere preacher of morality, in which a heathen preacher might instruct his hearers. He specially bore testimony against Sabbath-breaking, profane swearing, impurity and intemperance.

On these topics the preacher enlarged, and then descanted on Mr. Smith's house-to-house visitations and the comforts he imparted to the sick and bereaved. His whole life was an "epistle of Christ" known and read of all men. He was always consistent; there was no shifting about to catch popular praise. Although conscientiously attached to Presbyterianism, he cherished a catholic spirit, and felt himself at home amongst all Evangelical Christians. He took the deepest interest in the moral and spiritual welfare of his fellow-men. Above all he would be missed in the home circle, and the prayers of the congregation and many throughout the province would go forth for the comfort of the bereaved.

Prayer followed the eulogy, and the 55th Paraphrase, "My race is run, My warfare's o'er," having been sung, the service terminated.

Rev. Dr. McLaren preached in the evening from I Thess. iv.

14. If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

The Doctor gave an admirable sermon from these words and treated of the intimate spiritual and eternal union which subsists between Jesus and His followers. On this point he quoted Rowland Hill who was fond of repeating these quaint lines:

And when I'm to die
"Receive me" I'll cry,
For Jesus has loved me,
I cannot tell why,
But this I can find,
We two are so joined,
He'll not be in glory
Just leave me behind.

Death is the great leveller. It brings down all classes. All rivers run to the sea.

Alike the river's lordly tide,
Alike the humble streamlets glide
To that sad wave.
Death levels poverty and pride,
The rich and poor sleep side by side
Within the grave.

Dr. McLaren then gave some interesting personal reminiscences of the late Mr. Smith, with whom he had been on terms of the closest intimacy for forty-one years. He traced his useful career from a student in 1846 at Knox College, and described his successful labor at Bowmanville and Toronto, which would be a monument more enduring than bronze or granite. He was a man of generous impulses, transparent honesty, great outspokenness, devoid of bitterness, a vigorous preacher, successful pastor and strong advocate of moral questions. His death had made a gap it would be difficult to fill, and his life was an example it would be wise to follow. His works follow him, and his influence would live on in the great tide of truth which flowed in ever increasing volume through the church of God.

The service concluded with the well known hymn, "For Ever with the Lord."

The funeral will take place this afternoon. Service will be held in Erskine Church at 2 o'clock.

CANADIAN NOTES.

The Gananoque Oddfellows will pay a fraternal visit to the Kingston brethren on Jan. 25.

The cash receipts at the Peterboro Police Court last year were over $3000, the largest in the history of the town.

Wives at Ottawa are complaining so bitterly about the existence of gambling places in that city that the police have been called on to suppress the evil.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

Melon & Chapin, produce dealers, Boston, assigned Saturday: liabilities $47,000.

The steamers La Gascogne and Switzerland collided below Bedloe's Island Saturday.

Kurtz, Blanchard & Company, dealers in bags, New York, assigned Saturday with preferences of $113,000.

W. M. Gibson, ex-Prime Minister of the Hawaiian Islands, died in San Francisco last evening of consumption.

A Northern Pacific express collided with a Short Line passenger train at St. Paul Saturday, killing Fireman Michael Flaherty.

Dr. McGlynn addressed a large audience last night in the Academy of Music at New York on "The Ecclesiastical Machine in American Politics."

A report that the McGowan gas well at Cannonsburg was flowing oil at the rate of forty barrels an hour caused a break in the Pittsburg oil market of 4 cents Saturday afternoon.

A train conveying employes of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway to the West Milwaukee shops collided with an engine near Morrill Park on Saturday, badly injuring four men.

About forty people barely escaped being burned to death yesterday morning in a fire that destroyed the greater part of the big apartment and store building at the southwest corner of Oakwood-boulevard and Cottage Grove-avenue, Chicago.

The entire east wing of the Holyoke Water