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SCOTTISH LASSIES.

THE EXPEDITION AGAINST QUEBEC IN 1759.

To the Editor of the "CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS."

Sir,—I am sorry to see, from Dr. Anderson's last letter, that my former communication proved such a bee in his bonnet; but I am glad that Dr. Anderson has at last awakened to the fact of the correctness of my statements, as the whole drift of his last communication tends to show. It will be easily seen that the doctor has advanced no new arguments, has offered no fresh proof in support of his claim, but stands as it were like one who feels the very disagreeable position in which he has placed himself and is unwilling to acknowledge it. His arguments (if he had any) have resolved themselves into accusing me of being a young man just come of age. However, notwithstanding my juvenility, the stern facts detailed in my former letter still remain unanswered. If the possession of a beard is an attribute of wisdom, then I might procure a billy-goat to do all the requisites of correspondence, and I have here to draw Dr. Anderson's attention to the very bad taste he has been guilty of in bringing in irrelevant matters. I think I have already shewn by my former letter and by its effects, and I also hope to shew before this letter is finished, that I do know something of the matter in question, and perhaps a little more than is desirable for the success of Dr. Anderson's pretensions.

This gentleman accuses me of using very unbecoming language towards himself. This I am not aware of, but if I have, the doctor has, to a certain extent, approved of it, as he has followed suit, and by ambiguous satire and innuendo, fairly succeeded in carrying a direct insult to my father.

When first prepared, in 1759, Moncrief's journal was accompanied by a well-executed plan, on a large scale, shewing the various positions occupied by the hostile forces contending for the defence and the capture of the city, and illustrating, by ample notes and references, the various incidents which occurred during the campaign. The plan to which reference is made in the journal, and of which it forms an essential part, was drawn according to the official surveys taken by the officers of the Expedition entrusted with this duty, viz.:—"The east side of the Falls of Montmorency, the Point of Orleans, and the south side of the river St. Lawrence, by Captain Debbieg, Engineer in Ordinary. The coast of Beauport from the river St. Charles to the Falls of Montmorency, by Captain Holland, of the Royal Americans, Assistant Engineer. The ground between the river St. Lawrence and the river St. Charles, by Lieut. Debarres, of the Royal Americans, Assistant Engineer. The British works are coloured yellow, and their encampments red, with the facings of the different corps." Words and passages from the Moncrief journal are quoted on this plan—and reference is made to it in the journal—both being contemporaneous, viz., 1759, and each the supplement of the other.

The readers of the *Illustrated News* will have noticed the simple elegance, with the other appropriate features appertaining to the mere style of Major Moncrief's journal; and all who are conversant with the peculiarities which distinguish the dictum of educated military men of that period whose professional writings, &c., have come down to us, can recognize in reading the document the fact that, from beginning to end, it is the work of the same hand, completed at the date which it bears, and in keeping throughout with what might have been expected in the production of a gentleman and officer employed "upon that Expedition." It is also evident from several passages of the journal the writer was one who possessed military and engineering experience, who had an officer's opportunities of knowing and appreciating what was occurring from day to day, and who was associated with other officers actually taking part in the reconnoitring and other movements which took place, as well as in preliminary consultations. It could not fail, therefore, to create surprise in all who read the document and Dr. Anderson's subsequent letters, as published in the *Canadian Illustrated News*, to find in the latter that Major Moncrief's name, as well as the original heading and date affixed to the journal, are now proposed to be ignored in favour of one who was simply a volunteer in the ranks of the 78th Fraser Highlanders. From official records I find Mr. Thompson, senr., subsequently procured employment as overseer of works and time-keeper in the Royal Engineer Department, Quebec, where he remained until his death in 1830. It may be said, in connection with this appointment, that the duties of overseer of works are always assigned to one who is a competent mechanic; and a portion of his duties at that period appear to have been that of keeping the time or *ch-que*, as it is technically called, of the soldiers and labourers employed in executing the works laid out by the Military Engineers. Owing to his fidelity, his general intelligence, long life, and other circumstances on which it is unnecessary to expatiate, he attracted and maintained universal respect, and held his situation under the Government to the day of his death.

But I cannot agree with Dr. Anderson in his ideas respecting what constitutes an erasure. I remember Dr. Anderson pointing it out to me, and I had the very same opinion then as I have now—namely, that Mr. James Thompson, jr., erased it after discovering his mistake. Moreover, I have been informed, on good authority, that when a verbal suggestion was made to surviving members of the family, to the effect that Mr. Thompson, senr., might have been the author of Moncrief's journal, the idea was not only discouraged, but even ridiculed. I should like very much if Dr. Anderson would account for the absence of dates of the plans referred to, the erasures, the discrepancies, great and small, being over twelve hundred in number, evidently changed, omitted or revised in the alleged Thompson manuscript. No one doubts of the justice of the tribute paid to the Messrs. Thompson, &c., &c., and the esteem in which the family have been always held in Quebec; but until Dr. Anderson can shew that the claim to the authorship of that journal rests ultimately upon evidence derived from themselves, or upon proofs such as are usually advanced to establish the authenticity of historical documents, it is impossible to acquiesce in Dr. Anderson's assertion. That hasty conclusions are very apt to lead to mistakes, and to shew that such results do occur I think I may safely appeal to Dr. Anderson's own experience within the last two years in connection with the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec.

With regard to that part concerning certain falsehoods of which I have been said to accuse Mr. James Thompson, jr., of being guilty, I say that with regard to the claim of the MS.

I exonerate him, inasmuch as he has laid no claim to it, but Dr. Anderson has unfortunately come forward and has done so for him. If Mr. Thompson, jr., states that his father was Superintendent of Military Fortifications, he quibbles with words. He was Overseer of Works.

It is very much like the following:—After the American war, two darkies, who had been formerly slaves on the same plantation, met by accident in the city of New York. "Hallo, Sambo!" said one; "what is you doin'?" "Doin'? why, I'se carpenter and joiner." "Carpenter and joiner! My! What part of de work?" "De circular work." "What's dat?" "Turns de Grindstone!"—And so it is with Mr. Thompson. From the soaring height of Superintendent of Military Fortifications he has fallen to *Overseer of Works*—keeper of the cheque. Was not Mr. Thompson a mason by trade, and not an engineer by profession? Professional men can at least spell the most common words without making mistakes, which I am prepared to shew Mr. Thompson, senr., was incapable of doing.

Moreover, while the language or diction of the Moncrief journal, as already stated, is clearly that of the educated officer of the period when the diary was composed, many minor alterations of the original text occur in Dr. Anderson's document. These alterations are precisely such as would be made by one who aimed at giving a more modern turn to the phraseology in use by educated persons in the middle of the last century. I should be glad to furnish instances, but refrain at present, owing to the great length to which this article has already extended—merely observing that, so far as this argument applies, in regard to the question of priority, I can readily furnish examples *ad libitum*.

Although, as I hope, enough has been already advanced to deter Dr. Anderson from again coming forward in the public press, to parade irrelevant matter and mere assertion in support of his unfounded claims on the Moncrief journal, which it would surely have been more judicious to have submitted, in the first instance, to the members of the Quebec Literary and Historical Society, of which he is the President, I cannot conclude this article without noticing what appears to be an unanswerable objection to his theory of the authorship, which, doubtless, would have staggered the Doctor himself if he had observed it, or had he taken the trouble to consult others conversant with that period of Canadian history before committing himself as he has done.

The objection is suggested by the following question, viz.: Where was Mr. Thompson, senr., the alleged author of the journal, at the time it was commenced, and during the period covered by the entries for the first six or seven weeks of the Expedition? Dr. Anderson, quoting from a memorandum of Mr. Thompson, junr., informs us "that the elder Thompson held no rank in the army, that he was a volunteer in the Fraser Highlanders, which regiment was raised in Tain, Ross-shire, and numbered upwards of 1,400 men, commanded by Col. Simon Fraser. On the passage to Halifax, Capt. Bailey introduced my father to the Colonel. . . . After the conquest of Louisbourg, Quebec, and Montreal, he was left without employment."

Now, the passage to Halifax, and the introduction here referred to, occurred in 1758, prior to the siege and capture of Louisbourg, in July of that year, from which place the Fraser Highlanders accompanied General Amherst to Boston, and thence to Albany and New York, where they took up their winter quarters. In the following spring, the same regiment, namely, that in which Thompson was serving, being destined to take part in Wolfe's expedition against Quebec, passed from New York to Louisbourg, the appointed general rendezvous for the British fleet and troops from England, Halifax, and other places. Meanwhile, beginning at least six weeks before the Fraser Highlanders completed the passage from New York to Louisbourg, the real journalist was at Halifax, making the entries which we read in his diary, and subsequently on the passage from Halifax to Louisbourg. The journalist records in the first week of April, 1759, as follows:—"The first accounts of the intended expedition came to Halifax in the beginning of April." (April 22nd) he records: "The Hon. Brigadier-General Monckton arrived," and (April 30th) "Admiral Saunders arrived with a fleet from England; he had made attempts to get into Louisbourg, but was prevented by the ice." Under the same date (April 30th) it is stated in the journal: "Major-General Wolfe, the Hon. Brigadier-General Townshend, and Colonel Carleton, &c., with some other officers, arrived in the fleet." Passing over several other entries, all referring to Halifax, the journalist continues (May 13th): "Admiral Saunders sailed this morning for Louisbourg, with all the ships which were in readiness. We met Admiral Holmes off Cape Sambre with two ships These ships having met with rough weather and got some damage, were ordered into Halifax to refit. Admiral Holmes hoisted his flag aboard another ship, and proceeded with us to Louisbourg." "In the morning (May 15th) we made Cape Canso. About noon we made the Island of Cape Breton, the coast of which was still full of ice; in the evening we got into Louisbourg, where we found the 'Bedford' and 'Prince Frederick,' which had wintered there, and the 'Northumberland,' lately arrived from England;" finally, (May 17th) "the 'Nightingale' and 'Convoy,' with Fraser's battalion, arrived from New York,"—i.e., at Louisbourg, whither the author of the diary had already (on the 15th) come from Halifax, in Saunders' fleet. If the author had been a volunteer in Fraser's battalion, instead of being (as is recorded at the head and on the cover of the document) "an Engineer on that expedition," the statements and diction of the entries for the first six weeks of the journal would be utterly unintelligible; an insurmountable objection, therefore, to Dr. Anderson's theory of the authorship presents itself to the mind of every unprejudiced reader, in the first pages of the document. Moreover, if Dr. Anderson should feel disposed to hazard any contradiction of the inference now deduced from a few passages in the earliest part of the Moncrief journal, I warn him that I have critically examined the whole (in regard to internal evidence as well as to other points), and am prepared to shew, conclusively, that Mr. Thompson could not have been the author. As I have already hinted, however, there are reasons which appear to render the full discussion of this question, raised by Dr. Anderson so gratuitously and on such shallow grounds, (if not purely fictitious) so far as he has advanced any for raising doubts on the authenticity of the R. E. copy of the original journal, less proper in the first instance for the press than for a meeting of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, or a committee duly appointed to investigate the matter carefully, and decide impartially upon the details of all the evidence produced.

It will be seen, however, from the above extracts taken in

conjunction with the first date in the diary, that I have succeeded in proving an alibi. The journalist is in Halifax, and the claimant in New England.

I am very sorry that I cannot prove that Major Moncrief was cousin-german to Mrs. Arris; and it is Dr. Anderson's province to disprove the presence of Major Moncrief in this expedition. Who wrote the memoir in the *Quebec Star*, and what does it prove? What authenticity, if it comes to the point, is there in newspaper notes? Are they not liable to mistakes? "How did Mr. Walkem, senr., come to copy the Moncrief MS.?" What a question! With pen and ink, of course. "What was his object?" I think I can speak for my father, and say, "to protect Mr. Thompson, when brought forward as a literary pirate, which he should certainly have been had the spurious Thompson MS. been published." Dr. Anderson has forgotten the fact of my having pointed out to him, on one occasion, the name of Major Moncrief on the title-page.

If Dr. Anderson should see fit to continue this argument, then I think Napoleon's expression about the British troops will be forcibly applicable—"That they never knew when they were beaten," and again Goldsmith's village schoolmaster—"For e'en though vanquished, he could argue still."

I have now in my hand a letter, which will set the whole matter at rest; but which I will not produce for some time to come. Suffice it to say that when produced the claim of Thompson to this manuscript will be proved to be the most deliberately mendacious claim that was ever made, whose effrontery will exceed that of Tichborne, and whose daring is inexplicable.

In conclusion, I beg leave to tender to Dr. Anderson my sincere apologies for any unbecoming language I have made use of as regards himself, as I would be most unwilling to hurt the feelings of a gentleman who has, on more than one occasion, acted the part of a kind friend and wise counsellor; and want of gratitude is not one of my failings.

I am, sir,

Yours very sincerely,

W. WYMOND WALKEM,
Medical Student,
Universitas Collegii McGill.

Montreal, Feb. 20th, 1872.

FIRE-PROOF BUILDINGS.

The Providence *Journal* publishes the following extract of a letter from the Sculptor Powers to a friend in Rhode Island. It furnishes some valuable and timely hints with regard to the construction of fire-proof buildings:—

But it may be asked, "Is it possible to make a city fire-proof?" I answer, yes, and without any great extra expense. To prove this, I have only to say that although there have been frequent fires in the city of Florence during the thirty-four years of my residence in it, not one house has been consumed, except a theatre, and that was not entirely destroyed. Rooms, full of goods, have been heated like ovens by ignited calicoes, straw hats, etc., but as the floors above and below were all covered by thin brick tiles, the goods burned without ventilation. And as there was no flame, a smell like that of a coal pit soon gave the alarm, and the fire was soon extinguished by no other engine than a squirt holding about a gallon, which discharged a well-directed stream through some aperture. I once beheld some firemen marching to a fire in Florence. First were three men with picks, next four men with buckets, then three men with highly polished brass squirts on their shoulders; all marching with an air of pomp and importance! The fire was at the residence of Mr. Clevenger, the American sculptor, and had been burning twenty-four hours on the end of a joist just under his fire-place. He had smelt something like a coal-pit for some time, and at length perceived smoke rising from the brick floor. On going below he found the room full of smoke; and a rush-bottomed chair just under the joist was partially consumed. But the joist was not yet burned off, and why? Because the fire was bricked down. It could not rise and burst into flames.

The secret of fire-proof building, then, is this: It must be made impossible for the flames to pass through the floors or up the stairway. If you will have wood floors and stairs, lay a flooring of the thickest sheet-iron over the joists, and your wood upon that; and sheath the stairs with the same material. A floor will not burn without a supply of air under it. Throw a dry board upon a perfectly flat pavement and kindle it as it lies if you can. You may make a fire upon it and in time consume it, but it will require a long time. Prevent drafts, and though there will still be fires, no houses will be consumed. The combustion will go on so slowly that discovery is certain in time to prevent any great calamity. But the roofs, how about them? Slate or tiles? Zinc melts too easily. I believe that hard-burned tiles, if flat, would stand the frost at home; and if so, they constitute the best roofing. My house has no joists. All the floors are of tiles resting on arches. One of these arches was made over a room twenty-five feet square by four men in four days. The bricks are about one and one-half inches thick, and laid edgewise, with plaster of Paris. There was no framework prepared to lay them on unless you would so term four bits of wood which a man could carry under his arm. And yet this arch is so strong as to be perfectly safe with a large dancing party on it. I never have heard of one of those floors falling, and they are absolutely fire-proof. Of course light arches like these would not do for warehouses. It would pay, I think, to send out here for an Italian brick-mason who knows how to build these thin but strong arches for dwelling-houses. I know that there is a prejudice at home against brick or composition floors. "Too cold in winter," it is said. And so they are, if bare, but cover them with several thicknesses of paper and then carpet them, and no one can discover the slightest difference between their temperature and that of wood floors. Who doubts this let him try the experiment with the feet of the thermometer. The truth is that the brick of composition floor is no colder in itself than the wood—the thermometer attests this—but it is a better conductor. I do not insure my house, as I know that it is not combustible.

The people who live on the banks of the Mississippi are getting anxious upon the subject of a flood, which is likely to take place in the spring, when the heavy snows of the mountains and hills to the west shall melt and come down in torrents. The last great inundation in that region occurred in 1814.

BRITISH AGRICULTURE.

The agriculture of Great Britain, says the *Agricultural Gazette*, is undoubtedly the foremost of the world. Our climate is not better, nor our soils more fertile; but our average crops are heavier than are realized elsewhere. Our breeds of cattle, sheep, and pigs are superior to any other. Our agricultural machinery is unrivalled. The capital employed by our farmers is in no other country, as a whole, so large. Go to the continental agricultural shows and you will see our threshing machines, our steam engines, our steam ploughs, our reaping machines as it may be contended, even our implements and tools of manufacture—ploughs, harrows, cultivators, horse-hoes, rollers, rakes—our short-horn cattle and Leicester sheep; or crosses of them—all representing the most advanced stage, or perhaps one step beyond that, of the agricultural progress of the foreigner. That great agricultural improvement of most soils—the subsoil drainage of the land—originated with us; and here, first, has been that immense development of the use and manufacture of artificial manures which the present generation of farmers have witnessed.

But there is another side to this picture. What shall we say of the agriculture of a country so outrageously unable to feed our inhabitants as ours has proved. We have 30,407,579 occupied acres, and only 26,062,172 people in Great Britain. We have even 17,250,172 arable acres for the maintenance of that population. Taking the whole United Kingdom, we have 46,177,370 acres in the hands of the farmers, and only 31,465,470 people to be fed. Let any one who knows the produce of his own quarter-acre garden, and what it does towards the maintenance of his family, contrast with it this enormous acreage, arable and pasture—6.3 acres for every family of five of all ages throughout the country—and say what he thinks of the fact, that out of every 100 loaves that family consumes, not more than 60 have been produced by English soil. What will he say of the fact that since 1856-62, when the number of animals, *i. e.* "oxen, cows, and calves," imported varied from 80,000 to 100,000 annually, this number, excluding the cattle plague years, has since risen to upwards of 200,000 annually, and 241,116 have been imported during eleven months of 1871? Or of the fact that whereas in 1856, 1857, 1858, the number of sheep imported varied from 150,000 to 180,000 annually, of late years the number has exceeded half a million, and in the eleven months of last year no fewer than 882,620 landed on our shores? Or, to take any other of our staple agricultural products as the test of our growing or our waning powers of agricultural produce, we have for many years been more or less dependent on other countries for our supplies of bacon, beef, butter and cheese. Our annual imports 12 or 15 years ago were 25,000 tons of bacon and pork, 7,000 or 8,000 tons of beef, 20,000 to 30,000 tons of butter, and as much cheese; since then the quantities have been more than doubled, and in the eleven months of 1871, of which alone the statistics have yet been published, nearly 60,000 tons of pork and bacon, 12,000 tons of beef, 60,000 tons of butter, and nearly as much cheese, have been imported from abroad. Our growing imports of wheat have been inferred from our remarks on the bread consumed. They now amount to from thirty to thirty-eight million cwt. of wheat, and three to five million cwt. of wheat flour, not to speak of nearly as much in point of weight of barley, oats, and maize, adding the three together; and our whole home growth cannot be put at more than 55,000,000 cwt. of wheat, 42,000,000 cwt. of barley, 60,000,000 cwt. of oats. We used fifteen years ago to import from 70 to 80 lbs. of wheat or wheat flour for every individual of our population; we now import from 100 lbs. in good years to 150 lbs. apiece in bad ones; and in the last eleven months we have imported 36,469,535 cwt. of wheat, and 3,645,084 cwt. of flour—the highest import previously recorded for a whole twelve months having been, in 1869, 37,695,828 cwt. of wheat, and 5,401,535 cwt. of flour.

This enormous import—this great dependence on other countries for our food supply—doesn't look like a prosperous or growing agriculture. It is a paltry comfort, after all, that is gathered from the proof that we are better farmers than our neighbours. Taken, not comparatively, but absolutely, and considering both what our land produces on the whole, and what it actually produces in particular examples, its outrageous failure to produce sufficient for the wants of the people living on it is nothing less than disgraceful.

There is nothing like it in any other of our manufactures. Excepting the products of our agriculture, in hardly any other thing which we could produce for ourselves are our imports considerable. When the raw material has to be dug out of the very bowels of the earth, or even imported from the other side of it, we supply the whole world with our finished goods over and above our own immediate wants. When it lies immediately beneath us and around us—in the soil on which we tread or in the very air we breathe—somehow the usual triumphant success of English pluck and perseverance is wanting. We do not even meet our own demands—still less can we pretend to supply the wants of others.

This not only strikes the student of our manufacturing industry; it is admitted by all our agricultural authorities. We could hardly quote one more trustworthy on this subject than the Earl of Leicester—a great landowner, a good practical farmer, and a traveller. He lately said:—"I have travelled much through England and through parts of Scotland; and, taking into consideration the whole of the land that I have seen under cultivation, I think I may safely state that the produce of the land might be nearly doubled under a perfect system of agriculture. I have observed a want of capital and skill on the part of the occupier, and an apparent want of assistance and encouragement on the part of the owner. The buildings were bad and inconvenient, the fields too small and ill-arranged, and too often covered with useless timber. But the two greatest evils that, in my opinion, prevented the growth of larger crops were—inferior drainage and shallow cultivation."

We do not quote this for the lesson which it offers, but for the fact to which it bears witness. The land is about half cultivated—that is the end to which "the foremost agriculture of the world" has at length attained.

A REMARKABLE STORY.—The Veteran Agassiz sends a wonderful story from the sea. But for his acknowledged mastery of the secrets of science, and his prudence in announcing the results of his voyages of discovery, there might be some degree of hesitation in believing this new tale of a traveller. So much for having a good reputation! The story runs that a

fish known to naturalists by the pleasing name of *Chironectes Piculus*, uses its hand-like fins to build a floating cradle for its young, which cradle, rocking upon the deep ocean, is "carried along (says Agassiz) as an undying harbour, affording protection, and afterwards food for its living freight." To outward seeming, this curious nest or cradle is but a floating bunch of seaweed, but on examination it proves to be a mass of branches and leaves, as big as two human fists, tightly knit together by elastic threads of seaweed "tending in every direction," each thread beaded with eggs the size of a pin's head. The maternal fish possessing fins like hands with prolonged wrist-like appendages, Agassiz concludes that its rude fishy fingers are used in the building of this floating ark. It is easy to gather from his simple narrative that the enthusiastic veteran was inspired with a feeling of unutterable joy when this tangled and threaded bunch of weeds was laid before him on the deck of the "Hassler." The ship rocked and his microscope was unsteady, but he unravelled the mystery, and transferred the little eggs to a private hatching machine, in which lively embryos presently began to kick and squirm, missing the comforts of their cradle doubtless, but happy enough, it is supposed, under the care of their distinguished patron. Agassiz quaintly attributes this success to the effects of a lecture he delivered "to all on board," in which he stated "all he knew," and what he wanted to ascertain, and he adds, with becoming gratitude, that officers and men instantly engaged in lively emulation to gratify him. From the day of that lecture "not a patch of seaweed" passed the ship that was not carefully looked at, and hauled up and the first result of the expedition is this account of a fish with hands, which sews seaweed into balls, and floats a perfect and nutritious cradle out upon the currents of the sea.

Professor Chasles, member of the University of Paris, has published a pamphlet entitled "De l'Etude de la Langue Allemande dans les établissements publiques de l'instruction secondaire," in which he gives a curious illustration of the ignorance of the German language which has hitherto prevailed among the officers of the French army. "In 1866," he says, "one or two months after the battle of Sadowa, a former pupil of mine in the lycée of Montpellier, a captain on the general staff, came into my study with some books under his arm and asked me to give him some German lessons, saying that he had forgotten all the German he had learnt from me before, as at that time he and his comrades only took lessons in that language to enable them to pass the examinations. I could not help smiling at this request, for I knew from long experience that only children and youths, but not adults, can be taught German; I have seen only one exception to this rule in the case of a former lieutenant of grenadiers of the Imperial Guard. You may learn English, Italian, Spanish, at any age, but not German. . . . I asked the captain the reason of this sudden liking for a language which is so unpopular in the French army, and he told me—that I can now repeat without indiscretion—that the War Office was preparing for an expedition against Prussia. The army might, he added, be ordered to march any moment, and he was anxious to pick up enough German in a month or two to be able to talk to the inhabitants of the invaded districts, and to draw up routes for the troops. 'I have been directed,' the captain proceeded, 'by his Excellency to make a preliminary report for the expedition. Unfortunately, two essential things are wanting to me and my comrades: none of us understand German, and there are not in the War Office any of the documents which would be necessary for deciding as to the lines of march and the means of transport. Since 1806 or 1807 there have been no new maps or charts in the library, so that the only documents I can consult before making my report to the Ministers are the books and maps which are to be got at the booksellers'. Here is one of them, which we will at once set about translating.' He then placed before me a tolerably compact book on geography; I think it was Ungewitter's. It was a meagre and insufficient production, but the young captain, notwithstanding his intelligence, was unable to digest it. Being pressed for time, and urged on by the Minister, he was obliged to fall back upon the inaccurate translation of Baedeker. . . . After two months my former pupil, who no doubt was disconcerted by his failure, gave up his lessons, and I did not see him again. He perceived, what is now more evident to all of us than ever, that the study of Baedeker may lead commercial travellers and tourists to Berlin without difficulty, but that it will not show the way to an army, even if it were a French one."

Much uneasiness is at present caused in Edinburgh by a ghost who has appeared, it is stated, in various quarters of the city. The latest information, according to the *Edinburgh Courier*, has reference to his descent in the open space in front of Holyrood Palace, where he caused much alarm. The ghost is described as a very tall figure, draped from head to foot in white, the face clear as if covered with a phosphorescent substance, but the features undistinguishable. The apparition has been seen by many people. Sometimes it "walks calmly about," but at other times it gives the most terrific jumps. "A gentleman of high respectability, and who is at the head of a well-known establishment in Princes' Street" was much annoyed the other evening by the ghost springing from the side of the road in a lonely part of Fountainbridge, and standing right in front of him. The gentleman raised his walking-stick in self-defence; the ghost gazed at him earnestly for a few seconds, and then at a single bound went off about a dozen yards along the street and disappeared like a flash of lightning. Some people suppose that an unprincipled person is merely personating a ghost, but this is a far more uncomfortable view of the matter than the hypothesis that the ghost is genuine; a real ghost is trying to the nerves, but not dangerous; you may poke a walking-stick through a phantom, but a substantial ghost is a serious nuisance. Is it possible that the missing Russian is disporting himself in a long, white robe in Edinburgh, and that his "wandering mania" has developed itself in this fashion?

The subscription for the deliverance of the national territory is progressing with extraordinary rapidity in France. All sorts of ways of making money are proposed by the journals which advocate the patriotic movement. A correspondent of the *Moniteur Universel* suggests an ingenious plan. She proposes to add to voluntary gifts of jewels the earrings of the whole female population of France. "Let us put a stop," says she, "to this savage fashion, let blood be shed for our country, but let not wounds be inflicted in order to place

a jewel therein. Let all be given, from the enamelled gold button of the workwoman to the clusters of rubies, of pearls, of brilliants. Seeing a woman without earrings will then elicit the respectful remark, 'That is a woman of France!'" Whether patriotism will prevail over the general liking for this becoming, and by no means painful, ornament remains to be seen. It is to be feared that the jewellers will profit most by this arrangement, as when the female population of France has given up the earrings it now wears it will unquestionably lose no time in buying new ones.

Practical experiments with the guns constructed by Herr Cordes for shooting out ropes to persons in danger of drowning carried on at Bremen, have proved the contrivance to be one of the greatest utility. German naval authorities are of opinion that it constitutes the most useful appliance for the purpose in existence. By means of a sort of rifle charged with 2½ grammes of gunpowder a bolt is shot out into the sea, having a rope attached to it, which the drowning man is thus enabled to seize in order by it to be pulled to the shore. It has been proved that a heavy bolt is more serviceable than a light one, for with the same charge of powder Herr Cordes succeeded in throwing a two-pound bolt 140 paces and a 1½ lb. bolt only 112. Herr Cordes has also constructed small cannons which, charged with from ¼ to ½ lb. of gunpowder, throw out 20 lb. bolts with ropes full 400 yards into the sea. The "German Society for saving Persons from Shipwreck" has warmly acknowledged the merits of the invention and ordered its adoption at its own stations, recommending its use at the same time to vessels of all kinds. It is satisfactory to find that cannons and rifles, hitherto only destroyers of human life, may be converted, in one shape at least, into its friends and savers.

The Jackson (Tenn.) *Whig and Tribune* of a late date, relates the following interesting account of the resentment and courage of the honey bee:—Capt. Brown, of this city, recently robbed three hives, and Dr. West, a neighbour, robbed four. The bees, thus deprived of the fruits of their labour, became furious; and uniting, making an army of seven hives, they invaded the premises of Mr. Horace Bledsoe, and made a fierce attack on five of his hives. Bledsoe's bees were taken by surprise, and although outnumbered, fought for their homes with desperation. The battle lasted several hours, and four of Bledsoe's hives were literally destroyed. The invaders were finally repulsed, after being almost annihilated. The ground for yards around was black with dead bees. Mr. Bledsoe, although a serious loser, buried the dead warriors with honours of war. Few of the invaders survived the battle, and from out of five of the defending hives, four were destroyed. It was the bloodiest bee battle on record, and deserves to be handed down to posterity.

SCIENTIFIC.

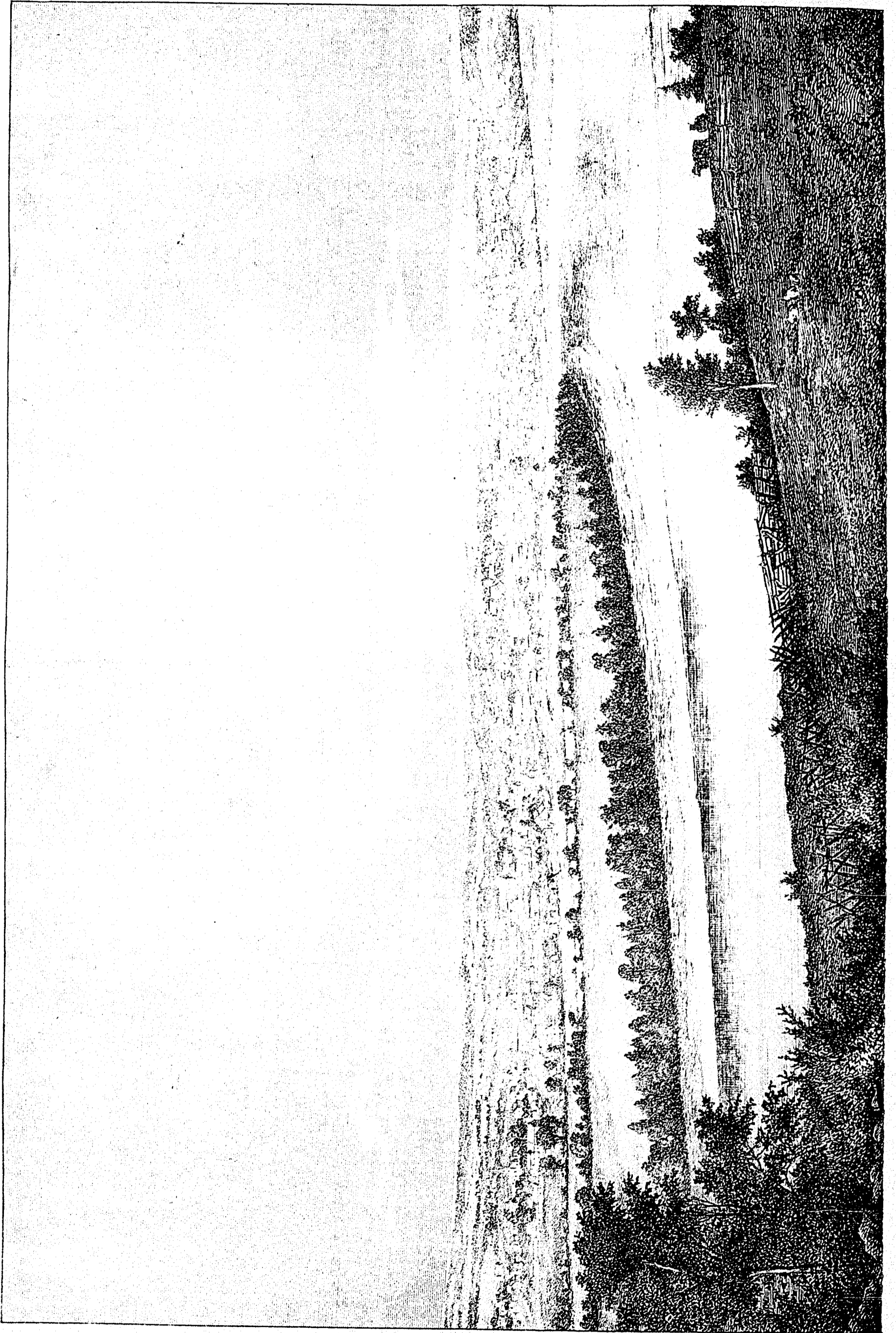
RIGIDITY OF THE JAWS IN DROWNING PERSONS NOT A SIGN OF DEATH.—A recent writer assures us that the rigidity of the jaws in a person taken out of the water after long immersion, instead of being a sign of death, is really an indication that life is still present, as it disappears only when life is actually extinct. This, of course, is not to be confounded with the stiffening of the entire body after death, but refers entirely to the local symptoms. We, *ar.*, therefore, advised, under the circumstances indicated, not to lose hope, but to continue to make use of all the methods that present themselves as appropriate for the restoration of suspended animation, whether by the injection of air into the lungs, or by other means.

SUBSTITUTE FOR LITHOGRAPHIC STONE.—It is now proposed, but with doubtful promise, to substitute ordinary lithographic stone by the use of a smooth block of wood coated with glue or other gelatinous matter, or with a solution of silicate of soda and bichromate of potash, exposed to sunlight and washed. An ink or pigment is made with gelatinous matter dissolved in a saturated solution of bichromate of potash, with or without chrome, alum, and with a small quantity of ivory-black to render the ink visible. On the prepared block or slab the desired picture or other work is made with this ink, and when dry, exposed to sunlight. After exposure, the surface is covered with gum or glycerine, and is then ready for the printer.—*American Artizan.*

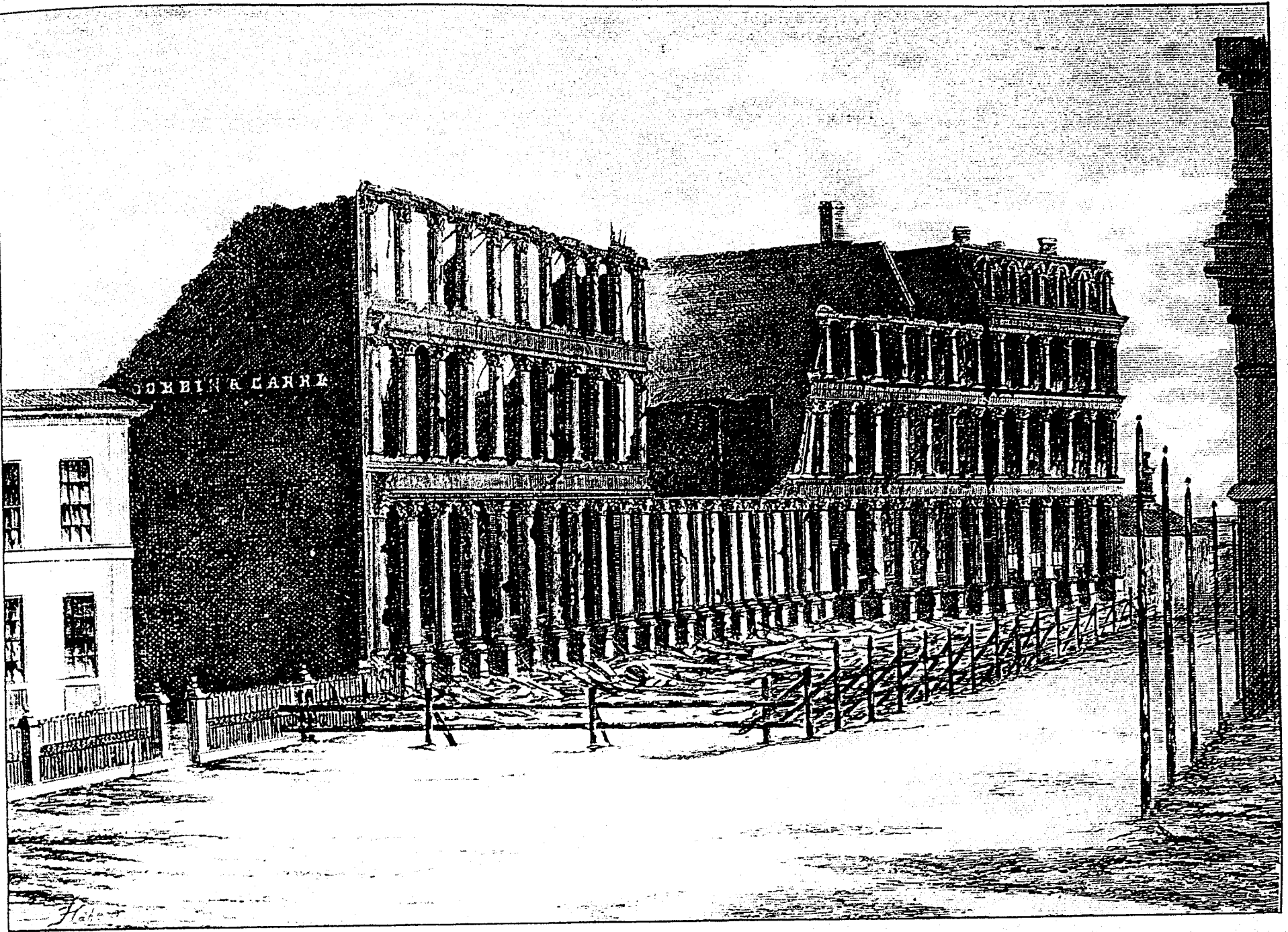
DISTINGUISHING REAL FROM APPARENT DEATH.—A new mode of distinguishing between real and apparent death has been recently submitted to the consideration of the Academy of Medicine, in Paris. It consists in the insertion of a bright steel needle into the body; and it is said that when life is present the needle soon becomes tarnished by oxidation; while, on the other hand, if death has taken place, the needle will retain its brightness for half an hour or more. According to Dr. Laborde, the author of the communication, oxidation, with its attendant electrical phenomena, indicates that death is only apparent, and the entire absence of oxidation is a sign of real death.

FLOWERS AS DISINFECTANTS.—Professor Mantegazza has recently discovered that ozone is developed by certain odorous flowers. A writer in *Nature* states that most of the strong smelling vegetable essences, such as mint, cloves, lavender, lemon, and cherry laurel, develop a very large quantity of ozone when in contact with atmospheric oxygen in light. Flowers destitute of perfume do not develop it, and generally the amount of ozone seems to be in proportion, to the strength of the perfume emanated. Professor Mantegazza recommends that in marshy districts and in places infested with noxious exhalations, strong-smelling flowers should be planted around the house, in order that the ozone emitted from them may exert its powerful oxidizing influence. So pleasant a plan for making a malarious district salubrious only requires to be known to be put in practice.

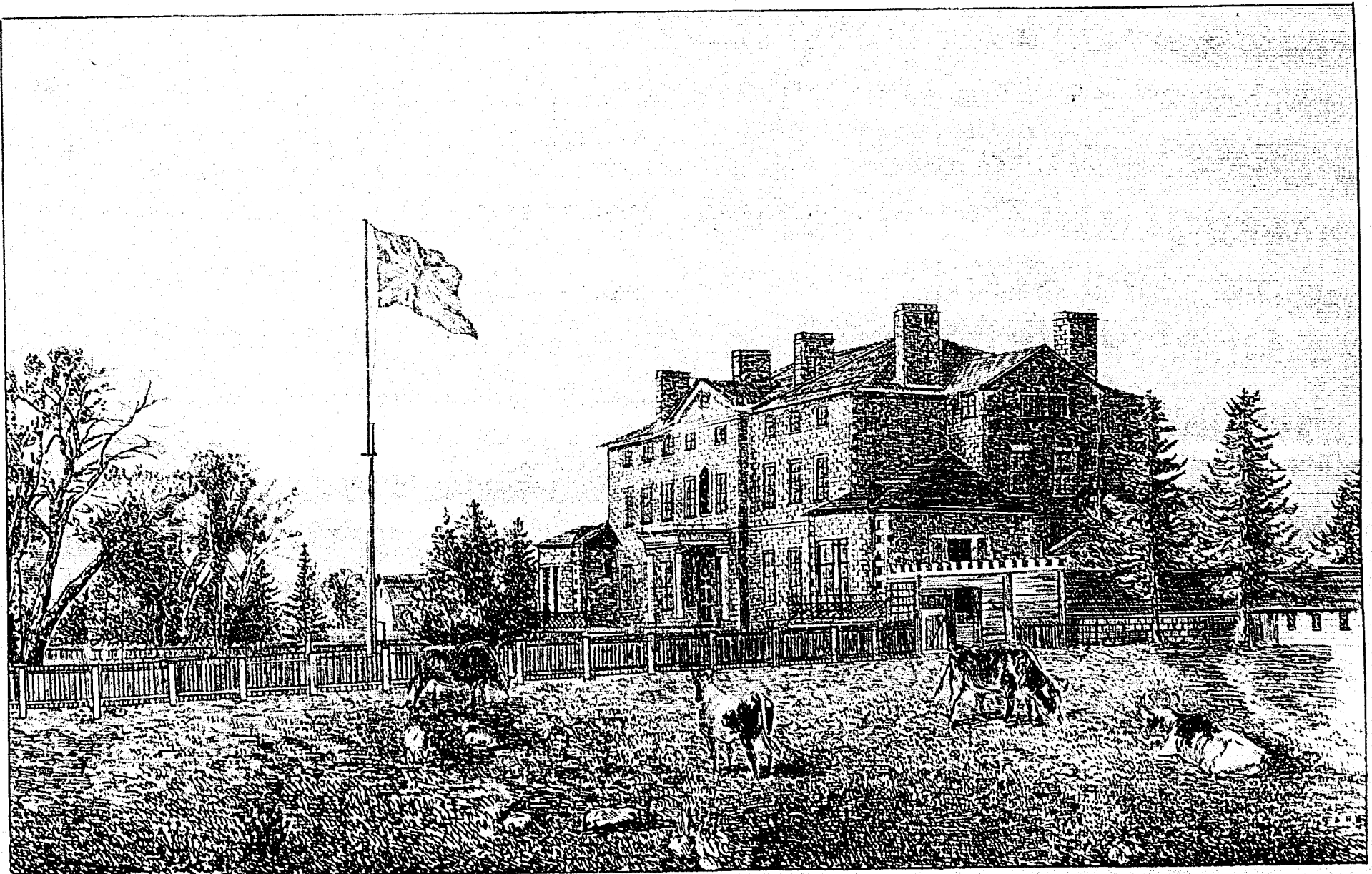
CURIOUS FACT (?)—At a recent sitting of the French Academy of Sciences, a curious communication was received from M. Zaliwski, which, if it were borne out, would be invaluable to navigation. He states that if a hollow cylinder made of thin materials, open at the top and provided with a sharp-edged bottom, be properly ballasted and then put into a tub or other vessel filled with water, it will soon move in a never-varying direction from west to east. The round tin boxes in which concentrated milk is preserved will do perfectly for the experiment, which will become more and more perceptible the oftener the same cylinder is made to do duty in that way.—*Engineer.*



WOODSTOCK N. B.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY G. T. TAYLOR.—SEE PAGE 151.



REINS OF THE IRON BLOCK, RECENTLY BURNED AT TORONTO.—SEE PAGE 151.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, FREDERICTON, N. B.—SEE PAGE 151.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY,
MARCH 16, 1872.

SUNDAY,	Mar. 10.—	Fourth Sunday in Lent. Prince of Wales married, 1863.
MONDAY,	" 11.—	Tasso born, 1544. Luddite Riots at Nottingham, 1811.
TUESDAY,	" 12.—	St. Gregory the Great. Peace of Utrecht, 1713. Desjardins Canal Accident, 1857.
WEDNESDAY,	" 13.—	Planet Uranus discovered by Sir Wm. Herschell, 1781.
THURSDAY,	" 14.—	York constituted a Market Town, 1814. Victor Emanuel born, 1820. Discovery of Lake Albert Nyanza by Sir S. Baker, 1864.
FRIDAY,	" 15.—	Literary and Historical Society of Quebec founded, 1824. First Manitoban Parliament met, 1871.
SATURDAY,	" 16.—	Reciprocity Treaty ratified, 1855.

TEMPERATURE in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Tuesday, 27th February, 1872, observed by HEARN, HARRISON & Co., 242 Notre Dame Street.

		MAX.	MIN.	MEAN.	8 A.M.	1 P.M.	6 P.M.
W.,	Feb. 21.	34°	21°	27°5	29.60	29.65	29.60
Th.,	" 22.	37°	15°	26°	29.90	29.95	29.95
Fri.,	" 23.	15°	4°	5°5	30.04	29.90	29.83
Sat.,	" 24.	28°	7°	17°5	29.65	29.64	29.60
Su.,	" 25.	33°	14°	26°	29.42	29.45	29.48
M.,	" 26.	25°	—4°	10°5	30.10	30.10	30.06
Tu.,	" 27.	17°5	—5°	6°5	29.97	29.94	29.97

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The arrangements for transferring to local agents the total charge of our subscribers, so far as renewing and collecting subscriptions and distributing papers are concerned, not having met with general approval on the part of subscribers; and the agents having in many cases declined the responsibility, or neglected our interests, theirs, and that of our subscribers, we are obliged to revert to the former mode of distribution through Post. This need not disturb arrangements already made between any subscriber and any local news-dealer. We hope to see the sales effected by news agents increase rapidly, and desire that as much of our business as possible may be transacted through them. But we cannot overlook the complaints now made, and henceforth our subscribers will receive their papers, as formerly, through the Post. Any one who has missed any numbers since 1st of January can have them gratis on application.

Our readers are reminded that the subscription to the NEWS is \$4.00 per annum, payable in advance; if unpaid in three months it will be charged at the rate of Five Dollars.

All OLD subscribers whose subscriptions are unpaid on 1st July next, will be struck off the list.

All NEW subscriptions received henceforward, MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1872.

The subject of the patent laws has been one of frequent discussion. The laws regulating patents prevailing in Canada have not heretofore been characterised by much liberality; but the excuse for this was that the United States Government acted in an unfriendly spirit towards Canadians by imposing upon them an exorbitant fee which virtually amounted to a prohibition. A year or two ago Congress removed this reproach by placing foreigners on the same footing as natives in regard to patents; in other words, it was enacted that Canadians could obtain a patent at Washington on the same terms as an American; or for the small fee of thirty-five dollars in addition to incidental expenses. It is now announced that Congress is about to repeal this liberal law; and that for the reason that our own Government has not reciprocated the liberal action of the American Congress. Our patent laws have remained closed against foreigners, unless they can prove a domicile in the country of twelve months' duration. During the lapse of that period we believe it is within the reach of any Canadian who is scoundrel enough to do so, to steal the foreigner's invention and have it patented for this country in his own name. The bare statement of the present condition of the law ought to be enough to condemn it, and to move the Ottawa Government towards a change in the direction of liberality and intelligence.

We are not unaware that opinion is divided as to the propriety of patent laws. Many intelligent men hold the view that they should not exist; that the products of inventive genius should be free as the air we breathe; that the inventor should have no special right to control the manufacture and sale of his own contrivance; but that everyone should be at liberty to adapt or adopt it according to his choice. This is a liberal creed truly, but it has no analogy in the management or application of any other kind of property. We are not acquainted with any owner of woodlands or broad acres who would quietly

submit to their appropriation by another; nor do we know why the results of invention or research, being equally the personal property, or the estate of the owner, should be subjected to a different law. As Parliament is soon to meet, it is to be hoped that the intelligent men of the community will express their views in an emphatic manner, so that members may understand how inventors, as well as pirates in *esse* or in *posse*, view the subject. There can be no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that in respect of patents as in anything else, the simple and familiar maxim that "honesty is the best policy" holds good.

But there is really no honesty in appropriating the invention of another without giving compensation. As well might we take his lands or his crops or the product of his handiwork. The law has wisely set a limit to privileges granted by patent, as it has to the continuance of a copyright or the time when a debt may be recovered for goods delivered or services rendered. In all this there is no cancelling of the obligation but a mere recognition of the transitory character of humanity and the consequent wisdom of putting a bar to the time for litigation. Now, because A. is a Canadian and B. an American, has the former a right to rob him of the product of his brain, any more than of the product of his hands? The reader's mind will suggest the answer; but we may say here that we no more believe in perpetually locking up an invention for the benefit of one than we do in permitting one man to hold an estate in lands, which are his own, to the injury of the public good. Lower Canada has a wise law of expropriation. The patent laws also expropriate, though without compensation, the inventor's right, within a stated number of years, so that upon the narrowest calculation the work of the mind is more inadequately protected than the work of the hand. The question at present is not, however, between the advocates and the opponents of patent laws, but between those who support an illiberal, narrow and unjust policy, as against those who would welcome the intelligent man, no matter what his country, to the same protection, and our people to the same advantages from his labours, as if he had been born in Canada.

There is a strange argument used in support of the very illiberal patent law now in force in Canada. We are told that were we to place the Americans on the same footing as Canadians, we should bring forty millions into competition with four. Now if inventive genius has any value at all, surely the four millions, *ceteris paribus*, would gain just ten times as much as the forty by a reciprocal exchange of invention. Yet our Parliament did not respond to the liberal action of the United States Congress by placing Americans on the same footing as our own people; and the consequence is that the Americans threaten to go back to their old terms of virtual exclusion. Ministers at Ottawa should take this matter under consideration at once and make a representation to the Washington Executive to the effect that Government will invite the Legislature to grant the same liberal conditions to American inventors that Congress recently conceded to Canadians and is apparently now about to withdraw.

The four against forty argument is, in the mouth of a Canadian, so silly that we are always surprised when we hear it made use of. By a reciprocal patent law the four millions of Canadians, or the fraction of them owning inventions, obtain a market numbering forty millions; whereas the fraction of the forty millions who are inventors, gain but a market of four millions by reciprocity with Canada. Nothing short of the traditional fondness of the Americans for all sorts of "notions" could have tempted them, in spite of their protective theories, to admit Canadian inventors on a level with their own, and it will be the worst of folly on the part of the Dominion Government if action be not immediately taken to prevent the movement now meditated by Congress, of recurring to the old restrictive and almost prohibitory law.

In justice to the inventor, his property in the creation of his own brain should be recognised; hence the wisdom of a patent law. In justice to the public, every man should be permitted to offer his productions on equal terms; hence the wrongness of our present law, which makes a new or special branch of trade or business dependent upon nationality, when the common ones are open to all. As to the privilege which Canadians are presumed to enjoy, under cover of our present law, of stealing the inventions of others, we do not admire its morality, nor do we believe that it is really half so profitable as would be a liberal law, which would enable inventors to protect themselves irrespective of their nationality or place of domicile.

Our attention has been drawn to this question by an announcement of Messrs. Legge & Co. which appears in the papers, and we have treated of it to-day, after a

somewhat hasty examination. As it is, however, the twin-sister to the great question of International Copyright, we may take occasion before the meeting of Parliament to point out more specially the defects in our existing law, and the course which should be pursued in amending it.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The first session of the second Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario was closed on Saturday last by Lieut.-Governor Howland with the speech copied below. It is a pity that the egotism of the Premier should have been permitted to display itself so offensively; for the speech reads like a censure on the old Cabinet, and a fulsome laudation of the new. Very few people, whether Conservatives or Reformers, cared much about the change in the heads of departments, so long as Provincial affairs were administered with intelligence and economy. But many will regret the bad taste that dictates unnecessary congratulations over a reversal of policy on trifles, when those congratulations reflect upon the administration of the previous Cabinet. We think it was hardly fair to force the Lieut.-Governor to become so jubilant over the incidents consequent upon the changes of Government, even though in a great many respects its policy may be more agreeable to the public. It is shabby to forget the maxim *De mortuis nil nisi bonum*. The following is the closing speech:

"I thank you for the diligence with which you have laboured for the public good. I have cheerfully assented to various important measures which you have passed. I rejoice to observe that your independence has been further secured against influence as well of local Executive as of other powers, that you have resumed the exercise of your constitutional privilege and obvious duty in determining the appropriations of public moneys, and that you have asserted the right to speak and act in reference to the unpunished murder of a fellow-countryman. I notice with pleasure the hearty approval which you have given to my proposals for the distribution of the existing Railway Fund. In providing for further aid to these enterprises, you have recognized the duty of guarding with most jealous care the honour and good faith of the Province, and I am persuaded that what you have done will advance our material interests. I hope that the steps you have taken as to immigration will result in the introduction among us of a number of those labourers whom we need so much, and who are best suited to subdue unsettled lands, and there can be no doubt that the remissions you have authorized in respect of settlers in the Common School and free grant lands will tend to promote their contentment and prosperity. I believe that under the Act of this session charges for drainage operations will be less onerous, the work better done, and the tax more cheerfully paid than under the previous provisions. I am glad to see this further application of principle of local management so much in harmony with the spirit of our institutions. I thank you for the prudent liberality with which you have provided for the wants of the public service, and I shall take care that the monies you have granted are properly applied. I congratulate you on the great prosperity which we now enjoy, and I am sure that you will join with me in prayer that our present mercies may endure, and that we may be permitted when we meet again to renew the expression of our thankfulness to Him from whom those mercies flow."

The Montreal Warehousing Company announce that in consequence of the increasing demands made upon its resources for storage-room, the directors have purchased the well-known Royal Mills, on the south side of the canal, which they purpose converting into warehouses. They further state that their business having increased beyond their most sanguine expectations, they intend reorganising the Company with a subscribed capital commensurate with the value of its property. It is proposed to increase the amount of capital to \$600,000, in 12,000 shares, (at \$50 per share) of which 6,000 are offered for public subscription. This is a most eligible investment, and the names that appear on the list of directors are a sufficient guarantee of the soundness of the enterprise. In the present state of the money market we hope to see the new stock speedily taken up.

Between breathing the effluvia of the sewers, and being denied the use of water for nearly twelve out of the twenty-four hours of the day, we do not wonder that our death rate is three times as great as it should be. *Quære*: Are not the managers of our Corporation affairs responsible for the deaths of the extra two-thirds? At all events the living should have water, and the authorities should not expose the city to the risk of a fire which might make of it a second Chicago. The coals saved by stopping the engines would be but a poor recompense for our houses being turned into ashes.

We learn that on the 21st inst., a lecture will be given at St. Patrick's Hall, by Dr. Bessey, to be followed by music and tableaux. The proceeds of the entertainment will be handed over to the Montreal General Hospital, a most deserving charity which merits support from every class and creed. Mr. Brydges will preside at the entertainment which, we believe, from the number of ladies and gentlemen who have interested themselves in the matter, will be very enjoyable.

One of the most recently published of American Encyclopedias informs its readers that Montreal is "a city and river port of Upper Canada." We need scarcely quote further, though a correspondent has favoured us with a copy of the whole article.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, N. B.

Government House is situated on the west bank of the St. John, a short distance above Fredericton.

This locality abounds in pleasant prospects. The surrounding country is well cultivated. Commodious homesteads peeping through groves of elm, butternut and maple dot the wide range of park-like landscape.

The above residence was commenced in the spring of 1826 and completed in 1828. The architect was J. Hennegar of St. John, the contractor Jeddiah Stassen. It cost £20,000, (twenty thousand pounds.)

The following is a list of Lieut.-Governors who have from time to time reigned over this domain: Lieut.-Governor Sir Howard Douglas, Administrator, President Black, Lieut.-Governor Major-Gen. Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart.

WOODSTOCK, N. B.

Woodstock is one of the oldest points of settlement in the Province of New Brunswick. Here several of the loyalists, on their advent into the Province, made their homes.

The County of Carleton justly ranks as the richest in agricultural capability and mineral resources in the Province. Of this county Woodstock is the commercial centre and, to a large extent, the sales-agent.

Woodstock is one hundred and sixty miles distant from St. John and sixty-four from Fredericton. During the greater part of the summer steamers ply between these places, in spring and fall extending their trips as far as Grand Falls, seventy miles above Woodstock.

Woodstock is already the seat of some active, thriving industries, there being here several well-appointed lumber mills and two extensive iron foundries.

RUINS OF THE IRON BLOCK, TORONTO.

On the night of Wednesday, the 14th ult., a conflagration broke out on Front Street, Toronto, by which one of the handsomest rows of buildings in the city—that known as the Iron Block—was almost totally destroyed.

The fire, which broke out about ten o'clock, originated in one of the centre stores—that occupied by Messrs. Charlesworth & Co.—and despite the vigorous efforts of the firemen, speedily spread to the adjoining stores.

tinuous shower of sparks during the whole night, escaped without being injured in the slightest degree. On the following day Mr. Smith telegraphed to Ottawa, asking what he was to do for office-room, and was told to try and manage the business of the Custom House in the eastern side of the building for the present.

By ten o'clock in the morning, when the firemen ceased playing upon the ruins, the whole of the magnificent block, with the exception of the three western stores, was destroyed. About five o'clock on Thursday evening the fire, which had been smouldering among the debris in the basement of one of the buildings, a little to the westward of the centre of the block, broke out into flames again.

The following are the names of the owners of the buildings destroyed, with their value and amount of insurance, as given by the Leader:—Thomson & Burns, three warehouses valued at \$36,000, destroyed. Insured for \$23,000 in three offices. Declined to give names.

Mr. W. Myles, four warehouses, value \$48,000, destroyed. Insured in the Scottish Imperial, Edinburgh and London, Liverpool and Globe offices for \$36,000. Loss, \$12,000.

Mr. M. Staunton, four warehouses; two destroyed, value, \$24,000. Insured in the Western, Liverpool and Lancashire, Liverpool and London, and the London Corporation Insurance offices for \$25,000 on the four warehouses. Loss, \$13,000.

The above gentlemen, we understand, intend commencing to rebuild as soon as the debris has been cleared away and the weather admits.

The following are the losses of stock with amounts of insurance:—Messrs. Dobbin & Carrie, loss about \$40,000, covered by insurance as follows:—In the Scottish Imperial, \$20,000; Guardian, \$10,000; Imperial, \$10,000; Western, \$5,000; Citizens, \$5,000; Lancashire, \$10,000; Andes, \$2,500; Queen City, \$2,500; Scottish Fire, \$5,000; Total, \$70,000.

This firm will be open for business, at once, in the store lately occupied by C. Moore & Co., on Wellington Street.

Jennings & Brandon—Loss not heavy; covered by insurance.

Thos. Walls & Co. are very heavy losers, to the extent of \$60,000 to \$70,000. Mr. Walls having opened \$20,000 worth of goods on the day of the fire. Part of the loss is covered by insurance. Mr. Walls at once rented a store on Yonge Street, and is getting his goods in order to start again immediately.

Charlesworth's loss of stock is about \$70,000. Insurance as follows:—Etna, \$4,000; North British, \$0,000; Commercial, \$0,000; Lancashire, \$0,000; Northern, \$2,000; Scottish Imperial, \$15,000. Loss over insurance, \$39,000. This firm will also re-open almost immediately, at the premises next to T. Griffith's & Co., No. 35 Front Street.

Messrs. John Robertson & Co. are also heavy losers, to the extent of \$50,000 or \$60,000. Their loss is partly covered by insurance for \$4,000, as follows:—Scottish Imperial, \$14,000; Imperial, \$10,000; London, Liverpool & Globe, \$8,000; and the Andes, \$8,000.

Messrs. Livingston, Johnston & Co., and Messrs. Barclay & Evans are heavy losers. Partly insured.

Messrs. Jennings & Brandon, and Messrs. Brunel & Russell are not very heavy losers. Insured.

SCOTTISH LASSIES.

This picture is after a painting by Mr. John Phillip, R.A., who died in February, 1867. The Lassies, Phillip's own countrywomen, are two buxom maidens of the true rustic type of the North: short-skirted and bare-footed in all probability we should find them if the artist had drawn them full length; well skilled they must be in all the duties of the farmyard, though these apparently are not just now engaging their thoughts as they proceed to milk the kine, the fresh air from the heather-clad mountains helping to invigorate their hardy frames and heightening the colour of their cheeks.

TOBOGGANING ON FLETCHER'S HILL, MONTREAL.

The scene illustrated by our artist on the two middle pages of this number is one with which most of our Montreal readers are familiar. On a bright moonlight night, when the air is frosty, and the snow hard and crisp, Fletcher's Hill, at the back of the Hotel Dieu, becomes the rendez-vous of all the adventurous spirits who delight in riding down a steep hill at a break-neck rate, at the risk of having a spill such as that with which one party in our illustration has met.

LONGUEUIL REGATTA PRIZE CUPS.

In the present issue we give illustrations, from photographs by Notman, of the three cups competed for at the Longueuil Regatta on the 14th and 15th September last. The cups are worth about fifty dollars each, and were manufactured by Messrs. Hawksworth, Eyre & Co., of Sheffield, England. The workmanship is very creditable to the manufacturers.

SEVENTEEN MILE POST, FRASER RIVER.

The scenery on the Fraser River, B. C., is in many parts admirable. The country through which it passes has already been so fully described in our columns (vide Rev. Mr. Dawson's papers) that we need simply to call attention to the illustration of the Seventeen Mile Post, which appears in this issue.

Miss Farnham, the Inventor and Patentee of the Princess Louise Chart, is giving lessons at Madame G. de Fontange's, 251 St. James Street, Montreal, from 10 to 12 a.m. and from 2 to 5 p.m.; at Albion Hotel from 7 to 9 p.m., for a few weeks only. Agents wanted in every City and Village in Canada.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. R. W.—"The Farewell" is declined with thanks. We are at present very fully supplied with such contributions.

A young man who travelled through New Jersey says he saw some land there so poor that you couldn't raise a disturbance on it.

CHESS.

Solutions to problems sent in by Correspondents will be duly acknowledged.

A. P. Lewis.—Your solution of Problem No. 40 was duly received; quite correct.

The score in the match by telegraph, Toronto v. Hamilton, shows three games for the former city, two for the latter, and one game unfinished; only five minutes were allowed for each move, the time being permitted, however, for four moves on each side, and the pieces were the same as in play over the board. We give below the last game from the Globe.

The two consultation games, Toronto v. Seaforth, were both won by the former city.

GAME I.—HAMILTON AND TORONTO. KING'S BISHOP'S OPENING.

- White, (Hamilton.) Mr. C. F. Robertson. 1. P. to K. 4th. 2. B. to Q. B. 4th. 3. P. to Q. 3rd. 4. P. to K. R. 3rd. 5. Kt. to K. B. 3rd. 6. Kt. takes P. (a). 7. P. to Q. B. 3rd. 8. P. to K. B. 4th. 9. B. to Q. Kt. 3rd. 10. P. to K. 5th. 11. B. to K. 3rd. 12. P. to Q. 4th. 13. Q. takes P. 14. K. to Q. 2nd. 15. Q. to K. B. 3rd. 16. P. to K. Kt. 4th. 17. P. takes P. 18. P. takes B. 19. K. to B. 20. K. R. to R. 2nd. 21. Kt. to Q. B. 3rd. 22. Q. to K. 4th. 23. B. to Q. 2nd. 24. Q. to B. 2nd. 25. K. takes Q. 26. P. takes B. 27. R. to e. 28. R. to Q. Kt. 29. R. to Kt. 3rd. 30. B. to K. 3rd. 31. R. to K. 32. B. to Q. 2nd. 33. K. to Kt. 2nd. 34. P. to R. 4th. 35. P. to Kt. 5th. 36. P. to e. 5th. 37. P. to Kt. 6th. 38. P. takes P. ch. 39. R. to K. 3rd. 40. R. takes R. 41. P. to Q. B. 4th. 42. P. takes P. 43. B. to B. 3rd.

And Hamilton resigns. (a) The remainder of the game loses much of its interest after such an oversight as this: White has now an almost hopeless battle. (b) The beginning of a crushing counter-attack.

ENIGMA No. 22.

White—K. at Q. R. 4th. R. at K. B. 3rd. and K. R. 5th. B. at Q. Kt. 3rd. and Q. B. 7th. Kt. at Q. R. 7th. P. at K. B. 3rd. and Q. 3rd.

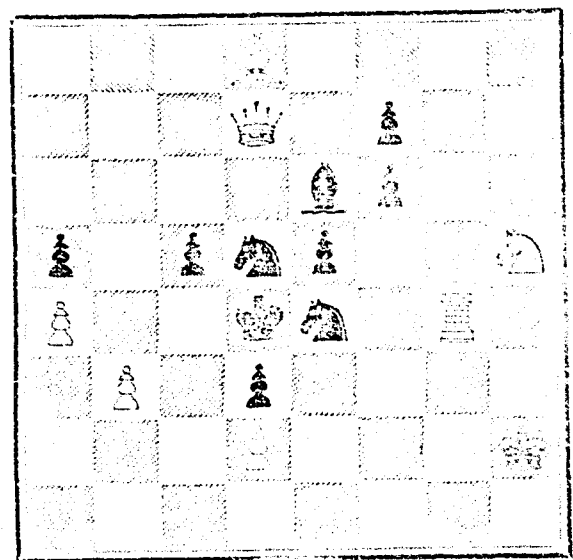
Black—K. at Q. B. 4th. P. at Q. Kt. 5th. and Q. B. 7th.

White to play, and mate in three moves. The above is from the Dabney Chess Journal, a monthly magazine, devoted entirely to Chess.

PROBLEM No. 41

By J. W.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTION OF ENIGMA No. 21.

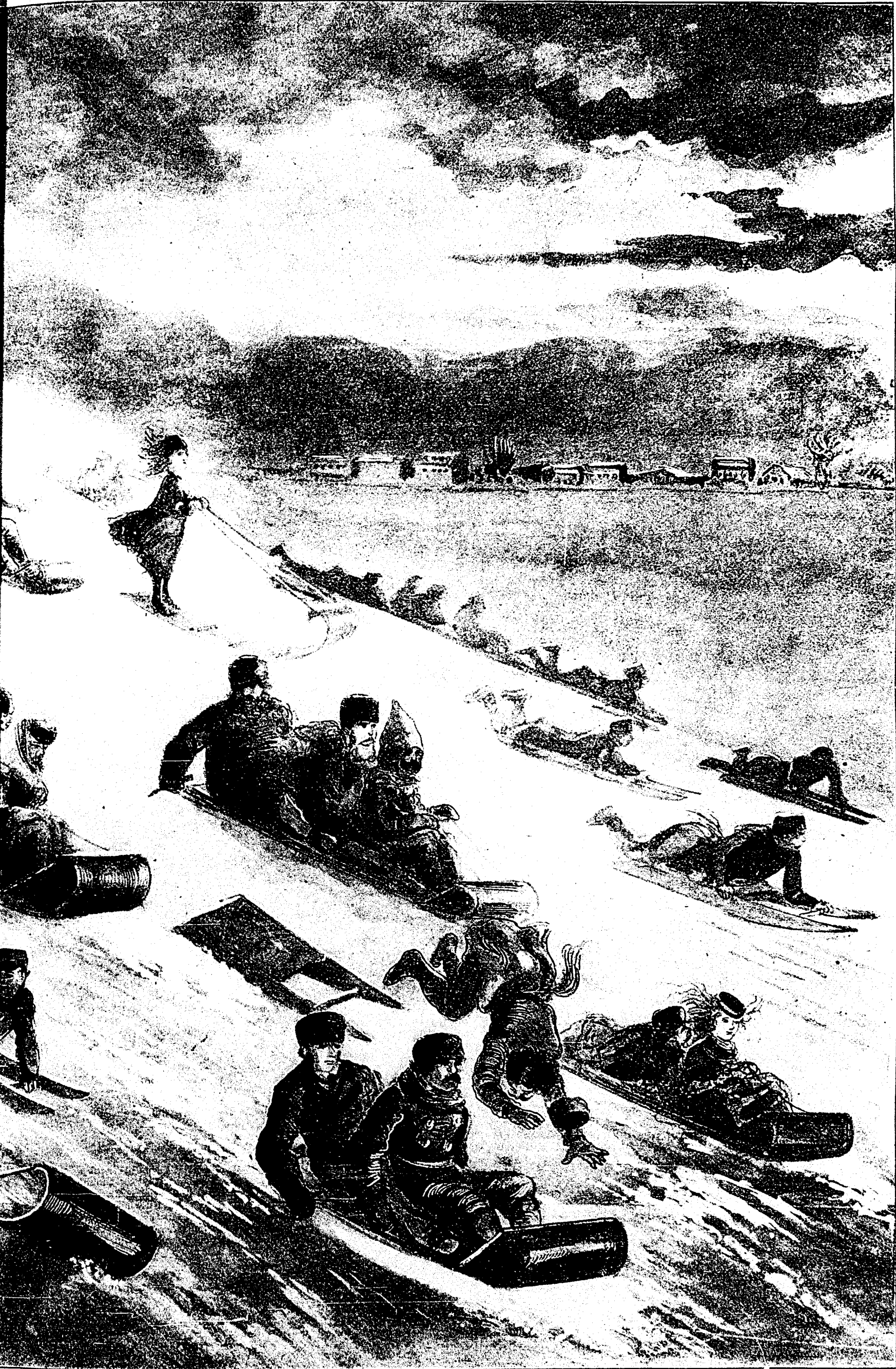
- White. 1. Q. to Q. Kt. 2nd. 2. R. mates.

VARIATIONS.

- 1. R. takes Q. 2. Kt. mates. 1. Kt. mates. 1. R. takes B. 2. Q. to Kt. 5th. mate. Other variations are obvious from the above.



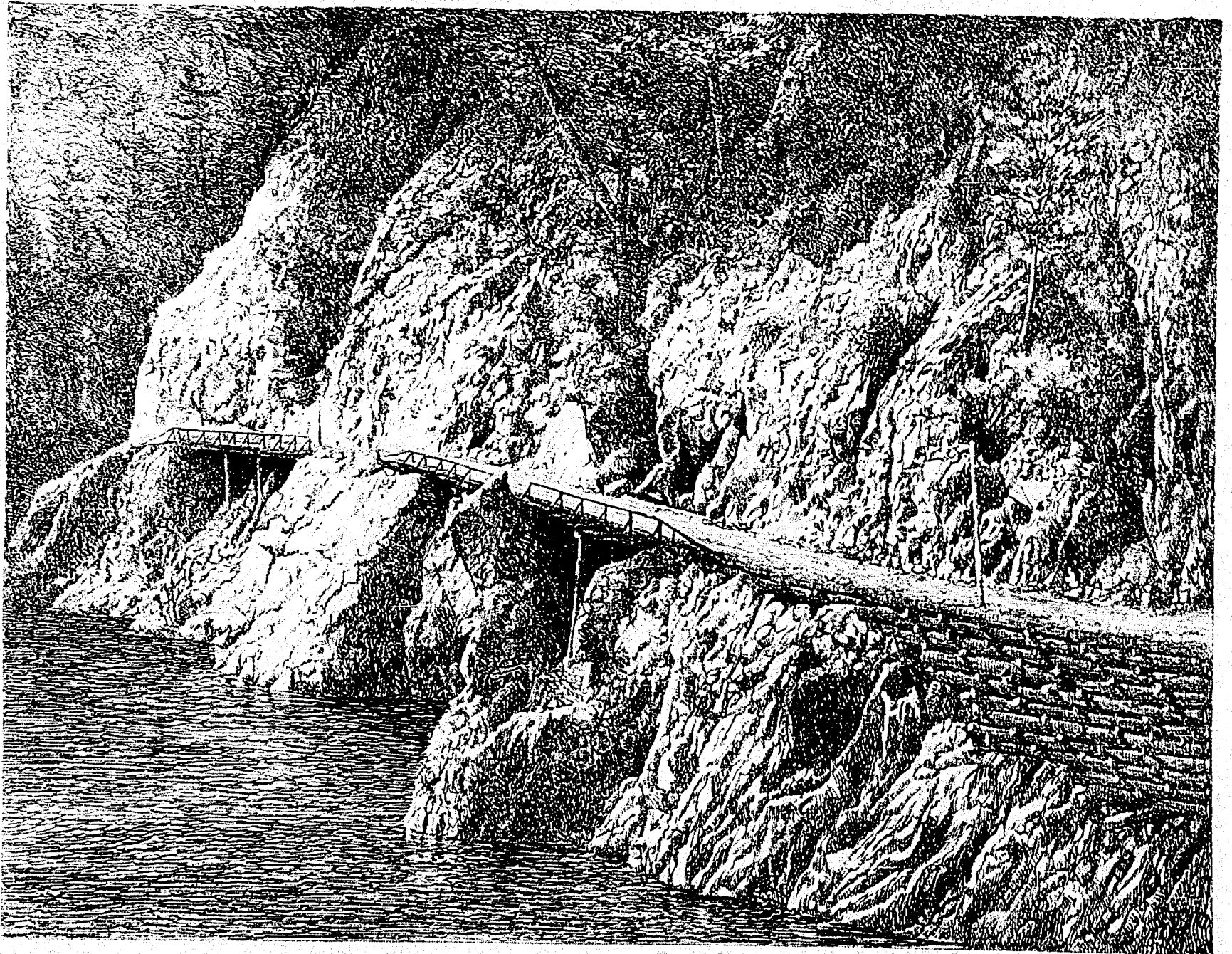
TOBOGANNING ON FLETCHER



S H I L L.—From a sketch by our Artist.



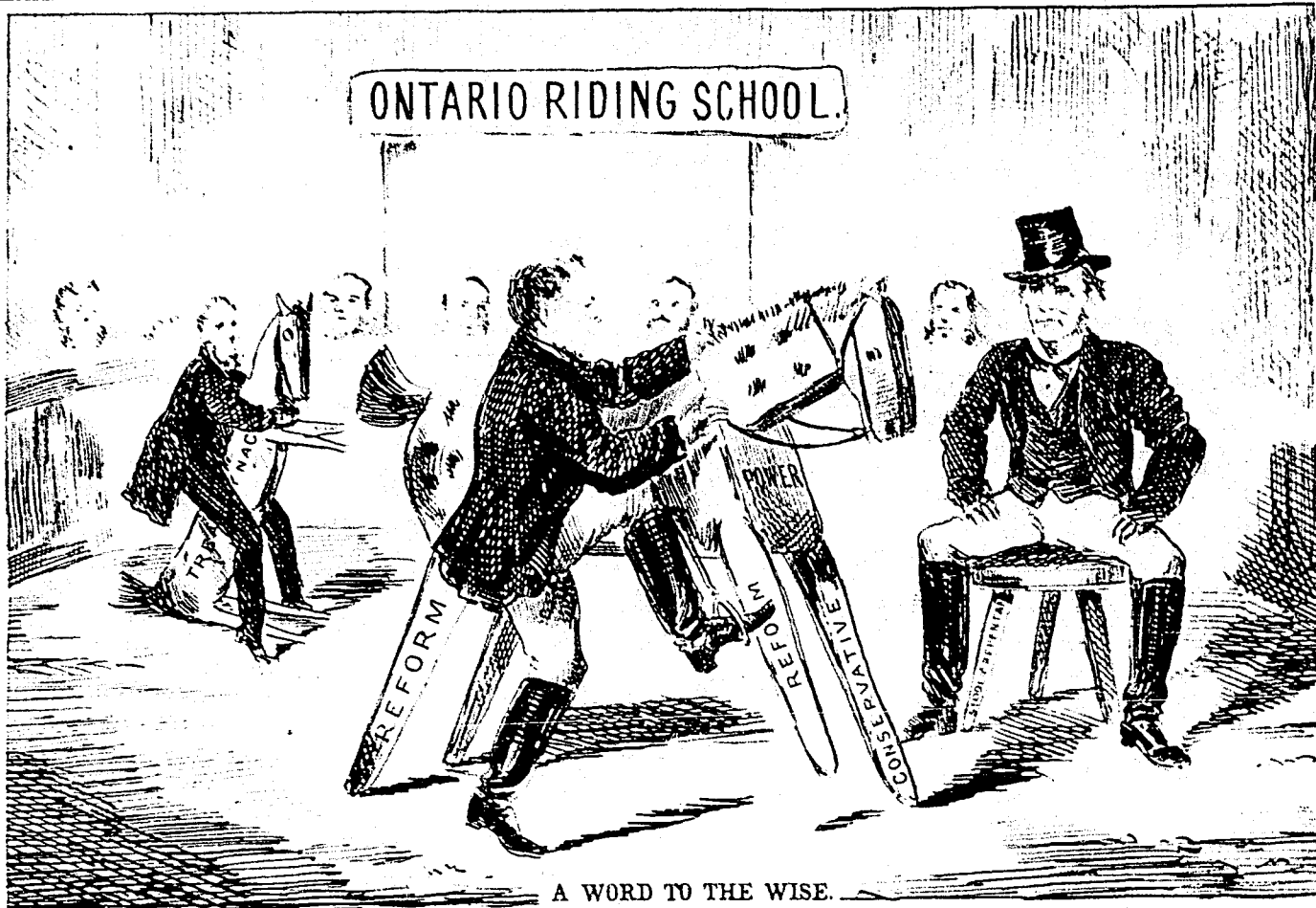
PRIZE CUPS, LONGUEUIL REGATTA, SEPT. 1871. MANUFACTURED BY MESSRS. HAWKSWORTH, EYRE & CO., SHEFFIELD.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY NOTMAN



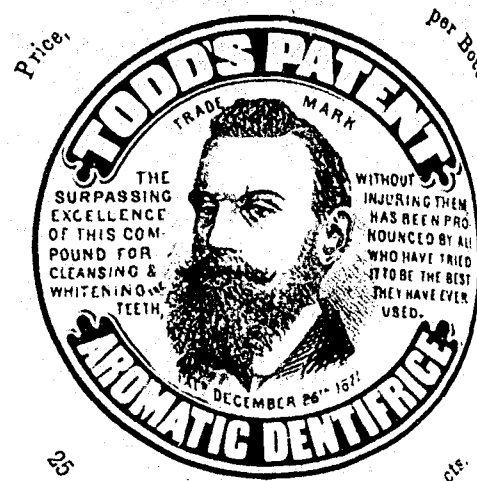
17 MILE POST, FRASER RIVER, B. C.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



"WINNING THE GLOVES."



J. S. M.—“Be careful, now—that’s the nag that threw me.”
 F. B.—“Thank you for nothing—I’ll manage him! His legs are new!”
 J. S. M.—“Yes, but the animal is still the same!”



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 TO OTTAWA.**
 ON AND AFTER MONDAY,
 OCT. 30, 1871.

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Express at 7:30 A.M., arriving at Ottawa at 12:50
 P.M., and at Sand Point at 1:30 P.M., and
 connecting at Sand Point with Union
 Forwarding Company's Steamers.

Local Train at 1:40 P.M.
 THROUGH OTTAWA EXPRESS at 3:25 P.M., connecting
 with Grand Trunk Day Express from
 the East and West, and arriving at
 Ottawa at 7:25 P.M., and at Sand
 Point at 8:15 P.M.

LEAVE OTTAWA.
 THROUGH WESTERN EXPRESS at 10:00 A.M., arriving
 at Brockville at 1:50 P.M., and
 connecting with Grand Trunk Day Ex-
 press going East and West.

MAIL TRAIN at 4:35 P.M.
ARRIVE AT SAND POINT
 at 1:30 P.M., 7:35 P.M., and 8:15 P.M.

LEAVE SAND POINT
 at 5:30 A.M., 9:10 A.M., and 3:45 P.M.
 Trains on Canada Central and Perth Branch make
 certain connections with all Trains on B. and O.
 Railway.

Certain connections made with Grand Trunk trains,
 Mail Line, and Union Forwarding Company's
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MORNING EXPRESS leaves Sand Point at 10 A.M.,
 after arrival of Steamer from Pembroke,
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 C. Railways being of the same gauge as the Grand
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H. ABBOTT,
 Manager,
 Brockville, 26th Sept., 1871.

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**TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
 NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMP'Y.**

MORRIS FRANKLIN, President.
WM. H. BEERS, Vice-President and Actuary.

OFFICE: Nos. 346 and 348, BROADWAY,
 JANUARY 1, 1872.

Amount of Net Cash Assets, January 1, 1871.....	\$15,656,957.95
RECEIPTS:	
Premiums and Annuities.....	\$6,031,879.32
Interest received and accrued, including premium on gold, &c.....	1,149,416.57
	7,181,295.89
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Losses by Death.....	\$1,318,958.98
Purchased, surrendered, and cancelled Policies.....	1,105,854.64
Life Annuities, Matured Endowments, and Re-Insurance.....	8,829.35
Dividends to Policy-holders.....	84,658.43
Commissions, Brokerages, and Agency Expenses.....	50,897.73
Advertising and Physicians' Fees.....	28,507.35
Taxes, Office and Law Expenses, Salaries, Printing, Revenue Stamps.....	253,899.81
	4,167,646.49
	\$18,689,747.36

ASSETS:	
Cash in Trust Company, in Bank, and on hand.....	\$1,843,002.15
Invested in United States, New York State, and other Stocks (market value \$4,751,152.50 cost).....	4,696,762.43
Invested in N. Y. City Bank Stocks (market value \$6,125 cost).....	11,349.49
Real Estate in the City of New York.....	1,768,174.14
Bonds and Mortgages, secured by Real Estate valued at \$3,000,000, Buildings thereon insured for over \$3,000,000, and the Policies assigned to the Company as additional collateral security.....	8,214,729.00
Loans on existing Policies. (The Reserve held by the Company on these same policies amounts to \$2,870,800.25).....	593,626.99
Quarterly and Semi-Annual Premiums due subsequent to January 1, 1872.....	674,291.12
Premiums on existing Policies in hands of Agents and in course of transmission.....	379,433.23
Amounts due from Agents.....	18,827.61
Interest accrued to January 1, 1872.....	77,046.11
Excess of market value of securities over cost.....	114,021.40
	\$18,803,768.70

APPROPRIATED AS FOLLOWS:	
Amount of Adjusted Losses, due subsequent to January 1, 1872.....	212,840.00
Amount of Reported Losses, awaiting proof, &c.....	127,000.00
Amount reserved for Re-Insurance on existing Policies, insuring \$112,150,000.00 participating insurance at 4 per cent. Cash in net premium \$1,001,750.00 non-participating at 5 per cent. Cash in net premium.....	16,841,177.21
Balance of Return Premium, 1871, payable during the year 1872.....	112,046.12
	17,313,634.33
	\$1,188,134.13

CANADIAN BUSINESS.	
Total Premiums received during the year in Canada.....	\$127,286.41
Number of Policies issued during the year in Canada.....	161
Amount of Policies issued during the year in Canada.....	1,456,750.00
Amount at risk on all Policies in force in Canada.....	2,397,750.00
Number of Policies become claims during the year in Canada.....	9
Amount of Policies become claims during the year in Canada.....	12,597.50
Amount paid on claims during the year in Canada.....	11,500.00
Amount of claims in suspense in Canada.....	None.
Amount of claims in Canada resisted.....	None.
Deposit, if in Foreign Securities, stating the kind, U. S. 6 per cent. Gold Bonds.....	100,000.00

GENERAL BUSINESS.	
Assets of the Company.....	\$18,802,768.70
Liabilities of Company, excluding premium reserve.....	471,457.12
Amount of Premium reserve (estimated).....	15,185,000.00
Rate per cent. and table of mortality on which this reserve is based. American table 4 1/2 per cent.....	None.
Amount of Capital Stock of the Company.....	None.
Amount paid thereon.....	None.
Total Premium received by the Company during the year in all Countries.....	6,031,879.32
Number of Policies issued by the Company during the year in all Countries.....	898
Amount of Policies issued by the Company during the year in all Countries.....	21,608,726.84
Amount of Policies become claims during the year in all Countries.....	1,341,799.08
Amount of Policies in all Countries.....	113,154,993.45
Expenses of Management, Agencies, Commissions, &c., &c.....	854,330.59

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