

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at 36 Beaver Hall, Montreal, by THOS. H. KING, for the week ending, May 20, 1873.—

	Mean Temp. 7 A. M., 2 P. M., 9 P. M.	Max. Temp. of day.	Min. Temp. previous night.	Mean Rel. Hum. 7 A. M., 9 P. M.	Mean Height of Bar.	Gen. Direction of Wind.	State of Weather.
May 11	54.0	58.0	48.0	84	29.84	S.	Rain.
12	53.2	61.3	46.0	60	29.75	W.	Cloudy.
13	48.0	51.0	43.0	66	29.42	W.	Rain.
14	49.5	51.0	41.0	60	29.69	W.	Cloudy.
15	52.5	57.0	38.0	57	29.75	W.	Cloudy.
16	53.3	59.0	42.5	55	29.83	W.	Cloudy.
17	52.0	59.8	41.0	50	29.90	W.	Cloudy.
18	53.5	61.8	43.0	43	30.00	NE.	Clear.
19	55.0	63.5	43.0	42	30.05	N.	Clear.
20	58.0	68.0	43.0	46	30.20	E.	Clear.

## THE DRUMMOND COLLIERY DISASTER!

NEXT WEEK'S

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS

WILL CONTAIN

FULL AND AUTHENTIC SKETCHES

OF THIS

## TERRIBLE CALAMITY

TAKEN ON THE SPOT BY OUR

SPECIAL ARTIST, Mr. E. J. RUSSELL.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1873.

We have every reason to be satisfied this year with the immigration policy of the Government. Since the appointment of Mr. Pope to office, and the inauguration of the vigorous and sensible policy he has adopted, the increase in the influx of settlers in the country has been most marked, while the number of those who have passed through Canada on their way to the Western States has fallen off in proportion. Since the opening of the season—about the close of April—nearly seven thousand immigrants have passed through Montreal, of whom not more than five hundred were destined for the States. The following are the dates, with the number of arrivals on each:—April 28, 830; April 29, 750; May 1, 492; May 5, 419; May 8, 1,700; May 9, 250; May 13, 1,045; May 14, 841; May 19, 250; May 20, 396; May 21, 500. The greater number of these were destined for Ontario, where they had been given to understand they could obtain better wages than in the Province of Quebec. It is to be feared that many of them had formed very exaggerated notions of what lay before them. The servant-girls especially had evidently been misinformed as to the rate of wages in the west. They had been told in London, they said, that a general servant (most of them had never been in service) would get in Toronto £36 sterling a year, that is, at the rate of \$15 a month for a raw inexperienced "help." We fear many of them have found out their mistake by this time. It is to be hoped that the emigration agents in England are not in the habit of magnifying the inducements extended to intending settlers in Canada, but from what we have seen we confess it looks very much like it. It would surely be well to make this a subject of inquiry.

It was Dickens, we believe, who said that the great weakness with most men was a desire to obtain orders—passes we call them—for the theatre. He relates a story in support of his theory to the effect that a shipwrecked sailor, the sole survivor of the crew of a sunken vessel, who had been taken to a newspaper office to tell the story of the disaster, on being asked what could be done for him, replied that he would be very much obliged if the gentlemen could give him an order for the play. We are more than half believers in this theory, but in this country the coveted objects are railroad, not theatre passes. There is a story afloat to the effect that previous to the suppression of the pass system on the railroads, the travellers who were provided with passes were, in nine cases out of ten (we do not include railway directors or employees) men of wealth and position, to whom the price of the railway fare was a mere bagatelle, but who were sufferers from the almost universal weakness for passes. This discovery induced the companies to do away with the pass system—except in certain cases. If we may believe a correspondent of the *Witness*, these "certain cases" are the cause of much mischief and annoyance, and the sooner they cease to be exceptions the better. "It is so impossible," says the writer, "to get any damages out of railways for delayed freight, that except in cases of importance suits are seldom instituted, as the companies always resist payment to the last, and apparently they never keep any one in their employment who will not give evidence under oath in any way the company want. They receipt goods, charge the highest rate of freight, and then pay no attention to sending them on. They should be compelled to perform their duties, and our members should compel them by more thorough legislation to perform their share of the duties, but free passes make them look over all that."

"Hanging is played out in New York" was the expression of one of New York's most notorious ruffians when arrested for murder some years ago, and for a long while he seemed to be right; but, lately, a new order of things has been instituted and murderers in New York appear to stand about as good a chance of being hung as murderers anywhere else. Foster, Lusignani and Nixon have paid the death penalty, and of the twenty odd murderers left in the Tombs it is probable that the majority will be executed. Nixon was an express-driver and shot down a man named Phyfer because he did not get out of the way fast enough. His death was well deserved, and he has paid the penalty of his deed; but there is one point in this hanging of Nixon which needs comment, and it is the blasphemy which the prisoner indulged in almost at the moment of his death. When told that his time had come he—according to the *Tribune* report—"bowed his head, and, catching Father Duranquet's eye, said: 'I am resigned to die. My Saviour was crucified, and this is nothing.'" According to another report he is made to say, "My Saviour was crucified, why should I murmur." The exact words matter but little, the intent is evidently the same, to draw a parallel between himself and the Saviour, and try to fill the rôle of a martyr. Now we should be loth to deny the poor wretches who take a fellow creature's life any hope of heaven, and the clergy are only doing their duty while trying to prepare the soul of the murderer to meet his victim before the All-wise Judge; but it appears as if it was being rather overdone, and murderers seem to be getting the impression that murder is a meritorious action and insures a man eternal happiness; the idea given by some of the speeches made lately on the scaffold, and especially this one of Nixon's, goes to show that many of these red-handed assassins are not only perfectly confident of salvation, but actually have the impudence to brag about it, as if they could not fail to be saved. It is a sad sight to see a man condemned to death for slaying a fellow creature go to the scaffold with a blasphemous boast upon his lips, and be hurried into eternity with a feeling almost of pride, we might say, at the enormity of the sin he had committed.

## Our Illustrations.

THE OTTAWA FIRE.

A serious fire occurred on Daly Street, Ottawa, on Friday last, by which property to the amount of nearly \$150,000 was destroyed. The fire had its origin in the rear of what is known as Patterson Place, and owing to the insufficient means at hand for extinguishing conflagrations, spread unrestrained to the neighbouring buildings, until the entire block between Daly and Stewart Streets was consumed. Fortunately the wind was not high at the time. Had this been the case, there can be little doubt that a large portion of the city would have been consumed. The insurance on the buildings and furniture consumed is only about \$50,000.

MESSEURS. RILEY & MAY'S BILLIARD TABLE MANUFACTORY, TORONTO.

On another page an illustration will be found of the extensive billiard table factory of Messrs. Riley & May, Toronto. The firm has great facilities for the manufacture of everything appertaining to the game of billiards, and their tables are celebrated for correctness, beauty of design, and durability, as they employ only first-class workmen and use the very best quality of material, such as Phelan's patent cushions, fine Simoni cloth, clear ivory, French cue-tips, cues, well-seasoned woods, &c. As a description of the factory will no doubt be interesting to many of our readers, we clip the following from the *Gentleman's Journal*:

"Comparatively few, we imagine, of the number who are versed in the intricacies of the popular game of billiards have any idea of the amount of care and labor required to procure the means for the gratification of their tastes. Billiard manufacturing, owing to the extensive popularity of the game, is in the States rising to the rank of an important industrial interest, and though only represented in the Dominion by the enterprising firm of Riley & May, has nevertheless taken rapid strides within a comparatively short time. In October last Messrs. Riley & May occupied their new building, 81 Adelaide Street west, a brief description of which, and the various operations to be carried on therein, will doubtless interest our readers.

"The factory is a new brick building, three stories in height, with a frontage of 25 feet and a depth of 70. There is also a wing, partly in the rear and partly to the west, two stories in height, and measuring 100x25. The first floor of the main building is devoted to veneering and preparing the necessary wood-work for the tables. Here is a quantity of machinery adapted to the special character of the work—planing, tenoning, boring, jointing, ripping and cross-cutting machines, &c. There is also several live-steam apparatuses on this flat for heating veneer-cauls, bending and shaping veneers, boiling glue, &c., and the entire building is heated by exhaust steam. In the rear the slate beds for tables are cut, drilled, levelled and fitted to the tables, the patent cushions set and fitted to the beds, operations which require great perfection in the machinery and nicety of adjustment. Every table is entirely put up and numbered before leaving the establishment. The slate used comes from Vermont. At one time it was imported from Wales, but there is reason to believe there is ample supply in Canada if the quarries were worked. On the ground floor of the wing the operation of turning billiard balls is carried on, also wood-turning, band and scroll-sawing, friezing, &c. In one end of the building is the engine, which is of 20 horse-power, fitted up in the very best manner, and furnished with one of Hodgins' condensing heaters.

"The second flat of the building is devoted to wood-work and used for drying purposes. Re-entering the main building, we ascend to the third flat, where the operations of varnishing, scraping, rubbing down and polishing are carried

on. All the tables are hard polished, receiving what is known as the piano finish. The time required for the completion of a table averages from five to six months, by far the greater portion of which is consumed in giving the proper finish. Some very elegant specimens of workmanship are here to be seen. The woods chiefly used are rosewood, satin-wood and Hungarian ash. The remainder of this flat is used as a storeroom for tables in stock. In the rear of the second story is a new and very ingenious machine manufactured in the States expressly for Riley & May to make the beautiful Grecian-cove and octagon legs for their tables. In this apartment the cues are all finished and tipped and balls colored.

"In front is the show-room, a large and handsome apartment, beautifully carpeted, where tables of various sizes and styles and every article in use in connection with the game of billiards are displayed. A large stock of billiard goods is always kept on hand. Messrs. Riley & May employ about twenty hands, and have now the capacity for turning out from four to five tables per week.

"They have lately commenced the manufacture of bevelled tables, which are a great improvement in convenience as well appearance on the old box-shaped style.

"The firm have been engaged in the business since 1865. Their tables are now in use all over the Dominion, from Manitoba to the Maritime Provinces, and the continually increasing demands upon them necessitated the erection of their present well-arranged and commodious factory.

"We regret though to have to say that the tax imposed upon billiard tables for public use amounts almost to prohibition in the Province of Quebec, particularly so in the city of Montreal, and in a great measure tends to prevent the full development of this important branch of trade. The law in this respect is not only very unjust, but also unwise, as we consider the aim of true statesmanship in regard to taxation is to avoid as far as possible the imposition of burdens upon the people, while providing for the support of government by means of public revenue. If the Crown or the municipality goes beyond this, it becomes an oppressor. Moreover, in the selection of articles to be taxed, judicious rulers pass over those, which in themselves, innocent and harmless, are used in important branches of popular recreation. By some curious chance, this excellent rule is disregarded in Canada, in respect to the most generally diffused and useful game—billiards; or rather the game is taxed not only at an exorbitant rate, but the law is partial and unjust, for it sets apart a particular class of players and owners of tables, who are made to pay heavy license fees, while others are exempted. The private or club billiard table in these colonies pays no tax. The public table is subjected to a charge, which constitutes an oppressive burden. To make the case worse, the burden is imposed by no defined rule, but being fixed by the several municipalities, seems ordered in no other spirit but that of pure caprice. For example, Toronto extorts \$50 a year from the owner of one public table, and \$10 additional each for all over that number. Quebec charges \$100, with similar additions, while in some localities the amount is far higher. And while these differences exist, the lowest tax is absurdly beyond that of the United States or Great Britain. In the former, \$10 a year, of currency, is imposed; and in the latter, six shillings sterling. On the continent of Europe they are free altogether.

"Upon what principle Canada billiard license fees are so ridiculously out of proportion to those elsewhere it is difficult to understand. The inconsistency is manifest. If it be asserted that public games are especially proper for taxation, why exempt bagatelle, quoits, and other amusements? But there is no justice in the case, and the present system ought to be abolished."

FORT MASSEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HALIFAX, N. B.

This building is one of the most handsome specimens of Gothic architecture to be met with in the Dominion, and reflects infinite credit on the architects. It was formally opened in December, 1871. The site is the corner of Tobin and Queen Streets, one of the most desirable positions in the city. The entrance is on Queen Street, and is reached by a broad flight of stone steps leading to a massive triple doorway, surrounded by gables and finials in red Albert freestone. The church is built of brick covered with mastic, with stone window dressings. The spire stands at the southwest angle of the building; it is of wood, covered with cut shingles of rosette patterns, painted different colours. The interior offers a very pleasant coup d'oeil as the effect is unspoilt by the lumbering side-galleries which disfigure so many otherwise fine churches. The decorations are all that could be desired. The roof of the nave is open and supported by principals with hammer beams, having traceried spandrels resting on small pillars, with ornamental flowered caps and corbels, the whole grained in light and dark colours, relieved with vermilion. The apse is very ornamental, and is brought out by different shades of colours. The roof of it is coved, and the corners are filled up with moulded ribs, which rest on small ornamental pillars. There are three pillars also on each side of the large apse, supporting the deep moulded arch. The walls have all been washed with a cream colour, and the mouldings and pillars relieved by a darker shade, the whole agreeing very well with the colouring of the rest of the work. In the basement is a large room 54 x 48, well lighted, for Sunday School, and also some room for classes, the library, and vestry. The church accommodates 600 people comfortably; and cost for land, heating, gas-fitting, furnishing and everything else inclusive, about \$40,000. Mr. John Brookfield, was the Contractor, and the works were carried out by his son, Mr. Samuel M. Brookfield, the whole being done in a creditable and praiseworthy manner. Messrs. Stirling & Dewar, were the Architects.

MESSEURS. KENNEDY & CO.'S CLOTHING STORE, MONTREAL.

This is one of the oldest firms in the clothing business in the city. The senior partner, Mr. Kennedy, has been connected with the trade for twelve years, during which he has continually added to his experience. He was, we understand, the first in the business to open on what is now one of the greatest thoroughfares of Montreal—St. Lawrence Main Street. The firm has every reason to be proud of its success. It has continually been increasing its range of business, and now employs over a hundred and fifty hands. The goods and workmanship turned out from the establishment bear a high character for superior excellence, and customers are loud in their praises of the manner in which their wants are attended to. The firm has recently combined the woollen department with their ready-made clothing trade, and in order to meet