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FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 2, 1887.

Getting a Glimpse.

The proceedings of the Fishery Commission sitting at Washington are "strictly private and confidential." Even all the "smartness" of the American press reporters, with a good deal of pluck and enterprise at their back, manages to get into print only the most meagre pretense of any account of what was said at the meetings. So far only three formal meetings of the Commission have been held—one last week, one on Monday of the present week, and one on Wednesday. But although any reports of proceedings which are hazarded in print must be the merest guess-work, things which are really valuable as indications of what is in the wind may keep coming out from time to time. That is to say—not as statements of anything actually said or done in the conference chamber, but as indications of what the acting parties to the conference may have or may have had in their minds to say or do. For instance, we need not imagine that Sir Charles Tupper would say to any reporter: "I proposed this at the conference yesterday," or "I rejected that." But it is quite within the limits that he might say: "The Canadian position is briefly so and so," and he might refer the listener to some former speech of his own, or to some official communication in which the Canadian case had been stated, it might be months or even years ago. And it is our shrewd suspicion that any reports now current of opinions expressed by any of the Commissioners on the matter in question are based mainly, if not wholly, on things which were said or written long before the Commission met at all. Views expressed by Sir Charles six months ago, or a year ago, are in this way probably doing duty now, with more than one enterprising reporter.

Yesterday we quoted part of a pretty strong Commercial Union despatch which The New York Herald had from its correspondent at Halifax. In its Washington despatch The Chicago Times (Nov. 29) has the following, which gives us a further view of what is going on among the Nova Scotia Annexationists:

A despatch from Halifax, N.S., says: "It was discussed here (Nov. 28) that steps are being taken to keep the Commercial Union movement from being killed by the Dominion and British members of the Fishery Commission at Washington. A delegation of trusted Liberal leaders of Canada are to be sent to the American capital to place those favoring Commercial Union fairly before the Commission, so that the sentiments of the people of Canada will be made known. All sections of the Dominion are to be represented in the delegation. The promoters of the movement are convinced that Secretary Bayard will suggest trade union as a way to settle the fishery difficulty, and that *Sir Charles Tupper will try to throw away the opportunity.*"

In other words, the Nova Scotia Annexationists, though they have not the advantage of being present at the Commission's meetings, have pretty well satisfied themselves as to some things that Sir Charles positively will not do. Which gives us a glimpse of matters as they see them, at all events.

From all which we are encouraged at present to draw this much of an inference, if no more: That some of our red-hot Commercial Unionists down by the sea feel sure already that Sir Charles Tupper will stand out resolutely against any proposed looking towards the great change which they have so much at heart. And that therefore they are now casting about for some new "plan of campaign," which they think may help their desperate case. Well, one thing we can see—that they are not hopeful. Apparently it does not look—to them—as if victory were about to perch on the banners of Commercial Union. We should fancy that the bird aforesaid is not looking that way now.

Keep Along the Line.

We have endeavored to show in these columns that Canada is steadily proceeding along a well-defined line of constitutional development, or constitutional emancipation if you will. Almost complete self-government has been conceded to us. In only four things are we still under the authority of the Mother Country: (1) she sends out our Governor-General, (2) she commands our forces, (3) our final court of arbitration is to the foot of the throne, and (4) we have not as yet full treaty-making powers. In every one of these instances there is a marked disposition on the part of the Imperial authorities to consult the wishes of Canada: we doubt if a Governor-General is now appointed without first asking the Canadian authorities if the appointee proposed would be acceptable; probably it will soon come to the Home Government asking us to name the man we would like and he will be appointed. The modifications that have taken place from time to time in the instructions to the Governor-General also show how things are tending.

It will not be long before a Canadian officer will be at the head of our militia. The Government have only to make the request—they have it conceded.

Our Supreme Court is gradually gaining the confidence of the country, and appeals from it to England will become fewer and fewer. Our Parliament could make it really supreme any day it saw fit to do so.

And lastly, as to the treaty-making power: The Montreal Star, in an exhaustive article, shows that in this matter there has been a steady run of concessions to Canada. Whenever Canada's interests are concerned Canada is consulted, is given a representative on the commission about to negotiate the treaty, and more and more deference is paid to the views of such Canadian representative. We have no doubt but that Sir Charles Tupper is the leading spirit of the British commission now at Washington.

All of which goes to show that Canada is moving along a well defined line of constitutional development in the direction of complete self-government. And yet the very papers and politicians favorable to Commercial Union talk of British interference, and of Mr. Chamberlain being willing to surrender our interests at Washington! We shall find that the Mother Country is more than well disposed toward the complete management of Canadian affairs by Canadians, but that she will very fairly, very justly say that if we decline to make a treaty with the United States discriminating against England, England will decline being the catspaw to that end.

One of the Zelanti.

Archbishop Fabre has issued a pastoral lettering for Christmas Day a special commemoration of the papal jubilee and prayers for the restoration of the temporal power. To the former part of the decree no reasonable Protestant would object. But with respect to the relations between Italy and the Papacy we venture to think the archbishop is setting himself against a tide to which there is no ebb. Those relations, since the election of Pecci, have more and more been tending to the point of accommodation.

Amongst the many signs of conciliation may be instanced the recent pamphlet of Father Tosti, the librarian of the Vatican, in which the idea of Italy unified at Rome is admitted to be realized beyond recall—a repetition of the view published a few years before by Father Curci, formerly a member of the Jesuit Society and editor of The Civilta Cattolica.

In the last address of Leo XIII. to the sacred college the stereotyped formula of the church's temporal claims is followed by a most earnest expression of desire for friendship with Italy—an utterance without precedent in the tragic allocutions of Pius IX.

The changing course of papal policy was anticipated by the "intransigeants" from the moment the decision of the last conclave was known. According to Emilio Castelar "the designate for the tiara appeared to be one of those machines invented by a great doctor of the middle ages to reason mechanically; obedient to the great combinations of calculation but not to the movements of the heart and the severity of dogma, till then essential parts of the pontifical policy. The irreconcilables of all shades one and all called him sly and disingenuous. One compared him with Machiavelli, another with Clement XIV., and in the height of adverse feeling even with Alexander VI. I have read in the books of zealous ultramontanes that his head has the shape of the head of Robespierre and his lips of the lips of Voltaire * * * ; proud to the weak and humble to the strong—thus his enemies, the loftiest disciples of the purest Catholicism, describe Leo XIII. If any one doubts this let him read the celebrated work of Houx."

To this ultramontane party, the party of the "Zelanti" as it is called in Rome, belong Archbishop Fabre, Bishops Langevin and Lafleche and over two-thirds of the French Canadian priests. The separation between the temporal and the spiritual which has taken place at Rome is naturally abhorrent to a clergy possessed of vast domain, personal wealth and political power. Their irreconcilable attitude has not been modified by the increase of the Pope's spiritual grandeur and influence consequent upon the separation of the spiritual from the secular sovereignty—an increase which the Archbishop in his mandement is compelled to admit in the light of events, like the interference of the pontiff in the dispute about the Caroline Islands and the compact between the Roman See and the German Empire. Unreconstructed Quebec is not yet susceptible to the logic of these events.

Ontario and Michigan.

The St. Thomas Journal claims that Mr. Blake "told the truth" when he stated that "this province is not advancing so rapidly as the neighboring States." This is a flat untruth, taking even Mr. Blake's own statistics for it, and they will have to be taken hereafter with a grain of salt. Michigan and Ontario are alike in soil, climate, time of settlement; geographical features as to hills, lakes, rivers and all else; and we challenge Mr. Blake or any of his apologists to a comparison of the two as to progress and solidity. The fact is that Mr. Blake is both a party man and an Annexationist, which is why he attempts to cheapen and belittle the people who pay him a comfortable salary. It needs no words of ours to condemn such conduct. Mr. Blake must not hug the delusion that the Government of the day will always permit him to prostitute his position to such purposes.

The Globe joins with the rest of us in censuring the French Canadians for not giving the Salvation Army the benefit of the law, but a year ago it taught that the former were above the law, and applauded those of them who mobbed public speakers. Upon one occasion it announced with great glee that Sir John A. Macdonald had been compelled to flee for his life from a Quebec mob. The World predicted then what has come to pass: That The Globe would soon find this fruit of its own sowing bitter.

The Globe's appeals to Sir Charles Tupper's "backbone" come with an ill-grace from a journal that has done its little worst to weaken his position, and that made such an unholy show of itself upon the Riel and trade questions. In October it demanded that Riel be hanged, but in November it insisted that he be avenged. In February last it contended that reduction of the tariff was impracticable, but now it wants the custom houses abolished. There is more "backbone" in Tupper's little finger than in the Deacon's whole anatomy.

Mr. Wiman having been enlightened upon the chicken and egg business by the Canadian press, now attempts to put the cart before the horse and argue that such articles go into the United States because there is no duty upon them, the fact being that there is no duty upon them, because if there were the Americans would have to pay it. Mr. Wiman must correct his correction.

The Mail prints an article exposing a seed wheat swindle, the promoters of which promised farmers enormous profits, and draws this moral: "The farmer should beware of schemes under which too much money is to be made." He should, including the scheme for making "broilers" worth $2.50 per pair.

Writing of the proposed delegation to Washington to teach the Anglo-Canadian Commissioners how to suck eggs, The Buffalo News says: "We beg respectfully to nominate the editor of The Toronto World as one of the delegation." Your nominee, Mr. News, respectfully declines to make himself ridiculous.

The Baltimore Herald complains that the young men of Maryland tire of home and wander away in large numbers, but it does not infer therefrom that "the country is going to the devil." It is only our anti-Canadian newspapers which indulge in such foolishness. No matter where a young man may have been born and reared, he is generally possessed of a desire to travel, "strange countries for to see."

Says Vanity Fair: "Lady Head, who died last week, has only survived her husband, Sir Francis, a few months. I am given to understand that in consequence of the present baronet being entirely disinherited under his father's will, it is not improbable that the will may be contested."

The Mail's utterances upon "The Canadian Case" are all based upon the assumption that, no matter what the merits of it may be, Canada must accept such terms as she is offered, or—. Nothing could be more cunningly designed to weaken our case, and the inspiration of it comes from New York. Mr. Riordan may imagine that that sort of journalism will ultimately pay in Canada, but he is fated to a second lesson to the contrary.

Ald. Defoe appears to be running in rubber shoes. At least we do not hear the dull, sickening thud of his instep.

The horny-handed labor commissioners appear to be sizing up everybody's wages but their own.

What British Commercial Union alias Free Trade Has Done for England.

At the present moment here and in the Mother Land there is a wide diversity on the same topic. While here a section of a party have been vigorously fostering the tender plant of Commercial Union which was reared in a forcing house in New York, the English are waking up to the fact that Commercial Union, under its other name Free Trade, is the cause of the majority of evils under which they are groaning. Meetings are being held all over the country districts in Great Britain which are, if any thing at all, of a downright clear and unquestionable Protectionist character; and the statements as to the position of affairs made at these gatherings are of a nature the most startling; showing at any rate that it is high time some measure be adopted if impending calamity is to be averted.

We have before us the detailed report of a meeting held in the Shire Hall of Warrick at a recent date. The meeting was called by the High Sheriff of the county on the requisition of a number of noblemen and gentlemen and farmers. The meeting was a very full one and entirely representative; all ranks were present. Even those gentlemen who had written declining for various reasons to be present could not refrain from expressing by letter their sense that "something required to be done and done shortly." One noble lord suggests a tax on railways, or rather that the rates on agricultural home produce should be lowered; that is, that a higher rate should be levied on imported agricultural produce. Another gentleman advocates the establishment of a land court for England and the reduction of rents to a point which will enable the land to be cultivated at a profit.

These and many other proposals too long to insert here were made by letter by those adverse to the general object of the proposed meeting, while they all acknowledged the terribly critical state of affairs and asserted that something should be done.

The first resolution was: "That the depression in agriculture and the trades connected with it is increasing, and threatens the extinction of our chief home industry; this meeting therefore urges on Parliament the need of sinking all party differences and taking combined action to avert the ruin which appears imminent to all who are directly or indirectly supported by agriculture."

The second resolution was: "That the depression is due to low prices, caused chiefly by unrestricted imports, and that the substantial remedy is only to be found in a readjustment of our fiscal system."

In speaking to these resolutions the broadest Protectionist doctrines were advocated. It was proposed to tax all imported manufactures, and also agricultural produce, and in regard to cereals it was concurred that a moderate tax would not raise the price in England, the foreign producers being forced to find a market in that country.

It was distinctly stated, and by men in the highest position as to rank, by bankers, by members of Parliament, and by solicitors, land agents, and even auctioneers, that the land no longer produced more than working expenses, that for years the landlords had received barely enough in rent to pay the current charges on their estates, and the tenants had been living on their capital; that manufacturing had largely been carried on without profit or at a loss, and many of the largest firms in the Midland Counties and elsewhere were about closing their establishments; that the coming winter was looked forward to with the greatest anxiety.

We place these facts before the public here that they may have an opportunity of maturely considering the benefits which free trade has conferred on Britain. It would appear as if all her interests were compromised: the nobility, the landed gentry, the farmers, the laborers, the manufacturers and the artisans are all in a bad way.

Persons in Politics.

Editor World: Pray allow me to enter a protest against the action of the Wesleyan ministers of this city in regard to the mayoralty contest. In the first place their slander of Mr. E. F. Clarke is highly discreditable to them as Christians. Their letter asking for votes on behalf of Mr. Rogers affirms that his election is essential to the cause of morality, the inference being that Mr. Clarke's election would be in the interests of vice. There are other vices besides drunkenness, and wanton slander is among the basest. Mr. Clarke recently passed through a most political contest during which not a whisper was heard against his character. He polled a very large Methodist vote, yet now the ministers of that body have the effrontery to tell the electorate who gave Mr. Clarke a seat in the Legislature of this province, that their representative if placed in the chair of chief magistrate, will use his influence against morality! Such a declaration is an infamous libel, it is a vicious, malignant, gratuitous attack upon a citizen who is as eminently worthy of the respect of the religious public as any one who has disgraced himself in his calling and his church by wicked a slander as is contained in the letter of the Methodist ministers touching the mayoralty election. I do not wish to carry the war into Africa by personal allusions, but it is not unknown in the city that men have received the pronounced and continued support of an alderman, of a certain denomination, whose business record is not, to say the least, as honorable as is that of Mr. E. F. Clarke. The interference of the Roman Catholic clergy in politics is much resented by Methodists as well as other Protestants, on the obvious ground that men in that position wield undue power over the consciences of their followers, that they use spiritual weapons in a carnal contest. It would seem from the letter of these ministers that they are equally ready to exercise their spiritual influence in the secular sphere as is Archbishop Lynch. They also seem to regard the average Methodist as too illiterate or weak-minded to judge for himself the questions on which they have directed him to vote. I hope the Wesleyans of Toronto will appreciate the compliment! These officious citizens are in the enjoyment of class privileges as clergy, their incomes and churches are exempt from taxation. It is high time that this injustice was ended, and the active interference of a body of ministers in a municipal contest should stir up citizens to demand that those who actively share in a municipal contest should bear their share of the taxes of the city they seem so anxious to control. Permit me to add that I have no objection to Mr. Rogers beyond this; he seems to be merely the cat's paw of the Prohibitionists; if he were independent of any such tyrannical clique he would have my vote.

I would like to ask Mr. Edward Gurney what he means by stating that Mr. Rogers' friends are seeking to rescue municipal affairs from the hands of politicians? I have stood with Mr. Gurney very often on the political platform, and he always took pains to declare his views as a politician in public force.

ST. PAUL'S WARD.

A Case of Great Distress.

Editor World: An appeal is hereby made to the charitably disposed on behalf of a family named Johnson living at 9 Mitchell-avenue, who are in a state of great destitution. The husband has been for a long time confined to his house by chronic sciatica, and is likely to so all the winter. The wife is prevented from going out to work by the necessity of attending to her husband. They have no food, fuel or light, except such poor assistance as their neighbors afford them. They are very respectable people, and worthy of any help that may be given them. If something be not done, now that the severity of winter has set in, they will be desolate indeed. A visit will prove that their sad condition is not exaggerated. ONE WHO HAS SEEN FOR HIMSELF.

Commercial Union News from Ottawa.

The Chicago Times (Nov. 30) has the following from its correspondent at Ottawa:

Commercial Unionists from all parts of the Dominion are demanding Commercial Union as the only equitable basis for settlement of the fisheries difficulty. This feeling probably finds the largest number of followers in the maritime provinces, although Ontario is strongly in sympathy with the movement. An organization is being formed with that object in view, and their claims will be at once laid before the Dominion Government. In the meantime they propose to send delegates of Liberal leaders to Washington immediately as unofficial embassadors of the Canadian people to demand a hearing before the Commission and advocate Commercial Union. If the Commission refuse to hear them they will appeal to Congress. The names of Sir Richard Cartwright, Hon. Mr. Davies and Premier Fielding are mentioned as delegates. This will tend to embarrass the negotiations at present pending and to lessen the popularity of Sir Charles Tupper and Minister of Justice Thompson in the maritime sections, where little faith is placed in their sincerity in looking after the interests of the provinces by the sea.

Ex-Commissioner of Fisheries Whitcher, who took a prominent part in the official work in connection with the Halifax award, said to-day that he believed all the Canadians would secure in return for allowing transhipment of cargoes would be the placing of some few Canadian exports on the free list, such as coal, etc., by the United States Government.

Mr. Whitcher has been asked to attend at Washington during the sitting of the Commission, and will probably leave for there in a few days.

Taffy for the P.M.

From The Spirit of the Times.

We are glad to see that the article in question has met a merited rebuke in the city of its publication from no less a person than T. C. Patteson, postmaster of Toronto. Mr. Patteson is probably one of the most enthusiastic horsemen ever bred in Britain, and the most thoroughly informed we have ever met. We do not think it is saying too much when we say that he is the most profound student of the Stud-book in the world. A ripe scholar, a man of parts, he has long been associated with the best elements of the turf, both in England, Canada and the United States.

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL

WORK ON THE ST. MARTIN RAILWAY BEING RAPIDLY PUSHED.

The Fine of $400 Imposed on the Owner of the Steamer C. W. Chamberlain of Windsor Reduced to $40—The Bridge Over the St. John River.

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—There was another meeting of Council this afternoon at which it is understood only routine business was transacted.

Le Canada, semi-officially announces that Mr. L. A. Olivier is to be the new Judge of Prescott and Russell.

Assistant-General Manager Wainwright of the Grand Trunk had an interview with the Minister of Railways and Canals to-day with reference to sending an engineer to inspect the St. Martin Railway, so that the company may draw the subsidy for the first ten miles. The road is completed to Beauharnois and will be pushed through to Valleyfield as rapidly as possible. Mr. Wainright says that the branch railway from the Montreal and Champlain Junction road to Messina Springs in New York State is rapidly approaching completion.

With regard to the Grenville and Carillon loop line he says that if the promoters of the road will submit their plans to him he will consider the advisability of organizing a company to build it. The Grand Trunk company will also ask for assistance shortly to extend their Midland Railway eastward to Ottawa.

The Marine Department has been advised that the Government steamer Lansdowne will leave St. John, N.B., to-night for Pictou, N.S., and commence the winter service between that port and the island so soon as the summer steamers have ceased running.

The Minister of Customs, after considering the matter, has reduced the $400 fine inflicted in June last upon the owner of the steamer C. W. Chamberlain of Windsor, Ont., to $50. The offence consisted in the vessel leaving Parry Sound without having first obtained the permission of the customs officer.

The steam tug Bob Anderson of Detroit, seized by the Collector of Customs at Amherstburg for towing vessels in Canadian waters and for failing to report to the customs either inwards or outwards, has been released on payment of a deposit of $400 pending the decision of the Minister of Customs.

A meeting of the directors of the Canada Central Exhibition Association was held in the City Hall this afternoon when it was decided to apply to the Local Legislature for an act of incorporation and to call up 25 per cent. of the subscription which amounts to over $6000.

Mr. Thos. Temple, M.P. for Frederigton, N.B., who was in the city to-day, says that the piers and abutments of the Fredericton and St. Mary's Railway bridge over the St. John River, which were commenced in August last, are almost finished, but there has yet to go on the "one course" of bridge seats on the top. The superstructure of the bridge will be put on during the winter. The bridge will run for 2000 feet across the river to St. Marys and will cost $350,000. Before it can be opened another mile of railroad has to be laid, and when this is done it will connect with the whole railway system of the United States.

THE CENTRAL LEAGUE ORGANIZED.

The International Organization Dies at New York—Mcdowall's Shoot.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—The affairs of the defunct International Baseball League were wound up to-day at a convention held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Only three clubs were represented—Wilkesbarre, Scranton and Newark.

The afternoon session opened with a division among the four clubs of $1000 that remained in the treasury. The disbandment of the league was effected by the resignation of Newark, Wilkesbarre and Scranton being handed in. John H. Shoemaker, E. E. Bond and David Collins representing Newark, John J. Flanaghan of Scranton, A. C. Campbell of Wilkesbarre and John B. Day and Patrick Powers, then met and formed the "Central League of Professional Baseball Players." The officers elected were: President, David Collins; Treasurer, A. Campbell; and J. C. Kennedy of The Sporting Times, Secretary.

Applications for membership were received from Danbury, Conn.; Elmira, N.Y.; Binghamton, N.Y.; Allentown, Pa.; Waterbury, Conn., and several smaller towns. The revised contract of the Brotherhood, as accepted by the National League, was adopted.

The new league will consist of eight clubs, and Scranton and Wilkesbarre were chosen to select two to fill up the western field and Jersey City and Newark will fill the eastern. It is probable that Danbury, Waterbury, Elmira and Binghamton will be selected. The players under contract with the old league were retained. The convention adjourned until Jan. 5 as the same place.

Dust from the Diamond.

The Boston Herald says: "Keefe is desirous of getting away from New York next season. This statement is made on the authority of Keefe himself, and all the denials that the New York Club officials may make will not alter the fact that that player is sick of playing in that city."

A New York woman has sold her husband for $50,000. He must have been a baseball player.—Minneapolis Tribune.

The Toronto management has now eight players signed for 1888, McLaughlin, of last season's Phillies, having been signed on Tuesday. He will play short, thus making an infield which in every respect is fully equal to this year's, Gerhardt's signing for the Toronto contract is only a matter of time. An outfielder and two more pitchers are to be secured, the club undertaking to go through the season with eleven players.

Fred Doty, of the Doty Ferry Line, is said to be willing to invest his money in a club to be connected with the frequently talked-of Canadian league. He thinks a low salaried team, with grounds on the Island, would prove a profitable investment.

Con Murphy and Jacoby are two good men London is after.

Milwaukee has captured Horner and Warner to the disgust of Hamilton.

Visner, a hard-hitter, who played short-stop and occasionally went behind the bat for Rochester, is the latest acquisition to the Hamilton team.

Gillespie, Farrell and Bittman are wanted by Troy.

The signing of McLaughlin by Toronto to play short means that "Chub" Collins will not be here in 1888.

McDowall's Shooting Tournament.

McDowall's tournament commenced at Ayre's grounds yesterday. Following is the score in live bird shoot at 10 birds:

Hine	7	Wakefield	7
Innes	5	Adams	7
Hills	8	Stanseland	2
Pearson	8	James, retired	4
O'Holloran, retired	4	Worden, retired	4
Humphrey, retired	5	Cockburn, retired	4
Stewart, retired	4	Barrett, retired	4
Bell	7	Leroy, retired	6
S. Stroud, retired	5	George	6
W. Stroud, retired	4	Lush, retired	6
Armstrong, retired	2	Herbert, retired	9
Small, retired	6	Hipkins	7
Cameron	7	Carruthers	7
Rugg, retired	6	Holmes	8
Jackson	6	Towers	6
Gould	8	Middleton, retired	4
Jones, retired	4	Brown, retired	5
Kay, retired	5	Rogers	6
Scott, retired	4	Douglas	7
Bice	8	Hetherington	8
Wayper	8		

The match will be finished to-day, when the shoot at blackbirds also takes place.

Spots of Sport.

The University and Toronto teams play on Saturday afternoon on the University lawn at 3 o'clock to decide which team will hold the championship of the Central Association for 1888.

"Lucky" Baldwin has secured the services during next season of R. W. Thomas, as trainer for the Santa Anita string of racehorses. The salary to be paid for the season's work is $10,000.

Mr. John R. Walker has added to his string of running horses in Mr. Hayden's stables at Fergus the 3-year-old Glenfox bought of Mr. James from London at a high figure. He is now entered for the Canadian Derby and the Woodstock Plate.

John Black of Fergus, Canada's fast skater will compete in a number of races this winter It is to be hoped Dowd of Montreal and Black will be matched for the championship of the world.

The American Farmer's Share.

From The Buffalo Times.

The forest lands of the United States, excluding Alaska, embrace 500,000,000 acres, or 28 per cent. of the entire area. The farmers own about 38 per cent. of the forest area, or some 185,000,000 acres. The rest is owned by railroad corporations, mine owners, charcoal burners, tannories, lumbermen and speculators.

MORE ACCOMMODATION WANTED.

Proposal to Have a Public School on the Island—The Dowd-Smead System.

The Public School Board met last night with Chairman Brown presiding. These trustees were present: Messrs. Baird, Bishop, Boxall, Denison, Downard, Hamilton, Henderson, Kent, Kerr, Lee, Macdonald, McMurrich, Roden, Somers, Vair, Westman, Spence, Fyne.

Trustee Roden gave notice that he would ask that it be an instruction to the Committee on Sites and Buildings to report on the advisability of offering for sale the Parliament-street school building, and securing a more suitable site in the neighborhood for the purpose of having a twelve-room school erected thereon.

A letter was read from Mr. Wm. Steele, stating that "one Mr. George Kew, a subcontractor for excavation work done on the Park school building, has caused a lien to be placed on the same, in consequence of the refusal of the contractor for the brick and excavation work done on said school, Mr. Ashfield, to pay Mr. Kew the amount due him." The subject was referred to the Sites and Buildings Committee.

The Standing Committee on School Management recommended that the teachers in the several schools be authorized to read an appeal to their pupils, to be prepared by the Industrial School Association of Toronto, asking Christmas contributions from the pupils to aid in building an additional cottage at the Industrial School, to be called the Toronto Public School Children's Cottage; and that the teachers be allowed to receive voluntary contributions on behalf of the fund. It was further recommended that the Committee on Sites and Buildings be authorized to secure a suitable room on the Island for a school room, provided the inspector reports that there are twenty or more children of school age residing there. This clause called forth a great deal of discussion, and resulted in the adoption of the suggestion, the number being reduced to fifteen.

It was agreed that arrangements be made with the Seaton Village School Board for the formation of a union school during the year 1888, the city to pay its proportionate share of the expenses according to registered attendance, and to receive its proportionate share of the Government and other grants in favor of the school.

At the suggestion of the Sites and Buildings Committee it was decided to rent a room in the Davenport-road Temperance Hall, for the purpose of relieving the overcrowding at Jesse Ketchum School.

The Board proceeded to discuss the report of the committee appointed to enquire into the working of the Smead-Dowd system of ventilation, etc., as applicable to public schools.

Trustee McMurrich, at whose instigation the enquiries into the working of the system were made, read a letter from the editor of The Detroit Free Press, which he said almost set his mind at rest as to the utility of the system.

Trustee Denison supported the system, and recommended as a means of preventing the possibility of the apparatus sending the foul air back, that a valve should be inserted.

Trustee Spence opposed the adoption of the Smead-Dowd system. Having discussed the matter very fully, the report of the committee recommending the system was adopted.

Trustee Baird moved that a competent architect be employed to inspect Dufferin school building and report as to the best means of providing for escape in case of fire, and also improving the heating and ventilation of the building. He described the school as particularly dangerous in case of fire. The woodwork and the building was chiefly composed of wood—was as dry as tinder, and the means of escape in case of fire were few.

The discussion of the subject was brought to a close for want of a quorum.

A Burglary at Belleville.

BELLEVILLE, Dec. 1.—The post office at the Grand Trunk Railway depot was burglarized during last night. W. G. Henderson is the postmaster and keeps a general store as well. Silk handkerchiefs, underclothing, purses, pipes and tobacco were carried away, and also postage stamps to the value of $1.50.

John Richards, who had been employed about the office, was subsequently arrested with some of the stolen property in his possession. He pleaded guilty at the Police Court to-day and was remanded for sentence.

Dynamite in a Labor Dispute.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 1.—Business in San Diego and other California ports is affected by the attitude of the Coast Seamen's Union toward ship owners. Monday night at San Diego a unionist threw a dynamite bomb against a boycotted bark, leaving a hole in her bows. Officers of the union declare they will continue this style of warfare against ship owners.

An Earthquake in Lancashire.

LONDON, Dec. 1.—A shock of earthquake was felt at Chorley, in Lancashire, at 7 o'clock this morning. A rumbling noise accompanied the shock. Buildings shook and the people left their houses greatly frightened. No serious damage was done.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

James McCarthy, a hackman, was arrested yesterday afternoon for wife beating.

County Judge McDougall yesterday disposed of a number of Court of Revision appeals.

Burglars visited the residence of Mr. Morrison at 566 Spadina-avenue Thursday night. Several articles were taken.

The Inland Revenue returns for Toronto District last month footed up to $79,626, an increase of $30,634 over November, 1886.

The opening of the Olympic Gymnasium Club will take place next Monday evening at their new rooms, No. 23 Front-street west.

John Johnson, sailor, living on George-street was yesterday remanded till Monday on the charge of beating his wife, to whom he has been married six months.

Wm. H. Tilling, for stealing a gun, the property of Thomas Pells, was yesterday committed for trial. He also was discharged McDougall for an alleged fraud on David Robbins.

The body of Julia Bachle was exhumed yesterday and taken to the City Morgue for the purpose of having a post-mortem made. The inquest will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

James McCormick of Detroit, Joe Booker, Maurice Dalton and William Backus of Toronto were remanded till to-day on suspicion of being concerned in the till robbery of Mr. Metcalf, 560 Queen-street west.

James Hutchinson, a plasterer, living at 152 Centre-street, alleges that he was attacked and robbed by footpads on Bloor-street Thursday night. His pockets were rifled of $3 and a silver watch and chain.

A shocking story of wife-beating was told the Police Magistrate yesterday. William Murphy, who has a bad record, on Wednesday dragged his wife, who had only been confined the day before, out of bed and snugly ensconced himself therein. He was drunk at the time and was carried to the lock-up. He was remanded in custody for a week.

William Charlton, who has been boarding at 29 Mitchell-avenue, and his landlady, Mrs. Ames, are claimants to the ownership of some household articles which the former carried away when he left the Ames mansion. Last night Charlton was a prisoner at the Dundas-street Station upon a charge of larceny preferred by Mrs. Ames.

P. C. Geddes discovered smoke issuing from the cellar of the building at 10 Colborne-street about 9 o'clock last night. Box 21 was pulled, and the firemen upon effecting an entrance into the building found an ash barrel blazing in the cellar. The discovery of the policeman was timely, as the fire would soon have communicated itself to the hoist. The building is occupied by the Maltine Manufacturing Company, R. L. Gibson, S. T. Sheppard and F. Robertson & Co.

A large number of city clergymen and church members listened to an address by Rev. James Johnston of London, Eng., in the rooms of the Bible Society yesterday forenoon. The speaker's discourse was in reference to the mission conference to be held in London, Eng., next June, and he asked that the missionary societies of Canada send representatives. On motion of Hon. John Macdonald, seconded by Rev. Robert Wallace, the assemblage expressed its approval of the proposal, and a committee was appointed to assist in the work.

CANADIAN NOTES.

Eustace Shertberg, the victim of an accident on the G.T.R. track between Brantford and Harrisburg, has since died in the Brantford Hospital.

Mr. Bishop of Niagara was elected Warden of Lincoln in place of Mr. Ollis, deceased. He will hold the office for a month only, unless he is re-elected at the January session of the Council.

It is said in Winnipeg that Rev. P. McF. Macleod of Toronto and Rev. Dr. Laidlaw of Hamilton have intimated that they are not open to accept the invitation of Knox Church.

The scheme to utilize the power of the Niagara River does not seem likely to die. President James B. Stufford of Buffalo has already raised by subscription $92,000 towards the $100,000 to be paid for the invention which will do the work expected of it.

CITIZENS' BAND CONCERT.

A Large and Delighted Audience at the Pavilion Last Night—Amusement Briefs.

A good brass band is one of the most important elements there is for popularizing good music. It is always with us; if properly managed it is frequently heard; it reaches the masses.

In the Citizens' Band Toronto has an organization which has made rapid strides during the short time it has been in existence, and appreciation of the pleasure afforded by its open air concerts last summer was properly shown by the very gratifying audience which last night filled the Pavilion on the occasion of the first of a series of concerts to be given by the band. Funds are needed for the purpose of developing the band's resources, and it is hoped that the patronage last night is an indication of what will be extended at subsequent concerts.

The band under its efficient leader, Mr. Bayley, played three numbers, in which it displayed a firm attack and some good shading. The "La Traviata" number was really a fine performance. There was a little uncertainty in odd places in the accompaniments to the solos, but on the whole the playing was remarkably good. The soloists were all well received. Mr. Smith produced a soft, even tone in his euphonium solo, and Mr. Clarke's playing showed to fine advantage in the florid work of the cornet solo "Arbucklenian Polka" by Hartmann. Mr. Trendell rendered Le Thiere's solo "Air Varie" for the clarionet in a finished style; Mr. Clegg's xylophone playing also brought forth great applause. The band was assisted by Miss Evelyn Severs, a young debutante, and Mr. A. Gorrie. Miss Severs has a light and fresh mezzo soprano voice, which should improve. Mr. Gorrie, who has some sweet upper notes, sang acceptably.

Hon. John Macdonald made a short speech before the concert closed. He complimented the band, and expressed a hope that the City Council would see its way to assisting the band for the benefit of the citizens.

F. H. Torrington's orchestra had a splendid rehearsal last night for its concert on Dec. 15. The subscription list has grown so large that it will be necessary to allot priority of choice of seats by ballot, and subscribers will be notified of their numbers next week.

"Chip o' the Old Block" delights the audiences at Jacobs & Shaw's Toronto Theatre.

"Philopene" will wind up the week at the Grand Opera House to-morrow night.

Amusement Flashes.

The company which will present Bartley Campbell's "White Slave" at the Toronto Opera House next week embraces such well known and popular artists as May Newman, Georgie Dickson, Ida Jeffreys, Marie Bates, R. J. Dillon, Frank Drew, James Tighe, Charles T. White and Charles Webster. The "White Slave" quartet is an entertaining feature of the performance.

Kate Castleton reappears at the Grand on Monday night in her successful play, "Crazy Patch." There will probably be a heavy demand for seats on account of the Theatrical Mechanics' Benefit, which takes place on the first two nights.

Dr. Ryerson delivered last night the second of the series of lectures to be given this winter under the auspices of the Toronto Conservatory of Music in Association Hall on the physical disabilities of the voice. The room was filled with an attentive audience. The lecturer handled his subject in a masterly way, giving illustrations at the same time. The lecture, which was chiefly for the benefit of the pupils of the conservatory, was full of sound and practical advice relative to the hygienic principles to be followed by public speakers and singers in order to retain their vocal powers.

The German Cereal Duties Bill.

BERLIN, Dec. 1.—The Reichstag to-day began the debate on the Cereal Duties Bill. Dr. Von Lucius, Minister of Agriculture, defended the measure on the ground of increasing depression in agriculture. He said that the present duties did not afford sufficient protection, and that consumers would not suffer in consequence of the new duties. In the event of a bad harvest, resulting in higher prices, a reduction of the duties would always be possible. The debate was adjourned.

The World is the farmer's paper; the municipal officer's paper.

The Turko-Russian War.

The World informs "R. Craig" that war was declared between Russia and Turkey on April 24, 1877. The Russians crossed the Lower Danube at Galatz and Braila, where there was a six hours' conflict, on which the Turks retired, June 22. An armistice was signed at Adrianople Jan. 31, 1878. There was a continued advance of the Russians towards Constantinople, great panic and flight of the Turks, and part of the British fleet ordered to Constantinople, Feb. 8. The fleet entered the Dardanelles Feb. 13. The treaty of peace was signed at San Stefano March 3 and ratified at St. Petersburg March 10.

Christmas Presents.

The only way to make sure that your Christmas present will bear the stamp of novelty will be for you to see that it consists of one of W. L. Cheesworth & Co.'s combination mirror screens. That's the newest thing out and the envy of every lady in the land. See what they are like by calling at 69 King-street east. Ladies especially invited. No well furnished house complete without it. x

A Mirror for Nothing.

The enterprising firm of W. L. Cheesworth & Co. have the latest wrinkle out. Every business firm who buy their combination mirror screen get back twice the purchase money in advertising, as Cheesworth & Co. will publish a list of all business houses that purchase their mirror at least once a week from now until spring. This will be of incalculable advantage to these firms, as it is evident that once the public see the merits of these mirror screens they will only patronise such houses as have them. Look in at 69 King-street east and see them for yourself. x

The World delivered at your home in time to read before business for 25 cents a month.

Mr. Lyd