

THE GREATEST NATION ON EARTH.
UNCLE SAM.—" We hold that life-liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are the inherent rights of every man!" (?)



SAMUEL PLIMSOLL, Esq.—The subject of our portrait so well known throughout the Empire as the "seaman's friend"-is the son of Mr. Thomas Plimsoll, of Plymouth, and was born in Bristol in 1824. He was educated privately under Dr. Eadon, subsequently going into business as a coal merchant, in which he achieved great success. In 1851 he acted as one of the Honourary Secretaries of the Great Exhibition; at the general election of 1865 he unsuccessfully contested Derby, but the seat becoming vacant three years later he again became a candidate, this time with success. He continued to represent that constituency for many years, his political sympathies being with the Liberal party. In 1873 he came prominently before the public as the author of a book, entitled, "Our Seamen-an Appeal," in which he drew a startling picture of the enormous loss of human life from the overloading of vessels, and from the defective state in which British sailing vessels were permitted to leave port. The publication attracted great attention in England, and resulted in a Royal Commission being appointed to enquire into the subject, the outcome of which was that, in 1875, an act was passed by Her Majesty's Government, under Mr. Disraeli, correcting the abuses so detrimental to the interests of the British sailor. Mr. Plimsoll's recent visit to Canada, in connection with the cattle export trade, is fresh in the minds of our readers.

THE LATE WM. WELD, Esq.—The sad particulars of the death of this gentleman, on 3rd inst., caused a sensation throughout Western Ontario, especially in London, where he had lived for many years. Mr. Weld was a native of England, his father having been Rector of Tenterden, Kent. Born in 1824, he came to Canada in 1843, and spent 23 years in the higher branches of agriculture. In 1866 he

commenced the publication of *The Farmer's Advocate*, which speedily became a great success, and is now one of the best known agricultural journals in the country. From that date until his lamented death his time was devoted to the interests of that paper, and to the improvement of the qualities of grain used by the farmers in the vicinity of London. Married in 1845, he leaves a large family of eight sons and two daughters, all of whom occupy honourable and prominent positions throughout the Dominion.

WINTER SCENE IN QUEEN VICTORIA PARK, NIAGARA FALLS.—This gives a vivid and picturesque representation of one of the effects of our winter. Nothing can be more beautiful than a building, covered with the delicate crystals of frost, glistening in the bright sun—each icy gem sparkling and reflecting a thousand brilliant rays. The park, in which this charming scene was observed, owes its existence to Lord Dufferin, who, in 1878, when Governor-General of Canada, wrote to the Governor of the State of New York, suggesting the advisability of the land in the immediate vicinity of Niagara Falls being jointly acquired by the two governments interested for the purpose of a national park. The idea was warmly received; commissions were appointed by both sides, and the result is the magnificent reservation so well known to all visitors to the Falls.

SEAFORTH STAR HOSE COMPANY.—This organization is well known throughout the West as one of the finest Hose Companies in the country, and, a year or two ago, were the winners of the International Hose Reel Race. Such societies deserve every encouragement, as on the skill and training of its members depends the issue of serious conflagrations with the consequent loss of valuable property and, possibly, of life itself.

SECRETARIES TO MANITOBA CROWN MINISTERS.—We have pleasure in presenting the portraits of the three gentlemen who represent this branch of the Manitoba Civil Service; although there are five Crown Ministers in the province. the Hon. Provincial Treasurer and Hon. Provincial Secretary are at present without stenographers.

Mr. Pritchard, who has held his present office since 1887, is a native of Ontario, and has had long experience in the duties of secretaryship, having filled that position with Mr. McKay, of the Michigan Central Railway; General Hammond, of the Manitoba S. W. Col. Ry; Mr. Lescock, of the Portage and Westbourne Ry; and the late Hon. John Norquay. Mr. Smith and Mr. Urquhart, who have been appointed more recently, are well-known to their confrères for their skill and savoir-faire in all relations of their duty.

Scenes in the Don Valley.—This pretty bit of scenery is one of the many to be observed by any who have walked or driven much along the country roads in vicinity of the metropolis of Ontario.

OTTAWA FOOTBALL CLUB.—Our engraving gives portraits of the first fifteen of this organization, so well known on the football field. It is one of the oldest Rughy clubs in the Dominion, and has always maintained an excellent reputation for brilliant play, and for the high social standing of its personnel.

THE ST. JOHN BICYCLING CLUB.—This well-known club was organized in the year 1879 by a few enthusiastic cyclists, when "wheeling" was in its infancy. the membership commencing with eight, increasing year by yes until now it numbers fifty, the majority of whom are active members. The officers of the club are as follows:—

President-W. A. McLaughlin.

Secretary-P. B. Holman.

Captain-T. Shaw Hall.

Lieutenants—Messrs. A. P. Paterson and Fredk. Temple.

Managing Committee—Messrs. G. M. Robertson, W. C. Fairweather and D. C. Robertson.

The club is one of the liveliest organizations in the city containing some of the best all-round athletes in the vince, among whom we number Capt. T. Shaw Hall, amateur champion in the Maritime Provinces.