

THE GOV.-GENERAL'S CURLING MEDALS.

It will be remembered that last year His Excellency the Gov.-General, with that generosity which has throughout characterized his earnest efforts to encourage both moral and physical training in this country, presented two medals—one of gold and one of silver—to be competed for by the curling clubs of the Dominion. These were carried off last winter by the Quebec Club. The grand medal is of massive gold, suspended by a blue ribbon. On one side it bears portraits of Lord and Lady Dufferin, and on the other the family arms. The rim is inscribed "Won by the Quebec Curling Club, 1874." The silver medal, which has become the property of the champion of the club, is from the same die, by Wyon, and bears on the rim the legend, "Won by the Champion of the Quebec Club, Wm. Brodie, 1873." It is needless to dilate on the artistic beauty of these medals. The maker's name and world-wide celebrity are alone sufficient guaranty in this respect.

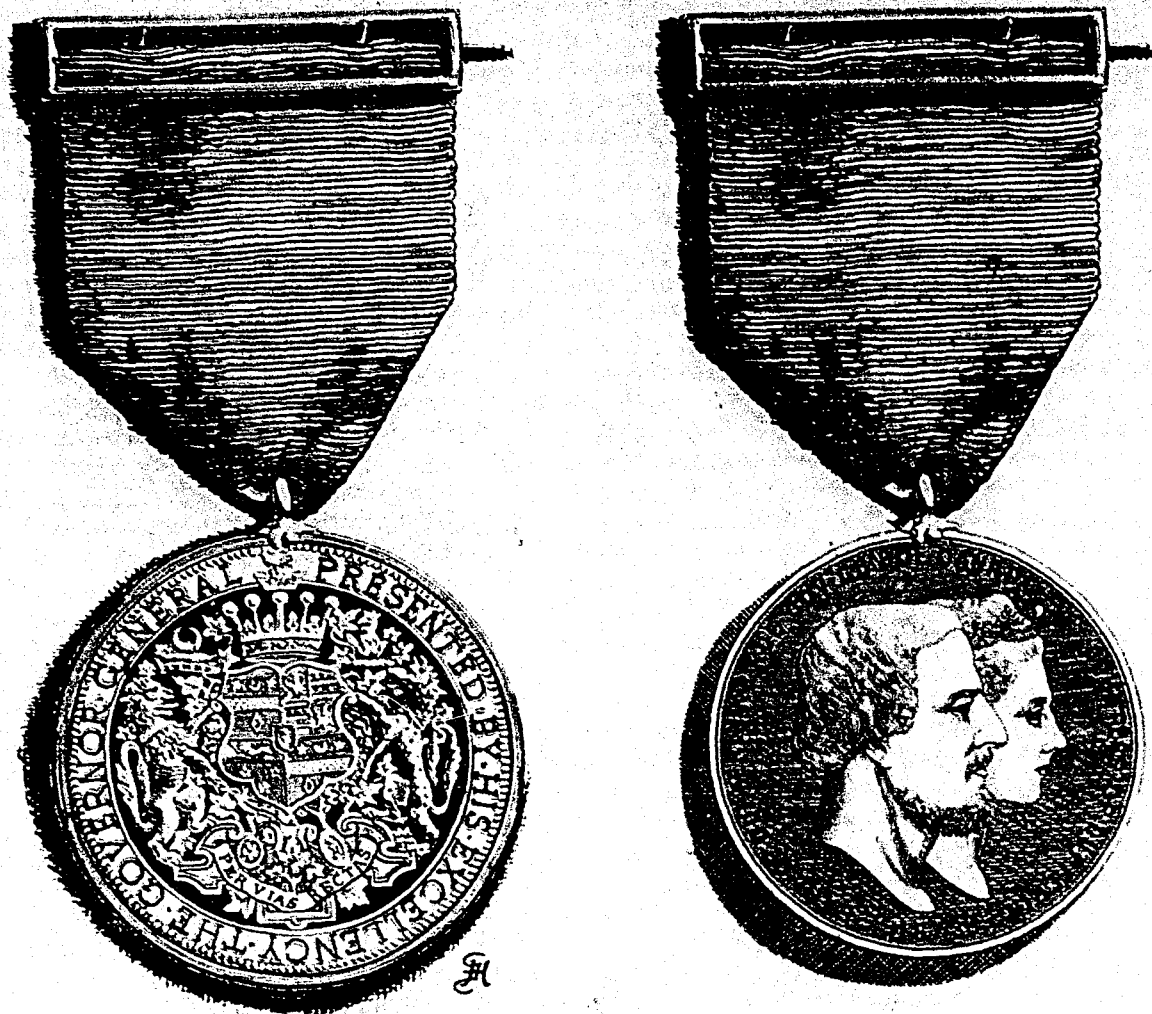
DOG-HAMS

We islanders, says a writer in *Land and Water*, and other inhabitants of civilized Europe seem scarcely to be aware of the numerous delicacies we deprive ourselves of by prejudice. Amongst the many epicurean but established dishes which one occasionally hears described by travellers in distant countries, an *entree* consisting of dog cutlets or slices of dog ham would in all probability be the most objectionable to a Western European, certainly to most Englishmen, who would almost as lief eat a piece of baby itself. It is true that feeding off one of the carnivora, amongst which the dog is classed, does not quite meet our views as to what is "clean," when applied to diet, but when it is considered that the canine race can live and thrive as well, if not better, on meal, bread, and cooked vegetables, dogs cannot be fairly considered as wholly carnivorous.

The Chinese, it is well known, have more curious habits and customs than any other people under the sun: fattening

dogs for the purpose of human food is one of them, and one in which considerable trade is done. This, it seems, does not arise from any peculiarity in a Chinaman's palate, but from reason, dog ham being "delicious in flavour," at least so says Mr. Cooper, that indefatigable and able "Pioneer of Commerce," whose efforts to establish an overland route from China to India are too meritorious to need comment here. To those, however, who may not have read his graphic and interesting accounts of the peculiarities of the inhabitants of the various districts which he visited, his amusing remarks on his intro-

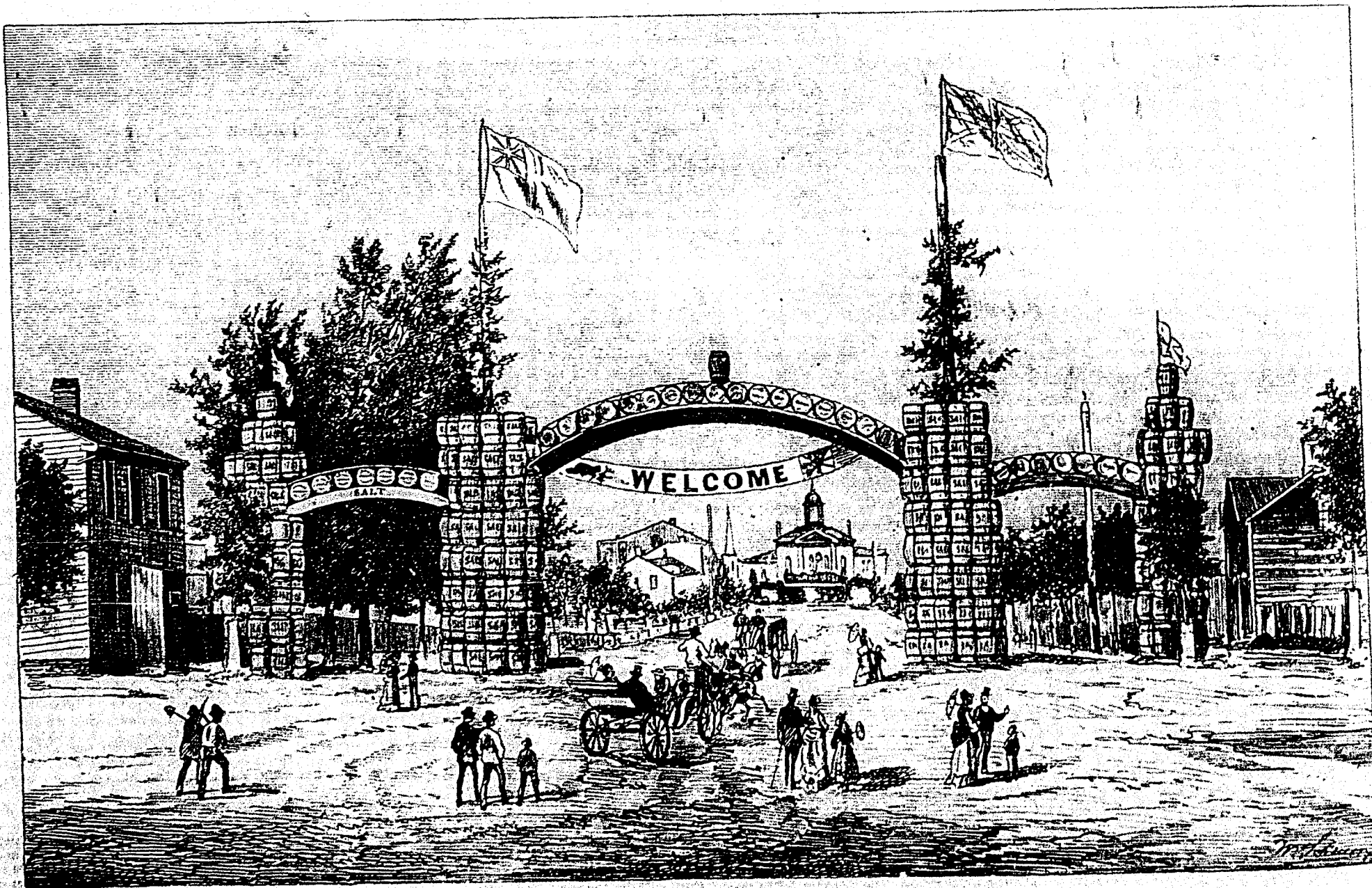
duction to dog diet cannot fail to be interesting. Being a traveller, and desirous of noting and judging everything impartially, he says that one morning, as he was about sitting down to breakfast at a "tea-shop" in Hung-szechuen, in the country of the Upper Yang-tsu-Kiang, he was informed that he was in luck, as the proprietor just then happened to have a dog-ham in cut, some slices of which he should have fried, a delicacy reserved only for mandarins like himself. At first he was on the point of ordering away the horrid dish, but, on second thoughts, he proceeded with "stoical fortitude to taste dog-gie; one taste led to another," and, in summing up, he pronounced the dog-ham to be delicious in flavour, well smoked, tender and juicy. "It was small, not much bigger than the leg of a good-sized sucking pig; the flesh was dark, and the hair had been carefully removed, while the paw had been left as a stamp of its genuineness, as the proprietor remarked. Dog-hams are justly considered a great delicacy in China, and as such bring a very high price, costing as much as five taels (1 tael = 64.8d.) per pound. They are chiefly cured in the province of Hoonan, where dogs of a peculiar breed are fattened for the purpose. Hoonan is also famous for its pigs, and possesses a large trade in bacon and ham, especially in pig-hams which have been cured in the same tub with dog-hams, and are thereby considered to have acquired a finer flavour." Everyone to his taste. "Some like hamples, and some like hinions," as the traditional "old woman" observed



THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S CURLING MEDAL.—WON BY THE QUEBEC CURLING CLUB.

A RELIC OF THE MOUND-BUILDERS

A special despatch to the *Chicago Tribune* on Thursday says that a most important discovery in reference to the history of the mound-builders, was made on that day near Rockford, Ill. The despatch says: "With a good corps of labourers, work was commenced on one of a large group of mounds on the bank of Rock River. The mound selected was about thirty-five feet in diameter and eight feet in height above the sur-



GODERICH, ONT.—SALT BARREL ARCH ERECTED ON THE OCCASION OF THE RECEPTION OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.