

FORMER LONDONER, WRITING OF NIAGARA HORROR, RELATES STORY OF FEARFUL DEATH TRAP

One Instant Great Gorge Was All Magnificent, Then a Place of Death—Through Awful Hour People Line Banks of Gorge.

SPECTATORS GASP AS CRUEL CURRENTS PLAY PRANKS WITH HUMAN FREIGHT

Woman Victim Sought To Give Her Husband a Chance of Escape, But He Chose Death With Her Rather Than Life Without.

A thrilling account of the ice bridge tragedy at Niagara Falls from the pen of Malcolm R. Clissold, son of E. H. Clissold, formerly exchange editor of The Advertiser, and himself a former member of The Advertiser staff, appears in the Buffalo Courier. Mr. Clissold was an eyewitness of the tragedy, and his story reveals the spectacle in all its intense horror. It is as follows:

No pagan parable could tell nor any lurid imagination of any white man could conceive a more spectacular tragedy than the horrifying scene witnessed by the several thousand persons in the gorge of Niagara yesterday.

The maelstrom of Niagara takes a heavy toll of human life every year. But not within the recollection of living man has the awful chasm engulfed its victims in such a terrifying manner as yesterday.

For a crowded hour the people who lined the banks from Prospect Park to the cantilever and steel arch bridges watched grisly death work with terrible efficiency. They saw the cruel, alternating current of the river pretend to detain them safely, only to seize them again in its relentless grasp. They saw the trio swirling around in counterclockwise eddies, then caught by a favoring current, sent in toward the shore and thence back to midstream. The three victims must have died a hundred deaths in the upper rapids mercifully put an end to existence.

Winter Scenery Magnificent.
Not in twenty years have the winter attractions of Niagara Falls been as numerous as now. This winter scene has to have outdone all its predecessors in painting fairland scenery. Every tree and shrub is sheathed in crystal armor. The ice bridge was proclaimed the strongest ever formed, and is called—"no man's land," as it is called—is not within the exorbitant jurisdiction of either Canada nor the United States. So, according to the immortal custom, it was occupied by three shacks, tom, it was contraband whiskey, postcards, photographs and souvenirs were sold.

Long before noon yesterday tourists and residents began crossing the ice bridge. The torrent from the tall race of the Cataract Power Company seemed to be running with augmented fury; its volume appeared vastly increased. Immense quantities of ice were going over the falls, undoubtedly the remnants of fields broken by the three blizzards which had been seen for 30 hours. These must have been the cause of the catastrophe—the acres of black and slush ice that hit the bridge with the force of a battering ram and the

POLICE ARE ASKED TO LOCATE CANADIAN WHO DISAPPEARED

"Abe" Pritchard Is Supposed To Have Hailed From This Part of Ontario.

Chief of Police Williams has received a circular from the William J. Burns National Detective Agency offering a reward of \$200 for the discovery of the whereabouts of Abe. Pritchard, of Fullerton, Cal., a Canadian, and supposed to come from this part of Ontario, who disappeared from his home there on Nov. 24 last.

The circular states that Pritchard had about \$600 in his possession when last seen, and it is feared that he has met with some accident, or has perhaps been murdered.

He was 47 years of age, 5 feet 11

inches in height, and weighed 190 pounds. His complexion is light, and his hair grey, and rather thin on top. At the time of his disappearance he was clean shaven, but has upon occasion worn a moustache. His eyes were blue.

Pritchard wore a dark suit of mixed material, a dark overcoat, and a black slouch hat. He carried a watch case pocket, bearing the monogram "A. P." His watch case number was 98,200, and the movement 2,914,271. On the third finger of his left hand he wore a plain gold ring.

It is stated in the circular that Pritchard may be found, if living, in a hospital or sanatorium.

Information is to be directed to the Los Angeles branch of the William J. Burns National Detective Agency. This was the agency that brought the perpetrators of the Los Angeles Times dynamiting to justice.

ORANGEMEN OF WEST BRUCE SAY TORONTO TOO DOMINANT

Latter Responsible For Too Many Compromising Actions.

[Canadian Press.]

Kincardine, Ont., Feb. 6.—Members of the West Bruce County Orange Lodge are warmly discussing among themselves the predominating influence of Toronto in the Provincial Grand Lodge and in the councils of the association generally. They are reported as alleging that Tory Toronto is responsible for too many compromising actions on the part of the association. The county lodge of Toronto comprises over 60 subordinate lodges. It is probably the largest in Canada. In Western Ontario the county lodges average 15 subordinate lodges each.

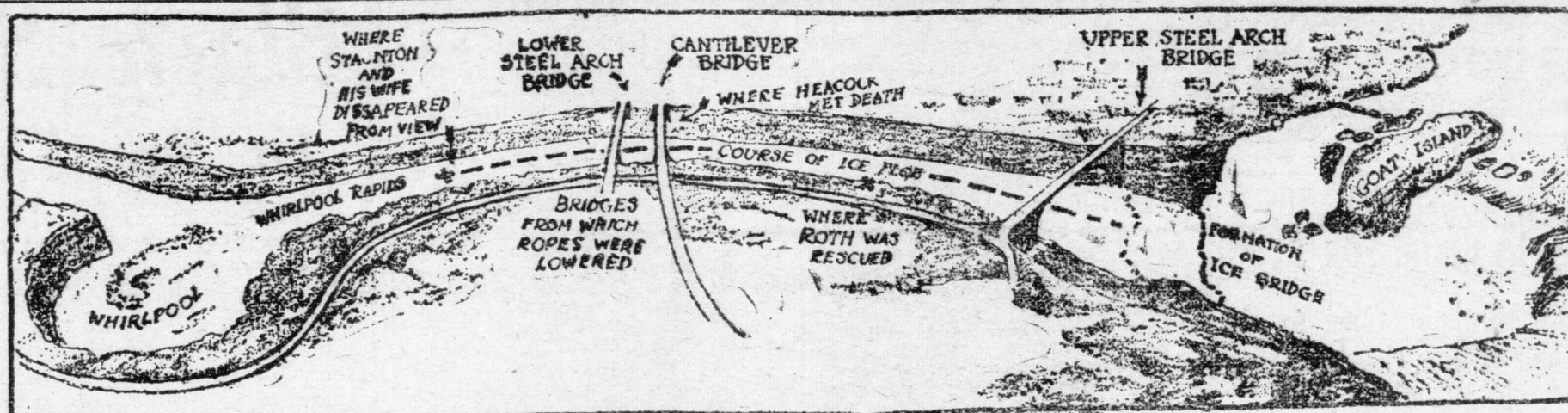
"You might as well call it the grand lodge of Toronto, as call it the grand lodge of Ontario West," an Orangeman declared to your correspondent.

Toronto Controls.
The complaint of the Orangemen

here is that Toronto's delegation in the grand lodge not only controls the proceedings, but elects the officers. The grand master, H. Lovelock, is from Toronto; the deputy grand master, Fred Dunn, is from Toronto; the grand secretary, W. Fitzgerald, is from Toronto; the office of the grand treasurer, now vacant, is also claimed by Toronto; the grand chaplain, Rev. John Coburn, is from Toronto; the grand director of ceremonies, C. A. B. Jennings, is from Toronto.

The connection of many of the grand lodge officers with the Government is alleged to be a source of embarrassment to the order. The grand master is assistant King's printer; the deputy is a member of the T. and N. O. commission; the assistant deputy is head of the provincial asylum at Woodstock for epileptics. The county master of Toronto, Wm. Crawford, is an official of the public works department. With the grand lodge headed by officials in such positions it is felt here that such a condition may prejudice the position of the order in the settlement of the bilingual school question by Sir James Whitney.

PANORAMA OF NIAGARA RIVER, SCENE OF SUNDAY'S TRAGEDY



This illustration follows the course of the three unfortunate people from the Falls, down the river below the steel arch of the great cantilever and steel arch bridges, where the last sad efforts at rescue failed. Beyond the bridges are the churning rapids, which lead to the whirlpool, where the bodies probably are at this time.

NO VOTE ON SITE FOR NEW CITY HALL

Mayor Graham Says That One Will Not Be Taken By the Council.

KING STREET TALKED OF

Some Are in Favor of Erecting the Proposed New Structure Across From the Market.

The selection of a site for the city hall and other matters pertaining to the erection of a new home for the city are puzzling the council these days, and it is expected that much interest will be manifested in regard to the matter in a very short time.

Of course there are the half dozen or more sites mentioned for some time—the "V" on Richmond street, the site now occupied by the Bank of Montreal and the Merchants Bank, the location at Water and Dundas streets, the market, the Parsons property on King street near Wellington.

On one floor—the larger—which was nearest shore, was Burrell Heacock, 17 years old, of Cleveland, O.

On the other floor—the smaller—were Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge Stanton, of No. 247 Huron street, Toronto, Ont.

Swept Under Bridge.
The two ice floes which their human freight passed rapidly under the steel arch bridge and then drifted lazily toward the American shore. Here the floes were practically becalmed by slack current. Members of the fire department, who had been summoned by the first alarm, gathered at the little point of land, just north of the Prospect Park Suspension bridge, expecting that the slack current would drift the floe nearer the shore at that point. It is here, the legend has it, that Father Hemmiph first saw the floes.

But the currents disappointed. The floes went out stream again. From the shore the victims could be seen making frantic efforts at testing the adjoining lumps of ice to see if they would break. But nothing seemed to give a foothold.

By this time great crowds lined the banks of the river and a force of men were already lowering ropes from the cantilever and steel arch bridges. Two miles lower down the river, the legend has it, that Father Hemmiph first saw the floes.

Continued on Page Four.

RENFREW GOVT. NEWSPAPER DROPS "HON." FROM DR. REID

Journal Again Says Breaking of Pact Was Dishonorable Action.

Renfrew, Feb. 5.—The Renfrew Journal, the chief Conservative organ of South Renfrew, continues its protests against the breach of honor involved in the opposition to Hon. G. P. Graham in the pending by-election.

Among its most striking sentences this week are these: "The Renfrew Journal has not been placing the prefix 'Honorable' before the name of the Minister of Customs. This paper has always rather prided itself on its nicety in the choice of words that suit."

"The men responsible for the agreement were the men who signed it, and from their numbers came the men who organized and carried out the plan. On both sides, the agreement was entered into in all good

faith, and with the one end in view of doing something to minimize the electoral corruption that everyone in the riding can realize too well, even though it may not be rank enough to smelt clear to the office of the Brockville Times. If the sharp eye of the editor of the Times could but see the men who are clamoring for an election here, he would understand why decent men should prefer to be saved another debacle.

"There is no loss to the Conservative party by allowing Hon. G. P. Graham to take the seat by acclamation. The only loss possible to the Conservative party here is the loss of honor if the promise of the convention is broken, and the faithful word of the Conservative party thus advertised as of no account. The Conservative party is pledged by its own regular convention not to have a candidate opposing Hon. Mr. Graham, and this paper resents the unprincipled attempt from outside to force a candidate of the Conservative party of South Renfrew to the everlasting dishonor of the party here."

Two Policemen After a Tramp Cat
A stray cat gave a couple of policemen an unnecessary ride in the patrol on Monday, and incidentally provided rather a good joke on the officers.

Mr. H. P. Allen, of the D. S. Perrin Company, was troubled with a tramp cat at his home on Queen's avenue. He telephoned the police to see if something could not be done to get rid of it.

In receiving the message a misunderstanding arose, and the officers thought that a tramp was annoying Mr. Allen.

"Is he still there?" Mr. Allen was asked.

"Yes, he is still here," was the response.

The men then galloped up Queen's avenue, with two officers aboard. Imagine their disgust when they arrived to find nothing more than a tramp cat to greet them.

The men did not talk out loud, but their inner thoughts were rather black, it was said.

LONGEST WINTER IN 80 YEARS SAYS AGED RESIDENT OF CITY
Mr. Finlay Perrin Has Been Here for Four Score Years, and Knows.

Mr. Finlay Perrin has been a continuous resident of London for more than 80 years, yet he stated to The Advertiser this afternoon that the present cold spell is the longest in his remembrance.

"I have known it colder for five or six days at a stretch than we have had this winter," said Mr. Perrin this afternoon, "but as far back as I can remember we never had such a long spell of continuous cold weather. It is mighty hard on old people like me, and I won't be sorry when it is over."

Mr. Whit Lancaster states that in 1894, the winter was not such a long period of zero weather, there was a longer cold spell.

"We started skating that year on Nov. 28," said Mr. Lancaster, "and continued through until March 23. That was the longest season I can remember. Skating rink men have had a pretty good ice period though this winter."

LIVELY COMMITTEE MEETING ON GEORGIAN BAY CANAL
Company Ask the Renewal of Charter, Which Is Opposed.

[Special To The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 6.—The Georgian Bay Canal was the occasion of a lively difference before the Commons railway committee today. The Ottawa, Montreal and Georgian Bay Canal Company, which some 20 years ago obtained charter rights for the construction of this canal, came before the committee with a bill to renew the charter. There were a lot of people on hand to oppose the renewal, including the Ontario Government and the conservation commission.

The promoters of the bill claimed that they had spent half a million in surveys, which gave them a vested right which should be recognized.

The opponents of the bill claimed that this was a project to grab land, navigation channels and water-powers, which were public utilities, and should be retained for the people.

The two hours which the committee was allowed to sit was too short a time for all to be heard.

The Ontario Government was represented by Hon. Adam Beck, minister of power, and Mr. Lynch-Staunton, K. C. Ald. Lapointe, M. P., spoke for Montreal, Mayor Hopewell for Ottawa, and J. P. Turcotte, ex-M. P., for the Quebec Government.

The conservation commission, in a letter, suggested that the company should not be allowed to commence work until the rates were made subject to the railway commission.

Not a Grab.
J. A. Ritchie, K. C., said that English investors had spent a half-million dollars in surveys and should be protected by an extension of their charter. The project was not one for the grabbing of water powers. The

MISS WALKER MAY DIE FROM BURNS

London Lady Suffers Terrible Injuries at San Antonio, Texas.

RELATIVES SUMMONED

Clothes Ignited by Alcohol Lamp, and She Lies at Death's Door in the Hospital.

Lying in the hospital at San Antonio, Texas, Miss Clara Walker, daughter of the late William Walker, of Ilderton, and sister of Mrs. Finlay Marshall, of 145 John street, is at death's door as the result of being terribly burned on Saturday, while serving as a nurse.

Miss Minnie Walker, sister of the unfortunate girl, left Saturday for San Antonio, when meager details of the accident were received. At one o'clock this morning a second telegram was received, which stated that Miss Walker's condition had not improved, and that it was causing the gravest anxiety among her friends. As a result of the receipt of the second telegram Mr. Marshall left at noon today for San Antonio. The family has small hopes of Miss Walker's recovery.

Miss Walker left London for Texas about one year ago in the hope of recruiting her health. She had recovered to some extent, and recently she decided to take a case, her profession being that of a nurse. While she was lighting an alcohol lamp at the home of her patient early Saturday morning she burned on the face, head, neck and right side of her body. She was removed to the hospital at San Antonio.

Miss Walker is known to a great many people in London and the county. Her father was one of the best-known stock-raisers in Western Ontario. Besides Mrs. Marshall and Miss Minnie, there is one other sister, Mrs. Bruch, of Chicago, and one brother, Mr. Graham Walker, of Chazy, N. Y.

BALL CARTRIDGES FOR BELFAST TROOPS
Both Parties Cancel Ulster Hall Engagements Removing a Danger Zone.

[Canadian Press.]

Belfast, Ireland, Feb. 6.—Another danger zone has been successfully eliminated with the official announcement this afternoon that the engagement of Ulster Hall by both the Unionists and the Liberal Association has been cancelled at the request of the hires.

The corporation of Belfast has given an undertaking that no meeting of any sort will be permitted in Ulster Hall on Feb. 7 and 8. This practically disposes of all active indeciment to political trouble on the occasion of the home rule meeting, at which Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, is to speak on Feb. 8, but the authorities, as a precautionary measure, drafted into the city this afternoon a large body of soldiers, to each of whom fifty rounds of ball cartridge have been served out.

Victims of Niagara Ice Bridge Tragedy

GREAT SLAUGHTER IN CHINESE BATTLE
Fifteen Hundred Imperial Troops Reported Killed or Wounded.

[Canadian Press.]

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—Fifteen hundred Chinese Imperial troops were killed or wounded and five hundred captured in battle at Chui Chow yesterday, according to a telegram received here today by a Chinese journal.

\$100,000 WORTH OF AUTOMOBILES

Big Exhibit in the Armories Will Be Open on Wednesday Night.

MANY CARS ARRIVING

All the Latest in the Motor World Will Be Shown to the People of London.

The doors of the Armories, in which the London Automobile Dealers' Association first show is to be held, will be thrown open to the exhibitors at midnight tonight, and as tomorrow afternoon one hundred thousand dollars' worth of pleasure cars, commercial trucks, motor-cycles, and accessories, will be placed in the great drill hall.

Dozens of new cars, brought in from the factories for the exhibition, arrived in London yesterday and today, and almost continuous processions of these headed from the different railway freight sheds to the garages.

The daintiest runabouts, sturdy, powerful roadsters, light and heavy touring cars, limousines, and all types of pleasure motors will be shown in one department, while the vehicles of interest to the man of business, light deliveries, and trucks with capacity up to five tons and better, will be displayed in another section.

All Are Interested.
The motor-cycle is also gaining friends rapidly among the young men of the city, and the exhibition of this means of transportation is expected to attract a great deal of attention.

Many farmers in different parts of Western Ontario have directed inquiries to the officers of the association as to what will be shown and a strong representation from the rural communities is expected.

The farmers have become keenly interested in the auto, as it is very apparent that the motor suits the needs of the man in a sparsely-settled region ideally. The different uses to which the machine may be profitably adapted in work about a farm is also being taken into consideration, and the cars sold during the past few seasons in villages about the country have served the purpose of stimulating interest among the neighbors of each owner to a remarkable extent.

The Decorations.
The Armories have been beautifully decorated for the big show, and all arrangements have been made to add to the pleasure of the visitors. The Seventh Regiment Band has been engaged and will be on hand each day.

The show commences tomorrow evening and before its conclusion on Saturday night it is expected that several thousand people will have examined the exhibits.

OTTAWA AVE. MAN ILL WITH BLOOD POISONING

Mr. James Hulbert Is in a Very Serious Condition in Victoria Hospital.

Mr. James Hulbert, of 415 Ottawa avenue, is in a very serious condition at Victoria Hospital from blood poisoning. A short time ago a big boil developed on Mr. Hulbert's neck, and it swelled greatly, causing him the greatest pain. When it did not get any better, notwithstanding all that was done for it, a physician was called in and found that the gathering had become infected. For a few days it was feared that the blood poisoning might result fatally, but Mr. Hulbert is today somewhat improved, and it is expected now that he will recover rapidly.

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MR. AND MRS. ELDRIDGE STANTON, of Toronto, who perished in the river when the jam gave way and others raced to shore. Mrs. Stanton was a daughter of Mr. Nelson Butcher, a former Londoner.