

EDMONTON.

A Pen and Ink Picture of Ed-  
monton and its People.

The Whole "Avenues"—A Mixed Popu-  
lation—The Poor Indian as the Wina-  
as the So.

From our own Correspondent.

Edmonton, as I suppose most of you  
know, is situated on the banks of the  
Saskatchewan. It is a long straggling  
village of many streets and avenues with  
high sounding names, but for the most  
part no houses except perhaps a log hut  
or so, and here and there a more preten-  
sive frame building. So scattered are  
the houses that the stranger and even  
the native himself has often some diffi-  
culty in finding out which is the town  
and which the country, and many wan-  
der for some time on one of the principal  
thoroughfares without doubting for one  
moment that he is on the most rural of  
country walks, until he sees by chance  
on the bough of some wayside tree a  
board upon which is written "Saskatch-  
ewan Avenue" or some other equally  
high sounding name. The person who  
laid out this little village must have  
looked upon miles as commonplace in  
dividuals upon yards, as he has certainly  
made provision for what would be more  
than a phenomenal growth. The street  
on which are most of the shops and  
saloons, and nearly all the dwelling  
houses, is called

MAIN STREET.

This, the chief thoroughfare of the vil-  
lage, is of a prodigious length. One may  
walk a long distance on it without seeing  
any trace whatever of human habitation,  
nothing but tangled brushwood and slim  
young trees; still, however, in time, if  
he is patient, he comes upon a stray  
house straggling here and there among  
the bushes, the site of a shop or so, and af-  
terwards a whole cluster of shacks, witness-  
ing to the convivial habits of the vil-  
lagers. But although Edmonton lacks in-  
habitants, it is not without a good deal  
of natural beauty. The river upon which  
it is situated runs deep and swift-  
ly, with the water a clear changeable  
blue as the sky above, and a smiling,  
sometimes sad-colored grey and sullen,  
through high banks, one of which is  
covered with young trees, the other bare  
and rocky. About four miles from town  
there is a very beautiful view from the  
south bank of the river. Here from a  
tree-clad eminence of more than a hun-  
dred feet in height can be seen a panora-  
ma of yellow grain, green pastures, dark  
fringes of wood and gleaming water. It  
is in this little place, then, of

MANY LONG STREETS.

covered on either side with tangled  
brushwood and short, slim trees, perched  
on the high banks of a deep, swift-flow-  
ing river, which I can see now from my  
window as I write, and dimly in the  
light of a threatening and sullen  
November morning, with banks dark and  
cheerless with black frost, and dotted  
here and there by the first breath of  
winter with small patches of snow, that a  
little band of less than six hundred peo-  
ple live the hard, unvaried life of  
a far west town. The first thing, per-  
haps, a stranger notices about the average  
Edmontonian is his utter ignorance of  
what a hard day's work means. If you  
engage a carpenter or workman of any  
sort you need never expect him to  
come before eleven or twelve o'clock,  
and that very often two or three days  
after the appointed time, and if you ven-  
ture to remonstrate with him for his  
tardiness, ten chances to one he will  
haughtily throw up the job.

THE MECHANIC HERE

is of a very different type from his  
brother in Ontario. He is very often  
one who has once filled a far better po-  
sition, but broken down through drink  
and misfortune has drifted here to subsist  
by any odd job he may pick up. It is  
no uncommon thing to find one of these  
unfortunate mechanics well versed in the  
English classics. I have heard one of  
them pronounce scathing criticisms on  
Tennyson's "Princess" during the in-  
tervals of work with hammer and chisel.  
But the class most interesting to the  
unsophisticated Easterner is that portion  
of the community called

"THE BOYS."

Where exactly "The Boys" begin and  
where they end is rather hard to find  
out. To belong to them, however, one  
must have two or three distinct quali-  
fications. In the first place he must be  
able to absorb a large quantity of alco-  
hol, and also be a skilful raconteur of  
more than doubtful stories, and if he  
add to these accomplishments a large  
and original profane vocabulary his  
social status is assured. "The Boys,"  
as may be imagined, are not intellectual  
in their tastes. If they ever read a  
book, which is very seldom, it is gener-  
ally an English translation of a very  
highly spiced French novel. Their con-  
versation, too, wouldn't be put under  
the class called "improving." It is a  
rule gravitated towards the arrival of the  
last permit, and lingers lovingly on this  
fruitful topic until it is worn thread-  
bare. Politics, however, are not alto-  
gether avoided. Many of these choice  
spirits have very decided opinions as to  
how the country should be governed,  
and under the stimulating effects of a  
vile decoction of local manufacture,

IRONICALLY CALLED BEER.

the affairs of the country are settled.  
These political discussions are not always  
of a peaceful nature. They often rise to  
the height of impassioned controversy,  
and end in the excited controversialists  
settling their little difference in the  
favorite way of the country, namely, by  
an appeal to brute force. The chief  
amusement of this class is gambling.  
Many of them are ex-miners, and the  
great passion of their wild mining life—  
betting on games of chance—clings to  
them still. Horses, property, every-  
thing will often go in one night's "amuse-  
ment." But although the larger  
portion of the community is anything  
but intellectual still Edmonton is not  
wholly devoid of literary ability. It  
possesses

A REAL LIVE POET.

one of whose efforts is known to have  
been published by the Toronto Mail—a  
fact which in the eyes of many of the  
villagers is a convincing proof of his

possessing the divine afflatus. This  
Western bard has not called upon his  
Muse as yet to soar beyond the limited  
range of strictly local themes, but it is  
confidently thought that he will produce  
a great Epic at no distant date. There  
was, too, at one time a "Literary Soci-  
ety" ostensibly for the development of  
local oratorical talent. The real object,  
however, of the members of this Society  
was not literary improvement but to get  
as much "fun" out of the meetings as  
possible. Consequently the palm of  
merit was given by those enthusiastic  
devotees of literature to the speaker who  
made the most humorous speech—using  
the word "humorous" as understood by  
the average Edmontonian, whose appre-  
ciation of a joke is in direct ratio to its  
unfitness for a woman's ears.

This so-called Literary Society has  
now died a natural death and it is to be  
hoped for the sake of the first principles  
of oratory and the non-profane use of  
literature that it may never be resusci-  
tated. Edmonton also boasts of

A WEEKLY PAPER.

which is, to the editor himself pro-  
claims, the organ of "The Boys." This  
little journal is supposed to be Grit, or  
rather Radical in its politics, but in  
reality there is no such thing as Grit or  
Tory here. It is true there are two op-  
posing factions with nominal political  
differences, but the only great party  
Shibboleth is liquor or no liquor, or  
more properly beer license or no beer  
license. The editor of this paper is a  
total abstainer—a fact which not only  
makes him a kind of *l'homme nouveau*  
in this liquor loving region, where every  
one drinks and almost every one gets  
drunk, but was the cause of his losing  
his seat in the North-west council. But  
besides the class which I have been  
describing, viz., that of The Boys, there  
is a higher and

UPPER CIRCLE.

wholly distinct from it. This portion  
of the community is highly respectable,  
and is composed of a class to be found  
in almost any of the country villages of  
Ontario; a kindly hospitable but wholly  
uncultivated people—a people among  
whom there is no light and shade of  
varying characteristic, but who all  
possess a dull and common-place uni-  
formity. There are, however, not in-  
frequently to be met, but in the surround-  
ing country, isolated settlers who will repay  
a close acquaintance and study. Among  
these may often be found men of good  
position at home, who through some  
misfortune, or possibly some idle fancy,  
have left civilization to bury themselves  
in a log cabin, on the prairie, living,  
salt pork and any game they can kill;  
seeing no one but an occasional traveller;  
hearing nothing but the long-drawn  
moorland howl of the prairie wolf.  
However impossible it may seem, this  
kind of life has such a strange fasci-  
nation for many people, and many a  
man of culture and education—that they re-  
fuse ever to leave it, and live out their  
lives companionless, save for the few  
animals they may have around them—  
exiles in the wild vastness of an almost  
unpopulated country. But we must leave  
the white settlers now and talk a little  
about

THE INDIANS.

in this neighborhood—the first and true  
possessors of the soil. Much has been  
said and written about the "Noble Red  
Man," and probably more of falsehood  
than truth. Certainly the one who bases his  
idea of our "Indian brother" upon such  
a highly idealized and romantic narra-  
tive as Fenimore Cooper's novels is doomed  
to be disappointed. In appearance the  
men are often not without a good deal  
of personal beauty, possessing in many  
cases finely cut features and tall athletic  
figures. The women, however, at least  
in this neighborhood, are anything but  
handsome. I have looked for the ideal  
"dusky Indian maiden" in vain, and  
a sad reality forces me to confess  
that she is the myth of a novelist's crea-  
tion, or else, if she ever did exist, is now  
dead and her race has never been per-  
petuated. All that remains of her is a  
dirty, painted object, shuffling along in  
occasional, and wrapped up in blankets  
which would be much the better for  
washing. Alas, that even motives of  
galantry cannot for very truth's sake  
detect me from making this confession!

IT IS A SAD FACT

to note that the nearer an Indian gets to  
white settlements the worse he becomes  
morally. He acquires almost invariably  
the vices and not the virtues of the white  
man. And this is not natural. Too  
often a very gentle and peace-loving  
civilized being, and his wild, savage  
nature, far more prone to learn the evil  
than the good, eagerly acquires any vice  
whatever it may be. His passion  
for liquor is a madness, and he will bar-  
ter everything he has on earth for a small  
quantity of it. A very common sight is  
to see a very gentle and peace-loving  
Indian, and to see the same Indian, a few  
days later, in the wild freedom of his  
prairie life, the Indian is seen to  
great advantage. There a traveller  
has an opportunity of seeing his simple  
savage virtues. The two greatest of these  
are an open-hearted hospitality and a  
rigid adherence to the eighth com-  
mandment. All that an Indian has in the  
disposal of his guest, and he will not,  
with rare exceptions, take anything that  
does not belong to him. And although  
it is maintained by many that an Indian  
cannot be converted, and that the so-  
called conversions which have taken place  
are merely the result of a desire for the  
loaves and fishes of the flock, in other  
words, that he will profess anything,  
even Christianity, for an extra amount  
of pork and flour, still it is a fact that  
far away in the lonely regions north of  
this place it is a common sight to see an  
Indian

PERFORM HIS DUTIES.

with a regularity which would shame  
many an orthodox Christian, and even  
King Moody and Sankey's hymns in his  
native tongue. However, these are  
undoubtedly isolated and exceptional  
cases, and a callous indifference to every-  
thing besides gorging himself with food  
and obtaining whisky is the characteris-  
tic of the ordinary type of Indian in this  
region. But one thing is certain, that  
had the first white settlers shown a good  
example to the natives instead of appeal-  
ing in every way to the lowest instincts  
of low and savage natures, teaching them  
only to do nothing of any  
trading upon the vices which they al-  
ready possessed, the Indian of to-day  
would be a very different man.  
And now with these few words about

the "wards of the nation," I must close  
this slight and imperfect sketch of Ed-  
monton and its people.

OBSERVER.

Dunlop.

Our sick committee has been very  
busy during the cold spell. Much visiting  
and bed rest will reach out the weak  
spot of the average man in a hurry.  
John McAllister got three of his fin-  
gers badly out while feeding a straw cut-  
ter on Saturday.

A. A. Williams was the guest of A. H.  
Nafel, Bayfield road, Frederick tp., last  
week.

Everybody in Dunlop either buys Tass  
Snozal or borrows it.

ADVERT.

John Stalker sold a horse to A. M.  
Polley for the sum of \$180.

William Symington sold his horse to  
an American for a good round sum.

The Methodists of this place have  
started their annual revival meetings.

Rev. A. Y. Hartley, of Bluevale, ad-  
ministered sacrament to the members of  
the Wesleyan church, Sunday evening  
last.

Rev. W. A. Young, commissioner of  
the diocese of Huron, preached a very  
edifying sermon in St. Paul's church,  
Sunday evening last.

LOCALITY.

Mr. Watson, the new teacher of S. S.  
No. 5, has assumed his duties here.

Mrs. B. Raitton, with her sister, Miss  
Carruthers, is visiting friends in Ham-  
ilton.

J. E. Hetherington has been re-elected  
school trustee for S. S. No. 5. This is  
his 18th year as school trustee—a good  
record.

W. H. Clutton has returned to the  
medical college at Toronto, and his  
brother G. H. Clutton has returned to  
Woodstock college. Both are diligent  
students.

TERRAN.—Last week a party of eight  
merry maidens made a new quilt, and  
in the evening a teacher, musician, a tall  
Laird, our Dunop scribe and several  
other bachelors, were folded, rolled and  
carried in it, but it stood the test well.  
The maidens did not, but the scribe and  
burdens fall. A mock trial of justice  
with games closed a jolly time to all  
present.

Some time ago an item appeared in  
THE SIGNAL wishing the colts of J. O.  
Stewart and John Buchanan to be weigh-  
ed against one another. W. O. Stewart,  
who has charge of the scales, weighed it  
at Mr. McCracken's on the 30th ult.,  
James Jr., acting as recording clerk. It  
weighed 1280 lbs. good for a colt of  
19 months. Some of the neighbors who  
have been debating as to the weights of  
the colts are now anxious to learn that  
of Mr. Buchanan.

The Late Dr. Seager.

We glean the following from the Nor-  
folk, Ont., papers of last week, referring  
to the decease of the father of our fellow  
townsman, Mr. C. Seager, barrister-at-  
law. "It is our painful duty to record this  
week the death of a gentleman who was  
as highly respected as he was well known,  
and who for very many years occupied a  
leading position as a physician, and  
had the confidence of all with whom he  
came in contact. He was born in 1814,  
and graduated in 1837. For 17 years he  
had an extensive practice in Wellington,  
Shropshire, where he was the medical  
officer of the parish. In the great cholera  
epidemic of 1846 he rendered very zealous  
and successful services to the public,  
receiving therefor the public thanks of  
the civil authorities. In 1845 the doctor  
came to Canada. He settled at Port  
Dover, where he was held in high esti-  
mation as a physician, and gained the  
esteem and affection of the inhabitants.  
The funeral took place at Tuesday last,  
January 11, 1886, at Woodhouse, in the  
presence of a large number of friends.  
At the ripe old age of 89 years, Dr.  
Seager gives up this life without leaving  
any shadow to be cast on his memory."

Some Words on the Scott Act.

There is no more reason, therefore, for  
repealing the Scott Act now than there  
was before Sir John's reputation as the  
great constitutional lawyer received its  
coup de grace the other day at the hands  
of the law lords. And from the standpoint  
of fairness and justice there is a good  
deal of reason for not repealing it now,  
because the prohibitionists, after years of  
struggle and uncertainty, feeling the  
ground at last solid under their feet,  
owing to the privy council's decision  
affirming the validity of the law, have  
gone manfully and vigorously to work  
and carried the act in a very large num-  
ber of constituencies, in which it is now  
or shortly will be on trial. The expe-  
rience of the next two or three years as  
to the enforcement of the act in differ-  
ent localities, and its general effect on  
intemperance and crime generally, will  
be of great value in shaping future leg-  
islation.

Let the act have a fair trial. Give its  
friends plenty of time to put it in opera-  
tion, to familiarize themselves with its  
workings, and to ascertain its defects,  
so that they may have a reasonable and  
necessary to close loopholes and per-  
fect its machinery. And then, after  
ample time has been given, and sufficient  
allowance made for the obstacles to be  
overcome, judge it by its results, and let  
it stand or fall accordingly. This will be  
only fair to those who, actuated, as we  
believe, for the most part, by the best  
motives, have sacrificed their means and  
time and labor in order to put in force a  
principle deliberately sanctioned by the  
people's representatives.

It is hardly probable that a parliament,  
on the verge of dissolution, will have  
the temerity to repeal the act. But no  
doubt a strenuous effort will be made for  
that object during the approaching ses-  
sion, and the friends of the measure will  
do well to be on their guard.

Because the act has proved difficult to  
pass and impossible to enforce in the  
cities, that is no reason why the county  
constituencies, which have carried it by  
large majorities, should be put back un-  
der license against their will.—(Toronto  
News.)

A Judge's Opinion.

Every year every local paper gives  
from one hundred to five thousand  
dollars in free lines for the sole benefit  
of the vicinity in which it is located. No  
other agent can afford to do this. The  
local editor in proportion to his means  
does more for his town than any other  
ten men, and in all fairness, man with  
mean, he ought to be supported, not  
because you may happen to like him or  
admire his writing, but because a local  
paper is the best investment a man can  
make. It may not be brilliant or crowd-  
ed with great thoughts, but financially  
it is more of a benefit to a community  
than a teacher or preacher. Understand  
us now—we do not mean morally or in-  
tellectually, but financially; and yet on  
moral questions you will find the  
majority of the local papers on the right  
side of the question. Today the editors  
of the local papers do the most work for  
the least money of any men on earth.  
Subscribe for your local paper, not for  
charity, but as an investment.—[Judge  
Davis]

Maddonell at His Old Tricks.

"Pic," of the Toronto News, says:—  
It is with extreme pain I notice a desire  
on the part of Mr. J. A. Maddonnell,  
otherwise known as "John Greenfield,"  
for the shingle and a spear, to in-  
terfere with M. C. Cameron, M.P., of Huron.  
Mr. Cameron, in a recent speech, warn-  
ed up Mr. Maddonnell's hide regarding  
certain fees charged the Dominion gov-  
ernment for professional services. Mr.  
Maddonnell gets back at M. by calling  
him "a lean and malicious liar," and "a  
contemptible and infamous coward," and  
other things. Having winged the froth  
from his mouth, J. A. has set down, and  
what is to us a waste of wit and solici-  
tude. Let me see if I remember  
rightly, the man calling somebody a  
liar the John Greenfield was once put  
to considerable trouble and anxiety.

Auction Sales.

All parties getting their sale bills printed at  
this office will get a free notice inserted in  
this list up to the time of sale.

Important auction sale of hemlock  
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working horses, at Harris mill, Cran-  
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Duncannon by John Knox, auctioneer,  
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nesday, Jan. 27th, 1886. See posters.

Merchants can get their Bill Heads, Letter  
heads and Receipts printed at this office  
at a very reasonable price. Call and see  
specimens and get prices.

DECEASED.

In Godrich, on Tuesday, Jan. 5th, the wife  
of Mr. Wilson Salkeld, of a son.

MARRIED.

In Godrich, on the 7th inst., at St. Peter's  
church, by the Rev. B. J. Walters, Mr. P. R.  
Fox to Miss Kate McKay, all of this town.

BIRTH.

In Godrich, on Monday, January 11th, 1886,  
to the wife of Mr. J. A. Walters, a son,  
named John, aged 15 years and 2 months.

1886.

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guide, an entertaining and instructive  
family journal, entirely free from objection-  
able features in either language or illustra-  
tions, should subscribe to HARPER'S WEEKLY.  
A CALL SOLICITED.  
Dec. 24th, 1885.

A. B. CORNELL,  
UNDERTAKER,  
Has the Finest Assortment of Fine Glass  
Towns, Caskets and Undertakers' Goods in  
Town, also Suits for Hire at Reasonable  
Rates.

FURNITURE! FURNITURE!  
As Usual he keeps the CHEAPEST AND  
BEST Stock of all kinds of Furniture. A Bag  
for Cash and  
I Can Undersell Any Other  
Furniture Man in Town.  
I Also Sell the Celebrated High Arm-  
rested  
Raymond Sewing Machine!  
Give me a Call and Save Money.  
Opposite Mackinlay Hotel, Hamilton Street,  
Godrich, Dec. 2nd, 1885.

SPECIAL ATTENTION  
Is directed to the fact that the GROCERY BUSINESS of the late G. M. GRANT will still be  
continued, and the GREAT AIM will be, as heretofore, to keep  
FIRST-CLASS GOODS.  
The Stock is Very Large, and Must Necess-  
arily be Reduced,  
and will POSITIVELY be sold at exceedingly  
LOW PRICES.  
The PORK PACKING Business will be discontinued, and the large stock of  
HAMS & BACON  
Will be sold at PAMID PRICES, to clear out the entire stock.  
N. B.—A call respectfully solicited for quotations, and inspection of goods.  
Estate of GEO. GRANT.  
Godrich, Jan. 15th, 1886.

Amusements.  
GODRICH MECHANICS' INSTI-  
TUTE LIBRARY AND READING  
ROOM, cor. of East Street and Square (up  
stairs).  
Open from 1 to 6 p.m., and from 7 to 10 p.m.  
ABOUT 2000 VOLS IN LIBRARY  
Leading Daily, Weekly and Illustrated  
Papers, Magazines, etc., on File.  
MEMBERSHIP TICKET, ONLY \$1.00,  
granting free use of Library and Reading  
Room.  
Application for membership received by  
Librarian, in rooms,  
J. H. COLBORNE, ALEX. MORTON,  
President, Secretary,  
Godrich, March 19th, 1885.

1839—ESTABLISHED—1839  
and still ahead of us.  
To Builders and others:  
FOR CASH ONLY.  
Best Quality Standard Wall-  
\$2.85 PER KEG OF 100 Lbs.  
All other Hardware, Paints, Oil, Glass,  
Agricultural Tools  
and Machine Oils in proportion.  
Use Buckhorn Steel Wire Fencing  
6c. per lb.

TEAS  
Sugars at Usual Prices.  
DRY GOODS DEPARTMENT  
as low as usual.  
ASSORTMENT OF SILKS,  
Extra Good Value.  
Red and Brown Weaving Cotton Yarn, \$1.50  
per bushel.  
We cannot afford to give 10 or 20 percent  
discount, as we do not make that profit. We  
mark all goods in plain figures, at the lowest  
living price.  
C. CRABB,  
East Side Market Square  
Godrich, July 30th, 1885.

I AM NOT THE CHEAPEST MAN  
IN THE TRADE, BUT I AM ONE OF THE BEST!  
TEAS,  
COFFEES,  
AND  
GENERAL  
GROCERIES.  
25,000  
Ducks, Geese, Turkeys and Chickens, wanted,  
heads off and drawn.  
G. H. OLD,  
Telephone Communication with  
Godrich, Dec. 10th, 1885.

THE "MAILS"  
One by one the Mail  
exped. Last week a  
sively the cases of (1)  
of Ottawa; (2) David  
McL; (3) The Keewatin  
Wallace Graham, the  
H. Tupper, M.P. We  
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heeler. David Blair  
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more from him or any  
marauder on Ontario  
have "taken the shell  
abide the consequences  
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