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WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 12, 1888.

Conflicting Accounts From Chicago.

On Saturday last, according to accounts published in many Sunday papers, Chicago was in dire apprehension of another Anarchist bomb-throwing affair. It was reported that fifteen hundred policemen—the city's entire force—were on duty and prepared for an outbreak, should it come. Much was said in praise of the Chicago police, and they were spoken of as men who would not flinch from duty should the "reds" interfere with them. One thing the authorities had settled upon beforehand—that no meetings of Anarchists or other known dangerous characters were to be allowed. If any such meeting were attempted, it was to be closed forthwith; but if resistance to the police were offered, the fight would commence there and then. At the same time it was no secret that prominent leaders of the "reds" were in daily or almost hourly consultation over what *their* plans should be to match those of the authorities. In fact each side was watching the other; and both sides respectively were expecting "something." The police, especially, were alert and full of confidence. "There will be some one besides policemen hurt this time," said one officer, "if a bomb is thrown." The event seems to show that the Anarchists fully believed that bomb-throwers and their allies as well as other folks would be in deadly danger, and so the intending murderers did not "risk it."

In other words, an outbreak was so much expected that no outbreak happened at all. The great city of the West was quaking all day Saturday; but Sunday appears to have been the day of greatest anxiety. As hunters after Anarchists the police were aided—or hindered, who knows?—by some two thousand armed citizen volunteers. The Sunday morning papers added to the excitement, with sensational reports of this, and that, and the other thing; and "scare" head-lines were not wanting. And political party motives had something to do with the business, if we are to believe the following, which was telegraphed from Chicago Sunday night, and published in The New York World Monday morning:

It is beginning to dawn on a great many people that there is a cunning political purpose behind the Anarchist bugaboo which has been worked so industriously during the last few weeks. De city election is not far off. Chicago is naturally a Democratic city. The recent election showed that it is now more Democratic than ever. The present administration is Republican. It got into power solely as a result of the Haymarket riot. Respectable people of both parties were thoroughly alarmed then and united to demand a new administration. Mayor Roche's control of things has not, by common report, been a blooming success. He has the reputation of being merely the tool of the Davis-Swift ring, which has run the city to suit itself. There is probably nothing in the world that would produce Chicago to swallow another dose of Mr. Davis so quick as a big, robust, well-developed Anarchist scare. Nearly all the recent sensational stories about the revival of Anarchy have originated in Republican and anti-Carter-Harrison papers. Nearly all of them have been disproved, from the wild tale of a blood-red tableau of "Anarchy's triumph" in a Lakeview dive down to the frightful upheaval promised for to-day.

Of course Republican papers have quite a different tale to tell. According to them the "reds" had certainly determined upon having a disturbance, but changed their plans when they found out how well the police were prepared for them. An explosion was too much expected; therefore it did not come.

Of the two conflicting accounts we place most dependence upon the latter. We think it would be folly to regard the Anarchist movement in Chicago as a mere "scare," the visible accompaniments of which are mostly the smoking of many pipes and the drinking of unlimited beer. We venture to say that those who take this view of it make a grand mistake. Given a lot of European Anarchists and Socialists of the genuine "red" sort, confer upon them the unwonted freedom of American citizens, with the opportunities of such a city as Chicago, and what may not be expected? We may be assured that there is dynamite in Chicago—in the social and political as well as in the physical sense—and that an explosion will happen there some day when not expected. However, if you want to see the other view of it you will find it in what we have quoted from The New York World.

All the Way From England.

Among the parcels of freight which accompanied Roland Gideon Israel Barnett across the Atlantic on the steamer Sarnia were 9 brace of English pheasants and 12 English hares billed to Mr. William Clow. They were shot on the Duke of Hamilton's estate at Easton, in Suffolk, and were packed in a bag of straw and sacking. The game arrived in good condition, notwithstanding their 10 days' sojourn on the Atlantic.

The Bond-Street Congregationalists.

The Young Ladies' Association of the Bond-street Congregational Church held a concert last evening in the schoolroom. The program was provided by the Melody Male Quartet and was highly appreciated by a large audience, especially the songs by Miss Annie Rose and recitations by Miss Lillie McDonald. Dr. Wild occupied the chair.

Military Notes.

The annual meeting of "E" Company, Royal Grenadiers, which was to have been held last night, has been postponed till next Tuesday night.

The Q.O.R. non-commissioned class, numbering 17, were put through a capital drill last night by Private Artie Burns, who, although youthful, has proved himself a valuable instructor.

More Big Guns Coming to The Feast.

Hon. G. E. Foster and Hon. G. W. Ross have notified Secretary Wills of their intention to be present at the Board of Trade dinner. Lady Stanley will occupy a place in the gallery on that occasion.

City Hall Small Talk.

At yesterday's meeting of the Executive the bylaw for the establishment of the dipsomaniac hospital was considered and passed on to council with the committee's endorsation.

The meeting of the council to consider the bylaw appointing returning officers for the next municipal elections has been again postponed until to-morrow at 4 p.m., owing to the council chamber being required this evening for the causes supplementary.

The committee re street car service meets at 11 a.m. to-day, and the Property Committee at 3 p.m.

Forty-two yards of the Rosedale sewer were completed last week, making a total of 860 yards finished up to date.

The Mayor yesterday received a deputation, headed by Gordon Brown and Captain James Mason, favoring the temperance hotel scheme on Centre Island. They laid before him a petition for the enterprise, signed by 500 names. The Mayor sent it on to the Property Committee, but could not promise his support, as he is against the practice of granting privileges on the Island which makes it all the more expensive for the city to resume possession.

It is among the expectations that the Toronto Electric Light Co. will at the next meeting of the Fire and Gas Committee offer a cut rate in the matter of street lighting, graded according to the length of the contract.

Novels Received.

"Galloping Days at the Deanery." By Charles James. Toronto, Wm. Bryce.

"The Gunmaker of Moscow." By S. Cobb, jr. Toronto, Wm. Bryce.

WEATHER OBSERVATIONS.

"A green Christmas makes a fat churchyard." This old proverb is undoubtedly true, and though it is yet some time until Xmas we may safely assert that we have had a decidedly green time during the past month, and if the present weather continues, the undertakers will have their hands full as well as the doctors.

The weather is abnormal, and the prolonged absence of Old Sol, who hides his face the greater part of each day, under sullen looking clouds, and the continued presence of moisture-laden air, make life hardly worth living.

* * *

When is the cold spell coming? This question is of the most vital importance, and should be answered for us at least two or three days before the advent of the usual wintry blizzard which strikes us about Xmas. The actual setting in of our winter is not a gradual process, as is frequently stated, but an abrupt change accompanied by a storm from the North or Northwest. We know that last year, and more noticeably so the year before last, this *setting in* of winter came in the shape of a furious snowstorm from the Northwest just about Xmas day, and the thermometer fell down below zero. This happened in a few short hours, and the sudden drop of the mercury, without any previous warning, caused great disasters and troubles in the vicinity of Toronto. It certainly is not a pleasant thing to retire at night with the thermometer at forty and wake up in the morning to find every water pipe in the house frozen solid and the mercury in your standard fifty cent thermometer away down in the bulb, hiding its face for shame. We should know of this sudden change, that seems to recur every year, some time before hand, and it behoves the authorities of the Observatory to put their spectables on and watch the progress of the isobars in the northwest during the next two or three weeks, and let them give us proper warning of the approach of a blizzard and thereby earn the gratitude of the people, and the contempt of all those who love to hear the crackle of the frozen water pipe and the imprecations of honest citizens.

* * *

The cause of our comparatively mild weather is doubtless an effort on the part of Nature to counterbalance the cold spells which we have had during former portions of the present year. It is a fact of observation that the mean annual temperature for Toronto is in the neighborhood of forty-four degrees, and the present mild spell will bring up the average of the whole year to its usual figure. It is an interesting question, this one of annual temperature. The records at the Observatory show that from 1831 to 1871 the mean annual temperature for each year varied from forty-two degrees in 1856 to forty-six degrees in 1846. The averages for four periods of ten years are forty-four and small fractions of a degree. The average for the total period of 40 years is very nearly forty-four. From 1871 up to the present date the average is nearly the same. Thus we can infer that if in any year the former portion gives an average above forty-four then it is likely, in fact extremely likely, that the latter portion will behave and vice versa. It is simply another illustration of the principle of compensation in Nature, the grand law of the distribution and equilibrium of natural forces.

* * *

Very few birds are to be seen now in this suburban of the city: an occasional crow or a small flock of noisy sparrows is all that greets one in the deserted woods. At the Island not a duck nor diver of any kind, not even the small sandpiper remains; nothing is there but the hungry gull which circles about some favorite haunt or darts screaming down into the cold water in search of its carrion food. Those who pretend to be augurs, and who for years have observed the habits of the birds which frequent our sandbar predict, from the absence of our water birds, a severe winter. They say that the present lull the prelude of a terrible winter such as has not been known for half a century. All of which we must take *"cum grano salis."*

* * *

A long discussion in the American papers, followed by a series of statistical essays, has recently taken place on the effect of forests on rainfall and snowfall. It has been alleged that in Great Britain the large landowners and proprietors of extensive parks and game preserves have utilized scientific men to prove to the people that the destruction of forest trees was followed by a diminution in rainfall, and that consequently it was advisable to keep the large tracts of forest country in their present state. Whether this be true or not, it is certainly a popular impression, not only in Great Britain but here in America, that the destruction of the forest is followed by a great diminution in rainfall and a consequent sterility of soil. The meetings recently held at Philadelphia and elsewhere, and the papers, based on statistics that were read, seem, however, to disprove this fact and to show that the popular impression as so often happens is quite erroneous, and s the result simply of a species of superstition.

It has been shown, and quite conclusively too, that in Ohio, which has been denuded of forest and then filled with second growth trees, the rainfall is independent of the state of the orests. The same has been proved to be true of the New England States. In Canada anyone who cares to go into statistics of rainfall will find that the average rainfall each year is in no way dependent on the quantity of timber in the particular locality. The vicinity of Toronto, which has been during the past sixty years almost entirely deprived of its trees, has no marked difference in rainfall from year to year. The average annual rainfall here is about 29 inches, and this remains nearly constant. The same is true of snowfall, although during several periods there has been a marked increase, notably in the year 1870 and the year 1886. The rainfall or snowfall is not dependent on trees, and why should it be? The clouds which carry the rain and snow to us are away above the highest trees that grow, and how can they be affected by these trees? The fact is that in going through a dense wood the average man will see much moisture and small streams, and on emerging into an open space will see this moisture apparently disappear and he will argue therefore that the woods have some effect on the rain and moisture. This is true, but the only effect is to retain what they have received. In this way they play an important part in the economy of nature: They retain the moisture and form reservoirs from which the adjoining farm can be watered; they are useful in other ways as protection from wintry blasts and summer sun; but to say that they increase or diminish rainfall is absurd. We advocate the retention of forest tracts, then, not because they are prejudicial or advantageous to rainfall but because they are at once ornamental and useful in a hundred different ways.

* * *

There are many who welcome each mild day as they would an honored guest. To them the wintry blast is an unwelcome visitor; they hold the Winter with his frozen beard and icy breath in terror: they pray each night that the morrow may be as mild as to-day. Their little children play about the doorstep in tattered clothes and bare feet, and rejoice because Jack Frost has not yet appeared for good. And still all classes over half the snow that comes to play with delight; all things, animate and inanimate, are waiting for snow: even the dusty streets and dirty lanes seem to plead for snow, a garment that covers a multitude of sins in this growing city, falling with strict impartiality on the palace of the millionaire and the hovel of the beggar.

From Police Blotters.

Michael Hartnett, 13 Stafford-street, surrendered himself to Inspector Armstrong yesterday, having heard that the police were looking for him on a charge of felonious assault on William Cunningham.

Charles Calver, 23 Emily-street, attempted to rescue a prisoner from Policeman Duncan last night and was locked up at Headquarters on a charge of obstructing the police.

The mysterious disappearance of Mrs. McCoy, 12 Turner-avenue, has been reported to the police. She is 71 years of age.

C. H. Lucas, 202 Parliament-street, reported to the police yesterday that a sneak thief had relieved him of a pair of new pants.

Two blankets were stolen from W. A. Scott, Todmorden, yesterday.

Policeman Watson arrested John Hanson, Peterboro, last night, for stealing three pairs of socks from Mr. James Bonner, Yonge-street.

Mr. Hill, 97 Bathurst-street, caused the arrest of a boarder named Joseph McCauley yesterday for stealing a clock.

Arthur Lester, 18 Britain-street, is a prisoner in Wilton-avenue station on a charge of larceny.

R. G. I. B. BEHIND THE BARS.

BARNETT A DISTINGUISHED ARRIVAL AT HEADQUARTERS.

Arraigned Before Magistrate Denison on Two Charges of Fraud—He Asks Time to Plead—That New York Note Swindling Racket.

A World reporter was on hand when the C. P. R. express train from the east bearing Roland Gideon Israel Barnett rolled into Myrtle yesterday morning. Barnett sat in pleasant conversation between Messrs. Andrews and Stark, the two police inspectors, representing the Old and the New World. Barnett proved himself very chary of being interviewed. He expressed himself as highly indignant at his detention in London and his subsequent enforced passage across the Atlantic, and as highly protested his innocence. He described in moving terms the loss he had sustained by his arrest on what he claimed unjustifiable grounds, and in fact posed as an all-round much-abused man. He inquired rather anxiously if it was probable that he would be tendered a reception, and gave a sigh of relief when he found that Inspector Stark's precautions had in all probability obviated that unpleasantness. As the train drew near Toronto he exhibited neither trepidation nor fear, and stepped nimbly into the cab waiting to convey him to Headquarters.

The carriage was at once driven to Court-street and Barnett was put in the big cage on the ground floor, where he remained until his subsequent arraignment in Court and his removal to jail. Later in the day a man who said he was Barnett's brother, and who lately arrived from England, had an interview with the prisoner.

In the Police Court.

It was nearly 11 o'clock when Barnett was led up stairs to the iron-bound pen in the Police Court room and faced Magistrate Denison. His four months sojourn in Newgate Prison, London, before coming to this country, did not prey very much on his physical appearance, and any depressing effect close confinement over there may have had was more than neutralized by the trip across the Atlantic. Barnett wore good English clothes, but his face bore a haunted expression, not quite as bad as Fagan was painted by Dickens when his time had come, but just bad enough to show that Barnett was very fond of hotel comforts, and he generally had everything that was going, as long as the money lasted.

His stay in the Police Court was not long. He was arraigned on two charges of the first, that on Nov. 6, 1888, he unlawfully utilized two notes of the value of $5250, each belonging to the Central Bank, and appropriated the money to his own use with intent to defraud. The second was the appropriation on Aug. 12, 1887, of a $285 promissory note made by C. F. Bunbury which he discounted at the Quebec Bank.

These informations were sworn to by Police Inspector Stark on Sept. 5, 1888.

When asked to plead Barnett applied for time, saying that he had not as yet had time to consult counsel. Then it was agreed that he should come up for a hearing on Monday next.

Barnett was brought back from England on affidavits made, in connection with the above alleged frauds, by Messrs. Gow, Archibald Campbell, C. F. Bunbury and W. P. Sloane of the Quebec Bank. On the strength of these affidavits the warrant was issued for his arrest and forwarded to the London police.

A Talk With Inspector Andrews.

Inspector W. S. Andrews of the Metropolitan police force, the man who made the trip across the Atlantic with Barnett, is a fine specimen of the middle-aged Englishman. The World talked to him last night in the Rossin House and gleaned a few facts about the prisoner's life in London previous to his arrest. Barnett, according to the Inspector, was an old acquaintance, and one who long before the presents difficulty had been in the toils of the British law. At the time of his arrest Barnett was prospering as a bill broker, better known in Toronto as a note shaver, and was doing a rattling business. He was one of the multitude in London who act as a connecting link between the respectable and criminal classes. In a word he floated on the sea of disinfectant without sinking deep enough to be caught in the current.

It was Inspector Andrews who arrested him, and the Central Bank dealer was all upset at the sudden and unexpected visit. He moved every power of British law to prevent his extradition to Canada, but when he saw that resistance had proved futile, surrendered himself to his fate without a murmur. On the voyage out Barnett seemed to enjoy himself, and sang and played as if he were going home to pleasure instead of to punishment.

The World asked Inspector Andrews what he thought about the Whitechapel murders. "It is an unhappy subject to discuss," said he, "and one of which everyone is tired of both thinking and talking. This much I will say, if ever that man is discovered, it will be by chance. Perhaps the woman he may attempt to murder may prove stronger than he, or again when his frenzy is on him he will betray himself. As for theorizing there is too much of it. Give us a little practice. I hear that there are lots of people who think they know all about it. Let them go ahead and see what they can do."

"Am I sorry that Sir Charles Warren has resigned? Yes, I am. He was a clever man, and if he had been given a chance to carry out his intended reforms might have made his mark. However, he resigned himself, and his resignation had to be accepted. These changes, as you know, cannot add to the efficiency of the staff."

"Do I know Dr. Tumblety, of course I do. But he is not the Whitechapel murderer. All the same we would like to interview him, for the last time we had him he jumped his bail. He is a bad lot."

Wanted in New York.

Whatever may be the result of Barnett's trial here he seems to be overlooking the fact that he is very badly wanted by the New York police. It was from New York that he went to London last July after a rather gigantic note swindling operation in the former city. Had he not quitted New York so quietly he would now probably be under lock and key there.

About July 1 last, Mr. E. H. Cormick, representative of Dr. Gatling, inventor of the Gatling Gun, made a note, dated June 1, 1888, for $3200. The note was endorsed by Mr. W. Cryder, President of the Madison Square Bank, New York, and was entrusted to Mr. J. N. Hayes, a broker, with instructions to sell it. A little later Barnett called at Hayes' office to enquire if there was any first-class commercial paper for sale. He looked over a bundle of notes which were on the market and selected that of Cryder-Cormack. He said that he knew of a friend of his who would purchase it, and asked that he might be allowed to show it to his friend. Permission was granted and Barnett gave a receipt for the note. In an hour Barnett returned, saying his friend was not satisfied with it. In a day or two he called again, and once more obtained the note for the purpose of showing it to the friend who contemplated a purchase. On July 4 he informed the broker that he could sell it at a fair rate of discount, and promised to pay on the following day. At the hour appointed he reappeared offering to pay $3000 cash and give a diamond necklace worth $2500. This offer was not accepted by Mr. Cormack, who threatened that in case the note or the money was not immediately forthcoming he would cause Barnett's arrest. Barnett promised to arrange everything satisfactorily before the close of the week; but he didn't. A detective was placed on Barnett's track, but the accomplished "financier" had sailed for England on July 7, accompanied by his brother and Miss Rose Beandet, the latter an actress.

When Barnett arrived in London, and up to the time of his arrest, he was a high roller, probably on the money he "made" in New York. A North End Toronto man met him in the Alhambra shortly before his arrest. He was looking very slick, wearing lots of jewelry and said he was doing well in London.

CONGREGATIONALISTS IN SESSION.

Two Sessions of the Central District Association Held Yesterday.

The Central District Congregational Association met in the new Western Congregational Church yesterday. Twenty members were present.

The Rev. Chas. Duff was appointed chairman for the ensuing year and Rev. A. F. McGregor was appointed secretary-treasurer.

These gentlemen were received as members of the association: Rev. M. S. Grey, Rev. Frank Davy.

The subject of the relation of Bond-street Congregational Church to the association was introduced by Rev. A. F. McGregor, and on his motion Rev. Dr. Wild was made a member of the association. His church will also make application for membership in the Union according to the constitution of the association.

Rev. John Burton, in place of a paper he had purposed reading, entitled "The Co-operative System in Labor," delivered an address on church extension. In the discussion which followed this address Rev. Messrs. George Robertson, Frank Davy, Mr. Smith, Mr. Bolton and Dr. Wild took part.

The latter took occasion to suggest a scheme of work among the French-Canadians, who, he said, were coming rapidly into the city. He mentioned the purchase of the East Presbyterian Church by the Roman Catholics, now the Church of the Sacred Heart. It was especially for the French-Canadian element, Dr. Wild thought the French-Canadians might as well, perhaps better, come into the Congregational Church than into the Roman Catholic Church, and suggested the converted Roman Catholic priest, a man of extensive learning, and who was introduced to Bond-street Church last Sunday, as a suitable person to undertake this work. No action was taken in this matter.

It was moved by Rev. Geo. Robertson, and carried: "That we, as an association, rejoice that the Congregational College of British North America has almost reached its jubilee year, and, moreover, that the college board is endeavoring to raise an additional endowment of $20,000 to further enable the college to train young men for the Christian ministry; that we, as an association, heartily endorse the movement and promise it our support."

In the evening a public meeting was held in the church. Rev. Chas. Duff presided.

Rev. Geo. Robertson delivered an address in the course of which he gave some figures in connection with the Congregational College of British North America. $20,000 is wanted for the endowment fund. The Colonial church has given $1000, Bowmanville $100, Toronto so far has given $100, but much more is expected, and Mr. George Hague of Montreal has promised to give the last $5000 of the sum required.

Mr. Robertson also referred to the $100,000 legacy left by Mr. Shurtliff of Ayer's Flats, P. Q., to the Congregational Missionary Society.

The speaker gave statistics showing the difficulty of obtaining Congregational ministers from England or other places for Canada, and the consequent necessity of Canadian Congregationalists endowing an efficient college. There are at present 22 students in the Theological department in the college at Montreal.

Revs. Messrs. Davis and Bolton also gave addresses on missionary work.

The session will be resumed this morning.

DOWN FROM THE SAULT.

Major Bob Hamilton Brings in a Budget of News and a Town Plot.

Major "Bob" Hamilton of the gallant Queen's Own returned to town yesterday from the Canadian Soo, where he has been for some months. After expressing to The World the great regret he felt at not having been at the volunteer sham fight on Thanksgiving Day in High Park he took up the tale of the Soo and its wonderful growth and its still more marvelous prospects.

Two years ago the Soo hadn't 900 of a population; now it has 2500; this time next year it will have over 5000. Houses are still going up, and next spring will hear the carpenter's hammer incessantly.

The great work at the Soo at present is the new canal, for which the contract has been let to Ryan & Haney. Already Mr. Haney is on the ground. He is about renting a house for himself as resident engineer. As soon as work turns off the right of way others will be kept going all winter, and in April fully 1000 men will be put to work with shovels. The machinery and plant will all be got on the ground during the winter. The money to be spent on this work will be great incentive to business.

The railway situation shows continued activity. There is now a regular daily train over the Canadian Pacific Railway branch. The International bridge takes over a lot of through freights.

The company controlling the water power privilege are getting ready for building their canal 300 feet wide, half a mile long, and giving an immense water power and magnificent sites for mills and factories of all kinds. Their first work will be to light the town with electric lights and to supply water to the inhabitants. They have bought an outfit known as the Heisler incandescent system. They have to have at least one factory running before July next.

While here the Major will superintend the sale of a large block of town lots to be conducted by Suckling, Cassidy & Co. The tract to be offered is adjacent to the canal, the water power and the river front.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

The ladies are getting up a bazaar in aid of the sisterhood of St. Phoebe's Diving, to be held on April 22 and 23, in Easter week, in the Bishop Strachan School.

A woman named Jane Widdifield, who came from the country some time ago and secured employment in the Queen's Hotel, became insane and was taken to the Asylum yesterday.

Detective Aid. Cuddy yesterday arrested a boy named Arthur W. Lester for the larceny of $3 from Lizzie Stephens of 99 Front-street east, for whom he was employed to cut wood.

Polly Brodin's name was called in the Police Court yesterday on a charge of bigamy, and the case was again enlarged for a week. Mrs. Brodin's trial will take place at the January Assizes.

The final examinations in the College of Pharmacy for the degree of chemist and druggist are in progress and will conclude on Friday. 42 candidates have presented themselves, of whom 36 have either attended the college or have passed in some subjects before.

The Y.M.C.A. At Home.

The social affairs held in connection with the Y.M.C.A. are always successes and the "at home" in Association Hall parlors last evening, when the ladies of the furnishing committee received the friends of the association, was no exception. For an hour the parlors were the scene of pleasant social intercourse lind at 8.30 o'clock the hall was crowded to listen to a concert by Miss Jardine-Thomson, soprano; George Taylor, tenor; Prof. Ardidge, flute; Miss Jessie Alexander, elocutionist; Madame Stuttaford. The repeated calls evinced the appreciation of the audience of this part of the evening's entertainment. After the concert refreshments were served in the gymnasium from tables ranged along two of its sides. Altogether the whole arrangements were most complete and the young ladies deserved the successes they achieved.

In the County Court.

In the County Court yesterday Judge Macdougall heard part of the case of James Wilson v. Hale and Pritchard on suit for $160 wages alleged to be due. The defence put in a claim of incompetency and the case was not finished when the court rose. The only jury case on the list for to-day is Corcoran v. Paterson, and the non-jury cases are: Toronto Street Railway Co. v. Toronto, Robinson v. Elkins, Bowden v. Britton, McLaughlin v. Tremblay, Coxon v. Neil, Douglas v. Radford, Gordon v. Parkhill, Murphy v. Kidney.

Louis Sievert Has Been Married.

Mr. Louis Sievert and his wife (Miss M. A. Lynch) have returned from their wedding tour through the eastern American cities. Mr. Sievert, whose eyesight was almost totally injured by the deed of the man Graham, who threw vitriol into his face a year ago last August and who was sentenced to penitentiary for life, is much improved and expects no more trouble from his eyes. Mr. and Mrs. Sievert received many handsome presents.

Showy Advertising Cards.

The latest and most attractive form of show cards are those done on tin by the Ontario Tin Printing Co. in The World building in Melinda-street. The work is lasting, always fresh, and equal to hand-painted. Being on tin it is indestructible. Those who want something showy and original in design ought to see Mr. Goodike, the manager.

FAST TIME ON THE TURF.

BEST PERFORMANCES AT DISTANCES OF A MILE AND UNDER IN 1888.

Crookedness on an Australian Track—Parke and Hewlett Sold at Auction—Toronto Signs More Players—Changes in the Rules—Searle Wins the International.

Although "time" as a test of merit in racing has during the last few years ceased to be the great factor it was 10 or 15 years ago, there is still a great fascination for it by all classes of race-goers, and any attempt to shut down on the "timers" at a race meeting would be quickly resented by the public. The "watch" is still in great demand, and the Coney Island Jockey Club at its last meeting aided the cause by putting up an automatic timer which showed "fifths" of a second in place of the old-fashioned quarters.

Record beating, however, at short distances is not now of a frequent occurrence. Many races were run during the past season that were very close to the records, much more so than is perhaps generally known, especially at distances of a mile and under. The quarter record is still held by the "unknown" Belle, who at Galveston on July 3, 1880, did it in 21¾ seconds. Alsie's three furlongs, at Little Rock, Ark., in April, 1882, in 36¼ seconds, was reduced July 4, 1888, at Helena, Mont., to 34¾ seconds by the six-year-old Daniel B.

AT HALF A MILE.

As half a mile the two-year-old Olitipa's race, run at Saratoga on July 26, 1874, in 47¾ seconds is still the best. The current report at the time was that it should have been 49¾ seconds. But no change was made by the timers, the 47¾ has headed the half-mile record ever since. The most prominent performances at the distance during the season of 1888 are as follows:

Galen (2), Washington Park, Chicago, July 13, 110 lb.....0.48
Gentility (3), Louisville, Sept. 13, 91 lb.....0.48¼
Typesetter (3), Los Angeles, Cal., April 11, 106 lb.....0.48¾

AT FIVE FURLONGS.

At the regular distance of five furlongs a doubtful record of an even "60 seconds" headed the list at the beginning of the year, made by the four-year-old Silv Kitty Pease at Dallas, Tex., in November, 1887, which was followed by the well-known performance by Jim Renwick, with 115 lbs., at San Francisco in November, 1883, of 1.00¼. These two records, however, were split at Jerome Park on Oct. 2 by Sam Harper, jr., who, with 118 lb., is credited with running over the straight five furlongs in 1.00¼. It is only a good record and the horses were well away from the post before the flag was dropped, a fact observed at the time by many of the reporters. The following are the next best:

Britannic (aged), Sheepshead, June 14, 118 lb.....1.01
Jim B. (5), West Side, Chicago, Sept. 8, 115 lb.....1.01
Princess Bowling (3), Louisville, Sept. 25, 113 lb.....1.01
Chanpagne Charley (3), Sheepshead Bay, Sept. 6, 115 lb.....1.01 2-5
Galen (3), Washington Park, Chicago, Sept. 10, 120 lb.....1.01¼

AT THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE.

As no distance is the test of time more accurately made than at three-quarters of a mile. It is the distance at which a majority of the two-year-old stakes are run, and the youngster that can carry full weight close to the record classes among the best, while even the two-year-olds and upward that can average close to record time at weight for age are looked upon as valuable properties. At the beginning of the season the two-year-old colt Oregon, by Monday, headed the record, as having run at Salem, Ore., with 110 lb. in 1.12¾. It was a doubtful performance. The known record was 1.13, made by Force over the Louisville straight track with 121 lbs., in September, 1883. This best for 1888 was bettered by Tom Hood (4), Louisville, Sept. 19, 115 lb.....1.13
Kenmont (4), Louisville, May 15, 115 lb.....1.13¼
Grimaldi (5), Monmouth, July 26, 112 lb.....1.13¼
Salisbury (3), Monmouth, July 5, 109 lb.....1.14
Telie aged (9), Monmouth, Aug. 4, 113 lb.....1.14
Proctor Knott (3), Monmouth, Aug. 11, 112 lb.....1.14
Strideway (4), Monmouth, Aug. 15, 98 lb.....1.14
Lennes (3), Louisville, Sept. 20, 103 lb.....1.14

Of the above the races at Louisville were run on the straight track, while those at Monmouth were on the regular oval track. Many races were run in better than "fifteen," while it will be remembered that Proctor Knott won the Futurity over the straight at Sheepshead Bay, with 112 lb., in 1.13 1-5. Fresno winning the Autumn Stakes, at 122 lb., in 1.15.

AT SEVEN FURLONGS.

At seven furlongs Kingston's 1.27¾, made over the Sheepshead Bay track, with 118 lb., Sept. 1, 1887, is still the best. But it is so closely followed by the next that one might say there is no difference. The best, however, for 1888 are as follows:

Bradford, 4, Sheepshead Bay, Sept. 4, 107 1.27 2-5
Amalgam, 5, Sheepshead Bay, June 26, 110.....1.27¾
Grenadier, aged, Sheepshead Bay, Sept. 5, 107.....1.27 4-5
Lalitte, 5, Sheepshead Bay, Sept. 15, 101.....1.27 4-5

A performance that outclasses any of the above is that of the three-year-old Emperor of Norfolk, who, with 125 lb., on June 14, covered the distance in 1.28, winning the Swift Stakes at Sheepshead Bay.

AT A MILE.

At no distance have there been more determined efforts to beat the record than at a mile. Special prizes have been offered repeatedly that Ten Broeck's record 1.39¾ was beaten. Since May 24, 1887, those figures have headed the list. It was a race against "time" over a specially prepared track. The next best, and considering that it was made actually in a race, is 1.40, made by Stuyvesant in September, 1887, at Sheepshead Bay, when carrying 111½ lb. The track was in as good shape as it could be made, and specially prepared. It was simply a good track. The best for 1888 are numerous, even though the limit at better than "forty-two."

Eollan, 5, Sheepshead, June 27, 115.....1.40¾
Jacobin, 4, West Side, Nashville, April 28, 102.....1.41
Niagara, 4, Sheepshead, Sept. 1, 97.....1.41 1-5
Wary, 4, West Side, Nashville, May 2, 110.....1.41¼
Bonita, 5, Latonia, June 5, 108.....1.41¼
Wheeler T., 3, Louisville, May 24, 102.....1.41¼
Little Minch, aged, Sheepshead, Sept. 14, 115.....1.41 3-5
White Nose, 4, West Side, Nashville, May 5, 94.....1.41¾
Pink Cottage, aged, Washington Park, Chicago, Sept. 12, 114.....1.41¾
Kingston, 4, Gravesend, Sept. 25, 118.....1.41¾
Swift, aged, Gravesend, Sept. 25, 101.....1.41¾

Mr. Brown Disposes of His Trotters.

Mr. Charles Brown of this city, the well known carriage manufacturer, disposed of his two trotters, Parke and Hewlett, by auction at Grand's repository yesterday. The former, who is a brown gelding by Royal Revenue, with a record of 2.31¾, was purchased by Mr. Cross of Lefroy for $460, while Hewlett was secured by Mr. Sanderson Fearcy of this city for $250.

Toronto Signs More Players.

Manager Cushman telegraphed President McConnell yesterday that he had signed Burke and Swift for next season. Burke, who played with Toronto this year, will likely cover centre field next season. Al Swift, who was signed just before the International meeting at Syracuse last month and released owing to the salary limit, has evidently come down in his price and has been re-signed. He will cover second bag in 1889. Gallagher, who it was said had not signed, has also put his name to a Toronto contract and President McConnell yesterday forwarded the advance money. The players now under contract for next season are: Atkinson, Vickery, Serad, McLaughlin, McMillan, Swift, Burke, Hoover and Gallagher.

Rowe May Manage the Bisons.

DETROIT, Dec. 11.—J. C. Rowe, late of the Sluggers, arrived in town this morning for a conference with Fred Sterns relative to the deal Pittsburg has made for him. Mr. Sterns asked him if he was not going to sign with Pittsburg, "Yes," said Rowe, "I will sign with them when they give me $4000, and I want you to promise me that salary or give me my release at once." Mr. Sterns did not give him his release and Rowe says he will not sign with Pittsburg until he gets his price. Rowe has been looking up the standing of the Buffalo Club and may go in as manager there. He said that he was ready to fulfil his contract with Boston and might force them to do their part.

The Changes in the Rules.

The following is a brief summary of the changes in the rules for baseball the coming season: The sacrifice hit is defined as a hit of any kind, not a fair hit that moved a man up a base. One player, whose name shall be printed on the score card as an extra player, may be substituted at the end of any completed inning by either club, but the player retired shall not thereafter participate in the game. The only change in the definition of a dead ball is that the umpire must be standing on foul ground if the ball strikes any part of his person or clothing. A foul tip is defined as follows: "A foul hit not rising above the batsman's head and caught by the catcher, playing within ten feet of the home base shall be termed a foul tip." A new rule entitling a batter to his base is as follows: "If upon a fair hit the ball strikes the person or clothing of the umpire on fair ground." Pertaining to bases, an amendment to Rule 51 permits a runner to return to his base after an umpire has declared a foul without any regard to touching the bases. A runner shall return to his base if the person or clothing of the umpire is struck by a ball thrown by the catcher to intercept the base runner. In defining the powers of an umpire to impose a fine of not less than $5 or more than $25 for abusive, threatening or improper language to the umpire, an amendment was made as follows: "A repetition of the offence shall subject such player to a removal from the game and the immediate substitution of another player then in uniform." It is provided that in the fourth column of the tabulated score "shall be placed each sacrifice hit, which shall be credited to the player who shall advance a runner a base on a hit other than a base hit."

He Believes O'Connor Will Defeat Searle.

"Pegasus" thus writes to The News of the World: "With our Thames and Tyne scullers at the bottom of the list at the present time, and the best of them a bad lot (taking the line through Wallace Ross), I cannot see the slightest probability of restoring the prestige of old England in contests for the sculling championship of the world, but a race on neutral water between the Canadian and Australian champions would create tremendous excitement in all parts of the world where the English, Irish or American language is spoken, and (both men well on the day) I incline to the belief that O'Connor would defeat Searle. The latter is only 22 years of age, 5ft. 10½in., and scaled 161 lbs. when he easily beat Kemp on Oct. 27. O'Connor is 23 years of age, scaled 163 pounds in his recent match, and sculls equally as well as Hanlan did in his best day, with the advantage of being considerably stronger than Hanlan. From the contents of my private Australian letters, I shall not be at all surprised if Stansbury is not distinctly proved (as an early date) 'the second best' sculler in the colonies, and I will act wisely if he does not 'measure blades' with either Searle or Stansbury."

Searle Wins the International Boat Race.

BRISBANE, Dec. 11.—In the four days international sculling contest here Searle had an easy victory. Beach did not compete in the final heat owing to the committee refusing to disqualify Searle and Matterson for fouling him. The first prize was £500.

Amusement Notes.

The Hungarian orchestra is expected to draw large audiences to the Permanent Exhibition this week, as Messrs. Nicholls & Howland have secured their return engagement for Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening. Those who have already heard these Hungarian gypsies need no recommendation to hear them again.

"A Dark Secret" will continue at the Grand all week. Matinees this afternoon.

"Lights o' London" in the Toronto Opera House until Saturday night. Matinee this afternoon.

The great orchestral event of the season will occur to-morrow evening, when Mr. Torrington's chosen band of amateurs and their professional assistants will make their bow, and as large audiences as can be seated have already secured will be well attended. A splendid program has been arranged with such a variety of style and matter that no music lover can fail to be pleased in attending it, and Toronto may well feel proud of the energy and enthusiasm which places such a treat within the reach of its citizens.

THE OYSTERMEN'S WAR.

A Serious Fight With State Vessels at the Mouth of the Chester River.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Dec. 11.—A fight took place at Hell Point at the mouth of the Chester River between oyster dredgers and the steamer McLane. To the surprise of the dredgers the captain of the McLane used his rifle as well as his rifles. The Secretary of State of Maryland has been notified from Washington that six more cannon will be sent immedi