

RUSS DESTROYERS REACH THE OPEN

Eight Escape From Port Arthur During Storm.

TOGO'S CRUISERS SCOUTING

Fleet Seen Off Singapore Is Not Likely to Engage the Baltic Fleet.

London, Dec. 22. — The Daily Telegraph's "Chee Poo" correspondent reports that eight torpedo-boats destroyed by the Japanese on Dec. 18, were for the last 24 hours, he says, a severe snowstorm has been raging.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22. — The announcement that four Japanese cruisers and twelve torpedo-boats are proceeding west from Singapore, is received here with much interest. It is not believed, however, that such a small squadron can have been sent out by Japan with any idea of engaging the Russian fleet, which is expected soon to unite near Madagascar. It is generally believed that Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky intends to establish a coaling base on a small island between Madagascar and the Philippines, and that the Japanese cruising squadron, hopes to indicate the rendezvous for Vice-Admiral Togo's information.

Tokio, Dec. 22. — A report received from Vice-Admiral Togo, last night, says: "A prisoner taken by our fleet is considered to be reliable. He reports that as a result of our attack since Dec. 13, eight torpedo-boats, the net of the battleship Sevastopol, and that at least one took effect on her hull. This seems to have occurred on the night of Dec. 15 or early on Dec. 16. The Sevastopol's crew was seen to be confused, and a hawser from the shore was attached to the battleship. The torpedo which struck the hull took effect on the port side, damaging about eight feet along the rivet line.

"The Sevastopol is now headed toward the outer part of the entrance to the harbor with her stern aground and her gun ports awash almost awash. The ship is listing to starboard and the side lights in her deck are submerged. There is one torpedo boat to the starboard of the Sevastopol, and one pumping vessel to port, together with one vessel resembling a mine layer, all of which are busily engaged in pumping, but it will be difficult to restore the seaworthiness of the warship.

"On the night of Dec. 16 one of our torpedo boats struck the bow of a Russian torpedo boat destroyer and that vessel is now ashore.

Another report from Admiral Togo says: "After personal observation outside Port Arthur I found that the Sevastopol, which was attacked by our torpedo flotilla, is now anchored in the shallows about 400 yards from the shore of Chengtau Mountain. The Russians are engaged in pumping, but the Sevastopol is listing slightly. There can be no hope of restoring the vessel to fighting trim, considering the present condition of Port Arthur, and I judge that she is completely disabled. I also observed that the enemy's destroyer which was torpedoed by us has been destroyed.

Mukden, Dec. 22. — The Japanese are reported to be suffering from cold sickness in the vicinity of Peking and Shinkwei, where it is said they lost 2,000 men in a single week. The port of Yinkow is closed by ice.

Tokio, Dec. 22. — A dispatch received by telegraph today from the Japanese army before Port Arthur says: "The right column of our army at 5 o'clock this morning, taking advantage of the enemy's excitement, drove the enemy off an eminence north of Housanyentou. The Japanese occupied the position, and at 7 o'clock dislodged the enemy from a height on the peninsula west of Housanyentou, which was occupied by capturing one small gun. After the Japanese occupation of the positions the enemy made a counter attack, but was immediately repulsed. At present our occupation of the positions is practically secure."

Singapore, Straits Settlements, Dec. 22. — Two Japanese cruisers called here this morning and left at night. They reported that two Japanese battleships, two first-class cruisers, torpedo-boats, class cruisers and twelve torpedo-boats were nearby, steaming west.

Shanghai, Dec. 22. — A squadron of powerful cruisers under Admiral Kamimura has gone south to the China Sea to meet the Russian second Pacific squadron.

General Oku's Headquarters, via Fusan, Thursday, Dec. 22. — Delayed in transmission. — The Russians along the front of General Oku's army during the night of Dec. 20, made a determined attack on Lamung, but were driven back with heavy casualties. Dismounted cavalry attacked the cavalry on the extreme left of the Japanese lines on the night of Dec. 21, but were repulsed with heavy loss.

Small detachments of Russians nightly attack the Japanese outposts and patrols, but with no success.

WOODSTOCK'S MYSTERY

Three Men Under Arrest in Connection With Edwards' Death.

Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 22. — When the inquest is resumed next Wednesday over the body of John Edwards, who met a mysterious death in a slaughter house here some weeks ago, some sensational evidence may be forthcoming. Three men are now in jail here who may have had some connection with the affair. They are charged with stealing money from the dead man. William Selby, admitted being in the slaughter house with the deceased on the day of his death, but declares he is innocent of either assault or theft. Lee and Montgomery were with Edwards and Selby at Beachville the same day, and they admit that Edwards had \$20 the morning he disappeared.

BRITON IN PERIL

Moroccan Tribesmen Demand That They Be Handed Over to Them.

Tangier, Dec. 22. — A courier from Alcazar, about 15 miles northeast of Tangier, states that tribesmen have surrounded Alcazar and threaten to sack the town unless the French consul and one British subject are handed over to them.

LONDON'S FOG LIFTS

Western Breeze Drives the Fog From the British Capital.

London, Dec. 22. — The fog in London practically disappeared this afternoon before a western breeze. Reports from the coast show a continuation of the dislocation of traffic. According to a telegram from Liverpool at 10 o'clock this morning the White Star Line steamers Oceanic and Cedric were still fog-bound in the Mersey.

IS IT JAP PLOT TO END CONFLICT?

Russia Thinks Chinese Rising Will Be Started by the Mikado's Agents.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22. — The Russian authorities have received information confirming of yesterday regarding the Chinese situation, indicating that Japan's influence is predominant, not only in the anti-foreign societies, but in the army and at the same time the conviction here that the situation is becoming critically dangerous.

The belief prevails that in the spring Japan, under the cover of an actual or threatened rising in China, will seek to secure the intervention of the powers to end the war. Direct evidence exists that the anti-foreign proclamations circulating in China were printed in Japan.

AMBUSHED AND KILLED

U. S. Lieutenant and 37 Men Killed by Rebel Band.

Manila, Dec. 22. — The Pulajanes have ambushed and killed U. S. Lieutenant and 37 enlisted men of the Thirty-eighth Company of native scouts, at Dolores, where they were reported to threaten the town of Dolores, and the situation is said to be critical. Lieut. Abbott, in command of the scouts, has requested that he be sent home.

SAZONOFF IN LONDON

Man Alleged to Have Been Exiled for Killing Von Plehve.

Zurich, Dec. 20. — The Journal says that Sazonoff, who assassinated M. von Plehve, the Russian Minister of the Interior, and who was officially reported to have been banished to St. Petersburg, and condemned to penal servitude for life, is now in London.

DONALD GILLIES FOR CENTRE BRUCE

Liberals Choose Newspaperman to Contest Riding for Legislature.

Flesherton, Ont., Dec. 22. — The Liberals of Center Grey held a largely-attended and most enthusiastic convention yesterday. Seventeen prominent men were nominated, but all retired in favor of Mr. Donald Gillies, of Clarksburg, whose nomination was made unanimous. Mr. Gillies is a newspaperman, and while not long a resident of the county, is very popular. He is a strong temperance advocate.

SMOTHERED TO DEATH

Accident in Colliery Causes Death of Seven Foreign Miners.

Bolivar, Pa., Dec. 22. — In a fire, which originated in a shanty at the pit mouth of the coal mine of the Reese-Hammond Brick Company at Garfield, just across the river from here, today, seven foreigners were smothered to death, and two Americans were so badly overcome that their recovery is not yet assured. When the shanty caught fire the fans drove the smoke into the mine, smothering the foreigners. The Americans who were rescued were Samuel C. Henderson and Henry Gibson. There were a number of men in the mine, but all got out safely, except those named.

WHITNEY AT NAPANEE

The Conservative Leader Opens the Provincial Campaign.

Napanee, Ont., Dec. 22. — The Opposition campaign was opened here tonight by Leader Whitney. While well attended, the meeting lacked the stirring enthusiasm that characterized the great gathering of Tuesday night, when Premier Ross addressed the electors of Lennox. Mr. Whitney's speech was largely self-laudatory. He rehearsed the usual corruption charges against the Government and announced himself the appointed cleanser of Ontario's politics. He declared the Conservative policy was that laid down in 1902, and predicted that it would bring about a victory for the party on Jan. 25. Other speakers were Mr. W. J. Hanna, Mr. J. Lockie Wilson and Mr. Carscallen.

LAWSON SCORES; ROGERS SILENT

Boston Broker Sends Out Another Lurid Warning.

KEENE FORCED INTO THE OPEN

Standard Oil Magnate Told to Call Off His Dogs Unless He Wishes to Have Them Shot.

New York, Dec. 22. — Thomas W. Lawson rested on his laurels last night after a day of general victory all along the line in his melodramatic battle with the generals of "Frenzied Finance."

Henry H. Rogers, the Standard Oil financier who had stepped into the limelight with a dramatic warning against the most recent revelations, went back into seclusion with the parting assurance that he would make no effort to call Lawson or anybody else to criminal account.

James R. Keene was forced into the open by the "dare" of the restless Bostonian and contributed to the general symposium the contents of a previous letter to Lawson regarding an amalgamated stock deal for Rogers running up into a score of millions.

Delaware politicians helped along with some further interesting details of the latest bribery deal down in that state, on which Lawson had expatiated in his latest magazine effusion.

Contemplating these things, Lawson himself, in Boston, added a spectacular touch to the day's developments by addressing another open letter to Rogers, breathing out sundry threats of slaughter. "Of course, I know your methods," he wrote, "that the criminals in your pay will stand at nothing to 'fix me, Lawson' who is in the army and at the same time, provided it is safe murder. Therefore, in the light of my happenings of life and the innumerable threats which are being made to me and against me, I wish herewith to notify you, and through you any and all thugs who are seeking me, that I, in person, will shoot at sight the first Donohue who calls upon me or in any way comes into my presence after giving me notice such as the above. I regret being compelled to take this method of defending myself, and only do so after having been convinced there are no other means of escape. I am now in a position to put an end to me that they may put an end to my work."

"Such an affair as the Col. Greene episode, where an honest man was worked up to a high pitch is put upon my track, I do not mind, but I do want you and your associates to know that I am fully alive to what is now being and hereafter will be attempted against me, and that upon your heads may come the consequences."

Donald Donohue, financial editor of the New York Commercial, denied he had telegraphed that he would go to Boston and shoot Lawson, provided he did not stop the publication of an advertisement that appeared in several newspapers.

"I am a westerner, but not a shooter," he said. "I am not going to Boston to shoot Lawson. My weapon is my pen, not my pistol."

IN SAVING CASH LOST HIS LIFE

Wealthy Winnipegger Burned to a Crisp in Midnight Fire.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 22. — John Carrie, an old resident, was cremated in his house, which was destroyed by fire shortly after midnight, and residents in adjoining buildings had a narrow escape from sharing his horrible fate. The flames were eating into the other buildings when the brigade arrived. The buildings were of frame structure, close to Louise bridge. Carrie's body, burned to a crisp, was found near the door. His cash box, which he evidently had lost his life in attempting to save, was probably due to an explosion of a lamp. Carrie was 77 years old, and owned considerable property around the city.

INSANE AT BREAKFAST

Merchant Shoots Brother, Then Begg Forgiveness on Knees.

New York, Dec. 22. — Becoming suddenly insane while at the breakfast-table with his brother and their mother, Abraham Chalkowsky today fired five shots at his brother Louis and wounded him in the head, probably fatally. The wounded man is a well-to-do cloth importer of Lapsard street. Abraham is under arrest and has been identified by Louis as the man who shot him.

The brothers were business partners until four years ago, when Abraham's wife died and he became insane. For three years he was in an asylum, but about a year ago, through the efforts of Louis, secured his release. The latter was warned that Abraham was possessed of homicidal tendencies, but scoffed at the idea.

The mother wrested the revolver from the hand of the son as the last shot was fired. Immediately Abraham seemed to recover his senses, and dropping on his knees by the prostrate Louis, begged his forgiveness.

Alleged Murderer Suicides

Buffalo, Dec. 22. — Fred Jones, the alleged murderer of Constable William C. Gray and Mrs. Abbie Goodrich, 25, Charlotteville on Wednesday, died in the Lockport jail early today from a self-inflicted wound.

Hull Trawlers Swear Saw Jap Torpedo Boats

But Took the Oath While Intoxicated With Whisky of Russian Agents.

London, Dec. 21. — The publication in St. Petersburg of the statement that the Hull fishermen have voluntarily deposited that foreign torpedo boats were among the fishermen off Doggerbank when the latter were fired upon by ships of the second Pacific squadron, is probably a repetition of statements recently emanating from Hull and appearing in London papers. These are circumstantial and it would certainly appear to be true that some of the Gamecock fleet have made statements before the Russian consul. The name of only one of these has been revealed. He is the boatman of the trawler Ayla, and he said today that he was intoxicated to the point of being unable to make the statement which he received, and now says the statement he made was untrue. The published reports are, however, that these statements were secured by two agents of the Russian Government, but the Russian embassy in London has issued a general denial of Dec. 21 regarding the subject. It was pointed out, however, that although Russia had offered a reward for the capture of the Russian Government, it was not responsible for the course taken by any person desiring to secure the reward. The Russian Government has directly charged the Russian Government with using underhand means whereby bribery and intoxicants to secure false statements from the fishermen.

Bordeaux, Dec. 22. — Four Russian naval officers, bearing dispatches from Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky, have arrived here. Lieut. Valmond, of the torpedo depot ship Kamchatka, was interviewed, and said that he was conveying to Emperor Nicholas the reports of the commanders of the Doggerbank incident together with Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's report. He also was taking for investigation by the international commission at Paris the original tapes of the wireless instruments, showing the messages that were exchanged between vessels of the second Pacific squadron at the time of the episode. Lieut. Valmond says he worked the searchlights aboard the Kamchatka, and that he saw plainly two four-torpedo boats, their color being a dirty gray, whereas the Russian torpedo boats were black. When he perceived these boats pursuing the squadron the order to fire was given.

NAN PATTERSON JURY DISAGREED; ACTRESS WILL LIKELY BE FREED

Judge Sends Jurors Back Without Result—Accused Has Serious Collapse.

New York, Dec. 22. — Nan Patterson collapsed in the Tombs today so completely that the efforts of the matron, the warden and her father to help her were of no avail, and Dr. Levin, the physician at the prison, had to be called. She was revived considerably, but it was feared that she would collapse again when she went to the courtroom.

As soon as she was somewhat composed she was led across the Bridge of Sighs to the criminal court building. She was taken to the "pen" in the court building to wait until a verdict had been reached or some conclusion had been arrived at.

Louise Victim of Plot; Scandal Story Fiction

Dresden, Saxony, Dec. 22. — Countess Menosio (formerly the Crown Princess Louise, and divorced wife of King Frederick Augustus), by coming to Dresden and trying to see her children yesterday, has probably forfeited her allowance of \$7,500, one of the conditions of which was that she should not set foot on German soil. This condition, however, may not be enforced, as popular sympathy for the countess is so strong already that the court will avoid anything giving the impression of punishing the countess for her natural womanly feeling. The version of the countess' misadventure commonly believed in the Kingdom of Saxony is that she is the victim of a plot, and that she is being used as a means to prevent a strong Liberal from becoming queen. The circumstances surrounding the case are so overlaid with fiction that the truth probably will be unknown to the present generation of Saxons.

East Kent Nominee

Mr. John Cochrane, of Ridgeway, Chosen by the Liberals.

Chatham, Dec. 22. — Mr. John Cochrane, of Ridgeway, was nominated at the Liberal convention there today. He is a strong man and the unanimous choice, instead of Mr. John Howatt, of Thameville, Kent.

HULL FISHERMEN'S CLAIMS

Sums Claimed for Damages in the Baltic Outrage.

London, Dec. 22. — The inquiry at Hull ended with the claims for damages made by the men who suffered at the Russians' hands.

A separate claim was put in by the boy Joseph Alfred Smith, son of the head skipper, who said he should be afraid to go to sea again, so terrible had been the results of that night. The amount claimed for his loss of birth, the amount claimed for loss of wages, was heard before Squire Smythe yesterday afternoon. Two farmers of good repute, and one farm hand, namely, John McGeer, James Kelly and John McLean, testified to having, on Dec. 31, seen Mackey making away with the rails. Between 12 and 1 o'clock, it appears, Mackey drove to a vacant lot belonging to the complainant, but which was distant from the rest of his property, and carried away on his cart a large pile of half and three-quarter sized rails. The defendant admitted having taken the rails, but asserted that he only wanted them to put around his hay-rack, and had intended to return them as soon as he had finished with them. Mackey was sent for trial at the general sessions in June, and was bailed in the meantime in bonds amounting to \$400.

Succeeds McKellar. Toronto, Ont., Dec. 22. — W. J. Black, of the Ontario Agricultural College, has been appointed clerk of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture in succession to Mr. McKellar, who resigned as the result of an investigation.

Press Freedom Abolished. Belgrade, Dec. 22. — King Peter today signed the new press law, which practically abolishes freedom of the press in Serbia, though aimed principally at the anti-dynastic opposition papers.

MORE RED ON THE MAP

British Ships Sail to Annex Tonga Islands in the Pacific.

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 22. — Two British warships have sailed for the Tonga Islands, it is reported, with the intention to annex them.

MOSCOW AGGRESSIVE

Students and Citizens Declare They Will Fight On for Reforms.

Moscow, Dec. 22. — Students of the University of Moscow have adopted resolutions denouncing the rector for prohibiting their meetings, declaring their determination to unceasingly strive for the liberation of the oppressed fatherland, and threatening that if they are punished for assembling they will organize manifestations in conjunction with the workmen.

Several groups of citizens have signed an address to the municipality, expressing the strongest sympathy and support of its claim for constitutional reform, as embodied in the resolutions adopted by the town council on Dec. 13, and promising every effort in furtherance of these reforms, which the address declares are approved by the whole of the Russian people.

ARREST FOR DR. CHADWICK

Cassie's Husband Indicted for the \$5,000,000 Check Forgery.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 22. — Dr. Leroy S. Chadwick and his wife, Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick, were jointly indicted by the county grand jury today on the charge of having forged and uttered a \$5,000,000 note signed Andrew Carnegie. Dr. Chadwick is expected to arrive in New York from Paris on Wednesday. Sheriff Barry will meet the steamer on its arrival. This is the third time that Mrs. Chadwick has been indicted by the county grand jury, but it is the first instance of her husband's name appearing legally in the case. The indictment already returned against Mrs. Chadwick are similar to the one issued today, except that they cover notes of \$250,000 and \$500,000 signed Andrew Carnegie. It is understood that it was mainly on the testimony of President Beckwith, of the Citizens' National Bank, of Oberlin, Ohio, which failed recently, that the jury indicted Dr. Chadwick.

SKYLARKING ON 'CHANCE'

Cotton Brokers Break Loose—Unique Christmas Gifts.

New York, Dec. 22. — The Cotton Exchange was the occasion of great excitement today, the occasion being the annual Christmas tree. Gifts to over 100 members were presented, all of them suggested by some peculiar characteristic of the trader remembered.

A notoriously lean member was presented with a bottle of anti-flea great against the windmill; a man of most extravagant personal habits received a copy of "The Simple Life"; a noted vegetarian received a round of beef and a temperance advocate was presented with a flask.

All business was suspended during the hour following the noon call for the distribution of the presents, which was accompanied by skylarking to the edification of large audience, gathered in the gallery.

THREE CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR'S CHAIR

Two Conservatives and a Liberal in Contest for Toronto Executive.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 22. — At the municipal nominations today three candidates for the mayor's chair were nominated. Thomas Truquart, Liberal, the present mayor; George H. Goodham, Conservative; and W. J. McPherson, Conservative. It had been expected that Mr. McPherson would retire, but he announced this morning that he intended to go to the polls. There are eleven candidates for the four controllerships. The aldermanic nominations take place tonight.

STEALING FENCE RAILS

Charge Which James Mackey Has to Answer To In June.

The case of James Mackey, charged by Michael Jackson with the theft of fence rails, was heard before Squire Smythe yesterday afternoon. Two farmers of good repute, and one farm hand, namely, John McGeer, James Kelly and John McLean, testified to having, on Dec. 31, seen Mackey making away with the rails. Between 12 and 1 o'clock, it appears, Mackey drove to a vacant lot belonging to the complainant, but which was distant from the rest of his property, and carried away on his cart a large pile of half and three-quarter sized rails. The defendant admitted having taken the rails, but asserted that he only wanted them to put around his hay-rack, and had intended to return them as soon as he had finished with them. Mackey was sent for trial at the general sessions in June, and was bailed in the meantime in bonds amounting to \$400.

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NO CONSTITUTION, SAYS THE CZAR

Nicholas Declines to Give Russia an Assembly.

BIG VICTORY FOR AUTOCRACY

Refusal May Bring On Widespread Revolutionary Movement and Bloody Suppression.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22. — Emperor Nicholas formally notified the country today that the agitation for a constitution and the convocation of a national assembly is useless.

Such is the construction placed upon the indorsement written in his own hand on the resolutions telegraphed by the Chernigov Zemstvo, Dec. 20, begging his majesty in the most loyal manner to convoke legally elected members of the Zemstvos to present a programme of reforms for his consideration. His majesty wrote on the dispatch: "I consider the action of the president of the Zemstvo and his associates as a grossly presumptuous and lawless. Questions of state administration are of no concern to the Zemstvos, whose functions and rights are clearly defined by the law." The indorsement is printed in the Official Messenger this morning, dashing the hopes of the extremists. It did not come as a great surprise. The Emperor from the beginning, although he has shown himself favorably disposed towards a more liberal regime, has been entirely sympathetic with some of the Zemstvo demands, had resolved not to yield the principle of autocracy. Upon this point it is understood all his advisers, including Interior Minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky, agreed, but the character of the agitation which followed the meeting of the president of the Zemstvos, and the action of various provincial Zemstvos and municipal councils, coupled with the recent demonstrations at St. Petersburg, Moscow and elsewhere, probably served to strengthen the hands of the reactionaries, and convinced his majesty of the imperative necessity of a plain-spoken announcement of the sovereign's position on the main point. The reactionaries undoubtedly regard the Emperor's action as a victory for them. Nevertheless, the conferences over the reform measures which will be taken are still in progress at Tsarskoe Selo, and will shortly be published. What the immediate effect of the imperial rebuke administered to the Chernigov Zemstvo will be, it is difficult to say. It may well serve to fan the flames and be used by the revolutionary organizations to increase the agitation, and in turn compel its repression.

AN OCEAN MYSTERY

Captain Saw Overturned Vessel and Corpses Near By.

Glasgow, Dec. 22. — The Norwegian ship Stamboul, Capt. Feyling, which arrived at Melish, Scotland, yesterday, from Pensacola, Florida, reports that she sighted Nov. 15, in latitude 33° and longitude 57°, an overturned vessel which Capt. Feyling believed to be the British schooner Ivanhoe, Capt. Hare, which sailed from Halifax, N. S., Nov. 5, for Nassau, B. F. The captain examined the wreckage and saw a corpse near it.

DAN CUPID BUSY IN TOMBS PRISON

The Marriage of Two Prisoners May Defeat the Ends of Justice.

New York, Dec. 24. — By a marriage of two prisoners in the Tombs prison today the case of the United States authorities against four persons charged with counterfeiting becomes curiously tangled. The contracting parties were Frank Schlieman and Elizabeth Ruben, and the marriage took place in the chapel of the Tombs, the prison chaplain officiating.

As the ceremony was concluded Nan Patterson came out of the courtroom, where a jury had just gone to reach a verdict in her case, and congratulated the girl upon her marriage. The couple were then separated, each going to his or her cell.

It was pointed out that it was by Miss Ruben's previous admissions in the police court to the effect that they were trying to get money to be married which caused the two prisoners to be held. Under the law a wife cannot testify against her husband, and her testimony may be disallowed.

THE NAVAL REFORM

London Post Sees Danger From Big U. S. Fleet.

London, Dec. 22. — In an article on "Naval Reform," the Morning Post hints at the inadequate defense of Canada under the new scheme. It says one of the prominent features of the redistribution of the fleet is the formation of an American navy, the power and size of which will be limited by the amount of money the American people choose to spend. In the event of war, Canada will depend on our retaining command of the North Atlantic and the dispatch of reinforcements from Great Britain to defend the land frontier of the Dominion. The Post states that the British navy is maintained by the British people, and that it is impossible to retain a fleet there equal to the American navy. The British navy is maintained by the British people, and that it is impossible to retain a fleet there equal to the American navy. The British navy is maintained by the British people, and that it is impossible to retain a fleet there equal to the American navy.

NEWS OF THE HOCKEY TEAMS

An application for a change of residence permit has been made by the St. John's A. C. for M. C. McPhaden, late of Mount Forest. He has been in the city for two months past and is proficient in lacrosse as well as in hockey.

The Talbotts and Hurons played a game of hockey at the Jubilee rink Wednesday night when the former won by a score of 6 to 1.

E. J. MacRobert, president of the Junior League, has donated a trophy to be competed for by the teams.

The opening games in the Princess Rink will be played tonight, if the ice is in condition. The St. John's and Waterloo will play between 8 and 9 o'clock, and the Talbotts and Hurons will play the last game.

It is likely that the home games of the St. John's team will be played on Wednesday nights instead of on Fridays. The Hurons previously arranged their games for Fridays and the two games would conflict. It is not thought that any objection will be raised by the other clubs. The schedule would then be as follows: Jan. 4—Alisa, Craig at St. John's. Jan. 6—St. John's at Alisa, Craig. Jan. 17—Goderich at St. John's. Jan. 20—St. John's at Goderich. Jan. 26—Clinton at St. John's. Jan. 27—St. John's at Clinton.

The St. John's hockey team had a splendid practice last night, and the work showed that the players were quickly rounded up. The list of players was on the ice, the list including Caselman, Thomson, Woolley (2), McGuffin, Ward, Beech (2), McMahon, McPhaden, Canfield, Bradford, Childs and Callahan. The St. John's A. C. has an abundance of material, and with a steady improvement the players feel that they will make a showing in the race for honors of which they need not be ashamed.

The opening games in the Junior City Hockey League will be played on Wed-

nesday evening next, the Lorne being scheduled to meet the Waterloo, and the Waterloo to meet the Talbotts. The balance of the schedule will be prepared at a meeting to be held shortly. The juniors will play two games every Wednesday night.

Mr. C. W. Smith retains the sole management of the O. H. A. hockey team, and "Billy" Wilson has kindly promised to assist him.

The Soo News publishes the rules for the professional league, the changes from those of the O. H. A. being as follows:

The season shall be from the 1st of December to the 15th of March, both days inclusive. The ice surface must be at least 150 feet long by 50 wide. Goals shall be 6 feet wide and 4 feet high, and provided with goal nets such as approved by the league.

Any team making default shall forfeit its right to compete for the championship for that season, and be required to pay the opposing team (within 10 days) a fine of \$300, unless a previous notice of ten days be given to the opposing team, and to the league of such club's intention to default. All matches played with defaulting clubs shall count, and previous matches awarded to opposing teams.

In case of a tie after playing the specified time, two half-hours, the game shall be allowed. Ends will be changed and play will continue until one side secures a goal, but in no case shall the extra time exceed 15 minutes. In the event of no deciding goal being scored by either team, the referee shall declare the match a draw. The game shall be played on the following night or the next open date, unless otherwise agreed to by the managers of the two teams. All matches must be started at the advertised time, and if for any reason there be more than fifteen minutes' delay in the commencement of a match, the club at fault shall pay to the league as a penalty the sum of \$25, unless good reason be given for said delay. The referee shall see that this rule is observed, and to notify the league within two days should any breach of it occur.

EVEN PAUPERS PLAY THE RACES

A Curious Story From the Workhouse at Eton, England.

The workhouse at Eton, England, is becoming celebrated. Only a few months ago it went through the ordeal of a local government board inquiry, and now it is keeping up its reputation by maintaining a pauper with a betting account. The story was told in brief in the Daily Chronicle recently, but a little more in question. This "spiced pauper" has been an inmate of the workhouse for the past sixteen years. He began life as a drayman, and afterwards a public house in Windsor. He is a man of about 70 years of age.

"Yes, I do a bit of betting," he admitted to the reporter. "I have a good many racing men in my time. George Fordham and Cundance were friends of mine, and many of the billiards I have had with old George. He was a straight 'un, like him, we haven't got many jockeys like him nowadays."

"Then I suppose you can give me a tip for the Lincoln and the Grand National?" "Oh, no, sir," was the reply. "I don't gamble in that way. I always follow the first favorite if he belongs to a good man. Follow a good horse to a good man, that's my motto."

"People say you go out of the workhouse sometimes and then change your clothes and go off to Ascot?" "I haven't been outside the house for three years last July," was the reply. "And how do you manage to get your money 'on' if you do not go outside the house?"

A far-away look came into the old man's eyes. "I am away," he said, hesitatingly, "to Brussels."

"And is there any truth in the story that you have a bankbook and a nice balance to your credit?"

"Oh, no, sir," was the reply, "none at all. I have only a little money in a small way. You see, I get a few tips now and then."

"But you seem to have been lucky as a backer of horses?"

"Well, won't say much about that," he said, and the look in his face seemed to indicate that he thought the question a rather impertinent one.

Sturges seems to be a close student of the racing news in the papers. He takes one daily paper, and studies it closely. At present he is engaged in assisting the porter.

The reporter afterwards saw Mr. Baxter, one of the guardians who had brought the matter before the board. Mr. Baxter had not a word to say in regard to the truth of the story that Sturges has an account in the Postoffice Savings Bank.

"It was told about this matter in several quarters," he said. "Several people have declared that Sturges used to go out of the house, put on a different suit of clothes, and then go to Ascot, and of course, I can't vouch for the truth of my inquiries, money as you know, has been found on the man, and a letter relating to betting was also found. I shall not let the matter drop, and I see no reason to doubt that the Postmaster-General will tell us, as a public authority, whether Sturges has a banking account."

McCLARY RIFLEMAN HOLD A BANQUET

The McClary Rifle Club held its first annual dinner last night, when a most pleasant time was enjoyed. A toast list was introduced by Capt. J. K. Pope, and many appropriate replies made.

During the evening the following prizes were presented: Class A, \$10 points at any shoot—C. McPhaden 1, Capt. Pope 2, G. C. King 3, Mass B, for 50 points, Mr. H. Lee 1, D. Ollivier 2, T. Webster 3, Class C, for under 50 points—P. Pugh 1, R. Spencer 2, George Robinson 3.

The officers of the club are as follows: Mr. J. H. K. Pope, captain; Mr. George E. King, secretary; Mr. Joseph Nicholson, treasurer.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

NELSON HAS HIS MANAGER PINCHED

Alleges That "Ted" Murphy Stole \$10,000 From Him White vs. Britt.

Stockton, Cal., Dec. 23.—"Ted" Murphy, who is accused by "Battling" Nelson of the larceny of \$10,000, has been arrested here on a Santa Fe train. Two hundred and fifty dollars were found on Murphy by the police. Murphy was greatly surprised with his arrest. He said that he did not have Nelson's money, and that Nelson had bid him good-bye at the depot when he left San Francisco.

New York, Dec. 23.—Charlie Mitchell, the former English champion heavy-weight pugilist, who has been in this country for several months, sailed yesterday for his home in England on the Hamburg-American liner Moltke. He turns to England to look after the interests of his manager, James J. White, says the World, whom he is anxious to match with "Jimmy" Britt, editor of the twenty-round battle with "Battling" Nelson last Tuesday night at San Francisco.

Before he sailed Mitchell said that he was leaving nothing direct from either Britt or his managers concerning his challenge read at the ringside on behalf of White, although he had told the reporter, "I have been willing to take the match."

Tom O'Rourke is in the meantime looking after Mitchell's interests, and has formed an alliance with the challenge. O'Rourke will cable the contents to England.

White is willing to meet Britt the day after tomorrow, or the first week in March if Britt will agree to fight. If a match is made Mitchell will return to this country on Feb. 11 and will fight the English light-weight pugilist with him.

Mitchell desires that both meet at 133 pounds, to weigh in at 3 o'clock on the day of the fight. This is the recognized weight limit.

CARPETBALL

Court Forest Queen and Court Stella, A. O. F., played a game of carpetball in Society Hall last night. Court Stella winning by a score of 16 to 29.

THE TURF

YESTERDAY'S TURF WINNERS. At New Orleans—St. Severs, 7 to 1; Fox Trophy, 9 to 5; Mae Hanlon, 12 to 1; King's Trophy, 10 to 1; Reliance, 2 to 1; Go To Win, 10 to 1.

WILL VISIT LONDON

The regular bi-weekly Pop which should have appeared at a house next Saturday night, Dec. 23, has been postponed for one week on account of a basketball game which will be played on the gymnasium floor that night. The Chicago Central Y. M. C. A. basketball team (Y. M. C. A. champions of the world) are making an eastern tour and arrangements have been made to have them play the local team that night.

DEADLY "SPOTTED FEVER"

Gives Way to Treatment With the Diphtheria Anti-Toxin.

Bristol, Dec. 22.—The first practical test of the theory recently advanced by Dr. Wolff, of Hartford, a bacteriological expert whose experiments would indicate a definite relation between diphtheria and cerebro spinal meningitis, or "spotted fever," which has caused many deaths in this section within the last few months, is being made in Forestville. A young daughter of Frank Dietrich was taken sick yesterday with "spotted fever," and the disease progressed so rapidly that when a physician arrived he considered the case almost hopeless. A last resort 6000 units of diphtheria anti-toxin were administered with the result that the patient was much improved today, and there is thought to be good prospects of recovery.

The experiment is being watched with great interest by local physicians, as there have been twelve deaths from the disease in the town in as many weeks.

STEAMERS ARRIVED

Dec. 22.—At New York—Victorian, from Liverpool; Deutschland, from Hamburg. At Boston—Sarmatian, from Glasgow. At Glasgow—Fomerian, from New York. At Liverpool—Oceanic, from New York. At Naples—Prince Karl, from New York; Romanic, from Boston.

Carnival of Partisanship During Past Three Years

Axe Has Fallen Heavily on the Liberals During Beck Regime.

Half the City Has Been Deprived of the Rights of Citizenship.

A Comparison of Mr. Beck's Municipal Record With That of Ex-Mayor Rumball's Time.

The statement that the Conservative rule of the past three years has been of unexampled partisanship is demonstrated by a glance at the civic record. In 1901, when Mr. Fred Rumball retired from the mayoralty, the city council had been under the control of the Liberals for three years, but there was nothing to remind the citizens of the political complexion of the board. The Liberals were studious not to introduce the party system into the affairs of the city. They were absolutely uncaused for complaint. Politics were not considered in the selection of the council, and the position of the various municipal bodies to which the council appointed representatives. But all this has been changed, and one of the chief aims of the Conservative Association, Executive of the Conservative Association, Liberals have been thrown of the school board, the library board, the L. and P. S. R. board, the Western Fair board—in fact, of every body where it was possible for the Conservative majority to reach them. Liberal taxpayers have been treated as outlaws by the municipal ring, and deprived of any voice in the transaction of public business. Even the deputy returning officers in municipal elections have not been spared, and men who for 40 years have performed this duty have been turned down.

Let every Liberal and Independent voter examine the following record of barefaced partisanship, and then let him decide whether any Liberal should feel it a duty to vote for a single member of the Conservative regime.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The following gentlemen composed the board of health in 1901, when Mr. Fred G. Rumball was mayor. There were seven Liberals and five Conservatives in the council, which was the appointing of the board:

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.
Liberals—H. C. McBride, H. M. Douglass, Dr. Cl. T. Campbell, Wm. Skinner, Samuel Stevely, Charles Taylor, F. G. Rumball, J. C. Hazard.

Thus the board stood four Liberals and three Conservatives.

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.
This year the Conservatives have a majority. This is how the board is made up:

Liberals—Conservatives—Dr. Cl. T. Campbell, Dr. W. M. English, Chas. Taylor, Wm. Skinner, W. D. Willis, R. A. Carrothers, Adam Beck.

Consequently the board of health for 1904 is composed of six Conservatives and one Liberal. This is what Aid. Judd and others of the Conservative majority, including the mayor, Mr. Beck, have done. And there is no room to doubt that had it been possible ex-Aid. Campbell would also have been put off the board of health. He was appointed for three years, the rapid Tory partisans could not touch him.

THE COURT OF REVISION.

By statute, the sheriff is a member of the court of revision, but the city council has the appointing of the other two members. In 1901, when the Liberals were in office, the court of revision was composed of:

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.
Liberals—John W. Jones, A. T. McMahon. Thus one Liberal, one Conservative and the sheriff formed the court.

This year the Conservatives have power, and Aid. Judd was a prime mover in the committee which made the appointments to the court of revision. And here is the make up of the court:

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.

Liberals—Conservatives—James Egan, A. T. McMahon.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN.

In 1901 the Liberals controlled the council, and Mr. Rumball was mayor. This is how the chairmen of the various committees were appointed:

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.

Liberals—Conservatives—No. 1—Ald. Green. No. 2—Ald. Winn. No. 3—Ald. Stevely.

THE ATROCITIES OF MORMONISM AS PRACTICED IN UTAH TODAY

Elder R. C. Evans Talks on Subject—Blood Atonement Twin Sister of Polygamy.

Elder R. C. Evans, of this city, who, with President Joseph Smith and Councilor Frederick Smith, forms the presidential council, which is the head of the Reorganized Mormon Church of the world, commonly called the Latter Day Saints, was questioned last evening with regard to the investigation of the Mormonism of Utah, which is being carried on by the United States army.

The Latter Day Saints' Church is behind the movement to deprive Reed Smoot of his seat in the United States Senate, on the ground that the Mormon church of Utah, to which he belongs, has not obeyed the law passed in 1890, against the practice of polygamy. On the other hand, the laws of the States as well as those of morality, Elder Evans was asked whether he could sever from the Mormon church of Utah, to which he belongs, a prominent elder in the Latter Day Saints' Church in Boston.

"For forty years the so-called Mormon church of Utah has carried on the awful secrets of the Endowment House. Throats of victims have been cut, hearts torn out and bodies disemboweled in pursuance of the tenet of the church, which says that the only way the wrath of God may be appeased

Thus the most important chairman-ship in the gift of the Liberal—the chairmanship of the board of works—was given to Aid. Winnett, a Conservative.

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.
In January last, a majority of Conservatives were returned, and this is how they handed out the chairmanships:

Liberals—Conservatives—Ald. Gerry. No. 1—Ald. Judd. No. 2—Ald. Wyatt. No. 3—Ald. Matt.

Another sample of the fairness of the Conservative council of 1904.

FAIR BOARD REPRESENTATIVES.

In 1901, when the Liberals held office, two of the five representatives appointed to the fair board were Conservatives, as follows:

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.

Liberals—Conservatives—Ald. Campbell. Ald. Cooper. Ald. Olmsted. Ald. Garratt.

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.

This year the Conservatives are in power and this is how the appointments were made:

Conservatives—Liberals—Ald. Abram. Ald. Gerry. Ald. Cooper. Ald. Matthews. Ald. Garratt.

THE LIBRARY BOARD.

It might be explained that the council appoints three representatives to the library board, the school board three, and the separate school board two.

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.

Liberals—Conservatives—Talbot Macbeth. Geo. C. Gunn, R. G. Rumball, J. C. Hazard, Dr. A. O. Jeffery, James Egan, R. H. Dignam, J. C. Hazard, E. Manigault.

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.

This year the Conservatives control the council, and the following shows the political complexion of the board:

Liberals—Conservatives—A. O. Jeffery. E. Manigault, R. R. Bland, Henry Macklin, Geo. C. Gunn, J. C. Hazard, James Egan, A. Labelle, Adam Beck.

Of course, this doesn't look like partisanship. It merely happened. The only reason Dr. Jeffery is on the board is that he was appointed for three years in 1901, and the Tories haven't had a chance to guillotine him.

LONDON AND P. S. RY. BOARD.

The London and Port Stanley Railway board gave Aid. Judd and his partisan Tory conferees a chance to vent their political spite. In 1901, when the Liberals controlled the council, the following were appointed to the board:

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.

Liberals—Conservatives—F. G. Rumball, J. H. Pritchard, President. Vice-President.

Andrew Greenlee, J. H. A. Beattie, Sam Stevely, Wm. Skinner, Wm. Cronyn, W. H. Winnett, Walter Bartlett, James Mattinson.

Thus the board stood five Liberals and five Conservatives.

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.

This year, under the system introduced by Mayor Beck, the board is controlled by the Conservatives. The board is made up as follows:

Conservatives—

Adam Beck, President. John Forrester, Vice-President. Neil Cooper, R. F. Matthews, A. V. Beebe, J. C. Judd, J. R. Minhnick.

HIGH SCHOOL TRUSTEES.

Under the system which expires this year, the council appointed six high school trustees, two each year. In 1901, when the Liberals controlled the council, the high school trustees were as follows:

UNDER LIBERAL RULE.

Liberals—Conservatives—Thomas Gillean, W. H. Morgan, D. W. Blackell, W. T. Hamilton, Wm. Macpherson.

UNDER CONSERVATIVE RULE.

This year the Conservatives control the council, and the following shows the political strip of the high school trustees:

Liberals—Conservatives—None.

This record speaks for itself. And yet Mr. Beck and his organ have the gall to tell the people that partisanship has been unknown during the past three years!



THE WEATHER TODAY—Fine and mild.
Store Open Tonight and Saturday to 10 O'Clock—Closed Between 6 and 7:30 O'Clock.

DON'T LOSE A MINUTE!

The capacity of this great store will be taxed to its utmost Friday and all day Saturday. If at all possible, come early to buy. Leave the last few hours to those who cannot come at any other time. Christmas goods at every turn—no trouble to select. Prices sure to convince you that this is the safe store to buy at.

Every Toy Must Be Cleared.

As we go out of the Toy business for the next eleven months, immediately after Christmas we must clear out everything in this department. Come to us for the best toy bargains ever offered. Dolls' Dressers, 65c to \$2.25; Blackboards, 25c to 50c; Rubber Dolls and Animals, 12½c to 80c; Balls, 10c to 35c; Tool Chests 65c; Drums, 35c to 95c; Typewriters, \$2.50 to \$5.00; Wooden Toys, 25c to \$3.00; Magic Lanterns, 45c to \$4.50; Magic Lanterns and Moving Picture Machines combined, \$7.00; Steam Toys, \$1.25 to \$6.50; Rattles, 10c to 50c; Railways on Tracks, \$1.75 to \$3.50; Electric Batteries, \$1.00; Pianos, 50c to \$1.25; Mechanical Toys, 25c to \$1.50.

Suitable Gifts for Christmas.

Warm Comfortable Wrappers, in pretty figured and striped flannel, from \$1.00 to \$2.75. Ladies' Dressing Gowns, in handsome figured German velour, Japanese quilted silk, in plain and beautifully embroidered styles. Also pretty Elderdown Robes, in plain colors. Prices ranging from \$3.75 to \$15.00. Gents' House Jackets, in reversible tweed, also quilted silk, very handsome and appropriate gifts for gentlemen, from \$4.75 to \$15.00. We are showing a splendid assortment of Gents' Bath Robes in German velour. See ours before making your choice.

Gift Umbrellas.

We carry an immense stock of Ladies' and Gents' Christmas Umbrellas. Any one of them would make a very acceptable gift.

Ladies' Umbrellas, at 75c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$12.50 and \$15.00.

Gents' Umbrellas, at 75c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.00 and \$9.00.

Gents' Self-opening Umbrellas, at \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.75, \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$4.00.

Home Decorations.

Private homes, churches, restaurants, lodges, etc., all require more or less decorating during the festive season, and we are showing very suitable materials for the purpose.

Waverly Crepon, in colors and white, 23 inches wide, a silky effect, at 7½c per yard.

Pekin Bunting, in all colors and white, 36 inches wide, in washable colors, at 10c yard.

Also an abundance of French Artificial Roses, Mums, etc., which are wonderfully natural in appearance.

Beautiful Silk Shirtwaists for Gifts.

Our stock of Christmas Shirtwaists is simply perfect, nothing daintier or more acceptable for a gift. We are offering some special lines for Friday and Saturday, in taffeta, China, Japan, Brocade, Peau de Soie, and pretty shadow silks, trimmings of tucks, buttons, straps, wide hemstitching, gold and silver gupure applique, all the newest shades and styles. Special prices, \$2.95, \$3.25, \$4.25 and \$5.00.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM

149, 151 and 153 Dundas Street.

GAVE AN "AT HOME"

Teacher and Pupils at Hubrey Entertain Their Parents and Friends.

Yesterday afternoon Miss McColl and the pupils of school section No. 10, Westminster, gave one of their very pleasant "At Homes." The crowded schoolroom testified to the character of these events in the past, and this time the occasion was doubly so, as the feeling of pleasure with which they are regarded in the section. The beautiful schoolroom was freshly decorated for the occasion with holly, evergreens and fragrant plants and flowers. The bright children seemed to have caught the spirit of the Christmas season, and rendered their parts in calisthenics, recitation, dialogue and song with such natural, happy goodwill, that it gave the visitors a very pleasing picture of modern school-life. Rev. Dr. McCrae, the genial friend of the school, acted as chairman, and emphasized the good quality of each number on the programme in a few well-chosen words.

CANDIDATES FOR HONORS ON JAN. 2

The entrance certificates were presented by Dr. McCrae to Nettie Lawson, Olive Fleming, Mabel Nichol, Olive Kirk and Nellie Wilcox, after which Miss McColl was called to the platform to read the list of candidates for the programme. Cameron Brown read an appreciative address, showing clearly the happy relations existing between teacher and pupils, and Nettie Lawson, on behalf of the school, presented her with a silver tray and a very dainty Japanese tea set. Miss McColl made a suitable reply, thanking parents and children very heartily for the tokens of goodwill she had received from the school, and for the splendid attendance at the entertainments.

Mr. Henry Nichol favored the audience by "giving a bit of the pipes," and Mr. Thomas Nichol sang in splendid voice, "Will Be Boys." The violin selections of Mr. Peter Campbell and the rendering of some popular college songs by Mr. W. Nichol, B. A., delighted all present. After short and witty addresses by Messrs. Lawson, McGregor, Laidlaw, Nichol, Smale, and others, the hearts of the children were made glad by each receiving a filled bag of bonbons, and an orange, the gift of Mr. David Lawson, trustee, while the pupils in their turn, in a gracious manner, served dainty refreshments of cake and fruit to the guests. This bright and profitable entertainment was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

Mr. W. T. Strong

The name of Mr. W. T. Strong will appear on the school trustees' ballot paper on Jan. 2. Mr. Strong has taken a keen interest in London's educational affairs for many years, has served several terms on the board of education, and is thoroughly versed in its affairs. He has a strong claim on the ratepayers who, it is assumed, will show their appreciation of his past services by again returning him to the board.

HIGGINS CONVICTED

Lithographer Found Guilty on Third Trial of Counterfeiting.

After two disagreements and a third trial lasting three days, Charles E. Higgins, the lithographer, who at one time was employed in this city, was found guilty in the general sessions at Toronto last evening of complicity in the counterfeiting carried on last June in the Connell building at Church and Adelaide streets. Higgins blamed all his trouble on Quigley, the man who is believed to have acted as a private detective and left the scene of operations just before the police made the raid. Higgins, he said, had employed him to print business cards, and the prisoner claimed to have been unaware of the purpose for which the press in the room was to have been used. This is Higgins' second conviction. His previous conviction was for passing counterfeit Moisons Bank bills, for which he served two years in jail. Morgan will sentence the prisoner at the conclusion of the sittings.

CLANDEBOYE.

Clandeboye, Dec. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jell, of Niagara Falls, spent a few days with friends here.

Mr. Allen Blackwell, of London, is spending Christmas holidays with his mother here.

Miss Minnie Cunningham spent a few days with friends in London.

Mr. James Seales, of Clinton, spent a couple of days with friends here.

Miss Hattie Jell, of Galt, is spending the holidays at her home here.

The genial merchants have been doing a good Christmas trade.

Mr. William Nichols, of Methven, was here for a short visit.

FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Christie Calendars.....\$3.00
Harrison Fisher Calendars.....\$3.00
Christie Heads.....\$1.00
Harrison Fisher Heads.....\$1.00
Christie Pictures.....\$1.25
Harrison Fisher Pictures.....\$1.25
Underwood Pictures.....\$1.25

O.B. Graves, Ltd.
222 DUNDAS STREET.

JOHN FRIEND

is now ready to supply housekeepers with their

Christmas Cakes and Puddings.

A trial will convince you that ours are the best.

HIGHEST GRADES OF

BURNING OIL,

LUBRICATING OIL

—AND ALL OTHER—

Petroleum Products.

THE QUEEN CITY OIL CO.

LIMITED,
London Branch—York Street East.
Head Office—Toronto.

Crystal Dining Hall.

Go to the Crystal, 424 Richmond street, a new and up-to-date dining-room. Three regular meals served daily at 25c each. Quick lunches at all hours. Special rates to regular boarders.

D.B. STEWART, Proprietor.

J. O. ELLIOTT,

Embalmer and Undertaker

24 DUNDAS STREET,
Day Phone 175, Night Phone 1907.
Res. 308 King. Terms moderate.

R. K. COWAN,

BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC.

County Bldg., next Court House, London

CALENDAR MOUNTS

FIVE CENTS.
W. A. McKenzie, Photo Supplies,
Opposite City Hall, Upstairs.

Before purchasing your plants for Christmas presents, see our fine

AZALEAS,

CYCLAMEN,

POINSETTIAS,

PRIMULAS, Etc.

The Choicest of Cut Flowers for Christmas. Order now.

DARCH & HUNTER

119 Dundas Street.
Phone 550.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING.

Now is the time to order your Electric Designs for Christmas decorations. Don't delay. We will get them ready for you. Telephone 958, and we will call upon you.

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London Electric Co.

You Need Not Worry

About the Disposition of Your Estate if You Appoint As Your Executor

The Canada Trust Co

London, Ont.

ROSS' 196 Dundas Street.

For Christmas Presents.

Men's Persian Lamb Caps, \$5.50, \$9.00 and \$10.00.
Men's Persian Lamb Gauntlets, \$15.00 and \$16.50.
Men's Persian Lamb Collars, \$11.00 and \$12.50.
Children's Gray Lamb Caps, \$3.00 and \$3.50.
Children's Gray Lamb Gauntlets, \$3.75 and \$4.50.
Children's Gray Lamb Collars, \$5.75 and \$6.50.
Ladies' Alaska Sable Round Muffs, \$10.00 and \$11.00.
Ladies' Alaska Sable Flat Muffs, \$15.00 and \$17.00.
Isabella Fox Ruffs, with head and tail, \$12.50.
Isabella Fox Muffs, with head and tail, \$12.50.

HARRY RANAHAN OFFERS

PLUM PUDDINGS—
per pound.....25c
CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS—
each.....10c to 75c
TABLE RAISINS—
per pound.....20c to 45c
MALAGA GRAPES—
per pound.....20c and 25c
ORANGES—
per dozen.....20c to 50c
FANCY BOXES CANDY—
per box.....15c to \$3.50
LAYER FIGS—
15c, two pounds for 25c;
and 20c per pound.

Cucumbers, Radishes,
Lettuce, Celery, Parsley,
Cauliflowers, Ripe Tomatoes.

HOLLY.

HARRY RANAHAN,

Phone 1024.

Diamond and Pearl Brooches

A Diamond and Pearl set Brooch of Diamond Hall quality is one of the finest Christmas gifts for a lady. Our display is one of the finest to be seen anywhere, and will meet with the approval of the most critical. Prices, \$2 to \$10. Prices, \$10 to \$125.

W. G. YOUNG

DIAMOND HALL,
24 DUNDAS STREET.

LONDON AND DISTRICT

Dr. Homer McLaughlin, of this city, is visiting his parents at Aylmer.

See that your stockings are right side out; never turn the hose on Santa Claus.

Mr. Colenso Sault, of Exeter, is seriously ill with pneumonia in the city hospital.

Mr. Watson, of Belmont, recently sold a team of fine black horses to Mr. Fred Hunter, of South London, for about \$400.

Mr. John McFadyen, principal of English school, who has resigned his position, will spend Christmas with relatives in this city.

Mr. J. B. Oliver, of this city, has been appointed to the committee on the redistribution of districts in connection with the Grand Lodge of Ontario, I. O. O. F.

Probate of the will of the late Frederick Wiltshire, of this city, has

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

PEARL CRESCENTS,
PEARL SUNBURSTS,
PEARL STARS,
PEARL RINGS,
GENTS' PEARL TIEPINS, in 14-k. gold, make a useful Christmas gift.

SUMNER, THE JEWELER,

300 Richmond St.

Christmas Furs...

FINE FURS
BELTZ,
RELIABLE FURRIER.

What is nicer than a fur of one shape or another?

been granted to the London and Western Trusts Company, the executor named in the will, Mr. W. G. Wainwright is the solicitor of the estate.

The general passenger agents of all the Canadian railways have notified Secretary Robinson, of the Commercial Travelers' Association, that in accordance with the request of the travelers, arrangements have been made whereby commercial travelers may buy week-end tickets between any two Canadian stations east of and including Port Arthur, Sarnia and Windsor, for one single first-class ticket, and, instead of the sale being confined to certain destinations as heretofore.

The pupils of the Richmond street north school held their Christmas entertainment on Thursday. The walls were decorated with specimens of drawing by the pupils, and a good programme was rendered by the following: Hadley Trott, James Bryant, Harold Steele, Fred Tempilar, Lizzie Bibbings, Ethel Chibby, John, Anna, Nelson, Dave Lamont, Clare Sproule, Douglas Connors, Sophia Burt, Wilbur Shuman, Arthur Hexter, Frank Connors, Vera Steele and George Ewing.

The following is taken from the Toronto Globe of a recent date: "Chief Game Warden J. H. Macdonald, a return showing that the company carried 2,522 carcasses of deer shot in the Province during the season that closed last month, weighing 285,847 pounds. Last year, which was a record year for sportsmen, the company carried 2,522 carcasses of deer, the largest number from any one point was 499 from Burk's Dominion Express Company, who usually carry between 200 and 400, have not yet been received.

CHRISTMAS AT THE HOME.

Some of those interested in the Home for Incapacitated, getting in the Christmas tree for the inmates on Tuesday night next. Subscriptions will be gladly received.

PRESENTATION TO LONDONER.

Mr. Arthur Hodgins, foreman of the Canadian Northern freight sheds at Port Arthur (formerly of Albion street, West London), was presented with a conskin coat by his fellow employees the other evening.

GIFTS FOR INDIANS.

Rev. S. Brigan's Indian mission on Walpole Island is receiving many Christmas subscribers and gifts from the members of St. John's Church, London township. The Women's Auxiliary have sent Mr. Brigan a large package of useful articles.

TRAVELERS' CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Travelers' Club of this city will be held in the club house on Richmond street tomorrow (Saturday) evening at 8 o'clock. The meeting will have some important matters to consider.

THE WEATHER A YEAR AGO.

A year ago today London was enjoying favorable weather for the Christmas shoppers. The day was quite mild, the temperature reaching 35.5 degrees above zero, while the lowest mark was 16 degrees above.

STELLA'S NEW OFFICERS.

The following officers have been elected by Court Stella, A. O. F., for the ensuing term: C. R. A. W. Jenkins, S. C. T. George Chapman, treasurer, John Nutkins; secretary, F. O. Wooley; S. W. Bro. Taylor; J. W. Bro. McNelly; S. B. Thomas Chamberlain; J. B. Bro. Brown; physician, W. M. English, M. D.; trustees, R. Moule, T. Shaw and J. Connors; auditors, W. Livermore and C. Montrose; minute secretary, R. Moule.

BYRON SCHOOL CLOSING.

The closing exercises of the Byron public school were held on Thursday afternoon. The pupils' parts were very well given. Mr. W. E. Saunders, of this city, was present and gave a very pleasing and instructive talk on birds at the close of which the pupils moved him a very hearty vote of thanks. The people of the section who were present appreciated the talk very much, and the program was completed many boxes of confectionery, donated by the McCormick Company, were distributed among the pupils. The pupils also took advantage of the opportunity of moving Mr. McCormick a vote of thanks.

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS.

The musical services at St. John the Evangelist Church, Christmas Day, under direction of Mr. H. L. Milligan, with Mr. T. Mitchell at the organ, will include: Processional hymn, No. 61, A. and M. V. (Twile), Psalms (Twile and Lahee), Te Deum (Hopkins), Benedictus (Goss), Anthem, "Be Glad and Rejoice" (Hayward), Gloria (Goss), Gloria (Warren), Hymn, No. 59, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," Evening Hymn, No. 60, "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing," Beethoven (Handel), Gregorian), Magnificat (Vincent), Nunc Dimitt (Micheletti), Anthem, "We Have Seen a Star," Hymn, No. 62, "While Shepherds Watched," Hymn, No. 18, "Hail! Gladdening Light."

WILL NOT HAVE STRAIGHT TICKET

Temperance Party Will Only Secure Pledges of Candidates for the Council.

There is a strong possibility that the temperance party will not have a straight ticket for the municipal elections. When the question of candidates was considered at a meeting held behind closed doors a few days ago, a sub-committee was appointed to prepare a slate of candidates to name candidates for the council only.

This committee has been at work, but a member of it today announced that the temperance party did not have a straight slate. All it desired was to secure a majority of members on the council who were favorable to the cause, and if they secured this they would be satisfied. Already four candidates for aldermanic honors had been named, and they had pledged themselves, if elected, to vote for a reduction of the licenses in London. Other candidates were being waited upon by the representatives of the temperance party, and all who would make a similar pledge would receive their support.

The member of the sub-committee was asked if all candidates would be approached, and the reply was that the temperance people would only see those who were looked upon as having a good chance of election.

All we want to get," said the committeeman, "is the pledge of a majority

TOMORROW'S CONVENTION

EAST MIDDLESEX LIBERALS

The convention of the Liberals of East Middlesex to be held tomorrow in the Auditorium promises to be the largest in the history of the East Riding Association. The various subdivisions have met during the past two weeks and named their full delegations, and with anything like favorable weather conditions the Auditorium will be filled with enthusiastic Liberals.

The nomination of a candidate for the Provincial Legislature will be taken up at the convention at 1:30, admission to which will be granted only to persons holding credentials from the chairmen of their subdivisions. The name of Dr. Routledge, of Lambeth, who represented the riding so well in the last House, has been mentioned in all parts of the electoral district in connection with the candidature, and it is pretty well assured that it will be the only one placed before the convention. Dr. Routledge is extremely popular in all parts of the constituency, and his friends are bent on again having him as the candidate.

The business of the convention will be completed in an hour, and at 2:30 the doors of the Auditorium will be thrown open to the public. Addresses are to be given by a number of leading Liberals of the city and the adjacent ridings.

MAYOR BECK ENTERTAINS CIVIC BODIES AT A FAREWELL DINNER

Large Gathering at the Spread in the City Hall Last Evening

—The Toast List.

Mayor Beck last night entertained a company of about seventy-five guests at a farewell banquet in the city hall. The affair was unique in many respects, because for a first time in London at a public function, the company sat down to dinner at 7 o'clock; the menu was particularly appetizing from the fact that it was served in the "home-made" manner, and during the evening some excellent vaudeville was introduced by performers from the London Vaudeville Theater. Mrs. Beck also favored with a number of solos in artistic style, as did also Mr. Cyril Dwight-Edwards, and the harpers added to the pleasures of the evening by rendering many beautiful selections. Mrs. Dr. Drake was accompanist to the soloists.

Though it had been announced some days ago that there would be no speaking, the resolution was foregone, and a lengthy toast list was carried out, though the company dispersed shortly after midnight, a very seasonable hour.

Mayor Beck took his place at the head of the board, and on his right was Sir John Carling, and on his left Ald. Judd. The guests included all members of civic bodies, all civic officials, Mayor Beck, and a few other friends of the host.

The first toast was that of "The Board of Education," coupled with "The Board of Police Commissioners," which was the name of Chairman E. J. MacRobert, who replied in a happy manner.

"The Board of Police Commissioners" was the next toast on the list, and Police Magistrate Love made one of the most characteristically pleasant speeches, complimenting the police commissioners.

"The Water Commissioners" was responded to by Mr. William Jones, who spoke highly of the mayor's work on the water commission.

Coupled with the toast of "The Hospital Trust" was the name of Mr. Thomas Purdom, K. C., who said that all the municipal charities of London should be under one management. He declared that there is no money expended by the people for which they secure such value as they do for taxes. Dr. English responded to the toast of

The Choicest of Everything Good to Eat is Here

For You. Let Us Fill Your Christmas Order.

FANCY NAEVIL ORANGES, a dozen, 30c, 40c, 50c and 60c
FLORIDAS, a dozen, 30c, 40c and 50c
CHOICEST TABLE RAISINS, a pound.....25c
PINK MALAGA GRAPES, a pound.....25c
GREEN MALAGA GRAPES, a pound.....20c
BEST MIXED NUTS, a pound.....20c
GOOD MIXED NUTS, a pound.....15c
WEBB'S PLUM PUDDINGS, a pound.....25c

Oysters

The finest, direct from Baltimore to us:
Extra Selects, a quart.....50c
Large Standards, a quart.....40c

STUFFED DATES { 35c Box
STUFFED FIGS.....25c

IMPORTED TURKISH DELIGHT, a box.....25c

Christmas Crackers

You should have a box for your Christmas gathering. Lots of fun for old and young. Each cracker filled with an amusing assortment of fancy paper hats, caps, bonnets, Japanese novelties, etc., etc. Come and see them.

15c up to, per box,.....\$1.25

SANTA CLAUS STOCKINGS, filled with toys, 10c up to 75c

TELEPHONE 317.

T. A. ROWAT & CO

234 Dundas Street.

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RECEPTION TO PASTOR

Congregation of Proudfoot Memorial Chapel Welcomes Rev. T. Nixon.

The London Presbytery recently arranged to have divine services every Sunday evening in the Proudfoot Memorial Chapel, West London, commencing on Dec. 25 (Christmas Night). Last evening, a reception was given to the pastor, Rev. Thomas Nixon, the chair being occupied by Mr. J. A. Carrick, Mr. A. S. McGregor gave a synopsis of the work that had recently been accomplished, showing that the prospects for the cause of Presbyterianism in West London, for the future, were particularly bright. Rev. Dr. Ross and Rev. J. G. Stuart also spoke encouragingly of the work. A large Sabbath school has been built up and with divine service every Sunday evening, a large congregation will without doubt soon be in attendance. Refreshments were served by the ladies.

Christmas Gifts Bought at

The Purdom-Gillespie Hardware Co.

represent far greater value than you'll find elsewhere.

CARPET SWEEPERS, \$2 to \$5
CARVING SETS, \$1 to \$15
TABLE KNIVES, DESERT and TEA KNIVES, in sets, a set.....\$2 to \$7
POCKET KNIVES, 10c to \$2
SCISSORS, in cases.....\$1 to \$2
LADY'S COMPANION, 50c to \$3

SKATES, HOCKEY STICKS, TOBAGGANS, SLEIGHs, BABY CUTTERS, and a great many other CHRISTMAS GIFTS that might be SELECTED from our IMMENSE STOCK.

English Plum Puddings

Christmas Cake

Christmas Shortcake

Mince Pies & Patties

Mincemeat (Our Own Flake.)

GEORGE PETERS, Confectioner

90c

Ready for the Final Round-Up.

STRONG LIST

Including many New Novelties, prepared for Friday and Saturday—the last two days of the

Christmas Shopping Season

See SCREATION'S STRONG SHOWING of Practical and Pleasing Presents:

Imported Statuary, each, from.....\$1.50 to \$7.50
Sofa Pillows, each, from.....\$1.25 to \$7.50
Eiderdown Comfortables, each, from.....\$4.00 to \$15.00
Cotton-Filled Comfortables, each, from.....\$1.25 to \$3.50
White Satin Counterpanes, each, from.....\$1.25 to \$5.00
Lace Bed Sets—Sham and Bolster, each, from.....\$7.50 to \$10.00
Cushion Forms, 18 to 26-inch, each, from.....40c to 85c
Cushion Covers, various patterns, each, from.....35c to \$2.75
Cushion Girdles, every wanted combination, each, from.....25c to 50c
Pillow Shams, large assortment, pair, from.....\$1.50 to \$2.50
Bedroom Boxes, made to your order, each, from.....\$6.00 to \$8.50
Dresser and Stand Covers, suitable sizes, each.....50c to \$1.25
Art Silks, for light draperies, yard.....65c to 75c
Colored Madras Draperies, yard.....35c to \$1.25
Cream and White Madras, yard.....25c to 75c
Art Satens, for covers and draperies, yard.....20c to 75c
Printed Silkalines, dainty and effective, special, yard.....20c
Plain Colors, in Silkalines, yard.....13c
Sash Nets, all widths, yard, from.....20c to \$1.25
Tapestry Coverings, 50 inches wide, yard.....75c to \$2.50
Silk Coverings, 50 inches wide, yard.....\$2.00 to \$6.00
Screens, oak frames, 3 and 4 sections, each.....\$1.25 to \$5.00
Oak Costumers, each, from.....\$3.00 to \$5.00
Carpet Sweepers, best makes, each, from.....\$2.75 to \$3.75
Carpet Squares, all sizes and all makes, each.....\$6.00 to \$7.50
Floor Rugs and Mats, each.....50c to \$7.00
Couch Covers, each.....\$6.00 to \$10.00
Tapestry Table Covers, all sizes and colors, each.....50c to \$4.00
Japanese Lanterns, each.....25c to 50c
Burnt Wood Novelties, each.....50c to \$4.50

A. SCREATION & CO

Dundas Street. Carling Street.

ALL FOR HER

"Yes," said Olivia dreamily, "but he might have said a brass band."

This so tickled the Cherub that he broke into a loud laugh, which brought two bright-eyed, fresh young girls to their side. They were the two Penstone girls, who were in no wise remarkable excepting for their position as Sir William's daughters—the baronetage was one of the oldest in the county—and their perfectly frank unassuming delight in, and admiration for, Olivia.

To these two, simple country girls there had never been since the world was created, so beautiful and clever and altogether fascinating a creature as Olivia Vanley.

They pounced upon her, one on each side of the horsing and clung to her with loving eagerness.

"Why, dear, we thought you were never coming," exclaimed Mary, drawing the supple neck downwards that she might kiss the fresh, red lips, "How well you are looking!"

"And how beautiful!" murmured nie, drawing her gauntlet from her hand.

"You flatterers!" said Olivia, kissing them both and slipping from her horse.

"We were so afraid you wouldn't come," said Mary, "and we were so sure you couldn't tell, and isn't this delightful? So kind of Mr. Bradstone! And you rode over with dear Bertie. No wonder he looks so bright and happy. And she shot a half-playful, half-jealous glance from her boyish eyes at the girl who, having got rid of one of the giants in push, was mixing a salad.

"He will look over so much brighter and happier when he has had some lunch," said Olivia.

"For heaven's sake persuade him to send some of the fellows away, sir," said Bertie in a low voice to the squire, as they seated themselves; "it isn't a bit like a picnic with them hovering like huge birds-of-paradise over us!"

The squire shrugged his shoulders. "Let him alone—he means well," he said good-naturedly.

Bartley Bradstone came up to them at this moment. He was looking flushed and excited and fussy.

"Have you got all you want? Miss Olivia, let them give you some of the pate. Squire, I think you will find this champagne correct—Pomery, 72."

The butler swooped solemnly down with the bottle, just as he would have done in the dining room of the Marquis.

It was fearfully and dreadfully like a picnic, but the high spirits of the two Penstone girls rose even above the overwhelming presence of the squire and butler, and they were soon laughing and romping, and Olivia was smiling at them sympathetically, when suddenly, in the very middle of the informally formal repast, and just as Mr. Bradstone was mentally congratulating himself upon its successful success, a man and a woman, with a couple of children clinging to them, came through the dining room of the Marquis.

The woman stopped short, and with the true gypsy white said, as she hungrily eyed the costly spread.

"Will the pretty ladies cross the poor gypsy's hand with silver, and let her tell them their fortunes?"

Mr. Bradstone choked up, almost choking with rage. That gypsy should dare at any time to trespass upon his property, was had enough to bear, but that they should inflict their gipsy presence upon his special picnic party was simply unendurable.

"What do you mean?" he demanded, angrily. "Here! Go away! Go away! at once!"

The woman shrank back a little; but the man, at the sound of his voice, gave a little start and came a step nearer.

"We mean no harm, gentlemen," he said, whistlingly, his dark eyes fixed upon Bartley Bradstone's angry face. "Let the wise woman tell the pretty ladies' fortunes."

Bartley Bradstone was about to send them about their business with the nearest approach to an oath he dared to utter in the presence of ladies when Mary Penstone, with a laugh, said:

"Oh, don't send them away, Mr. Bradstone. I should like to have my fortune told. I should like to have my fortune told. I should like to have my fortune told."

"It's all nonsense," he said, with ill-concealed impatience.

"But it is!" demanded Annie, eyeing the dark-hued gypsy woman wistfully. "Oh, yes, of course, it is, I know; but let her stay. Mr. Bradstone, just for a minute. Mary, lend me a shilling—I'll be the first."

Mary did not possess the coin; but Olivia found one, and Mary, with a flourish, gave it to the gypsy. The woman crossed the soft palm with it.

"Your fortune is easy to tell, miss," she said; "you'll marry the man of your choice and be happy."

Annie snatched her hand away with a disappointed pout of her full lips.

"I don't think that's worth a shilling," she said. "It's a swindle. I ought to have fallen in love with the wrong man and died of consumption. Now, Mary!"

But Mary declined, positively.

"Well, you, then, squire," said Annie, tugging at his arm.

"My fortune's made or marred long ago," he said, shaking his head as he tossed half a crown to the woman.

"Well, then, it's Olivia's turn," said Annie. "Now, Olivia, you must, you must have your fortune told."

Olivia smiled and held out her hand promptly.

"Don't prophesy anything very dreadful, please," she said.

The woman crossed her long, shapely hand and patted it. Then she slowly let the hand drop.

"Is there any other gentleman or lady would like their fortune told?" she said.

"Oh, but that isn't fair!" exclaimed Annie Penstone. "You must tell this lady's, you know."

The woman glanced at her, then at Olivia.

"Am I to tell it, miss?" she said.

Olivia smiled. "Of course," she said.

"Why not?"

The woman took her hand and looked into her eyes just as a short-sighted person might have done; then she glanced behind her at the spot where the man stood in an attitude of perfect repose and self-possession, his dark eyes fixed upon Bartley Bradstone.

"Shall I tell this pretty lady her fortune, Seth?"

The man nodded, and the woman in a low voice said:

"There are lines of much sorrow, miss, and much doubt. You will mate with a man you do not love, and love a man you do not mate. But in the end—"

and awe, shook his head.

"Your experience is enough for me," he said.

"That will do," said Bartley Bradstone, and he dug a coin towards the group. "Clear off now!"

The woman darted at the coin, but as her hand closed over it she said:

"Let me tell this gentleman his fortune."

"Oh, do! oh, come, Mr. Bradstone!" exclaimed the two Penstone girls in chorus. "In common fairness!"

"Oh, I'm quite ready," said Bartley Bradstone, but with anything but alacrity; and leaning on his elbow he extended his right hand reluctantly.

"The left, if you please, gentleman," said the woman.

"You are mighty particular," he said with an uneasy laugh, and he shifted his position and gave her the left hand.

A he did so the man took a step passability, but she bent lower over the woman's ear.

Her face did not change from its inward and whispered something in Bartley Bradstone's hands, and amidst the almost silent silence she said in the dreamy voice she had adopted in the former cases:

"There are lines that trouble the poor gypsy. Lines of the past, and the coming future. Beware of the woman with the black eyes and the cut lip."

Bartley Bradstone changed color and checked his hand away.

"That will do," he said. "Don't bother us with any more, but take your share. And look here, I don't allow gypsies to settle or squat, or whatever you call it, upon my land."

The woman tied the coins she had received in the corner of her apron in a deliberate composure, then dropping a curtsy, followed the man and wife had already struck into the thick undergrowth.

"How delightful!" exclaimed Annie Penstone. "Mr. Bradstone, I believe you had them brought here on purpose, just to make your picnic complete."

"No, I didn't," he said abruptly. "I hate them. They are the worst thieves in the world."

He stopped. "Bring some more wine," he called to the butler.

"Beware of the woman with the cut lip and the black eyes, Mr. Bradstone," the butler filled their glasses, and in the midst of the general laughing and talking, Bartley Bradstone was recovering his composure and feeling pretty comfortable again, when he heard the sound of horse's hoofs, and riding up, saw a man on horseback.

The horse was a hunter of good character, and his rider was evidently so, in that he thought that he had thrown the reins almost on the animal's neck, and was perfectly indifferent to the course it was taking.

All the picnic party stared at him, and Mary Penstone had just time to whisper to Olivia, "What a handsome man!" when Bartley Bradstone sprang to his feet and seized the horse's loose rein.

It was had enough to have his grand picnic interrupted by ill-conditioned gypsies, but that an unknown rider should dare to intrude was simply intolerable.

"Here, you, sir," he exclaimed angrily, "do you know you are trespassing?"

The gentleman pulled up, and looked on the angry face below him to the rest of the party with a half-awakened expression.

Then he drew the rein from Bartley Bradstone's grasp and looking at him calmly, said:

"I beg your pardon, I did not know I was trespassing."

"But you are!" insisted the giver of the reins. "This is private land, and you ought to know it. I found it, sir, you've no right to trespass upon private property like this!"

The stranger's face flushed; but before he could speak Bertie sprang to his feet and approached the two gentlemen. "Bartley," he said, "this gentleman is a friend of mine, and I can assure you that he had no desire to trespass."

Bartley Bradstone looked from one expression of moody suspicion.

"Friend of yours? Of course, that makes a difference. I suppose it's all right."

Olivia had risen and came slowly towards them. The rest kept their seats.

"Yes, this is a friend of mine," Mr. Bradstone said, and he laid his hand upon the bridle of the stranger's horse.

He looked from Bertie to Bartley Bradstone and then at Olivia, and on her face his eyes seemed fixed.

"Although a friend of Lord Granville, I am still a trespasser," he said, and he turned and rode off.

Both Bartley Bradstone and Olivia turned upon Bertie.

"He is a friend of yours, Lord Granville?" demanded Bartley.

Olivia said nothing, though her eyes were eloquent enough.

"The color rose to poor Bertie's face. 'It is Mr. Paradeau, of the Dell,' he stammered—fancy the Cherub stammering!—'I made his acquaintance the day his dog ran loose, Olivia. That's all!'"

[To be Continued.]

Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup

has been used for over FIFTY YEARS for MILLIONS OF MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEething, with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES ALL PAIN, CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHEA, and is a safe and sure for Mrs. Winslow's.

A NEWSPAPER DUEL

In Pursuit of Circulation the Echo Gives Away \$1,000 a Week.

London, Dec. 23.—South Wales is in the throes of an exciting newspaper duel. About a year ago the "Evening Express," which is published at the "Western Mail" office, Cardiff, started a series of schemes of money prizes.

These schemes proved so successful that a week or two back the "Express" claimed a circulation in South Wales and Monmouth of over 100,000 copies, and described how 50,000 pounds had been spent upon the paper.

Numbered postcards were then sent out to householders, the names and names of persons entitled to coupons being regularly published. In this way 20 pounds per week was distributed.

The proprietors of the "South Wales Echo" responded with an announcement that that paper was the most largely circulated in South Wales and the West of England, and announced that they would distribute 100 pounds every week in a similar way.

The "Express" immediately increased their offer to 200 pounds per week, and the "Echo" not to be outdone, has announced the distribution of 1,000 pounds per week in sovereigns.

Consumption can certainly be cured

Nearly all cases in the early stages. Many even when far advanced. Fresh air stands first. Good food next. Then a medicine to quiet the cough and control the inflammation—Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Ask your doctor about this advice. F. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

SANTO DOMINGO THE NEXT GRAB

Uncle Sam About to Seize Negro Republic.

ALREADY HOLDS A BIG CITY

Puerto Plata Is Controlled by the Americans and Three Others Soon To Be Seized.

London, Dec. 22.—It is quite probable that the next important move in world politics will be the seizure by the United States of the Republic of Santo Domingo. The preliminary steps are now being taken, prominent news papers defending the administration expansionists. The following announcement is made by the New York Tribune: "The United States will not purchase annex Santo Domingo, this Republic of Santo Domingo, which may be stated on the highest authority. That the United States may find it expedient to control of Santo Domingo, pay off its indebtedness, and replace intolerable conditions with a safe and sane government, presently was done with Cuba, is not only possible, but probable. It is also possible in return for thus acting as Santo Domingo's receiver, the United States may acquire the use of a coaling station on Samana Bay."

The American Government is already in control of Puerto Plata, one of the most important towns in the island. That the three other chief ports, Monte Cristi, Sanchez, and Samana, will be seized in the near future is almost certain. Thus far the United States may go with the propriety gained by arbitral sanction; for this reason, the decision of last July was supposed to put an end to the trouble between Santo Domingo and the United States. By this award certain sums were granted the latter country as compensation, and the seizure of the ports and collection of customs was suggested, in the event of Santo Domingo failing to abide by the court's decision and settle promptly. In September last Mr. John T. Aldrich took office as United States minister at Puerto Plata, under the authority of the United States.

Early, the republic having decided to occupy four ports, as permitted by agreement, to claiming authority over all the island is a view is thus set forth:

"The assumption that the United States will, after undertaking the administration of the four ports named, go further, and assume temporary charge of the entire Dominican administration, with the hope of establishing it on a sound and business basis, is occasioned by the hopeless insolvency of the present regime, the tyranny of the military which dominates the republic, and the constant danger that European creditors may be driven to exasperation and their Governments feel called upon to do work which can be better done by the United States, and which, if performed by this country, would be unattended by danger of foreign complications. In this connection it may be said that the state department has reason to understand that temporary American administration of Dominican affairs would be welcomed by the European nations, whose subjects are creditors of the insolvent republic."

The anti-expansionists have hardly grasped the situation yet, or we might be able to contrast the foregoing with this opinion. They would probably point out that Santo Domingo is always available for nations with "benevolent assimilation" in view. Naturally the victim of these good-natured offices must be men must be men, and links arms with the inebriate, hopeless and tyrannized, we have a fair subject for illustration. The "fear that European creditors may be driven to exasperation," being translated by an anti-imperialist, means the fear that some other vulgar may be first on the carcass. Imperialists say that what has been done to Cuba would be repeated, and here again opinions differ, the anti-imperialists saying that Cuba is a mere dependency of the United States. The whole situation as regards Santo Domingo may be likened to that of a criminal man hanging home. An affable stranger presents himself and links arms with the inebriate. Does he mean to lead him to a Salvation Army shelter, or lure him down an alleyway?

That Santo Domingo is very drunk indeed there can be no doubt. The national debt is more than \$22,000,000, and this is increasing every year. Under present management and methods the republic is hopelessly bankrupt. European creditors whose claims are now in the hands of the Belgian-French commission are owed \$13,000,000, but clearly realizing the bankruptcy of the country they have expressed a willingness to accept 50 cents on the dollar, if monthly payments of \$25,000 be made for five years. These creditors would naturally be glad enough to have the United States guarantee them full payment, but it may reasonably be doubted that they would surrender their own little dreams about selling the place themselves. The Dominican army is composed largely of colonies; graft reigns supreme. There are twelve governors for a population of 600,000, each with a suite of Oriental proportions. No wonder the place is always undergoing a civil war.

Here is how one citizen describes the situation:

"We have no census; no surveys; no roads; no good police; no instruction; 95 per cent of our population being illiterate; no farmers; no sailors; no professional men; no trained soldiers, but hundreds of colonels; a surplus of an indebtedness of \$30,000,000, and all our revenues are spent in war, killing people."

The same citizen also gives a Christmas list of the things the country wants. If Uncle Sam consents to play the part of Santa Claus the world will see a repetition of the Cuban and Panama incidents.

PAYS FOR BURNED BONDS

Adams Express Company Settles for Canadian Lumber Bonds.

New York, Dec. 22.—The Adams Express Company settled yesterday with the Knickerbocker Trust Company for the \$200,000 in coupon bonds of a Canadian lumber company which were destroyed by fire in the express company's car near Worcester last Friday morning. Other claims on account of the fire, including one for \$4,000 worth of bank notes, will be paid by the company as they are established.

The loss of the company, it was said at the main office yesterday, would undoubtedly amount to \$240,000 unless something could be recovered on the notes and bonds destroyed. The company has no doubts as to the recovery of the notes of bonds in the consignments, but will make some effort to establish them.

This, it was said, is the first instance in which the company's safes have gone back on them. Safes of the same make have passed through other fires without serious results to the contents, and the officials of the company are at a loss to explain how the notes, and particularly the jewelry, in the express car safes were destroyed. There is no question, however, in the minds of the company's officials, that the fire was purely accidental.

If the company is not able to establish the identity of the Treasury notes burned the Government will, of course, by warrant. An official of the Sub-Treasury, when asked yesterday how much the Government made approximately in a year from circumstances such as are presented in the Adams Express Company case, said he couldn't say definitely, but that it was safe to put it well up in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

MINNESOTA TRIES TO HALT EXODUS

Western State Taking Steps to Stop Emigration to the Northwest.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 23.—Realizing that year by year more and more American farmers cross the border and take up land in the north-west of Canada, the Legislature of Minnesota will make a determined effort to frustrate this and to show the hundreds who yearly emigrate from this state that they can obtain land under good conditions here as across the line.

The question, after considerable agitation, is being strongly entered into by A. L. Cole, member-elect for the local legislature, and he has declared positively that he will do his utmost to stem the tide of this emigration.

"The only relief we can get in this state and collect the money to stay in immigration board," said he yesterday. This will counteract the influence of all Canadian states that have an immigration office in this state, representatives of which meet the land-seekers' trains coming from the south to this State, and urge the foreigners of large communities to continue their journey to Canada. That will gain our end to a certain degree, but will be far from absolute in persuading farmers to stay right here in this state, or on this side of the line at least. There are in Minnesota some 2,000,000 acres of swamp lands. At the next session of the legislature I will bring up the matter of draining all these lands and then selling them to men who will put them under cultivation at once. We will absolutely refuse to sell to speculators, and will have to have guarantees from purchasers that they will take up residence on the land at once. I can tell you, however, that this scheme is only the beginning of an effort that will be made by this country to turn back the tide of immigration that each year flows with increased current over Canada's border."

During the last three years the emigration from this country into Canada, especially into the Canadian Northwest generally, has increased with alarming rapidity. The Canadian Government has been particularly active in its efforts to advance that country among farmers of the border States, and that it has been successful is apparent from the official returns. Besides this, Canadian land companies have shown wonderful enterprise in their methods of taking American settlers over their lands. This has all resulted in a very serious thing has reached such proportions now that politicians are determined to stop it or to do all in their power in that direction. The Canadian plans are being made for a huge campaign that will begin with the coming spring.

Wash greasy dishes, pots or pans with Lever's Dry Soap or powder. It will remove the grease with the greatest ease. 36 "TIS WELL TO KNOW A GOOD THING," said Mrs. Surface to Mrs. Knowell, when they met one day. "Why have you been for a week back to that Dr. Thomson's store for a bottle of Dr. Thomson's Electric Oil?" Mrs. Surface, who hates puns, walked on. But Mrs. Knowell, when she saw the contract of a week back, was another customer for Electric Oil.

The Irish Registrar-General's report shows that the number of marriages during the 10 years from 1891 to 1900 showed an increase of 8,513 over the preceding 10 years, although the population had decreased over 400,000. Emigrants left Ireland in the 10 years, 82 per cent of them being between the ages of 15 and 35.

SICK AT NIGHT

WELL IN THE MORNING.

A MOST WONDERFUL CHANGE IN EVEN A FEW HOURS CAN BE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED IN NATURE'S WAY.

Your head aches and feels heavy. Perhaps your throat is a little dry. You have little appetite, and occasionally chilly feelings creep along the spine. Your eyes are hot, tongue turned, and you are about half knocked out. You know what the trouble is. You have been drinking and eating too much. You have felt this way before and it took you a week to get well. You are just "bilious" and your stomach has gone back on you. If you do the right thing at the very start you will feel better tomorrow. Just take two or three of Smith's Pineapple and Eucalyptus Pills, take them now, and tonight when you retire take one or two more, and you will feel one hundred per cent better tomorrow morning and before the day is passed you will forget all about it. These wonderful little pills, combining the antiseptic and solvent properties of pineapple with the laxative and cleansing effects of eucalyptus, will quickly relieve a congested circulation, and drive out of the blood the bile accumulated in the liver, restoring harmonious action to the digestive organs. Just one day's use of these little pills will cure any threatened bilious attack. They are good for young or old, never gripe or weaken, nor have behind any unpleasant after effects. They always cure sick headache, constipation and biliousness in one night. 25 cents at all dealers.

All genuine signed W. F. Smith.

SMITH'S BUCHU LITHIA PILLS

A POSITIVE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM AND ALL FORMS OF KIDNEY AND BLADDER ILLS. AVERAGE PRICES—25 CENTS. A BOTTLE AT THE PEOPLE'S PRICE.

SODA

SALE RATES IS THE BEST.

E. W. GILLET COMPANY LIMITED TORONTO, ONT.

SPECIAL NOTICE—WE ARE NOW SETTLED IN OUR NEW STORE

232 Dundas Street.

A Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to All

A good many hearts are being made happy and contented through this great festival—CHRISTMAS, and the coming of the New Year. Presents are shipped to homes by the score, money spent happily and freely, for those beloved. How every heart beats impatiently for the happy day to arrive, when one's eyes open—OH! HOW BEAUTIFUL! Perhaps there are a good many today who have not as yet bought their presents. Why? Because they don't know what to buy. One article may be too dear and another too cheap.

Should you feel any way inclined to accept our advice we will give you one free of charge. Your Sister, Daughter or Sweet-heart must be presented with something, I am sure. Well, here is a couple: For instance, a Beautiful Short Skirt for SKATING; a Beautiful WINTER WALKING SKIRT, etc. You put this aside. You say, well this present was made me by Sister, and I am only going to wear it for skating. How delightful Sister would feel to think that she perhaps only paid \$1.95, \$2.45 or \$2.85 for this Skirt, and how much it is being appreciated. However, we are here and will request you all to call at our store for those Skirts, and see if we cannot do as we say. Our prices are reduced again considerably and we want you to know a good thing when you see it.

These Are Just a Few Prices Good Until Saturday Night at 11 O'Clock:

A \$2.40 Skirt for \$1.48
A \$3.50 Skirt for \$1.95
A \$4.55 Skirt for \$2.45
A \$5.00 Skirt for \$2.85
A \$5.50 Skirt for \$3.15
A \$6.00 Skirt for \$3.30
A \$7.50 Skirt for \$4.95
An \$8.00 Skirt for \$5.45
A \$9.25 Skirt for \$6.75

Our Winter Coats Good for driving or walking, range in prices from \$20.00 values. Come at once, for you have only a couple of days to do this.

WITH COMPLIMENTS

The Metropolitan Skirt and Suit Manufacturing Company,

232 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON, ONT.

DUCKED THE SWINDLER

Two Lock Him in Car and Send for Reinforcements.

Washington, N. J., Dec. 23.—A stranger giving his name as Charles B. Moyer, collected \$2 from about twenty poor girls here by representing himself as an agent for a company manufacturing silk flowers. He offered the girls employment by which they could make five dollars a week, but made them pay him two dollars for an outfit, which would be sent to them later.

Moyer went from here to Oxford, and worked there for several days. Anna and Teresa Flanagan, two of his victims, met Moyer on the street here yesterday, and demanded a return of their money. Moyer laughed. The girls are robust and they grasped Moyer and pulled him to a railroad switch, where stood an empty freight car. They locked in Moyer and then went for help.

In a little while a dozen girls marched in a body to the car, opened it and pulled Moyer out. He was helpless from drink and the girls resolved to sober him up. This they did by plunging him two or three times into the icy waters of the nearby creek. After the girls had left him, they locked in Moyer and then went for help.

No better Candy in the city. French mixture, 2 pounds for 25c. Largest variety and best-made Candy to be obtained is at the Olympia Candy Store, 188 Dundas street, 90k.

Get Your Leather Goods

Christmas Presents

AT ONCE, AT

W.B. Lawson's

198 DUNDAS STREET.

SPECIAL LINES OF

Purses,

Hand-Satchels,

Dress Slippers and

Traveling Bags

For ladies and gentlemen.

IN PURSES We have the beautiful new gray color—the New York novelty.

HAND-SATCHELS From 50c to \$7.00; with children's special in all colors, 25c

DRESS SLIPPERS A beautiful range including the new champagne color and beaded lines at from \$1.25 to \$3.50.

Letter Bags With ribbon handle, the newest line for afternoon calling.

Traveling Bags With fittings in endless variety.

W. B. LAWSON'S

198 Dundas Street.