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The Toronto Sunday World.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR — TEN PAGES—SUNDAY DECEMBER 26 1897—TEN PAGES. — PRICE FIVE CENTS

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS.

Good Cheer Dispensed by All the Charities.

LADEN TREES FOR CHILDREN

Services in the Different Churches of the City.

The Season of Good Will Fittingly Observed by All and Every One—Entertainments at the Hospitals—A Happy Time at the General—And All the World Lifted Up Its Voice in Prayer and Praise and Performed Acts of Goodness and Charity

Some say, that ever 'gainst that season comes,
Wherein Our Saviour's birth is celebrated;
The bird of dawning singeth all night long,
And then, they say no spirit can walk abroad,
So hallowed and so gracious is the time.
—Shakespeare.

ONE OF Toronto's many charities failed to make Christmas as far as possible a merry day. Christmas dinners and distributions to those who could not provide for themselves were dispensed liberally. At the many charitable institutions hundreds of applicants were served and their unfortunate lives for the nonce made happy. Many were the hundreds of pounds of meat, bread, tea and sugar that were distributed with a lavish hand, and for the day the hardness of their lot was forgotten by many.

I. P. B. S. Good Cheer.

Through goodness of Irish Protestant Benevolent Society over 200 families were made the recipients of well-filled baskets containing Christmas cheer. Messrs. J. G. Thompson, H. O'Hara, R. C. Hamilton, S. Crane, James Crane, Robert Moon, Alex. Purse, Frank Somers, Thomas Houston and Secretaries Richardson and Miss Baillie looked after the distribution. The police force made large contributions.

Real Christian Charity.

The Epworth League and King's Daughters' Societies of Wesley Methodist Church along with many others gave out Christmas cheer in the way of food and clothing to deserving poor in their districts.

The Boys' Mission Band in Bloor-street Presbyterian Church, touched by the knowledge of many poor families spending the festive day in hunger and cold, forgot their own pleasure to their usual Christmas tree and instead made many homes brighter and happier by the good things given by these young Christians.

A magnificent Christmas tree was unloaded in the General Hospital for the delectation of the children inmates. The presents were all the gifts of friends.

To the English Poor.

St. George's Society as usual gave away thousands of pounds of meat and fed hundreds of families. About 2000 loaves of bread, 1000 pounds of sugar, five chests of tea and two barrels of candles were well distributed. To every Englishman who called was given over a dollar's worth of beef along with other good things.

The Children of the Savior.

The little inmates of the Children's Hospital all hung up their stockings on Christmas Eve and awakened from dreams of the wonders of Old Santa to find them filled with candies, nuts and various kinds of sweets that the little ones appreciate so much.

Providence and Industry.

At the House of Providence the usual festivities were given, the piece de resistance being a dinner of noble proportions. The House was nicely decorated throughout and presented a most cheerful appearance. For the children a beautiful Christmas tree was filled with many good things.

How the inmates of the House of Industry did enjoy the excellent dinner provided by the superintendent! Only those who saw the gleam of delight sweep across their time-worn faces as they stepped into the spacious dining hall can imagine for a moment the feeling of satisfaction these old folks felt. It would have done anyone's heart good to have seen them. Little bags of sweets and fruits were presented to each one as they left the room, and they enjoyed these as much as any child would have. The hall was decorated with holly and evergreens for the occasion and looked very pretty.

And the Old Folks, Too.

One of the neatest and most comfortable charitable institutions in the city is the Old Folks' Home on Elizabeth-street. The old women who sat down to their dinner, neatly dressed, forgot their troubles for the time and were in happy homes once more, surrounded by all the cheer of the season. A large number of presents had been sent in and these were distributed among the inmates, who all seemed highly delighted with what they received and toyed with them quite as happy as children.

Nor were the unfortunate inmates of the Home for Incurables forgotten. The halls, corridors and rooms of the institution were beautifully decorated and a magnificent Christmas dinner was provided.

And so these all, in all the charitable institutions the troubles and sorrows of the city's poor were drowned in the good cheer provided for them.

In the Roman Catholic and many of the Protestant churches services were held on Christmas day. In Sherbourne-street Methodist Church Rev. Dr. Milligan of Old St. Andrew's preached to a large congregation. An excellent musical service was held under the conductorship of Mr. Arthur Blakeley. The opening voluntary was a preludium of Christmas tunes. Just before the anthem the pastoral symphony from Handel's Messiah was played. For the anthem, "Hail, Gentle King," was sung. Miss Lola Ronan sang "The Sweet Song of Bethlehem" in a very pleasing contralto voice. Mr. Ralph Williams played the violin obligato. Miss Lilli Kleiser and Miss Ronan then sang "There was Joy in Heaven." In Elm-street Methodist Church Rev. Dr. German preached a magnificent sermon. Appropriate Christmas music was provided by the choir. In the East End Gospel Hall, corner of Queen and Bolton-avenue, services were all day.

At the Metropolitan Church the services were especially interesting. Rev. R. P. Bowles preached an eloquent sermon on "The Coming of Christ, a Reasonable Faith." The musical service was magnificent. In the choir there were 80 voices. Through all the selections ran the spirit of Christmas. A large collection was taken, the proceeds of which went to the church's poor.

In the Catholic churches the services were most interesting and impressive. In the early morning high mass was sung by the various choirs, after which eloquent sermons were preached by the pastors.

At the General Hospital.

The annual Christmas entertainment in connection with the General Hospital was held on Friday evening in the theatre of the hospital. The convalescent patients were brought to the scene and a very enjoyable hour spent. A large Christmas tree was gorgeously decorated for the occasion, every sick one receiving some sort of holiday gift being hung upon the branches, pretty little candy baskets, dainty morsels, cards in endless profusion, bearing enough worldly love to remind the thinking powers of the presence of good old Father Christmas come in; precious little mementoes for all the suffering ones, and the twinkling lights shining amid the green branches gave a fairy touch to the surroundings. Endless praise was bestowed on the kind "fairy," Mrs. R. B. Hamilton, who, with the assistance of other ladies, spent hours in decorating the tree. Mr. Walter S. Lee presided at the affair and introduced the Rev. Mr. Gwynne, who opened the evening's entertainment with prayer. The patients, nurses and interested friends were then favored with a short address from the Rev. A. H. Baldwin. Mr. Meek gave a number of songs, but the height of enthusiasm was reached when Santa Claus, impersonated by Dr. Large, made his appearance in snow-white suit and flowing beard, and distributed the many gifts, which gladdened the hearts of the patients. Mrs. R. B. Hamilton and other ladies who managed the affair wish to thank all those who so generously contributed towards the tree and its decorations.

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes.

The music rendered at this church on Christmas morning was under the direction of Miss Fanule Sullivan, assisted by Gilonna's orchestra, and was of a high order. The solos were taken by Misses Tymon, Coxwell, Kennedy and McManus and Masters Bouvier, Tipping, McGuire and Wickett. Laprevost's mass was given for the first time in Canada. This beautiful composition has created quite a furore in New York musical circles, and will be repeated with orchestral accompaniment this Sunday morning at 10.45. The Adeste Fideles and Halleluja chorus were also sung and the program was equal to any of the many excellent productions of this choir.

Another feature in connection with Lourd choir was the gift of a beautiful marble clock by the members to Mr. J. A. Gendron on the occasion of his marriage, the presentation address was made by Mr. Andrew Cottam, and the pastor, Rev. Father Walsh, congratulated the members on their unity and the interest the ytook in the welfare of the choir.

ONLY AN ELECTION FAKE.

The Announcement That the Postage to Britain Was to Be Reduced.

Ottawa, Dec. 25.—It is practically acknowledged that the announced intention to reduce the postal rate to Britain from Canada to three cents was an election fake, having for its object the securing of the votes of business men in Toronto. The following official announcement has been made:

"It seems that with a view to securing a reduction of the postage from Great Britain and other British possessions on mail matter to Canada, it is inexpedient to bring into force on the 1st of January next the intended reduction from five cents per half ounce to three cents per ounce on letters from Canada to Great Britain and the rest of the empire. The Imperial authorities prefer that a conference be first held to secure a reciprocal reduction of postage both ways between Canada and the rest of the empire, and which it is hoped will cover not only letters, but also papers and periodicals. The hearty acquiescence of the British and colonial postal authorities in this larger question is looked for, and the outcome of the discussions and negotiations will, in all probability, result in the establishment of a British imperial preferential postal arrangement covering the whole field of postal communication."

A STUDY IN CRIMINOLOGY.

Four Generations in Massachusetts Prison at One Time.

New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 25.—The House of Correction here furnishes a remarkable study in criminology. There are now in this place four generations of one family, the youngest just a week old, and the eldest, the infant's great-grandmother, scarcely over three score. All of them but the infant were committed to the institution Sept. 9 for shoplifting. The police had repeated complaints from storekeepers of being robbed by some unknown persons. In September the police discovered that Alnous Gillis was particularly solicitous as to a certain trunk and its contents—so much so that he moved it from place to place by night. So they overhauled it and discovered several hundred dollars' worth of dry goods, which were identified a day or two later as part of the plunder from the stores. The upshot of it was that Alnous was locked up and subsequently his wife, Jennie Gillis and her mother, Bessie Tattersall, and her grandmother, Margaret Lagland, followed. Alnous is charged with either larceny or receiving stolen goods.

THE MURDERER LAUGHED.

A Thief Who Thought It a Joke to Kill His Victim.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 25.—Tuesday afternoon Jacob Weinand, aged 59, was found brutally murdered in his home. A wad of hair-cloth had been forced down his throat and then he was bound and strangled with a towel. Last evening William Roberts, alias Doyle, alias Dublin, confessed to the crime. He said he knew Weinand had some money in the house and laid plans to commit the robbery. Weinand fought so fiercely that he killed him. Roberts is an Irishman. He laughed while telling his story.

Presentation to the T.A.C. Secretary.

About forty of the staunchest supporters of the Toronto Athletic Club and friends of the retiring secretary, Mr. R. W. P. Matthews, assembled in the dining room of the club house on Monday evening. Dr. J. F. W. Ross occupied the chair, and having reviewed the history of the T.A.C. referred in eloquent terms to Mr. Matthews, whom he presented, on behalf of those present, with a beautiful and appropriate scarf pin. Everybody present echoed the doctor's praises of Mr. Matthews, who has always proved himself an efficient, enterprising and courteous official. Among others present were: Messrs. John Massey, John Henderson, J. Milne, J. F. Edgar, R. K. Berker, G. F. Maguire, F. H. Thompson, R. Thompson, J. Counsell, W. H. Bunting, Hugh Hartshorn, J. Davidson, S. Griffin, L. Boyd, A. J. Boyd, W. Bright, J. Hockin, J. Crowther, J. W. Hargraft, John Gilmour, D. Manning, E. Henderson, H. M. Pellatt, R. G. Fitzgibbon, H. Love and R. H. Easson.

A Popular Managing Director.

A pleasant incident occurred in the office of the Central Press Agency on Friday, when the employees presented Manager Diver with a handsome silk umbrella, silver-mounted and dibearing in its handle a suitable inscription. Editor Watson, in making the presentation, referred to the exceedingly pleasant relations that exists between all departments and the manager, which he considered largely responsible for the great success of the business. Mr. Diver briefly said he was glad to know that his efforts in the direction of the welfare of his employes were appreciated, and he believed the sentiments expressed by their representative were those which he endeavored to be guided by.

A Woman Assaulted and Robbed.

Maurice Prendible of Duchess-street is in limbo, charged with highway robbery. It is said that on Xmas eve he knocked Margaret Dorsey down on Duchess street and took from her $2, a turkey and two chickens.

His Hand Smashed.

James Childs of Kensington-avenue had his arm badly crushed at the C.P.R. yards at Parkdale last night.

NOT THAT KIND OF A GIRL.

CANADA'S PREMIER (looking at "Canada" in a recent cartoon from "Britannia," an English publication) Those English cartoonists mean well, but what member of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show has been representing herself to them as Miss Canada?

A LONG, NOT A SHORT SLEEP.

Thomas Reynolds, a Hamilton Hostler, Breaks His Neck After Eating His Xmas Dinner.

Hamilton, Dec. 25.—Tommy Reynolds, a familiar figure around Lillis' Hotel on McNab-street, Hamilton, where he was hostler, fell down the hatchway of the stable loft this afternoon and broke his neck. He had just got through his Christmas dinner and remarked to a friend that he would get a short sleep. Deceased is an Englishman of 51 with no family. Coroner Mackelcan has called an inquest for Monday night.

ROAD RACING IN WINTER

Two Events Decided at Hamilton on Christmas Day—Barnard Beats the Favorite.

Hamilton, Dec. 25.—Road racing was the sport of the day here, the annual Hamilton-Dundas race over a course about 9½ or 10 miles long, beginning and ending at Harper's cigar store, King-street, near Bay, attracting 4000 or 5000 people to different points along the road. There were 16 starters, and nine runners went over the course in a strong wind, and one a hard, snowy track. Joan Caffery and Joe Nash were heavily played favorites, but James Barnard, a strong young runner living on the Dundas-road, won from Nash by about 25 yards, and Nash was only a short distance ahead of G. Patterson, while Caffery was fourth. The winner's time was 55 minutes 53 seconds.

The Newsboys' Club had a road race from the Newsboys' Home, corner of Gore and Hughson-streets, to the Delta and return, about six miles, this morning. Five started. Willie Price won in 32 minutes, 40 seconds, with Willie McKeever second, and George Beatty third.

The Thistle Curlers had fine ice to-day and played their annual match between presidents' and vice-presidents' sides, seven rinks each. Vice-President Long's side won from President Southam's by 101 to 98 shots.

MARRIED AT WHITBY.

A Lady of That Town and a Gentleman of Trenton.

Whitby, Dec. 24.—(Special)—At Spencer House on Henry-street in this town, the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood, their second daughter, Charlotte, was married yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock to Mr. Henry Alexander Moore, B.A., of Trenton, Ont. The Rev. J. S. Broughall, incumbent of All Saints', performed the ceremony in accordance with the Church of England service. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked very charming in a crimson broadcloth, tailor-made traveling suit and carried a beautiful bunch of sunset roses, the gift of the groom. Miss Maud Annes, the maid of honor, in a Nile green costume, trimmed with white satin ribbons an dpearls, wore a black velvet picture hat and carried a bunch of crimson roses. Mr. Thomas Allin of Hamilton was the groomsman. Here, there and everywhere in the house were nags, palms and bunting in Jubilee colors. The ceremony took place in the neat drawing-room beneath an immense Union Jack. Only the immediate relatives of the bride and groom were present. After the wedding breakfast the happy couple left by the evening train for their new home in Trenton. The bride's presents were numerous and made a handsome display in a room upstairs. Many congratulatory telegrams were received from absent and distant friends.

Famine Sure in Dawson City.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 25.—George Ruth of Feathead, Mont., reached Portland on the steamer Elder, last evening, having come direct from Dawson City, which point he left on Nov. 5. Mr. Ruth says there were from 5000 to 7000 people congregated at Dawson and that vicinity, and he estimates the provisions there as sufficient to winter only about 2000.

LIVES WITH STOMACH REMOVED.

Marvelous Operation Performed at Zurich, Switzerland—The Subject a Woman of 56.

New York, Dec. 25.—The Medical Record publishes an account of the first successful removal of a human stomach.

The operation, which has startled the medical world, was performed in Zurich, Switzerland, by Dr. Carl Schlatter, on Sept. 6 last. The subject was Anna Landis, 56 years old, and a silk weaver. This woman had complained for years of stomach trouble. Dr. Schlatter diagnosed the case and found that she was suffering from an exceptionally large tumor in her stomach. Laparotomy was performed, and Dr. Schlatter found that the woman's entire stomach presented a hard mass. And then this daring operator, seeing that the organ was useless, went to work and freed it from its delicate attachments, cutting, twisting and clamping among the most vital organs with the coolness and deliberation of an expert dentist drawing a hard tooth. The technical details of the operation can only be appreciated by members of the medical profession.

The operation lasted nearly two hours and a half. The loss of blood was slight.

The period following proved that the sterilization had been perfect and the operation wonderfully performed. The patient, although feeble, exhibited but few of the serious symptoms that usually follow a vital operation. Minute quantities of liquid food were given to her at short intervals. With the exception of occasional vomiting, this food seemed to be assimilated, despite the absence of the food receptacle. In the second week after the operation she received solid food. It was retained and digested without discomfort. And even Dr. Schlatter himself marveled at the almost unexpected success of his bold work. He was handicapped in giving the patient solid food, because she only had one tooth left.

On Oct. 11, a month and five days after the stomach had been removed, the patient left her bed. By Nov. 25 she was feeling perfectly well and was walking about. Her weight increased and apparently she was in far better health than before the operation.

A LONG STRIKE ENDED.

The Window Glass Factories of Indiana to be Reopened After Six Months' Idleness.

Anderson, Ind., Dec. 25.—Christmas Eve was observed in this city and throughout the gas belt by fires being lighted in almost all of the window glass factories and notices posted instructing the men who have been out since last July to report for duty on the night of the 7th of next month. This ends the longest strike and lock-out in the history of the window glass manufacturers in this country. Fifteen thousand men will return to work at an advance of from 13 to 17 per cent. over the wages of last year. They have, however, it is estimated, lost $550,000 by not accepting the offer of the manufacturers last August, which was 1 per cent. lower than that they did gal nafter four months' strike.

The City of Saloons.

Cleveland, Dec. 25.—A novel plan to do away with the expense of costly competition has been adopted by the brewers' combination here. The plan is a sort of a temperance crusade. For years every time one brewer would locate a saloon on a certain corner another brewer would at once open up a saloon on the opposite corner. All of the saloons could not make a living, and quite frequently all of them have failed. The brewers have agreed to d oaway with many of the saloons which they are now supporting, and will agree amicably on the saloons they will retain. When the action goes into effect it is thought that it will cut down the number of saloons at least 400, and probably more.

King Farmer Frozen.

Holland Landing, Dec. 25.—Hiram Sweezy, farmer of King Township, was found frozen and unconscious in a ditch on Yonge-street by Mr. Graham, one mile south of here. He was taken to George West's house and only regained consciousness after two hours. He may lose one hand.

SIR J. A. CHAPLEAU

The Present Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec to Be Canadian High Commissioner at Paris.

Ottawa, Dec. 25.—It is reported that on Sir Adolphe Chapleau retiring from the Lieutenant-Governorship of Quebec he will proceed to France as High Commissioner for the Dominion, filling a similar office to that now held by Lord Strathcona in London.

THE RUSH TO THE KLONDIKE.

Many People Coming from Australia—Contracts for Steamers.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 25.—Travel from Australasia to the Klondike will be very heavy next year. All the available space on the Mariposa, due here in February, and the Moana, due here in March, has been engaged. In the case of the Moana the bulk of the passengers will come from New Zealand and the permit is to be obtained from the Government for permission to erect berths in some of the space reserved for freight. No passengers from Australia will be carried on this steamer and tourists will have to depend on the regular boats.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 25.—James C. Gillard of Tacoma has closed a contract for three twinscrew steamers for use on Lake Teslin and the Stickeen River trade. The boats are expected to make 16 knots an hour.

New York, Dec. 25.—The Red D steamship Curacoa has been sold by the owners to go into the Alaska trade. The purchasers are said to be Pacific coast residents and the price said to be $180,000. The Curacao was built especially for trade between this port, Curacoa and Maracaibo by the Cramps of Philadelphia.

TREASURES OF CAPTAIN KIDD.

Half of Charleston Searching with Strange Rites for Buried Gold.

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 25.—The colored people in this city and vicinity are busily engaged digging for the mythical treasure of Capt. Kidd.

About a year ago a strang negro arrived here from New Orleans. He claimed to have learned in some mysterious manner that the celebrated pirate had buried his gold beneath an overhanging hill on the banks of the Elk River, half a mile out of Charleston. The treasure must be sought in the dark of the moon.

For three months past it has been the cumtom of half the population of Charleston to retire to Capt. Kidd's curve on the first night of the dark of the moon. Fires are built and during strange and superstitious rites and ceremonies the work of hunting for the buried treasure is carried on. The ground beneath the hanging hill looks like a plowed field. As each search passes interest among colored people in the location of the treasure increase.

Some of the older darkeys have established claims and they hold to them in spite of the increasing opposition of those who have to dig where they can find a free spot.

Relief for Alaska.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 25.—Orders were received here last evening by the quartermaster of the Eighth United States Infantry to have the army pack train of the department of the Platte, stationed here, leave for Alaska at the earliest possible moment. The pack train is in charge of Chief Packer Tom Mooney. He will have the entire outfit, consisting of 10 expert packers and 80 trained and drilled pack mules, on the cars to-day ready to start. The destination of the pack train is Taiya.

A Large Wheat Mill Destroyed.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 25.—A special from Fosteria, O., says: The Harter mill, the largest winter wheat mill in the country, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss estimated at $150,000.

ABOUT DECEMBER WHEAT.

State Grain Inspectors Helping Out Col. Joseph Leiter of Chicago in His Big Deal.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 25.—The rigid inspection of wheat for December delivery is helping out Joe Leiter. It has already resulted in throwing out 260,000 bushels tendered him as not being up to contract grade. Mr. Leiter is a member of the Governor's staff, with the rank of Colonel, and it has been rumored for a long time that the machinery of the State Inspection Department would be utilized to help the Governor's favorite aide, not that there would be any favoritism shown, but no laxness as in times passed would be shown. In consequence of this state of affairs never before in Chicago's history has there been such a rigid scrutiny of the grain delivered. It is said that in past years the shipper was at the mercy of the elevator man and was obliged to take the grain given him, whether it fitted the specifications or not.

Under the new system the chief grain inspector is named by the Governor and is personally responsible to the State for his assistants.

The 260,000 bushels of December wheat that has fallen by the wayside was passed by the inside inspector, but the man on the outside refused it. An appeal to the State Inspector resulted in another refusal to approve the grade.

Those people on the floor who are experts at keeping track of other people's affairs have made a discovery. If true, it explains several things. The discovery is an agreement between Armour & Leiter. It is, in fact, an understanding that Leiter is to take 5,000,000 of the wheat delivered on December contracts. That Armour will assume ownership of the other 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 bushels at a specified price. That the wheat will remain in the Armour houses until spring or until sold to millers and foreigners. That from the time this agreement was reached—about 10 days ago—the Armour & Leiter interests in both May and December are the same.

This explains why George Brine of the Armour house explained with such emphasis that Armour is not a bear in any sense of the word.

It was to force some such agreement, secure the storage profits beyond a doubt and share in the glory of putting wheat to $1.25 or $1.50 before next May that the Armour deliveries were delayed fully 10 days after ordinary navigation was ended, it is claimed.

Evidently the Leiter people were successful in guessing the wheat market to-day. They were the buyers of calls at 94½ to 94⅝c Thursday night, and to-day's low price was 94⅝c. During the greater part of the day the May price was considerably above calls. There was buying by foreign account early in the day, but the important consideration was the quiet accumulation of wheat early by Leiter brokers and the covering by shors later on. The range was from 94⅝c to 94⅞c, and the close at 94⅞c showed a net gain of ⅝c. The feeling seems to be quite general that the bull campaign will go over into May when it and that possibly there will be two strong interests under it instead of one.

SEDITIOUS PUBLICATIONS.

Canada Said to Have Been Requested by Great Britain to Confiscate Them.

London, Dec. 25.—The New York correspondent of The Morning Post says:

"The Canadian Government, at the request of Great Britain, has ordered the confiscation of seditious publications. This is primarily due to a desire to prevent the Chadian Independence movement from stimulating disaffection in India; but it will have the effect of suppressing all discussion as to annexation to the United States and collateral subjects."

GOLD FOUND IN A COW.

A Post-mortem on an Indiana Bovine Reveals a Store of Wealth.

Mishawaka, Ind., Dec. 25.—Elisha Woodford, who, with his family, lives on a farm three miles north of this city, has for years owned a cow. Five years ago Woodford's wife placed $500 in gold in a boxful of bran which had served as a receptacle in the cellar for many eggs.

During the mother's four weeks' absence last spring the children decided to replace the bran in the chest, and the box was placed in a convenient location for the bovine to reach its contents.

Several weeks ago the money was missed by the woman, but in her distress no to a single member of the family recalled the incident of early spring. The money was given up as having been stolen.

Last week the cow became ill and the Woodfords finally mourned her death. A veterinarian and several curious neighbors undertook to explain the cause of the animal's taking off, and when the stomach was dissected the onlookers were startled to find a small Klondike. The money was counted and proved to be Mrs. Woodford's $500 in gold.

APPENDICITIS.

Have you had the new disorder?
If you haven't, 'tis the order,
To succumb to it at once, without delay;
It is called appendicitis,
Very different from gastritis,
Or the common trash diseases of the day.
It creates a happy frolic,
Something like a winter colic,
That has often jarred the inner organs some;
Only wrestles with the wealthy,
And the otherwise most healthy,
Having got it, then you're nigh to kingdom come.

Midway down in your intestine
Its interstices infestin',
Is a little alley, blind and dark as night;
Leading off to simply nowhere—
Catching all stray things that go there—
As a pocket it is clearly "out of sight."
It is prone to stop and grapple
With the seed of grape or apple,
Or a tiny button, swallowed with your pie,
Having levied on these chattels,
Then begin internal battles,
That are apt to end in mansion in the sky.

Once located, never doubt it,
You would never be without it;
It's a fad among society that's gay;
Old heart failure and paresis
Have decamped and gone to pieces,
And dyspepsia has fallen by the way.
Then—stand back there, diabetes,
Here comes appendicitis,
With a brood of minor troubles on the wing;
So, vermiform, here's hoping
You'll withstand all horrid "doping,"
And earn the appellation "Uncrowned King."

Ashton Crade.

CATASTROPHES IN CHICAGO.

Seven People in the Coliseum Still Missing.

ESTIMATED LOSS $700,000.

A Conflagration That Narrowly Escaped Being a Holocaust.

Very Like the Paris Bazar Fire—The Building a Mere Fire Trap—An Insurance of Only $120,000—Three Firemen Injured in a Second Conflagration—A University Club Also Burnt Out.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Three hundred persons connected with the Manufacturers' Exhibition were in the Coliseum when it caught fire. In attempting to save their personal effects, many had narrow escapes from death. A large number were injured. A dozen persons were reported missing, but all who were known to be in the building at the time the fire started have been accounted for, except seven. According to the figurs given by the exhibitors and managers of the various concerns, the total loss is $702,350. The principal losers are: Coliseum Company, on building, $400,000; Coliseum Company, on interior properties, $100,000; Carroll's tobaggans (F. C. Hostock), $100,000; Biblical paintings (Dr. Valentine), $25,000; Streets of Cairo and Congress of Eastern Nation stock, $20,000. The insurance on the Coliseum aggregates $120,000.

The exhibitors were without exception uninsured.

The fire was one of the quickest ever seen in Chicago. In twenty minutes from the time of the first spark originated by the crossing of two electric light wires in the X-ray booth, used for an exhibition of X-rays, there was not a girder standing. All the walls went down except those on the ends, and all that marked the place where the building had stood was a mass of twisted iron and brick. The loss of life might have been more terrible if the fire had broken out a few minutes before it did, as the visitors to the exhibition would have been caught in the building. As it was, the spectators had just left the building and exhibitors and their people were either preparing for supper or about to leave the building when the flames broke out.

The Coliseum cost $250,000, and was twice as large as the Madison Square Garden building of New York. It had a floor space of seven acres, including the ground and gallery floors, was 770 feet long by [illegible] pounds of steel, 1,200,000 feet of timber and 4,000,000 bricks.

While responding to the alarm of fire, engine company No. 19 collided with a passenger train on the Lake Shore Road, smashing the engine badly. Only one of the firemen, Albert Chamberlain, was injured.

Another Fatal Fire.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Three firemen were injured, one fatally and two seriously, and $125,000 damage done by a fire which broke out this morning in the six-storey building 26th-avenue and Monroe-street, occupied by the Knickerbocker Shirt Company and a number of other concerns.

Chicago University Also Suffers.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—This morning for the third time flames destroyed the building of the Quadrangle Club of the University of Chicago. The loss on the building will amount to $50,000.

EATEN BY HOGS.

Two Little Children of a Missouri Farmer Devoured by the Beasts.

Tiffirty, Mo., Dec. 25.—Two little children of a farmer living near here climbed into a pigsty to catch one of the pigs. They were set upon by a number of hogs, which killed and ate both children before they were found.

The children belonged to the family of George Coakley, and had been left alone at home while their mother went on an errand to a neighbor.

Gould's Christmas Dinner.

New York, Dec. 25.—Howard Gould gave a Christmas dinner at the Holland House to 12 guests that surpassed in sumptuousness anything ever before known. Every month was represented by its special fruit. Six of the guests were women.

An Echo of a Past Day.

It struck me to ask whether mention was made at the Dwight dinner of the fact that the Montreal Telegraph Company, for many years held the record of longest message sent to a newspaper and printed therein next morning. The occasion is one I remember well, having then been on the staff of The Mail. The matter was "fixed up" between Mr. Patterson and Mr. Dwight, and was a notable enterprise. It was the publication of Sir John Macdonald's speech at Ottawa on the Washington Treaty, which appeared verbatim in the next morning's Mail. With modern appliances the feat would have been of easy accomplishment; but at that time it was a wonder and only accomplished by sending half the message to Montreal, whence it was repeated to Toronto. The Mail's record was, I think, broken on the occasion of Lord Rosebery unveiling the Scott monument at Edinburgh; when an even longer account of the proceedings was telegraphed to one of the London papers.

The Supremacy of the Railway.

A good deal is being said these days of the growing power of corporations, of their ability to bulldoze the government, to muzzle the press and trample on the rights of private citizens. As some proof of the power of the railway companies to control matters in the direction only of railway interests, it has been ascertained that though the Railway Act imposes on the Railway Committee of the Privy Council the duty to pass regulations limiting the speed of trains through city limits, and curtailing the right to whistle within them, the companies have had influence enough to prevent the passage of any regulations whatever on the subject; and this, though the Railway Act imposing the duty has been in force for ten years past. Yes, it is a self-evident fact that the private citizen may "go hang" in the year 1897.