

AWFUL LOSS OF LIFE.

Six Hundred Perish in a Fire in a Chicago Theatre.

Victims Were Mostly Women and Children---Heart-Rending Scenes---Stories of Eye Witnesses.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—About six hundred people were killed in ten minutes this afternoon during a fire in the Iroquois Theatre, which stands midway between State and Dearborn streets on the north side of Randolph street, the newest, the largest and as far as human power could make it, the safest theatre in Chicago. Estimates of the dead and injured vary. The police account of the dead is 538. The estimate of the newspapers is 602. Besides this, there are 55 people missing, the majority of whom are probably among the dead in the morgue, and the various undertakers' establishments. Eighty-six of the dead have been positively identified; ninety-two persons are known to be injured.

A few of the victims were burned to death by fire, many were suffocated by gas, and scores were trampled to death in the panic that followed the mad plunge of the frightened audience for the exits. It will be many days before all of the victims will be identified. There are bodies lying in the dozens in the undertakers' rooms, in the police stations and in the hospitals, from which nearly everything that could reveal their identity to those who knew them best is gone. Their clothing is torn to rags or burned to cinders, and their faces have been trampled into an unrecognizable pulp by the crowd that fought and trampled them down as they fled for safety.

The fire broke out during the second act of the play "Mr. Bluebeard," the first production in the theatre since its erection.

The theatrical company, which was very large, escaped to the street in safety, nearly all of them, however, being compelled to flee into the street with no clothing but the clothes on their backs. A few members of the company sustained minor injuries, but none were seriously hurt.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE

DUE, IT IS SUPPOSED, TO ELECTRIC WIRE NEAR SCENERY.

The accounts of the origin of the fire are conflicting, and none of them certain, but the best reason given is that an electric wire near the lower part of a piece of drop scenery broke and grounded, setting the scenery ablaze. The fire spread rapidly toward the front of the stage, causing the members of the chorus, who were then engaged in the performance, to flee to the wings with screams of terror. The fire in itself up to this time was not serious, and possibly could have been checked, had not the asbestos curtain refused to work.

As soon as the fire was discovered, Eddie Fox, the comedian of the company, attempted to lower the curtain. It descended about half way, and then stuck. The fire was then given practically a free run, and a strong draught set to the doors, which had been thrown open in the front of the theatre. With a roar and a bound the flames shot out through the opening over the heads of the people on the first floor, and up to those in the first balcony, caught them and burned them to death. Immediately following this rush of flames there came an explosion, which lifted the entire roof of the theatre into the air, scattering the great skylight into fragments.

As soon as the flames first appeared beyond the curtain a man in the rear of the hall shouted "Fire, fire!" and the entire audience rose as one person and made for the doors. It is believed that the explosion was caused by the flames coming in contact with the gas reservoirs of the theatre, causing them to burst. Will J. Davis, manager of the theatre, said after the catastrophe that if the people had remained in their seats, and had not been excited by the cry of "fire," not a life would have been lost.

This, however, is contradicted by the statements of the firemen, who found the bodies of numbers of persons sitting in their seats, their faces directed toward the stage, as if the performance was still going on. It was the opinion of the firemen that these people were suffocated at once by the flow of gas and fire which came from behind the asbestos curtain.

MANAGER'S VERSION.

Mr. Will J. Davis, one of the proprietors of the theatre, was indefatigable in his efforts to alleviate all suffering. He said: "There was no need, so far as I know, of a single life being lost. There were over forty exits to the theatre, and if anybody had not screamed 'fire!' I think that all could have reached the street in safety. As far as we have learned, everybody on the first floor except three escaped. The great loss of life was in the first and second balconies. As far as I can estimate the balconies held between 750 and 800 people. The top balcony was the most crowded, and it is here that the crowd found most difficulty in struggling towards the exits. It was declared to-night by the management of the theatre that the fire

was not caused by the grounding of an electric wire, or to any defect in the equipment of the theatre. It started, they claim, by the explosion of a calcium light apparatus. This blew out the skylights, it is said. This statement is contradicted by many people who were in the theatre, and who declare before the explosion occurred they saw flames in a narrow streak creeping along the wall near the upper part of the drop curtain.

MAD RUSH TO DEATH

LIVES WERE LOST IN EFFORT TO REACH THE OUTER AIR.

As near as can be estimated at the present time, about 1,300 persons were in the theatre. Three hundred of these were on the first floor, the balance being in the two upper balconies and in the hallways back of them.

The theatre is modelled after the Opera Comique in Paris, and from the rear of each balcony there are three doors leading out to passageways towards the exits. Two of these doors are at the end of the balcony, and one in the centre. The audience, in its rush for the outer air, seems to have, for the greater part, chosen to flee to the left entrance, and to attempt to make its way down the eastern stairway leading into the lobby of the theatre.

Outside of the people burned and suffocated by gas it was in these two doorways on the first and second balconies that the greatest loss of life occurred. When the firemen entered the building the dead were found stretched in a pile reaching from the head of the stairway at least eight feet from the door, back to a point about five feet in the rear of the door. This mass of dead bodies in the narrow doorway reached to within two feet of the top of the passageway. All of the corpses at this point were women and children.

The fight for life which must have taken place at these two points is something that is simply beyond human power to adequately describe. Only a faint idea of its horror could be derived from the aspect of the bodies as they lay. Women on top of these masses of dead had been overtaken by death as they were crawling on their hands and knees over the bodies of those who had died before.

Others lay with arms stretched out in the direction toward which lay life and safety, holding in their hands fragments of garments evidently torn from others whom they had endeavored to pull down and trample under foot, as they fought for their own lives. As the police removed layer after layer of dead in those doorways, the sight became too much even for the police and firemen, hardened as they are to such scenes. The bodies were in such an inextricable mass and so tightly were they jammed between the sides of the door and walls that it was impossible to lift them one by one and carry them out. The only possible thing to do was to seize a limb or some other portion of the body and pull with human strength.

Men worked at the task with tears running down their cheeks, and the sobs of the rescuers could be heard even in the hall below where this awful scene was being enacted.

A number of men were compelled to abandon their task and give it over to others whose nerves had not as yet been shaken.

As one by one the bodies were dragged out of the water-soaked, blackened mass of corpses, the spectacle became more and more heartrending. There were women whose clothing was torn completely from their bodies above the waist, whose bosoms had been trampled into a pulp, and whose faces were marked beyond all power of identification.

AWFUL SCENE

REAR OF BALCONIES FILLED WITH BODIES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The building was so full of smoke when the firemen first arrived that the full extent of the catastrophe was not immediately grasped until a fireman and a newspaper man crawled up the stairs leading to the balcony, holding handkerchiefs over their mouths to avoid suffocation.

The two men tried vainly to get through the door, which was jammed with dead women, piled higher than either of their heads. All the lights in the theatre were necessarily out, and the only illumination came through the cloud of smoke that hung between the interior of the theatre and the street. The two men hurried to the rear of the balcony and informed Chief Musgrave of the Fire Department, that the dead bodies were piled high in the balcony and prompt assistance must be rendered.

The Chief at once called upon all his men in the vicinity to abandon

work on the fire and come at once to the rescue. The building was so dark and the smoke so thick that it was found impossible to accomplish anything until lights had been secured. Over two hundred lights were quickly carried into the building, and the work of rescue was commenced. So rapidly were the bodies brought down that for over an hour there were two streams of men passing in and out of the doorway, the one carrying bodies the other composed men to get more. The bodies were carried into Thompson's restaurant, which adjoins the theatre on the east. The dead and wounded were placed upon chairs, tables and counters.

Although all the patrol wagons and every ambulance owned by the city were pressed into service, they were utterly inadequate to carry away the dead and in a short time there was a line fifty feet long of corpses piled two and three high on the sidewalk in front of the theatre.

It was found necessary in order to convey the bodies rapidly to the morgue and to the various undertakers' establishments, to impress trucks into service, and in these the dead were hauled away. The merchants in the vicinity of the theatre rose to the emergency in splendid fashion.

Marshall Field & Company, Mandell Brothers, Schlesinger & Ayer, Carson, Pirie, Scott & Company, and other large dry goods stores sent wagon loads of blankets, packages of cotton to be used in binding up the wounds of the injured and to cover the dead.

Doctors and trained nurses were on the ground by the score within half an hour after the extent of the calamity was known. A number of doctors waited at the entrance to the theatre with stethoscopes in hand to examine the bodies which were brought out for signs of life.

One large truck, ordinarily used for conveying freight to depots, was so heavily loaded with dead in front of the theatre that the two large horses attached to it were unable to start, and the police were compelled to assist by tugging at the wheels.

EYE WITNESS STORIES

MEN PULLED AND PUSHED WOMEN AND CHILDREN ASIDE IN THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

One of the marvellous escapes was that of the members of a theatre party given by Miss Charlotte E. Plamondon, of Chicago. The party was made up of a number of prominent society people.

Miss Plamondon said:—"I could see little girls and boys in the orchestra chairs pointing upwards to the slowly moving line of flame along the curtain. One of the stage hands and Eddie Foy requested the audience to keep their seats. Pieces of the smouldering curtain fell into the orchestra pit. I looked over the faces of the audience and remarked how many children were present. Their faces were filled with interest as they watched the burning curtain. Just then the people in the balcony rose to their feet and crowded to obtain a better view of the fire. Eddie Foy rushed to the centre of the stage again and waved his arms for the people to be seated. At that instant a woman in the rear of the place screamed 'Fire,' and the entire audience of women and children rose to their feet, filled with uncontrollable terror. In another instant there was a roar made by the thousands of people as they rushed madly from the danger."

"On the stage the chorus girls turned to see. Several of them fell to the floor and I saw the men carry them off the stage. Miss Elsie Elmore was the first to leave our box. The upholstering on the railing was then on fire and we were compelled to brush fragments of the burning curtain from our clothing. Then there was a great roar and a great draught of air and the flames shot out over the parquet until it seemed to me as though they must reach the front walls. There were but few men in the audience, but I saw several of them pulling and pushing women and children aside as they fought like maniacs to reach the exits. I saw a number of little children trampled under foot and none of them arose again. In the balcony the scene was beyond my power to describe. There was a big black crush of human beings, each one apparently fighting everybody else. The balcony was so steep that many fell before they had left the first four rows of seats. The exits to the fire escapes were choked and those in the rear rushed with all the strength they possessed upon those who were nearer the doorway. It was almost incredible the speed with which the flames ran through the scenery, and although it was but a second after Miss Elmore in jumping over the railing of our box to the aisle in front of the stage was a mass of flames. As I

started on the aisle a man rushed into me and knocked me down. I was so terror-stricken that I gave way and sank into one of the orchestra chairs and after that I hardly remember anything. In some way I reached the main entrance, where men were kicking against the doors and shattering the glass and panels in their attempts to afford a larger space for exit. Many fell as they reached the doors, where a few steps more would have carried them to fresh air and safety. As I look at it now, I must have been walking on prostrate bodies as I struggled through the opening. All of our party escaped in about the same manner as I did."

William R. Heyer, an usher in the first balcony, said: "My balcony was crowded. It all came so suddenly that I barely had time to open the fire exits before the auditorium was in flames. The women screamed and the men fought to get to the doors, trampling on women and children. If they had been quiet everybody could have got out of my balcony. In the mad rush a man seized the five-year-old son of Mrs. Marcella Warren, of Detroit, by the head in attempting to throw him from his path, and the little boy's scalp was practically torn from his head."

P. W. Wilson, who assisted in taking the injured from the theatre to the hospital, said that many of the deaths were caused by falling from the balcony steps in the efforts of the crowd to reach the exits. The first evidence of the fire, he said, "was a thin column of smoke which floated from the stage. This was followed by a sheet of flames. The people in the parquet started for the door in an orderly manner. Then somebody screamed and everybody apparently lost all control of themselves. Men sprang to the stairs apparently regardless of the women and children who were going down at the time. Many women and children were knocked down in this way who might have been saved had they not been pushed to one side by men who thought of nothing but themselves."

Herbert Cawthorn, a member of the cast, assisted many girls from the stage exits in the panic. Mr. Cawthorn said: "I was in a position to see the origin of the fire, and I feel positive that it was an electric calcium light that started the blaze. Above the stage, perhaps twelve feet higher than the top of the curtain exposed to the audience, was a swinging platform from which twelve calcium lights had flared up and the sparks ignited the lint on the curtain. Just then the fireman, who is kept behind the scenes, rushed up with some kind of a patent fire extinguisher. Instead of the stream from the apparatus striking the flames, it went almost in the opposite direction. Up to this time the flames had not been in sight of the audience. While the stage fireman was working in an endeavor to use the chemicals the flames suddenly swooped down and out. The asbestos curtain refused to work and then the stage hands and players began to hurry from the theatre. In my opinion the stage fireman might have averted the whole affair if he had not become so excited. There were at least five hundred persons behind the scenes when the fire started."

TALES OF RESCUERS

HEART-BREAKING SCENES WITNESSED.

Among the hundreds of persons who rushed to the rescue when the call of fire was heard on the streets, was Bishop Samuel Fellows, who happened to be passing the theatre. He made his way through the smoke to the top gallery, and assisted in carrying out the victims.

"God forbid, that I ever again see such a heartrending sight," said the Bishop. "I have been in wars and upon the bloody field of battle, but I have never seen anything half so gruesome as the sight in that balcony. There was a pile of twisted and bleeding bodies, ten feet high, with blackened faces and remnants of charred clothing clinging to them. Some were alive and moaning in their agony. Others, and by far the greater number, were dead."

It was the presence of the children, hundreds of them in the audience, and the efforts of their frantic mothers to save them, that caused much of the pandemonium.

Alexander H. Revell, who had sent his little daughter Margaret with a little friend, in charge of a maid to see the performance, drove frantically to the burning theatre, but the children had been saved. Mr. Revell then hastened to the theatre and participated in the rescue. "I worked in the upper balconies," said he. "The sight of those women and little children with clenched fists, raised as though trying to beat their way to safety, and stricken down in the very act, is too horrible to attempt to describe. I assisted the policemen and firemen in carrying down more than twenty bodies."

Sheriff Barrett and a score of deputies from his office assisted in carrying out the injured people, and in keeping order among the mob who thronged the streets. "On all sides were heaps of mangled and charred humanity," said Sheriff Barrett. "We carried out so many injured and dead, that at last they grew so numerous that we were unable to keep track of them."

William C. Sellers, the house fireman, who was severely burned in trying to lower the asbestos curtain, described the scene upon the stage and the cause of the fire as follows:

"I was standing in the wings when I heard the explosion, and then immediately afterward a cry of fire all over the theatre. I saw the curtain was ablaze, and at once I ran for the fire curtain. We got it half way down when the wind rushing in from the broken skylight belied it out so that it caught, and we could not budge it. With the stage hands I climbed to where it was

suspended, and together we tried to push it down. Our efforts were futile, and seeing that no human power could move that fire curtain, and that the stage was a mass of flames, I turned my attention to the actors. The women were frantic, and the men, not much better, I stood at the doorway leading to the dressing rooms where the chorus people were and kept some from going up to get their street clothes. As the others came down I forced them to leave the building. I don't know how they ever got out, all those girls and men, for the stage entrance was blocked by flames."

E. Leavitt, the ticket taker at the theatre, who was at the main entrance, said: "I heard the cry and saw the mob rushing for the door. When the first of the frenzied audience reached the outside door, I tried to calm them, but in less than a minute I saw it was no use and I burst open the doors. Then I ran for the first alarm box." He described the panic as terrible.

Waiters and cooks from Thompson's restaurant rescued fifteen people by raising a ladder from the roof of a shed to a window in the rear of the building, around which a mass of screaming women and children were congregated.

About a score of people in the second balcony were saved by firemen, who took them through the roof and carried them down ladders in the rear of the building.

Two bodies tightly locked in each other's arms, those of young ladies apparently about twenty-five years of age, were found in one end of the orchestra pit. They must have fallen from the balcony above. The body of a dark haired girl, apparently twelve years old, was found impaled on the iron railing of the first balcony. She evidently had been thrown over from the second balcony above.

With all of its clothing torn from it but a pair of baby shoes, the body of a child, about a year old, was found in a far corner of the second balcony. It had evidently been knocked from its mother's arms and was trampled beyond all recognition.

PUSHED FROM FIRE ESCAPE

EQUIPMENT NOT COMPLETE OWING TO NEWNESS OF BUILDING.

The theatre had been constructed but a short time, and all its equipment was not yet in place. This was unfortunately the case with a fire escape in the rear of the building. The small iron balconies, to which the iron ladders were to be attached were up, but the ladders had not yet been constructed. When the panic was at its height a great number of women ran for these fire escapes, only to find as they emerged from the door way upon the little iron platforms that there were thirty to fifty feet from the ground, a fire behind, and no method of escape in front. Those who reached the platform first endeavored to hold their footing and to keep back the crowd that pressed upon them from the rear. The effort was utterly useless, and in a few moments the iron ledges were jammed with crowds of women who screamed, fought and tore at each other like maniacs. This lasted but a brief time, and the rush from the interior of the building became so violent that many of them were crowded off and fell to the granite pavement below. Others leaped from the platforms, fracturing legs and arms, and two were picked up at this point with fractured skulls, having been instantly killed.

Mr. George H. Elliot, secretary of the Ogden Gas Company, was in a building directly opposite from the building across the alley. When he reached the street the women already were dropping into the alley, and Mr. Elliot immediately rushed for a ladder in an effort to save as many as possible. No ladder was available and the only method of assistance they were able to devise was to hurriedly lash some planks together and throw them across to the afflicted women on the platforms, with instructions to place the end firmly on the iron framework. Women were being pushed every instant into the alley, and by the time the bridge was constructed but few remained to take advantage of it. However, about two dozen, it is believed, made their way across this narrow causeway.

ROBBING THE DEAD

THIEVES PLY THEIR NEFARIOUS TRAFFIC DURING THE WORK OF RESCUE.

While scores of men were busy carrying out the dead and injured, others, fortunately few in number, searched the aisles and seats for valuables. Two men were found who had provided themselves with baskets, and were filling them with the property of the dead. During the evening the police arrested over a dozen men accused of being thieves and pickpockets.

DEAD AND INJURED

PARTIAL LIST OF THE VICTIMS OF THE FIRE.

Following is the first list of the dead and injured:

Hortense Lang, aged 16; Irene Lang, aged 11, sister of above; Miss Abbie Raymer, daughter of Ald. Raymer; E. A. Wilson, Mrs. W. T. Marsh, Miss Gladys Streiten, Alpena, Mich.; Louise Bushnell, Mrs. A. Lake, 35 years old; Miss A. Donaldson, aged 18 years; J. Ratsey, died at hospital; two boys with him thought to have perished; Mrs. Patrick P. O'Donnell, wife of president of O'Donnell & Duer Brewing Company; Mrs. Bessie Glinger, Otto Wattman, R. H.

Coult, Miss D. Howard, Miss Ross, daughter of Dr. Ross; Edith Horton, Helen McCaughan, Mrs. F. A. Morrill, Mrs. A. Sullivan, Mrs. Minwagan, wife of Ald. John Minwagan; Mrs. Hyatt, Ann Fitzgibbon, C. W. Forbush and family, Anna Sterling, three stage hands, Floraine, a German aerial performer; Ethel Blackman, 13 years old; Mrs. Cavanaugh; unknown boy, 8 years old; two unknown women, met death jumping from rear fire escape; Louise Buchray, Marie Walsh, Mrs. James D. Maloney, Miss Spencer, Ethel Jones, daughter of S. P. Jones, attended the theatre with brothers and sisters, two of whom are missing, and three accounted for, reported at Vaughan's seed store, where body was taken; that the mother, an invalid, dropped dead when she received the tidings of daughter's death; Mrs. John C. Kling, Lillian Philipson, six years old; boy, lived at Lafayette, Ind.; Mrs. Foreman, William Rattley, J. C. Johnson, William M. Reed, Waukegan, Ill.; Hoyt Fox, Mrs. L. R. Butler, S. Wardman, Edmund W. Morton, Newby, J. A. Keckens, Mrs. Stern, H. Donaldson, the Rev. Howard Stedley, pastor of All Strangers Church; Miss J. H. Dodd, Delaware, O.; Miss V. Delee, daughter of the late lieutenant of police; W. W. Hooper, Kenosha, Wis.; five children of H. S. Van Ingen, of Kenosha (unavailable); father became separated from them and is among the injured; C. W. Turbush and family, Mildred Meriman, 3 years old, rescued by father, but died on reaching the street; Bernice Bailey, A. M. Mandel, C. A. Winelow, Three Rivers, Minn.; Donald Wells, Burr Scott, Farnetta Peterson, Harvey Kiesel, St. Louis; Thos. Coultell, Emperley Hall, Thos. J. Flannigan, Indianapolis, Ind.; Mrs. M. A. Henry, Rose K. Rogers, H. P. Moore, C. I. Cooper, May Curran, Martin, a boy of 15; E. Mosca, H. W. Williams, B. Regenberg, Ellis Linden, Nur, Mrs. Emma Brinchley, Richard and Allen Hoar, Harold Martin, Pullman, Ill.; John Holland, Lulu Shabbard, W. N. Sprang, Charles H. Koll, Mrs. Dawson, Whitefox, a boy; Mr. Burt, Robert Martin, young son of Principal Martin, of Pullman School; John Van Ingen, Kenosha, Wis.; Walter Bessinger, died at hospital; Margaret Buerman, died at hospital; Mrs. Geo. Wolff, Hammond, Ind., died at hospital; Helen Howard, died at hospital; Helen Cooper, died at hospital; E. Gould, died at hospital; Mortimer Eldridge, Helen Beyerleth, Evanston, Ill.; the Rev. Henry L. Richardson, Louis Kisher and wife, said to have belonged to Blue Beard Company, Chicago; the Rev. Geo. H. Dudley, pastor of All Saints' Episcopal Church; Walter B. Ziebler, son of Dr. Ziebler, of the University of Chicago, who is now in Europe; Alice Kammann, died at hospital.

SERIOUSLY INJURED.
Following is a partial list of the seriously injured: Emma Tubbs, wife of Charles Tubbs, brother of Western Union superintendent, and daughter; Anna; Mrs. C. Krane, Racine, Wis.; will die; Mrs. A. Bessen, Herman Dell, Mrs. Wigwall, may die; Wm. McLaughlin, nephew of Dr. Frank Gonsalus; Mrs. Mahan, R. A. Evans, member of Blue Beard Company; Dorothy, Mary, pony ballet; Anna Bella Whitford, cousin; fairies; Miss Marcella Morgan, Detroit, may die; Lester Doty, seven years old, son of Mr. L. V. Doty, of the Illinois Steel Company; Mrs. Henry Miller, Ontonagon, Mich.; H. K. Chester, wife and two children; Karl Hennessey, H. S. Van Ingen and wife; Fridmore; Chapman, M. S. Schalk, will die; William Patten, will die; C. Kimball, will die; Susan Bessell, will die; Jesse Phelan, will die; Margaret Buerman, will die; Richard Emelag, Standhard, will die; Mrs. M. Lehman; Mrs. Frances Lehrman, will die; Miss Carrie Anderson, Mrs. Mabel Midmillan, fatal; Fred Crawford and William Patterson, young sons of Mr. C. Patterson, of the Pullman Palace Car Company; Pomeroy, Miss Myrte, Mrs. C. H. Fier, Mrs. Josephine Spence, A. J. Fier, will die; Leonard Diffender, aged sixteen, of Lincoln, Ill.; Louise Dee, will die.

SORROW IN LONDON

PRESS SAYS WHOLE WORLD IS FILLED WITH PITY AND SYMPATHY.

London, Dec. 31.—All the morning papers print editorials on the catastrophe in the Iroquois Theatre at Chicago, saying that it fills the whole world with a feeling of pity and sympathy for the victims, and proves that the most modern regulations and appliances adopted as a precaution against such accidents are futile when panic strikes an audience.

The Daily Telegraph urges the necessity for the universal adoption of the plan, which is already largely employed on the Continent, of rendering all scenery, gazes and properties non-inflammable.

The Lord Mayor of London, Sir James T. Ritchie, transmits through the Associated Press the following:

The citizens of London offer their deep sympathy and sincere condolence with the American people in the awful loss of life in the fire at Chicago.

JAMES T. RITCHIE.

Lord Mayor of London. All other topics were forgotten here in the horror over the Iroquois Theatre tragedy.

The flags over the American steamship offices were half-masted.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COMMISSION.

Chamberlain's speech at Leeds, in which he announced the forming of a Tariff Reform Commission, with the first notice sent out, which describes the work, scope and composition of the commission will be found in this week's "World Wide."

Three cents from all newswriters, or \$1.00 a year from the publishers, John Douglall & Son, Montreal.—Advt.

Wishing Our Friends and Patrons:



Willis & Co.

PIANOS and ORGANS,
EMPIRE BUILDING,

2470 ST. CATHERINE ST.

We will deliver instruments until 9.30 p.m. on New Year's Eve to avoid delivery on New Year's Day.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Miss Ida Marks, Ottawa, is visiting friends in Montreal.

Dr. J. M. Harper, Quebec, is leaving on a short visit to friends in Toronto.

Lady Ruby Elliot sails on Jan. 13 for Dresden, to continue her musical studies.

Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Ross have returned to Ottawa from a visit in Montreal.

Mrs. H. B. Ames has left to spend a couple of weeks at Gorham, New Hampshire.

Mrs. W. H. Blake, Toronto, is visiting in Montreal, the guest of her mother, Mrs. Law.

Miss Marcia Sewall, Bath, Me., is visiting her aunt, Mrs. J. R. Meeker, 328 Prince Arthur street.

Mrs. A. A. Sandeman is entertaining at dinner and taking her guests afterwards to the Charity Ball.

Miss Ross, of Cardinal, is the guest of her sister-in-law, Mrs. C. A. Ross, 645 St. Antoine street, Westmount.

Messrs. S. W. Metcalfe and T. H. Metcalfe, of Winnipeg, were introduced on 'Change of the Board of Trade to-day by Mr. H. D. Metcalfe.

Mrs. G. H. Monk and Miss Monk, of Rockburn, are spending the holiday season in town, the guests of Mrs. John Nicholls, 2728 St. Catherine street.

Dr. and Mrs. Jas. A. Baird are giving a dance on New Year's night at their home in Hemmingford, for which a number of young people are going out from Montreal.

The Hon. L. J. Forget, Madame Forget and family, left this morning for Boston, where they will take passage on the S.S. 'Republic' for Egypt, where they will pass the winter months.

Mrs. Perry R. Gault was the hostess at a small but very pleasant tea yesterday afternoon, in honor of Miss Lyon, of Morristown, N.J. The tea-table was prettily decorated with Lawson cacti.

Mrs. Leslie Gault and Mrs. G. Ernest Gault were assisted by Miss Stanway and Miss Hingston in serving tea. Mrs. Gault was gowned in pale green, and Miss Lyon, who received with her, was in fawn.

Mrs. Day, McGill College avenue, gave a largely attended tea on Tuesday afternoon for her daughter, Mrs. Cecil French, of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. John Grant, of Como. The tea-table had a centre-piece of scarlet poinsettia, and was further arranged with amaranth and red ribbons, and candles shaded in red.

Edgar Smith presided at the tea-table, assisted by a number of young ladies. Mrs. Day, who was gowned in black satin, was assisted in receiving by Mrs. French wearing a black skirt and embroidered white silk blouse, and Mrs. Grant wore a black peau de soie gown with garniture of jet.

The white and gold ball-room at Government House was the scene of a brilliant and unique fancy dress ball on Tuesday night. The ball-room still retained its immense Christmas tree, shining with numerous electric lights, and their lighted branches with the house party who in front of the tree. Lady Minto was beautifully gowned in sea-green silk, embroidered with silver spangles, her corsage bouquet was of crimson roses, and she wore diamond tiara and necklace. As the band struck up the characters in 'Alice in Wonderland,' and 'Alice Through the Looking-glass' entered in procession, and circled the ball-room twice, saluting their Excellencies, as they passed. Lady Violet Elliot, as 'Alice,' had on a blue frock, her hands placed in the pockets of her little white apron, and her fair hair over her shoulders. Lady Eileen Elliot, as the White Queen, wore a white skirt and little jacket trimmed with silver cord, and silver crown on her hair, which was powdered. Lady Ruby Elliot represented the Queen of Hearts, and Lord Melgund the Knave. The numerous characters were well taken, and the event will be long remembered both by the young people taking part and their elders who witnessed it.

Mrs. J. R. Meeker, Prince Arthur street, gave a dance for not out last night, which was enjoyed by about a hundred young people, including a very few who have made their debut. The decorations were carried out very effectively in the seasonable colors of red and green. A laurel wreath tied with red ribbons encircled the gasolier in the centre of the dancing-room, and palms and poinsettia were banked in front of the mirror. Palms were also placed about the sitting-out room. The supper table had a centre of poinsettia and Roman hyacinths, while holly, mistletoe, and Boston fern completed a charming effect. Mrs. Meeker received, wearing a gown of white crepe de Chine with silver sequins. Miss Florence Meeker was dressed in white China silk with lace and Miss Marcia Sewall, who assisted in receiving, wore blue mousseline de soie with cream lace. The list of invited guests included Miss E. Macdougall, Miss E. Troop, Miss Beryl Wilson, Miss Jessie Hannah, Miss Hally Carman, Miss Mary McGibbon, Miss Marion Torrance (Winnipeg), Miss Louise Hays, Miss Cecil Shepherd, Miss Dorothy Browne, Miss Cairine Mackay, Miss Marguerite Joseph, Miss M. Macpherson, Miss Evelyn Macpherson, Miss Florence Caverhill, Miss M. Peterson, Miss Marjorie Appel, Miss Hilda Gordon, Miss G. Dunlop, Miss Maud Bellingham, Miss Lorraine Handyside, Miss Gwendolen Bagg, Miss Jessie Caverhill, Miss Marjorie Caverhill, Miss Hilda Gordon, Miss Beatrice Caverhill, Miss Brenda Molson, Miss Marguerite Strathay, Miss Isabella Strathay, Miss Hazel Allan, Miss Doris Allan, Miss Enid Campbell, Miss Elizabeth Browne, Miss Gertrude Crisp, Miss Dorothy Howard, Miss Grace Towers, Miss Helen Mathewson, Miss Mabel Whitley, Messrs. Allan Dunlop, Gerald Bogert, Crosby Baber, S. Lyman, J. J. Moyle, J. Riddell, Walter Molson, B. Molson, Pierce Penhallow, W. Troop, Howard Turnbull, Kenneth Turnbull, Kenneth Drinkwater, Bruce Carman, Reginald Tait, Douglas Macpherson, Reginald Plimoli, Saxe Browne, C. Stephens, Reginald Molson, H. Molson, Hugh Mathewson, George Buchanan, Roy McGibbon, George Macdougall, Henry Skelton, Lionel Lindsay, A. French, Talbot Paineau, W. Papineau, W. Redpath, Trevor Penny, Arthur Penny, Chilian Howard, B. Marler, C. Gordon, Hugh Har-



We have sold a great many more

PIANOS AND ORGANS

this year than last, and thank the purchasing public of Montreal for their liberal patronage.

We wish all our friends and customers a very HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

LAYTON BROS.
144 PEEL STREET.
N.B.—Open this evening until 9.30.

BIG DISCOUNT SALE.
G. W. CLARKE & CO.
2270 ST. CATHERINE ST.

Big to announce their

Discount Sale on all lines of goods.

The discounts range from 10 to 35 percent off all regular prices.

Sale begins to-day, THURSDAY, Dec. 31, and will continue one month.

10 percent off Sterling Silverware.

25 percent off Quimper Platedware.

20 percent off all Leather Goods.

20 percent off Metal Ornaments.

20 percent off Japanese Chinaware.

20 percent off Vases, &c.

20 percent off Smoker's Sets.

20 percent off Brass Mounted Mirrors.

20 percent off Ebony Goods.

20 percent off Jewellery.

50 percent off Dolls.

All our goods are new and prices low.

With the discounts off this is a grand opportunity to get fine goods cheap.

G. W. CLARKE & CO.
2270 St. Catherine St.

LOYAL EXCELSIOR LODGE, No. 6237.

I.O.O.F., M.U.

Jan. 1, 1904, being New Year's Day, the regular lodge night is postponed till Monday, Jan. 4th. All Past Grands are requested to be present.

C. E. BROWNELL, N.G.

PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS

NEW YEARS GATHERING

The Presbyterian Sabbath-schools will meet as usual on New Year's Morning, at 10 o'clock, in Erskine Church. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. E. H. BRANDT, of Pointe Aux Trembles School, and Rev. C. DUGUID, of Maisonneuve Presbyterian Church.

JAS. R. LOWDON, Secretary.

W. H. Leach wishes all his numerous patrons and friends a very happy and prosperous New Year. The Morris' Piano Warehouses, 2440 St. Catherine street.

son, Gerald Hanson, Alex. Wilson, Guy Drummond, G. Hannah, Eric Fisher, Alex. McMurtry, E. McKay.

REYNOLDS-BLAMPIN.

At the residence of the bride's parents, South Roxton, Que., on Tuesday afternoon, Miss Edith Blampin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Blampin, was married to Mr. Herbert E. Reynolds, also of South Roxton, the Rev. J. A. Poston, rector of the parish, officiating. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Callie Blampin, and Mr. Harvey Reynolds, of Toronto, brother of the groom, was best man. Numerous valuable and useful presents were received by the bride and groom. Mrs. Reynolds is a graduate of the McGill Normal School, Montreal. Mr. Reynolds is a graduate of the Guelph Agricultural College. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds came to Montreal on Tuesday evening, spent yesterday in the city and left for Bowmanville and other Ontario points this morning.

MR. DRYDEN HONORED.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 31.—The new American Breeders' Association, formed of breeders of birds and animals, has elected the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture of Ontario, chairman of the animal section.

HACKMAN IN TROUBLE.

John Furlong, a hackman, got drunk on Tuesday, and amused himself by insulting people at the St. Lawrence Hall. He also left his horse unattended. Mr. Recorder Poirier to-day fined him \$5 or fifteen days on each charge.

COLONIAL HOUSE,

Phillips Square.

GREAT ANNUAL

DISCOUNT SALE.

During the Month of January,
Beginning Saturday, 2nd

WE WILL OFFER

OUR...

ENTIRE

STOCK

(With the Exception of two or three Specialties, which we are bound by contract to sell at fixed prices) at Discounts ranging from

10 to 50 Percent

With 5 Percent Extra
for Cash.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO MAIL ORDERS.

HENRY MORGAN & CO.

MONTREAL.

WE WISH YOU
a good, happy and prosperous
year, 1904

and we thank you for your
kind patronage during
1903

H. LAMONTAGNE & CO.
LIMITED.
1902 NOTRE DAME STREET.
Balmoral Block, near McGill Street.

Wishing our
Friends and
Patrons
a Very
Happy
New Year.

**GREAT
Dissolution
SALE**

WE BEG TO

thank our patrons for their generous support during the past five years, and take pleasure in informing them that Mr. J. W. REID is now the sole owner of the business, and bespeak for him a continuance of your favors.

JOHN W. REID & CO.

BEGINNING ON SATURDAY, 2nd JAN. 1904.

I will offer the whole fresh and up-to-date stock of HATS AND FURNISHINGS at Discounts ranging from

FROM 20 TO 100 PERCENT

off the already low prices, as everything must be turned into cash.

No less discount than 20 percent, and discount allowed on every 25c spent.

EARLY COMERS

will have best choice.

JOHN W. REID,

2095-2099 ST. CATHERINE STREET, near Bleury.

P.S.—Will be open till 11 O'clock To-night.
Holiday Goods at Reduced Prices.

THE DYING YEAR

WATCHNIGHT SERVICES — SUNDAY-SCHOOL RALLIES TOMORROW.

Solemn watchnight services will be held in many of the churches to-night to part with the dying year and usher in the new.

To-morrow morning there will be the denominational Sunday-school rallies. The Church of England scholars will meet in Trinity Church, and the speakers will be His Lordship Bishop Carmichael and Principal Rexford.

The Presbyterian schools will gather at Erskine Church, Dr. Scrimgeour and Principal Brandt being among the speakers.

St. James Church will be the meeting place for the Methodist scholars. Dr. Griffith will preside, and the Rev. W. Gould Henderson and Mr. N. McMahon will be the speakers.

The Baptist rally will be held in the First Baptist Church, the speakers being the Rev. F. S. Weston, the Rev. D. M. Mibell and Mr. W. K. Graffey.

The Congregational rally will be held in Calvary Church, and addresses will be given by several of the ministers.

The Young Men's Christian Association will hold an 'Open House' on New Year's day. The building will be open from two until ten p.m. to the members and the young men of the city. The Association orchestra will render an attractive musical programme in the afternoon and evening. An exhibition will be given by the members of physical classes in the gymnasium at 2.45 p.m., and there will be a number of other attractive features. Refreshments will be served by the ladies' committee from four to six o'clock. In the evening a concert will be given in the Association Hall. The Association building is always one of the most attractive places in the city to visit on New Year's day.

New Year receptions will be held to-morrow at the armories of the various regiments and at the rinks of the city curling clubs.

Archbishop Bond will receive at 'Bishopscourt,' Union avenue. Archbishop Bruchesi will receive at the palace, Lagachetiere street.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

(By Ella Wheeler Wilcox.)

When, with clanging and with ringing,
Comes the year's initial day,
I can feel the rhythmic swinging
Of the world upon its way;

And though Right still wears a fetter,
And though Justice still is blind,
Time's beyond he always better
Than the paths he leaves behind.

In our eons of existence,
As we circle through the night,
We annihilate the distance
From beginnings crude and lowly;

Round and round our souls have trod,
Through the circles, winding slowly,
Up to knowledge and to God.

With each century departed
Some old evil found a tomb
Some old truth was newly started
In propitious soil to bloom.

With each epoch some condition
That has handicapped the race
(Worn out creed or superstition)
Unto knowledge yields its place.

Though in folly and in blindness
And in sorrow still we grope,
Yet in man's increasing kindness
Lies the world's stupendous hope.

For our darkest hour of errors
Is as radiant as the dawn,
Set beside the awful terrors
Of the ages that have gone.

And above the sad world's sobbing,
And the strife of clan with clan,
I can hear the mighty throbbing
Of the heart of God in man.

And a voice chants through the chiming
Of the bells, and seems to say,
We are climbing, we are climbing
As we circle on our way.

Weekly Calendar.

ARENA HOCKEY

Saturday, Jan. 2nd, at 8.15
Shamrock vs. Victoria

Prices—Admission, 25c and 35c. Reserved seats, 50c. Box seats, \$1.00.
Box (6 seats), \$5.00. Seats on sale at Star-Branch Office, Cor. Peel and St. Catherine Streets. Phone Up. 1846.

SKATING

NEW YEAR'S NIGHT.
P. W. F. BAND

INTERMEDIATE MATCHES, 2.30 and 4.00 p.m., SATURDAY

Admission, 25c. Children, 10c.

COCHRANE'S AUDITORIUM, PRINCE ARTHUR SKATING RINK.

Corner Duluth Avenue and St. Urbain Street,
Xmas and New Year's Afternoons also Saturday afternoons.
BAND EVERY EVENING. Bell Tel. East 563.

TO-NIGHT (Thursday), GALA NIGHT with Grand Illumination.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Skaters coming early and those remaining after 10 p.m. have the advantage of seeing the Nationals or Montagnards at their Senior practices.

SKATING WITH HARDY'S BAND Every Night, at 8 p.m., also Saturdays and Holidays at 2 p.m. Partial Membership ticket, \$3.00. Skaters and Spectators special admission, 15 cents. The Montagnard A.A.A., cor. Duluth and St. Hubert. Phone E 2219. J. A. CHRISTIE, Secretary.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31.

WATCHNIGHT SERVICE
At Inspector Street Mission, 75 Inspector Street.
TO-NIGHT AT 10.30.
JNO. CURRIE, Pastor, will preside. "The New Things of the Bible." Come and pray the Old Year out and the New Year in.

Minto Skating Rink,

Corner of Mance and Prince Arthur sts.
NOW OPEN.
Season tickets for sale at the Rink. General admission, 10 cents.
Certain extra hours are granted for hockey practice. Tel. East 214.

Art Association

PHILIPS SQUARE.
CLASSES WILL RE-OPEN after the Xmas Holidays as follows:
Advanced Art Class—MONDAY, January 4th, at 9.30 a.m.
Elementary Class—TUESDAY, January 5th, at 3.30 p.m.
Painting Class—WEDNESDAY, January 6th, at 2 p.m.
Students intending to join Illustration Class should apply before January 4th.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1.
NEW YEAR'S CONCERT,
Association Hall,
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
Dominion Square.
Artist:
WARREN G. RICHARDS, Humorist, of Boston.
Miss R. DAWES, Soprano.
Mrs. W. H. PERRITON, Contralto.
Miss TURNER, Violinist.
Admission, 25 cents.
Seats may be reserved at the Association.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2.
THE S. SCHOOL UNION TEACHERS' MEETING
will be held (D.V.) at the Y.M.C.A., on SATURDAY, Jan'y 2nd, at 4.45 p.m. Rev. J. A. GORDON, of First Baptist Church, will be the leader for January.

MONDAY, JANUARY 4.
YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
896 Dorchester Street.
WINTER TERM OF EVENING CLASSES
will open MONDAY, Jan. 4, 1904.
Dressmaking. Home Nursing.
Millinery. French.
Plain Sewing. Short-hand.
Art Needlework. Book-keeping.
Bakery. Reading Circle.
Arithmetic. Physical Culture.
English. Bible.
For circulars and further information apply at the office.

Y. W. C. A. SCHOOL OF COOKERY,
896 Dorchester Street,
will re-open with a **DEMONSTRATION**
MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 4th, at 8 o'clock.
LUNCHEON FOR SIX.
Admission, 10 cents.
EVENING CLASSES.
Cooking—Tuesday, at 8 o'clock.
Business Writing—Thursday, at 8 o'clock.
Waitressing—Friday, at 8 o'clock.
DAY CLASSES.
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, at 10 o'clock.
Pupils wishing to enroll are requested to make immediate application to the Principal, Miss DOW.

MISS GREENWOOD
OF BROOKLYN, N.Y.,
Will Address the Meeting of Central W.C.T.U., in Evangelistic Hall, 2424 ST. CATHERINE STREET,
On Monday, Jan. 4th, at 8 o'clock.
The public are cordially invited not to lose this opportunity of an hour's 'arrest of thought.'

FUTURE MEETINGS.

NOTICE

The annual general meeting of the CARILLON & GREVILLE RAILWAY for the transaction of business and the election of directors, will be held at Room No. 464 TEMPLE BUILDING, St. James street, Montreal, on MONDAY THE 11TH JANUARY, 1904, at 2 o'clock, p.m. By order of the Directors.
R. W. SHEPHERD, Secy.-Treasurer.
Montreal, Dec. 29th, 1903.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily Witness, \$3.00; Weekly Witness, \$1.00, with reduction to clubs. Northern Messenger, thirty cents; 10 copies to one address and over, twenty cents per copy. Post paid in each case to Canada, Newfoundland, Great Britain, United States and its colonies, Transvaal, Barbados, Bermuda, British Honduras, Ceylon, Gambia, Sarawak, Bahamas Islands, Zanzibar, Hongkong, Cyprus, New Zealand.
For postal union countries, excepting those mentioned above, add for postage, \$3.50 for Daily Witness, \$1.00 for Weekly Witness, 50c for Northern Messenger.
World Wide, one dollar, including postage, for Canada, Newfoundland, Great Britain, United States and foreign countries, excepting Montreal and suburbs.
The last edition of the Daily Witness is delivered in the city every evening of publication at \$4 per annum.

All business communications should be addressed "John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal." All letters to the Editor should be addressed "Editor of the 'Witness,' Montreal."

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
..	..	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	..	..

The Daily Witness.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1903.

Decent citizens who have a care for the forming character of the rising generation will be grateful to learn that the act requiring customs authorities to forbid the importation of posters exhibiting acts of violence and crime, such as have been familiarizing our youth with the very worst phases of life, is at length to be put in force. We presume that it was not with a view to discrediting the law that the first enforcement of it has had to do with a comic and harmless piece of superior class. After letting low and disgusting criminalities through week after week this seems a very unfortunate beginning of what is an obviously necessary reform. The customs authorities may well say that what they have to do with is the picture and not the play, and that unless all depicting of violence is forbidden they cannot carry out the law. This is probably true. If the act is to be enforced it must be thoroughly done, even if its effects may sometimes be grotesque. Let us trust that thorough enforcement is what this action means.

The Home Market Club of Massachusetts is an organization for upholding the protective tariff. The despatches say that Colonel Albert Clarke, its secretary, created a sensation when he proved by convincing figures that the merchant marine of the United States has declined almost to the vanishing point under the protective system. Twenty-three years ago, he said, United States vessels brought ninety-four percent of the republic's imports and carried abroad eighty-six percent of its exports. Now they carry only twelve percent of its imports and six percent of its exports. Taking the whole trade of the nation, American bottoms carry less than nine percent. Why a statement of this notorious fact should produce a sensation it is hard to understand, seeing that it must have been familiar to all, unless it was the temerity of a protectionist functionary in referring to so striking a proof of the killing effects of protection on the merchant marine of a nation. If the facts recounted by Colonel Clarke be compared with the statistics of shipping in the United Kingdom, it will be seen that as the mercantile marine of the United States declined under protection, British shipping increased under free trade. The same process occurred in every country that has adopted the protective system. Germany and France have only saved their marine from destruction by heavy bounties out of the pockets of their overburdened taxpayers. Even these devices have not prevented stagnation in the case of France for the simple reason that the cost of building and operating merchant ships under the protective system is so much greater than under free trade that competition is impossible. The Canadian merchant marine has suffered in the same way under our protective tariff. Nor is there much chance of its revival, although we possess as unsurpassed advantages for steel shipbuilding now as we had for constructing wooden vessels in the early years of Confederation. From these facts an idea may be formed of what is likely to happen in Great Britain, should her people adopt a protective policy. She would lose all her present advantages and by evening her conditions with those of the United States, her maritime supremacy would pass away forever.

A CITY IN MOURNING.

The old year closes in the most awful gloom for many who have lost those who were nearest and dearest to them in two of the most frightful of tragedies, and a third only less frightful in degree. The Baltimore and Ohio Railway 'accident' was responsible for the doing to death of four score people, at least, and the permanent crippling of many more; in the Pere Marquette Railway disaster more than twenty were actually slain; and now comes a 'tragedy far transcending these in the number of victims, if not in degree of suffering. In the Chicago Iroquois Theatre last night, the almost incredible number of six hundred human beings were suddenly cut off from life, in the most appalling way in which death can come to man. Indeed, only to read the account of the catastrophe as it is written in to-day's despatches from the scene is to be cut to the heart and even physically to suffer. We are assured that this theatre, being the newest, was, so far as human power could make it, the safest in Chicago. We can well believe that it was meant to be, and would have been when the intended fire escapes were attached. But the result shows the futility of the latest precautions. The asbestos curtain, which should have confined the flames to the stage end of the building, would not come down. This was owing to no defect in its construction, but to the draft which the sudden conflagration had already set up. The opening of the building for such an entertainment, before the fire escapes were put up, was criminal. The presence of these fire escapes would certainly not have prevented a horrible disaster, but a large number of lives might have been saved by them. Not only the management, but the building inspector, will have to answer for these lives. But the chief lesson to be learned from this fire is the potential dangers always surrounding an audience in the modern theatre. There is a network of electric wires, some of them of high power. There are reservoirs of gas, inflammable scenery and upholstery, and always there is that blind primitive instinct of crowds which diffuses everywhere mad fear of death and passion for escape which expels all other feelings. The crowd is, indeed, no longer human, but a terrible piece of mechanism, of which the guiding power has been lost, and which is turned into a self-destructor. Over and over again it has been proved that a cry of fire in closed places will precipitate a panic, even when the danger is small, but in the case of the fire yesterday afternoon, the danger was great and immediate, as we read that many were scorched to death before they could rise from their seats. If anything could add to the awful pitifulness of yesterday's tragedy, it would be the fact that the victims seem to have been chiefly women and children, who trampled one another to death in their desperate efforts to escape from the terrors behind them. In the work of rescue hu-

man nature shone out bright, as it always does when the individual is called upon for self-sacrifice.

THE NEW YEAR.

Dr. William Ellery Channing, the eminent Unitarian divine, who was born nearly a century and a quarter ago, or only three or four years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and who died sixty-one years ago, was one of the great American writers and workers who aimed to banish vice and ignorance from the world by the general elevation of the great masses of the people. In one of his papers, entitled 'The Present Age,' there is so much that is applicable in this present year of grace that it might almost, with a difference, have been written to-day: 'In looking at our 'age,' he says, 'I am struck, immediately, with one commanding characteristic, and that is, the tendency in all its movements to expansion, to diffusion, to universality. This tendency is directly opposed to the spirit of exclusiveness, restriction, narrowness, monopoly, which has prevailed in past ages. Human action is now freer, more unconfined. All goods, advantages, helps, are more open to all. The privileged, petted individual is becoming less, and the human race is becoming more. The "multitude is rising from the dust." In lesser or greater measure this movement has been in progress ever since. Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, who was born fourteen or fifteen years after Channing, and who died in the same year as the American writer, used, among what were then considered as novel ideas, which found no welcome even with his friends, to insist earnestly and often that a great danger was threatening the social system in Great Britain from the austere separation existing between the educated and the working classes, and that a more conciliatory style of intercourse between these two bisections of the social body must be established or else a tremendous revolution would result. Bishop Heber, another contemporary, suffered some opprobrium in the days of his English ministry for urging a similar view.

It was no imaginary danger, as in their blindness the many who derided these large-hearted men thought. The French Revolution and the revolt of the North American colonies, whatever else may be said for or against them, certainly undermined the fortifications of caste, and men, even among the most abject, began to be faintly conscious that they were destined for something higher than to be other men's chattels. The fundamental right of every man to have the chance to make a man of himself slowly but surely came to be held to be the highest social truth; the grand doctrine, it has been called, that every human being should have the means of self-culture, of progress in knowledge and virtue, of health, comfort and happiness, of exercising the powers and affections of a man. The common nature which lies below the disguises and envelopments of rank and fortune came in time to be an axiom, thanks to the great and good men in America and Europe, who spent their lives for the uplifting of the human race. The consequences have been vast and not altogether what were expected. Tennyson, in his 'Locksley Hall,' drew a very optimistic picture of the world's future under democratic conditions, and because he was disappointed in his immediate expectations, added, perhaps, to the loss of buoyancy which old age sometimes brings, he was exaggeratedly pessimistic in 'Sixty Years After.' Others besides Tennyson were disappointed in the expectations they had based on the principle of democracy. Cobden, too, looked forward to the federation of man and the removal of all the shackles from international trade. But, to-day, instead of such a universal brotherhood, armies and navies increase in size and costliness, and commercial exclusiveness is increasing instead of diminishing.

Sir William Ramsay, in the casting of the world's new year horoscope from present appearances, deprecates the present tendency is rather toward patriotism, that is, national and race separatism and antagonism, than toward human brotherhood. In the financial and labor world, too, all is not well. In the United States, especially, protected industries have been allowed to prey upon the people until the moral sense has been undermined. On the one hand, we have seen the hateful 'new finance' disregarding all the old traditions of financial and commercial prudence and honor, and on the other hand, we have seen labor using different, but fully as reprehensible, methods, to enforce its ends. It is customary in business to take stock and prepare a balance sheet at least once a year, and he would be a foolish merchant, indeed, who would wilfully deceive himself with a false statement. Even more foolish and criminal would be conscious deceit concerning the world's welfare. In material things, the world has just been passing through one of its greatest seasons of prosperity. In the United

States there are signs that the height of that prosperity has been attained and passed. In Canada and Great Britain little or no reaction is yet in evidence. Indeed, it may be said that the reaction in the United States has been brought about by the recklessness of gamblers, who saw no end to their resources. The financiers set the example and labor followed, and between the two capital and enterprise have been badly frightened. The very fear of a thing will sometimes bring that thing to pass. It is certain, however, that the real wealth and resources of the United States were never so great as to-day, and probably sounder methods of finance and a better understanding between capital and labor are all that are needed to cause a period of depression to pass swiftly away.

We have mentioned some of the reasons for dissatisfaction at the dawning of the fourth year of the new century, but there are many more reasons for satisfaction. There is menace of war between Japan and Russia, which clouds the world's horizon for the moment, and which we all hope may yet be happily averted, but there is great and lasting satisfaction in the fact that there has been no great European war for more than thirty years. Not only that, but the cordial relations which now prevail between France and Italy and Great Britain and the determination of those countries to arbitrate any questions that may arise between them, is full of hope for a long and peaceful future. The better relations between Great Britain and Ireland are another cause for profound thankfulness, as is the grand fact that seated on the throne of Great Britain is a monarch whose ideal is peace and amity throughout the world. The clearest sighted see the future through a glass darkly, but we know that 'light brings no blindness, love no unkindness, knowledge no ruin,' and light and knowledge are walking the world to-day with giant strides, even if love still follows too tardily in the rear. Only as the former help love to walk more strongly on her way are they really beneficent. They cannot fail, however, to reveal the hideousness of the Chauvinism which seems to be the special friend of our era. It is not, however, the improving race which is to make the man a better man. There must first be the man who improves the race. The race does not act consciously and knows no moral duties, the man does act consciously and knows his duty. Of Petrarch it has been said that 'in an age of savage warfare and blind bigotry he cultivated all that could refine, exalt; leading to better things.' Those of us who do the like will be doing our part to realize the golden dream which since the day of Christ has ever haunted man. Among those amenities which make for good is the wish which we wish our readers for a Happy New Year.

CIVIC APPROPRIATIONS

Passed Yesterday by City Council.

INCREASE OF SALARIES OF ALL HIGH OFFICIALS VOTED DOWN—SALARIES OF REDUCED CONSTABLES RESTORED.

The City Council met yesterday afternoon and evening, and passed the annual appropriations of the various departments for the year 1904. The discussions, for there were many, centred around propositions to increase various salaries. The result was the taking of a determined stand against all increases in the salaries of high officials. An ugly turn was at one point given to the discussion by the charge that the proposition for such a general increase of the salaries of corporation officials was due to the wish of the aldermen to create political capital for themselves on the eve of the elections.

The appropriations as revised and finally adopted show the following aggregates:

Finance Department	\$1,872,212.00
Roads	425,842.00
Police	357,633.00
Fire	230,057.00
Light	139,210.00
Fire Alarms	22,700.00
Building Inspection	5,150.00
Boiler Inspection	3,175.00
Water	150,185.00
Markets	28,130.00
Incineration	84,863.00
Hygiene and Statistics	56,529.00
Parks and Ferries	46,824.00
Total	\$3,422,809.00
Reserve Fund	180,386.73
	\$3,603,207.73

The series of debates on the question of salary increases was started by a resolution to increase the salaries of Messrs. Howard and Belanger, assistants to the city surveyor, by \$250 each, making their salaries \$2,150. Aldermen Martineau, Lebeuf, Ouimet and others pointed out that the regular increase of salary for these officials was \$100, and they did not see why that amount should be increased. Ald. Martineau said he had always thought the higher officials of the city were overpaid. At the risk of personal friendship he had a couple of years ago, he said, made a motion reducing their salary, and he had not since changed his mind. During the subsequent general discussion of all high salaries, it was argued that no civic official should receive more

than \$4,000 a year. At present the city clerk and city treasurer are paid \$5,000 each.

It was decided that the increase in the salaries of the assistant engineers should be \$100.

Ald. Laporte remarked that he understood by the vote the council was disposed to increasing certain salaries, and he thought Mr. Barlow's (the city surveyor) should remain at \$4,000. It also seemed to be the wish of the council that \$2,000 was enough for a sub-official. That seemed a fair proportion, and he would ask the chairmen of committees to meet next year in order to recommend a uniform system of paying civic officials.

Ald. Lebeuf asked the council to be reasonable and to be prepared to consider the merits of special cases. He was against reductions which would be unfair and would make it difficult for the city to secure the services of efficient men. He did not like the way in which the reduction of the scale of the city surveyor's salary had been brought forward. It was easy to work up interest for election by reducing or lowering the salaries of high officials, just as it was by raising the wages of laborers and the salaries of junior clerks. As to Mr. Barlow, the city surveyor, he was doing the same work as done by his predecessor, and for which he received \$5,000. So far as the council knew, Mr. Barlow did his work well, and if he did he was as much entitled to the maximum of \$5,000 a year as was Mr. St. George.

Alderman Gallery spoke in favor of increasing Mr. Barlow's salary. He said he deserved \$5,000 as much as his predecessor did, and as much as the heads of other less exacting departments.

Ald. Dagenais was of the same opinion as Ald. Martineau, that no civic official should get more than \$4,000 a year. The motion proposed by Ald. Martineau and seconded by Ald. Dagenais, that Mr. Barlow's salary be not increased, was carried, as under:—

For—Aldermen Laporte, Vallieres, Giroux, Clearhue, Chausse, Lavallee, Couture, Ouimet, Wilson, Lariviere, Robitard, Lesperance, Bumbay, Levy, L. A. Lapointe, N. Lapointe, Sauvageau, Lemay, Hebert, and Dagenais—20.
Against—Aldermen Turner, Sadler, Gallery, Lebeuf, Carter, Walsh and Payette—7.

Alderman Vallieres moved, seconded by Alderman Gallery, that the salary of Mr. Legault, chief of police, be reduced from \$3,500 to \$3,000. The motion was not to reject a proposed increase; but to reduce the salary actually received.

Ald. Vallieres's argument, that in proportion to the salary paid by other officials, Chief Legault's salary was disproportionately large.

Alderman Giroux claimed that the position of chief of police must be worth \$3,500 a year, but if the present official was not satisfactory, reducing his salary was not the way to punish him.

Alderman Clearhue said he was not in favor of such a motion, as \$3,500 was not too much for the position in Montreal.

Alderman Gallery wanted to withdraw, as he, too, thought the maximum salary of \$3,500 was not too much for the right sort of a man.

Alderman Vallieres, however, insisted on the vote being taken. The result was as follows:—
Against—Aldermen Laporte, Giroux, Clearhue, Lavallee, Couture, Turner, Sadler, Wilson, Lariviere, Robitard, Lesperance, Bumbay, Lebeuf, L. A. Lapointe, N. Lapointe, Sauvageau, Walsh, Sauvageau, Payette, and Lemay—20.
For—Aldermen Vallieres, Chausse, Ouimet, Martineau, Gallery, Levy and Dagenais—7.

Upon motion of Ald. Giroux the proposition to give the detectives of the second class an extra hundred dollars a year was carried.

Ald. Walsh thought it would also be advisable to give more money to the constables whose salaries had been reduced.

Ald. Ouimet said it was unjust to cut down the wages of fifty men, who had been promoted but a month ago.

Ald. Lebeuf pointed out that these men had passed good examinations, and he saw no reason to put them behind others, who were not so well qualified.

Ald. Laporte said funds would be found for a few more men at \$12.50 a week.

The matter was finally arranged upon the lines, as suggested by Ald. Walsh, namely:—
Two hundred and thirty-two men of three years' service and over at \$12.50.
Sixty men of from one to three years' service, at \$11.50.
Fifty-three men, with service under a year, at \$10.50.

The proposal to increase the salaries of the four sub-chiefs of the fire brigade by \$50 was defeated.

The proposed increase of \$200 to the salary of Mr. Beaulieu, supply officer of the Fire Department, was voted down.

So was an increase of \$200 to the salary of the city medical health officer, Dr. Laberge.

There was a discussion over the fact that several heads of departments were being given three hundred dollars a year for horse-keep, while as a matter of fact the officials had no horses.

It was explained they were obliged to be out most of the time, and the money was a sort of bonus, to be used on horses and cars.

Alderman Laporte admitted that the practice was a bad one, and said he was in favor of instructing each committee to hold back the money for horse keep, unless the official actually owned horses.

The suggestion will be put into effect next year.

The annual grant for the free municipal library was increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

The appropriation of \$3,000 for the establishment of a municipal gazette, which is to be published weekly, was passed. The new publication will contain a summary of business done at the City Hall, for the use of aldermen, civic contractors, and others.

A letter was read from the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paper-hangers' Local Union 349, supporting the request of the Barbers' Union for the closing of barber shops on Sundays.

The Cabinet Makers Union, No. 1048, and the Bartenders' International League, No. 245, also wrote to the same effect.

Upon motion of Ald. Lebeuf, seconded by Ald. Martineau, it was decided to give to all corporation employees not actually needed, a holiday on Saturday next.

LONG LIST OF DEAD.

Work of Identifying the Victims of the Chicago Fire

(See also Pages 1 and 11.)

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Following is the list of the dead thus far identified.—Mrs. C. O. Folz, Mary Feiser, Miss J. Ghan, Mary Dorothea Gartz, Barbara Gartz, Mabel Geron, Winnetka, Ill.; Miss Pauline Geary, Miss Wilma Geary, J. Gohn, Mrs. B. W. Gould, Harry Gartz.

Adameck, Mrs. John, Bartlett, Ill.; Austrian, Walter D., Laporte, Ind., son of Jos. D. Austrian.

Barker, Miss Ethel; Bartlett, Mrs. C. D., Bartlett, Ill.; Barnheisel, Chas. R.; Beurtel, Wm. C.; Beyersloth, Helen; Bissinger, Walter B.; Brindley, Mrs. H. G.; Bodice, N. W.; Brinkley, Mrs. Emma; Buchmann, Margaret; Butler, Mrs. L. Roschill; Butler, Rose; Bym-furth, Ruth; Boyer, Alexander; Brewster, Miss Julia; Brennan, Paul.

Clark, E. D.; Corcoran, —, daughter of Michael; Copper, C. L.; Contell, Thomas; Cooper, Helen; Coult, May Curran, Mrs. Jacob Chon, Vinton Clayton, Mrs. Thomas A. Cantwell, Roy A. G. Caldwell.

L. Diffendorf, Lincoln, Ill.; Miss Delee, Mrs. J. F. Dodd, Delaware, Ohio; H. Donaldson, address unknown; Miss A. Donaldson, Ruth Dryndorth, Taylor Dryden, Mrs. John Dryden, Mrs. Dawson, address unknown; Herman Eisenstead, Mord, Eldridge, Emil Epen, Miss Epen, Frank B. Ebersterin, Marjorie Edwards, Clinton.

Miss Gertrude Falkenstein, Anna Fitzgibbons, G. S. Fox, son of F. Morton Fox, Winnetka, Ill.; Thomas J. Flanagan, Indianapolis; Miss Gertrude R. Folkenstein, Mrs. Lillian M. Frady, Leon Frady, H. Frady, Helen Fox, John J. Fitzgibbons, Miss Anna Fitzgerald.

Frank Garn, Willis Garn, Vera Goldsby, Mrs. Belle Greney.

Emperley Hall, Miss Lee Haviland, Mrs. Harbaugh, John Holland, Mrs. Mary E. Howard, E. D. Hart, —, Henning, Mrs. G. Henry, Galesburg, R. Higginson, Allen Holst, G. Holst, W. W. Hooper, Miss Helen Howard, Leigh Holland, Edith Horton, Ontonagon; Ray E. Howard, Jeanette Higginson, Mary E. Harbaugh, Mrs. Charles Hickman, W. Hennessey, Mrs. Holmes, Leigh Haviland.

Ethel Jones, J. C. Johnson, C. O. James.

Alice Kaufman, Hammond, Ind.; Otto Kelley, Harvey Kelly, St. Louis; J. A. Koehne, Charles H. Koll, Louis Kiser and wife, Agnes Kennedy, Francis Kennedy, Mrs. Charles Koll, Mrs. Kochman, Mrs. Frank Kermis, Mrs. Sarah Krans, Racine.

Mrs. Lena Lake, Mrs. A. Lake, Irene Lang, Hortens Lang, Ellen Linden, Ag-

nes Lang, Mrs. Livingstone, Fred. W. Leaton.

Mrs. James Maloney, J. Martin, Pullman, Ill.; W. Martin, Pullman, Ill.; Robert Martin, Pullman, Ill.; Helen McCaughan, Joseph McClelland, James McClelland, Arthur Marriell, Mildred Marriell, Esapie Moses, F. A. Muir, H. P. Morehouse, H. P. Moore, Edmund W. Morton, St. Louis; Bernard McKenna, McClurg, boy, Austin, Ill.; Alice Maloney, Ottawa, Ill.; Mrs. H. H. Marriam, Charles Murry, Mamie Muir, Peoria, Ill.; Catherine Middleton, Mabel McMillan.

—Newby, Edith Norton, Evanson; Edward W. Norton, St. Louis; —Nuir, member of Travelling Passenger Agents Association, check 1323.

Mrs. Patrick P. O'Donnell, Mrs. Beesie Olinger, Mrs. Oscar Losen, Florence Orman, W. Murray Owen.

Fornetta Peterson, R. H. Poult, Walter Phacker, Adele Philipson, Jack Pot-hitzer, Lafayette, Ind.; Chas. T. Page, Lillian Patton, Harold Page.

Miss Nellie Reidy, W. Rattey, J. Rattey, Mrs. G. Reister, Hazel Regensburg, Miss Adele Regensburg, W. M. Reed, the Rev. H. L. Richardson, Rose K. Rogers, —, Rosa Thomas Remington, Minnie Robertson, —, Sawyer, Warner Sedill, Kankakee, Ill.; Wilma Smith-barry, Lola Sheppard, Burr Scott, Myrtle Shabard, Lulu Shabard, —, Sherr, W. N. Sprang, Mrs. Stearns, Harry P. Sutton, Mrs. O. T. P. Steinmetz, Warren E. Saville, Miss Margaret Smith, Electa Sylvester, Plainville, Maine; Mrs. J. H. Stendler, Lowell, Ind.; Burdith Stendler, Mrs. Winthrop Spring, Donald Stoddard, Mrs. Smith, Desplaines, Ill.; Olive Squier, Arthur Saville, Winthrop Spring, Rosa Schmidt, A. L. Seymour.

Clyde O. Thompson, Ruth Taylor, Oakpark, Ill.; Walter Thacker, Edna Torney, Mrs. Susan Turner, O. W. Tur-bush, Florence Torgbets, Wilmetta; W. Thacker.

Edward T. Vanzogon, Kenosha, Wis.; Miss T. Valley, John Van Ingen, Kenosha, Wis.; Mrs. J. T. Valley.

Mrs. Leo Wolf, Hammond, Ind.; Helen Wunderlich, S. Waldman, Otto Weltmann, H. Williams, C. A. Winslow, Three Rivers Falls, Minn.; Donald Wells, Paul Windes, Harriet Wulff, Mrs. Ella Wasch, Emma Weiskop.

Walter B. Zeisler.

Mrs. W. F. Boyce, Agnes Chapin, W. W. Cooper, Mrs. Millie J. Crocker, Violet Delee, Maurice Engel, Ada Folkt, Lillian Holland, Des Moines, Ia.; Mrs. Frank Leavenworth, Bloomington, Ill.; Lucille Mead, Mrs. N. Stork, Des Moines; Mrs. D. H. Teak, Ottawa, Ill.; Mrs. Grace Elizabeth Tease; unidentified woman on whose body was found card of "Ed. Loettker."

Michael Dolan, Florence Dow, Minnie Engels, Leon Grady, Mrs. Edward McHale, Lillian Meade, Berwyn, Ill.; Mrs. A. N. Mendel, Meola, Iowa; H. Mendell, Will Miller, Mrs. A. S. Muir, Grace E. Pease, Edith Pridmore, Theodore Roberts, Woodford, Ohio; Mrs. Harry Seiser, Marie Smith, Desplaines, Ill.; Mrs. John Aldrich (partial), Miss P. I. Fort (supposed), 146 38th street; Mrs. Murray Owen, Wheaton, Ill.; Edward L. Van Ingen, Kenosha, Wis.

PRESIDENT'S SYMPATHY

MESSAGE TO MAYOR HARRISON FROM MR. ROOSEVELT.

The following message was received this morning:—

Washington, D.C., Dec. 31.
To Hon. Carter Harrison, Mayor, Chicago.

In common with all our people throughout this land I extend to the people of Chicago my deepest sympathy in the terrible catastrophe which has befallen them.

(Signed), THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

AROUND ILL-FATED SPOT.

NO ONE PERMITTED TO ENTER WITHOUT A WRITTEN ORDER FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

By order of Coroner Traeger, the theatre chancel house was to-day placed under a tight police guard. No person could enter without a written order from the Chief of Police, O'Neil, who was notified that he would be responsible for keeping the theatre building in the exact condition in which it was left by the flames.

Thirty patrolmen were stationed across the front of the building, and twenty men guarded the rear. Within were thirty more officers, the whole interior, including the stairways and fire-bitten balconies being jealously guarded. An additional detail of policemen went through the burned building from top to bottom.

There were fears that in the basement beneath ten feet of muddy water would be found more victims of the smoke and flames. Big fire engines that before deluged the place, were to-day being utilized to draw forth dozens of streams of thick murky water from the basement, while a dozen firemen in hip boots made a thorough search of the basement for bodies. None, however, were found.

Thousands of the curious tried vainly to reach the scene of the fire. The police, however, permitted no entering on either street nearby. If they did the onlookers would have seen nothing out of the ordinary, for the exterior of the building was the same as before the fire.

Though serene without, the interior of the theatre marked it as a true whitened sepulchre. Upon the marble staircases at the left and right within were the mess and confusion of the grim march of the bearers of the dead.

Among the thousands of bits of brilliantly colored glass shattered in the fight against the flames lay many scorched bits of clothing and occasional fragments of charred bodies. From the upper galleries the view seemed a reminder of a burned-out volcano.

In a saloon near the theatre was being gathered a huge pile of fragments and furs gathered up in the theatre after the fire.

Other great fires.

DISASTERS OF BYGONE DAYS WHICH THAT OF CHICAGO RIVALS.

Never in the history of Chicago has there been such an appalling loss of life. In the great fire of Oct. 8 and 9, 1871, three and a half square miles were burned over, 17,450 buildings destroyed; two hundred persons lost their lives, while 98,500 were rendered homeless. Many years before this, on Oct. 9, 1857, the city had another disastrous fire in which many lives and \$600,000 in property were lost.

At Santiago, Chili, by the burning of the Church of the Campana, on Dec. 8, 1863, two thousand persons, mostly women, lost their lives.

The greatest disaster in the world in the way of theatre fires, next to that of Chicago, was the burning of the Ring Theatre, Vienna, on Dec. 8, 1881, when 580 persons lost their lives, while the nearest approach to the disaster of yesterday afternoon, at least in America, was the burning of the Brooklyn Theatre on Dec. 5, 1876, when three hundred persons lost their lives.

Sixty-five years earlier than this the theatre at Richmond, Va., was totally destroyed by fire and the Governor of the State and a large number of the leading citizens perished in the flames. This happened on Dec. 26, 1811.

A most unfortunate place of amusement was the old Bowery Theatre, New York. It was destroyed by fire on four different occasions: March, 26, 1828; Sept. 22, 1838; Feb. 18, 1838, and April 26, 1845. The National Theatre, New York, had also an unfortunate existence, having been consumed twice by fire—on Sept. 23, 1839, and May 29, 1841.

Quebec had an appalling disaster on June 14, 1846, when the Theatre Royal was burned and forty-seven persons lost their lives.

The disaster at Chicago naturally recalls the great fire of London, Sept. 2-6, 1666, which covered an area of 436 acres, and destroyed 90 churches (including St. Paul's), the city gates, the Royal Exchange, the Custom House, Guildhall, and many other public buildings, besides 13,200 houses, laying waste four hundred streets. Over two hundred thousand persons were encamped in the fields at Islington and Highgate.

But, prior to this, London had other memorable fires—in 962 and 1087 when the greater part of the city was destroyed on both occasions, including St. Paul's Cathedral. Again, in 1212, a fire, raging on both sides of the river, destroyed a great part of the city and three thousand persons lost their lives in the waters of the river. At Wapping, in 1715, fifty lives were lost in a fire which consumed a hundred and fifty houses. In Cornhill Ward, on March 25, 1748, occurred the most terrible fire since that of 1666. June 17, 1789, the Opera House was burned; on Sept. 17, 1794, Astley's Amphitheatre was burned; again, along with forty houses, on Sept. 1, 1803; and again on June 8, 1811. Other notable fires in London, similar in character to that of Chicago, were: The Surrey Theatre (1809), Covent Garden Opera House

(1809), Drury Lane (1809), Royalty Theatre, Wellclose Square (1808), English Opera House (1830), Olympic Theatre (1849), Pavilion Theatre (1856), Covent Garden Opera House (1856, second time), Surrey Music Hall (1861), Surrey Theatre (1865), Standard Theatre, Shoreditch (1867), Her Majesty's Theatre, Royal Opera House (1867), Oxford Music Hall (partially, 1868), Oxford Music Hall (totally, 1872), Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill (1873), Elephant and Castle Theatre (1878), New East London Theatre (1879), the Duke's Theatre, Holborn (1880). Many of the great fires in London were caused by the careless use of coal oil.

Liverpool also has had many memorable fires. A most destructive fire occurred in 1762; in 1795 the Exchange and City Hall were consumed; in 1802 a great fire caused a loss of a million pounds, in 1833, 1842, 1860, 1874 and 1877 notable fires occurred. In 1870, as a result of a false alarm, fifteen lives were lost, and again, from the same deplorable cause, thirty-seven people were crushed to death in the Colosseum Theatre in the same city.

OLD YEAR OUT

Members of the Board of Trade Bid Adieu to 1903.

CITY FIRE BELLS WILL RING OUT TWENTY-FOUR.

At noon to-day the Exchange Hall was the scene of an enthusiastic gathering of members of the Board of Trade, to bid adieu to the old year.

Promptly at 12.30 o'clock the president, Mr. Arthur Hodgson, took the chair, and gave a short resumé of the past year as affecting the local business and commercial world. He congratulated the members on all matters pertaining to the general welfare of the Board of Trade, and concluded by wishing to all a very happy and prosperous new year.

Other members who had a few words to say, and also extended greetings, were Messrs. Robert Meighen, A. W. Grant, Joseph Ward and others.

At the conclusion of the speech-making, the members joined hands and heard "Hail and Lang Syne" and "God Save the King," after which all round greetings and good wishes were in order.

There were over a hundred members present on 'Change during the demonstration.

BELLS WILL RING 24.

Mr. Ferns, superintendent of the fire alarm department, has made arrangements to usher the new year in by "24 blows." In other words, the fire bells of the city, three hundred in number, will ring twenty-four times. On account of the difficulty of ringing '1903,' Mr. Ferns has determined not to ring the old year out. The 0 in 1903 and 1904 cannot be expressed by the bells, and 193 and 194 are the numbers of city boxes. So, in a moment of confusion, the twenty-four blow method will be adopted.

THE DIRTY WATER

ACTION ENTERED AGAINST THE CITY BY MR. GRENIER.

Mention was made some time ago of threatened proceedings against the city in connection with the bad quality of the water furnished by the city during the months of October and November last. The threat has now materialized in the shape of an action entered yesterday in the Circuit Court by Mr. W. A. Grenier. The plaintiff charges the city with having neglected to adopt the necessary means to furnish clear and good water, and he asks to be reimbursed the sum of \$14,588, from the amount paid by him for the water tax, as representing what he had to pay to get mineral waters during the months of October and November.

THEATRICAL POSTERS

MONTREAL CUSTOMS CONFISCATED A LARGE QUANTITY.

The Montreal customs officials have made a seizure of objectionable theatrical posters, and to-day several bundles are lying in a heap on the customs house floor.

This is the beginning of a reform which means that Montrealers will observe in a few days a striking change in the character of the theatrical posters seen upon fences throughout the city. The customs officers here have received instructions to seize all posters and handbills depicting crime or violence or cruelty to animals.

Under the customs law, assented to on Oct. 24, last, "Posters and handbills depicting scenes of crime or violence are prohibited from importation into Canada."

Section 6 of the Customs Tariff provides that any prohibited goods imported shall thereby become forfeited to the Crown, and shall be destroyed, and that any person importing any such prohibited goods or causing or permitting them to be imported shall for each offence incur a penalty of \$200.

Some of the lithographs seized are those depicting a scene in "Pretty Peggy," in which Miss Grace George is to appear at the Academy next week. The posters show David Garrick and Sir Charles Hanbury with swords drawn, each declaring that he is the better swordsman, and prepared to prove it, when Peg Woffington comes in with a tea kettle of boiling water, which she declares she will pour over the disputants if they do not instantly put up their weapons. The poster is called "A tempest in a tea-pot."

The attraction for the Theatre Royal next week, "New York day by day," also received some attention at the hands of the Customs authorities. Pictures of scenes in dens of crime were confiscated.

FIREMEN TO RIDE FREE.

Chief Benoit, of the Fire Department, has been advised by the Montreal Street Railway Company that commencing to-morrow all city firemen will be allowed to ride free on the company's cars.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

NO 'WITNESS' TO-MORROW.

To-morrow being New Year's Day there will be no issue of the 'Witness.'

A CONFECTIONER ASSIGNS.

W. Woolley, confectioner, has assigned at the demand of Bell, Simpson & Co., with liabilities of about six thousand dollars.

CATTLE MARKETS

New York, Dec. 31.—The stock market opened very dull and with insignificant price changes. The coalers and the local traction were inclined to heaviness. The United States Steel stocks started upward.

East Buffalo, Dec. 31.—Cattle, receipts, 200 head; light; demand steady; prime steers, \$5.10 to \$5.35; shipping, \$4.50 to \$5; butchers, \$3.60 to \$4.90; heifers, \$3.25 to \$4.65; cows, \$2.50 to \$4.15; bulls, \$2.50 to \$4.00; stockers, \$2.50 to \$4.00.

Veals, receipts, 125 head; 25c higher; \$5 to \$3.75.

Hogs, active; 15c to 20c higher; heavy mixed, Yorkers and pigs, \$5.15; roughs, at \$4.20 to \$4.45.

Sheep and lambs, receipts, 7,000 head; sheep steady; lambs, \$4.75 to \$5.40; yearlings, \$4.25 to \$5.00; wethers, \$4 to \$4.50; ewes, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep mixed, \$2.50 to \$4.25; slow, 10c to 25c lower.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—Thirteen loads in to-day, including 11 cattle, 687 hogs, 110 sheep and lambs and 5 calves. There are several more loads to arrive on G.T.R. yet. Export cattle, choice, \$4.60 to \$4.80; medium, \$4.25 to \$4.50; export cows, \$2.50 to \$3.75; export bulls, \$3.75 to \$4.25; butchers, \$3.75 to \$4.25; choice, \$4.25 to \$4.40; medium, \$3.75 to \$4.25; common, \$2.75 to \$3.25; feeders, short keep, \$2.75 to \$3.25; feeders, medium, \$2.25 to \$3.50; stockers, \$2.50 to \$3.50; milch cows, each, \$30 to \$50; export ewes, \$2.40 to \$3.50 steady; export bucks, \$2.50 to \$3.25; steady; butcher sheep 2-4c to 3-4c per lb.; steady; lambs, 4-6c to 5c; steady; calves, \$2 to \$10, or 3-4c to 5-6c per lb., steady. Run light; all sold; prospects steady.

TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Canadian trade agent Larke, in Australia, writes that the price of grain is falling there on account of the domestic crop coming in. The Queensland trade returns show a considerable growth of imports from this country. Some Canadian firms have been fined for unwitting infringement of the custom laws of the Commonwealth.

FINANCIAL

NEW YORK STOCKS

New York, Dec. 31, Noon.—Money on call firm at 6 1/2; prime mercantile paper, 5 1/2 to 6 percent.

New York, Dec. 31, Wall Street.—Noon.—The market was dull and sluggish, but firm. A rise of 1-32 in Augustated Copper contributed largely to the tone. New York, Chicago and St. Louis first preferred rose 2-16; Detroit Southern, 1-16, and Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis, 1-16. Railway Steel Spring preferred and Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie lost 1-16. There were no other changes of note. Bonds were steady.

J. B. Picken & Co.'s wire: A holiday market best describes things this morning. The tendency was to ease off, but an attempt was made to rally list by advancing Steels and Coppers. Europe sold about 10,000 here scattering.

NEW YORK TOOLS

Specially reported for the 'Witness' by C. D. Mack & Co., New York, by direct wire.

Opening and Closing Prices, 8 p.m.

Stocks	Op. Close.	Op. Close.
Amalgamated Copper	81 1/2	80 1/2
American Ice	18 1/2	18 1/2
American Loco.	18 1/2	18 1/2
do, do, pref.	18 1/2	18 1/2
Amer. Sugar Refin.	127 1/2	127 1/2
do, do, pref.	127 1/2	127 1/2
Am. Smelt & Refining Co.	50 1/2	50 1/2
Amer. Foundry	20 1/2	20 1/2
Anaconda Mining Co.	80 1/2	80 1/2
A. T. & S. F.	68 1/2	68 1/2
do, do, pref.	68 1/2	68 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	88 1/2	88 1/2
do, do, pref.	88 1/2	88 1/2
Barnes, E. & F.	43 1/2	43 1/2
Chic. & Alton	34 1/2	34 1/2
Canadian Pacific	118 1/2	118 1/2
Canada Southern	34 1/2	34 1/2
Ches. & Ohio	34 1/2	34 1/2
Chic. & N. W.	169 1/2	169 1/2
Chic. R. & P.	169 1/2	169 1/2
Chic. M. & St. P.	169 1/2	169 1/2
Celebrated Southern	16 1/2	16 1/2
do, do, pref.	16 1/2	16 1/2
Consolidated Gas N. Y.	153 1/2	153 1/2
Corn Products	17 1/2	17 1/2
Corn Products	17 1/2	17 1/2
Cleveland C. & L.	12 1/2	12 1/2
Delaware L. & W.	26 1/2	26 1/2
Franklin & Hudson	10 1/2	10 1/2
Denver Rio. & G.	70 1/2	70 1/2
Duluth Super. & A.	10 1/2	10 1/2
do, do, pref.	10 1/2	10 1/2
Great Northern pref.	177 1/2	177 1/2
Hocking Valley	17 1/2	17 1/2
Illinois Central	109 1/2	109 1/2
Iowa Cen. com.	20 1/2	20 1/2
do, do, pref.	20 1/2	20 1/2
Jersey Central	18 1/2	18 1/2
Kansas & Texas com.	18 1/2	18 1/2
do, do, pref.	18 1/2	18 1/2
Louisville & Nashville	110 1/2	110 1/2
Manhattan Elevated	144 1/2	144 1/2
Metropolitan	12 1/2	12 1/2
N. Y. & West. com.	12 1/2	12 1/2
N. Y. Central & West.	121 1/2	121 1/2
N. Y. Lake Erie & West.	25 1/2	25 1/2
do, do, pref.	25 1/2	25 1/2
N. Y. Ontario & West.	25 1/2	25 1/2
Northern Resources	25 1/2	25 1/2
Pub. Co. pref.	25 1/2	25 1/2
Omaha, com.	25 1/2	25 1/2
do, do, pref.	25 1/2	25 1/2
Pennsylvania R. R.	119 1/2	119 1/2
Pressed Steel, com.	21 1/2	21 1/2
Pressed Steel, pref.	21 1/2	21 1/2
Peoples Gas	90 1/2	90 1/2
Phila. & R. d.	40 1/2	40 1/2
do, do, pref.	40 1/2	40 1/2
do, do, pref.	40 1/2	40 1/2
Rock Island	25 1/2	25 1/2
Southern Ry. com.	21 1/2	21 1/2
do, do, pref.	21 1/2	21 1/2
Texas Pacific	25 1/2	25 1/2
Union Pacific	25 1/2	25 1/2
U. S. Leather, com.	70 1/2	70 1/2
do, do, pref.	70 1/2	70 1/2
U. S. Steel, com.	87 1/2	87 1/2
do, do, pref.	87 1/2	87 1/2
U. S. Rubber, com.	25 1/2	25 1/2
Union Pacific	25 1/2	25 1/2
Wabash, com.	25 1/2	25 1/2
do, do, pref.	25 1/2	25 1/2
Western Union Tel.	87 1/2	87 1/2
W. Va. com.	25 1/2	25 1/2
do, do, pref.	25 1/2	25 1/2

Amalgamated Copper, 81 1/2; American Ice, 18 1/2; American Loco., 18 1/2; do, do, pref., 18 1/2; Amer. Sugar Refin., 127 1/2; do, do, pref., 127 1/2; Am. Smelt & Refining Co., 50 1/2; Amer. Foundry, 20 1/2; Anaconda Mining Co., 80 1/2; A. T. & S. F., 68 1/2; do, do, pref., 68 1/2; Baltimore & Ohio, 88 1/2; do, do, pref., 88 1/2; Barnes, E. & F., 43 1/2; Chic. & Alton, 34 1/2; Canadian Pacific, 118 1/2; Canada Southern, 34 1/2; Ches. &

size of lot, 60 x 90 ft., with lane in rear entrance on St. James street. Apply to
The TIMMIS NOBLE CO

OFFICIALS HONORED

MESSRS. McLAUGHLIN AND GIB-
BOUX, OF THE CUSTOMS, BAN-
QUETED LAST NIGHT.

Mr. Henry E. McLaughlin, surveyor of the port of Montreal, and Mr. Albert E. Giroux, tide surveyor, were tendered a complimentary dinner last night at the Place Viger Hotel, by their fellow officers, in recognition of their well-merited promotion. Mr. R. S. White, collector of customs, presided. On his right sat Mr. McLaughlin, and on his left Mr. Giroux. Others at the table of honor were the Hon. R. Prefontaine, Messrs. P. Wright, James McLaughlin, J. H. Douglas, C. A. Giroux, Jules d'E. Clement and C. Meunier.

The vice-chairs were occupied by Messrs. J. Hachette and H. A. Lemieux. After the toast of "The King" had been joyfully honored, Dr. Scanlan gave a song and then Mr. White proposed the toast of the evening, "Our Guests." In doing so he paid a high compliment to both gentlemen. He said that he knew them to be men of integrity and honest purpose. Eight years ago he became associated with Mr. McLaughlin, and a more manly man he had never met. As to Mr. Giroux, he had entered the Montreal Customs House since that time, and the only thing he could say was that he merited his promotion.

Such a banquet as had been tendered these two gentlemen, Mr. White continued, is a remarkable tribute to both of them.

Mr. McLaughlin, who received an ovation, said that he appreciated the obligation under which he was placed. He had been twenty-one years in the service, and from his boyhood days, when he joined, he had endeavored to do what he considered a golden motto, "treat a man as you find him." He had dealt with his staff from this standpoint, and industry and merit had always been taken into consideration when a promotion was to be made. In conclusion, he said that he required no greater vindication of his career than the gathering he saw around him, but he could not sit down without tendering his thanks to the Minister of Customs and the officials of the department at Ottawa.

Mr. Giroux, in a few appropriate remarks, thanked all present for the honor that had been done himself and his colleagues.

Mr. White proposed the "Dominion Government," coupling with it the Hon. Raymond Prefontaine. In doing so he pointed out many things regarding the port of Montreal, how it had grown in importance since he became collector and in the past year had held its own in the matter of collections.

The Hon. Mr. Prefontaine spoke of the customs employees not only as in the service of the government, but of more, the people of the nation. Concluding his remarks he congratulated the guests of the evening on their promotions. The "Civil Service" was proposed by Mr. J. Hachette, and responded to by Mr. H. A. Lemieux.

During the evening songs were sung by Mr. D. Sullivan, of Plattsburg.

MOULDERS' UNION

THEY FAVOR THE CANDIDATURE
OF MR. J. A. FLOOD FOR ST.
ANN'S DIVISION.

The usual regular meeting of the Moulders' Union was held last night in their hall, St. James street. There was a very large attendance. The Parliamentary Election Committee reported that arrangements were being made to undertake a complete canvass of the parliamentary division of St. Ann's, in the interests of Mr. J. A. Flood, the ex-moulder, who intended to contest the division in the interests of the working classes.

A resolution was unanimously adopted pledging the moulders to use their utmost efforts to aid in securing the election of Mr. Flood, as a representative of the labor element.

A special committee principally composed of moulders resident in St. Ann's division, was appointed to wait upon the electors and report at the next meeting.

A report concerning the proposed Technical School which is proposed to be built in a central portion of the city, was discussed at length, resulting in the following resolution being adopted:—

"Resolved, that the Moulders' Union, recognizing the need for technical education, do favor the proposition to erect a suitable building for the purpose by the city, believing that it will be of material aid to apprentices and junior workmen in acquiring such further knowledge of their trade as will enable them to advance to responsible positions.

A proposition to donate a sum of money towards the new building was referred to the board of management with directions to present their report at the next meeting, naming the sum which in their opinion, should be voted.

It was reported that Mr. David Murphy, blacksmith, of 88 Ryde street, had died. His four sons are moulders, and all have been active members of the union, one of them being at present general foreman of the General Electric Company, of Schenectady, N.Y. A vote of condolence was adopted, and it was directed that the officers of the union should attend the funeral as a mark of respect.

SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

LIST OF THOSE WHO PASSED THE
FRENCH AND GERMAN EX-
AMINATIONS AT MCGILL.

The following results of the Christmas examinations in the Faculty of Arts at McGill University were posted yesterday afternoon:

German, second year—Class I.—None. Class II.—Douglas, Holway, Clark, Class III.—Rorke, Lewis, Ryan, Fraser, Deigh, French.
German, beginners' class—Class I.—None. Class II.—Mills, Billings. Class III.—Bates.
First year—Class I.—Couture, King, Swift. Class II.—Cherry, Hayden,

Advertisements.

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Still to the Front!

Wishing all our Customers
A Happy and Prosperous

NEW YEAR.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

Allan's Two Stores

WILL BE CLOSED
TO-MORROW and SATURDAY.

OPEN TO-NIGHT till 11 p.m.

Come and make your purchases early, and give our clerks a chance to enjoy this holiday. We shall open as usual Monday morning. Hoping to see all our Friends and Customers again early and often during the coming New Year.

Cor. Craig & Bleury sts.
AND
2299 St. Catherine st.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PAT-
RONS, and don't forget to
order some

KOLA

This is a delicious non-alcoholic beverage, possessing the strength-sustaining properties of the Kola nut. It is made with pure water, which can only be obtained by being thoroughly filtered; our filters are the best that can be provided. Pure water means immunity from fever and ensures good health. It saves doctors' bills, and enables you to partake freely of Nature's best remedy—PURE WATER.

ROBERT ALLAN, 620 Dorchester St.

Armstrong, Thomas. Class III.—Macaulay, G.; Kydd, Balon, Silver, Farman.
German, fourth year—Class I.—Henry, McCally. Class II.—None. Class III.—Bell.

Third year—Class I.—Idler, Chodot. Class II.—Smith, J. C. Class III.—Kimber, Healey, Prendergast.

French, second year—Class I.—Shaw, Freeman, Ryan, Lewis. Class II.—Douglas, Fraser, M. G. S.; Henry Slater, Barclay, Kirsch, Peterson. Class III.—Braidwood, Clark, Rorke, Vineberg, Cousins, Mowatt, Gibb, Scott, Carr, Gilmore, McCrory, Mundie, Eokhardt, Hannah, Laing, Waugh, Fraser, G. B.; Heywood, Ekers, Lyman, C. S.; Newman, Ross.

French, first year—Class I.—King, Couture, Swift, Blair. Class II.—Bernstein, Cheesborough, Hayden, Rider, Thomas Stevens. Class III.—MacDougall, Simpson, Williams Hamilton, Mills, Stewart, M. Balon, Cameron, Davis, Heward, Macdonald, Penny, Thompson, Gillean, Huxtable, Lamb, Steedman, Kydd, Macaulay, G.; Joseph, Masson, Armstrong, Bernstein, Macdiarmid, Coates, Ward, McIlrann, MacKeown, Creswell, Drysdale, Lindsay, Savage, Peck, Churchill, Balon, Bartels, Belyea, Cherry, Mowatt, Lavinson, Engelke, Silver, Baylis, Pedley, Catnach, Farman, Macaulay, E.

French, third year—Class I.—Chodot, Idler, Roy. Class II.—Perry, Rubinovitch. Class III.—Cotton, Tannenbaum, McMurtry, Hyde, Kimber.

Fourth year—Class I.—Simpson, Henry. Class II.—Wilson, McCally.

Latin, third and fourth years—Class I.—Archibald, Rose, Brooks, Smith, E. Class II.—Blanchard. Class III.—Gilliean. Italian, third year—Class I.—Hamilton. Fourth year—Class II.—Stewart, L. J.; Draper.

EPWORTH LEAGUE DRIVE.

The Epworth League Society of Westmount Methodist Church gave an enjoyable drive to its members and guests around the two mountains Tuesday. A slight collision with a Montreal Street Railway car at the corner of Green and Western avenues frightened the young people, though no one, fortunately, was injured. On the return to the church refreshments were served, and a short programme listened to with pleasure, in which the Misses Cole, of Ottawa; Miss Park and Mr. Bolt kindly assisted. Mr. H. Vipond acted as chairman.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

SARAH.

(Alice E. Allen, in 'Good House-keeping'.)

Her name was Sarah Moore. All of the Moore family were round and rosy and jolly. And Sarah was the roundest and rosiest and jolliest of them all. Papa and mamma and Anna and Mary all called her Sunshine. So, when she went to school for the first time, she

said, 'My school-name is Sarah Moore, but my home-name is just Sunshine. After that, Miss Gray often called her 'More Sunshine.' If you knew her well, and saw the light in her eyes, the gold in her hair, and the laugh hidden away in her smiles, you would call her Sunshine, too.

Papa was going to the city to spend New Year's day with Grandma Moore. Sarah wanted to go, too. So, on New Year's eve, her red dress with its pretty ruffles, her new red coat and hat, and her little shoes and stockings, red, too, were all laid out, ready to be put on, the next morning.

Of course, Sunshine wanted to go. What little girl doesn't want to go to grandma's to eat New Year's dinner? But if only mamma could go, too! Some way, whenever Sunshine thought of mamma—the very dearest name in all the world—a queer, lumpy feeling came into her little throat—froat, she called it.

At bedtime, the lump grew bigger. When she was all tucked into bed, and mamma bent to kiss her, she said, 'If you think, mamma, that you will be too lonesome without me, to-morrow, I just as soon not go.' Mamma smiled. 'I shall think what a good time you and papa are having,' she said. 'Good-night, dear!' A little time afterward, Sunshine called, 'Mamma.'

'Yes, dear.'

'You don't s'pose, mamma, that 'twill snow so bad to-morrow that we can't go, do you?'

'No, Sunshine, I think not.' A long time afterward mamma was surprised to hear a sweet, tired, little voice say, 'Mamma, I most wish it would snow!'

But it did not. The morning was as clear and bright as New Year's morning should be. Sarah kissed Anna and Mary and Grandma and Grandpa Brown, each once, and mamma many times. Then she took papa's hand and away they went to the station. But you would never have thought that her name was Sunshine. She looked so sober.

The house was quiet for fifteen long, long minutes. Then, there was a sudden bang of the front door, a rush of little feet down the hall, and the sitting room door flew open, and Sunshine, herself, sprang into mamma's arms.

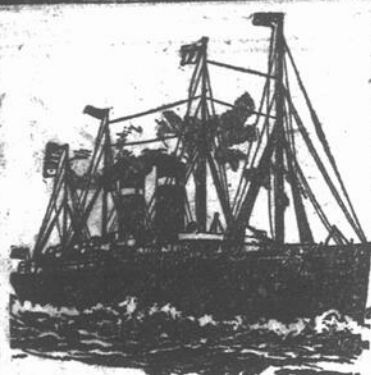
'O mamma,' she said, 'O mamma, my froat's felt so bad all this morning, and when the train whistled, something choked me so! I just couldn't stand it, mamma, so I came back. I ran all the way.'

Anna and Mary and Grandpa and Grandma Brown all laughed a little. But mamma didn't. Mamma only kissed her. And somehow, that kiss made the big achey lump in her 'froat' ever so much better.

When story-time and bedtime came together, Sunshine, cuddled down in mamma's lap, said, 'Mamma, what kind of a sick was it made my froat feel so queer like as I couldn't swallow this morning?'

Mamma smiled her own lovely smile. 'I think, dear, it was a homesick,' she said.

Then she went on with the story.



ALLAN LINE.
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ROYAL MAIL SERVICE.

From Liverpool Steamer St. John Halifax.
Dec. 19. PRETORIAN Jan. 2 Jan. 11
Dec. 24. LAURENTIAN Jan. 16 Jan. 18
Dec. 31. BAVARIAN Jan. 23 Jan. 25
Jan. 7. TONIAN Jan. 30 Jan. 31
Tasmanian and Bavarian are the largest and fastest steamers on the Canadian route. 10,076 tons. Twin screws. Tonician's record 6 days, 5 hours, 27 minutes.

Midnight saloon, spacious promenade decks, electric light throughout.
FIRST CLASS, Tasmanian, Tonician, Tonician, \$60. Parlatian \$35. Other steamers \$50 upwards.

SECOND CLASS, Tasmanian, Tonician, Tonician, \$37.50 and \$40. Return tickets at reduced rates.
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GLASGOW SERVICE.
From Glasgow. From New York.
Dec. 19. MONGOLIAN Thursday, Jan. 7
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First Cabin \$50. Second Cabin \$35
Apply to H. & A. ALLAN, Montreal.

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From New York, 48 hours by highest class steamships fortnightly up to 1st January, weekly thereafter. Frost unknown. Malicious impossible.

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30 days trip, 25 days in the tropics. Tickets or sale at all Principal Ticket Offices. For further particulars, apply to A. E. OUTHBRIE, 210 Broadway, or J. G. BROOK & CO., 211 Commissioners Street, Montreal. ARTHUR AHEEN, Secretary, Quebec.

Advertisements.

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Absolutely pure and very nutritious.

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Directly on the Ocean Front.
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Sea water in all baths. Golf privileges.
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Ocean front; every comfort, including sea-water baths, elevator, sun parlors, golf, etc.
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America's Finest Resort of Wealth and Fashion.

LAUREL HOUSE
Season from October to June.
Laurel-in-the-Pines
Open from November to May 1904.
Both houses under the management of D. B. PLUMER.

A. J. MURPHY, Asst. Mgr. Laurel House.
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Apply at "Witness" Office.



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PORTLAND - HALIFAX - LIVERPOOL.
From PORTLAND.

CANADA.....Jan. 3
OTTOMAN.....Jan. 9
NOMADIC.....Jan. 16
DOMINION.....Jan. 23
Passenger steamers westbound call at Halifax.

For all particulars as to freight and passage apply to THE DOMINION LINE, 17 St. Sacramento street, Montreal.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.
ATLANTIC STEAMSHIP LINES.

WINTER SAILINGS.

St. John, N.B., and Liverpool direct.

From Liverpool
Tues. Dec. 23. Lake Champlain Sat. Jan. 9
Tues. Jan. 5. Lake Erie Sat. Jan. 23
Tues. Jan. 19. Lake Manitoba Sat. Feb. 6
Tues. Feb. 2. Lake Champlain Sat. Feb. 20
Steamers sail from West St. John at 1.30 p.m. after the arrival of the C.P.R. train from the West.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

First Cabin, \$50 and upwards. Round trip tickets at reduced rates. Second cabin, to Liverpool, \$37.50; to London, \$40.00. Second Cabin, round trip, \$71.25; London, \$72.75. Third Class, to Liverpool, London, Glasgow, Belfast, Londonderry and Queens-town, \$25.00.

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CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY
ATLANTIC STEAMSHIP LINES,
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RECORD AGENCIES.

DONALDSON LINE GLASGOW SERVICE.
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From St. John, N.B.
In connection with the C.P.R. and I.C.R.
SS. LAKONIA (cold storage).....Jan. 3
SS. CONCORDIA.....Jan. 9
SS. ALCIDES.....Jan. 16
Donaldson, Bros., Glasgow.

THOMSON LINE LONDON SERVICE.
(Weekly)
From Portland, Me.
In connection with the G.T.R.
SS. KILDONA (cold storage).....Jan. 3
SS. IONA (cold storage).....Jan. 9
SS. DEVONA (cold storage).....Jan. 16
Wm. Thomson & Sons, Dundee, Scotland.

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D. O. WOOD, Western Agent,
Room 311 Board of Trade, TORONTO.

FURNESS, WITBY & CO., (LIMITED)

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PROPOSED SAILINGS.

St. John, N.B., and Manchester.
From Manchester.
Dec. 12. "Manchester City".....Jan. 5
Dec. 19. "Manchester Trader".....Jan. 19
Jan. 15. "Manchester Commerce".....Feb. 3
*Fitted with cold storage.
Above steamers have first-class accommodation for a limited number of passengers.

Canada-South Africa Joint Service
St. John, N.B., to Capetown, Port Elizabeth and Durban.

*GULF OF VENICE.....Jan. 18
*NEW STEAMER.....Feb. 18
*WYANDOTT.....Mar. 18
And at regular monthly intervals thereafter.
Gulf of Venice has accommodation for four first-class passengers.

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For further particulars apply to

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE

WALTER PAUL'S GROCERY ESTABLISHMENT

will be sure to have one, for there they will find everything requisite to make the heart of man glad.

Store open till 10 o'clock until the end of the year.

Corner Metcalfe and St. Catherine Sts.
Phones Up 1237, 1238.

Advertisements.

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EPPS'S COCOA

An admirable food, with all its natural qualities intact, fitted to build up and maintain robust health, and to resist winter's extreme cold. Sold in 1 lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd., Homeopathic Chemists, London, England.

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GIVING STRENGTH & VIGOR.



INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS.

Tickets will be issued at One Way First-Class Fare as follows:

For Teachers and Students—
Good going Dec. 21st to 31st; return until Jan. 31st, 1904.
For the General Public—
Good going Dec. 22nd to Jan. 1st; return until Jan. 4th, 1904.

EPIPHANY.
Tickets will be issued at One Way First Class Fare to stations in the Province of Quebec. Good going 5th and 6th, returning 7th of January.

The Maritime Express
LEAVING AT NOON DAILY, except Saturday, is the best train for Halifax.

BERMUDA, THE WEST INDIES and DEMARARA.
Passengers taking this Express on Sunday will connect with steamers from Liverpool at Halifax.

This train carries the English Mail.

Short Line to Quebec
7.40 a.m., due at Quebec at 1.15 p.m. daily, except Sunday.

12.00 noon, due at Quebec at 5.30 p.m. daily except Saturday.
11.45 p.m., NIGHT TRAIN to Quebec, daily, except Sunday. To this train is attached a sleeper, which passengers can occupy at 9 p.m. and remain in same until 9 a.m. at Levis.

All trains depart from Bonaventure Station.

CITY TICKET OFFICE.
143 St. James street, and Bonaventure Station.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY EXCURSION.

AT ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE
Going Dec. 31st '03, and Jan. 1st '04, good to return until Jan. 4th '04.

One Way First-class Fare and One-third
Going Dec. 31st '03, and Jan. 1st '04, good to return until Jan. 5 '04.

EPIPHANY, JAN. 6TH, '04.
Round trip tickets will be sold between points in a limited territory in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario at

SINGLE FIRST-CLASS FARE
on Jan. 6th and 6th, good to return until Jan. 7th, '04.

Train leaving Place Viger 9.15 a.m. Sundays will only run as far as St. Jerome and after Sunday next.

CITY TICKET AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE
150 ST. JAMES ST., next Post Office.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS,
Apr. 30-Dec. 1, 1904.

"The Pike" (Midway Pleasure) one mile long concessions cost \$5,000,000. Novel features.

New Year Holidays
Round Trip Tickets will be issued at SINGLE FIRST CLASS FARE

Going Dec. 31, 1903, and Jan. 1, 1904. Return limit Jan. 4, 1904.

FIRST CLASS FARE & ONE-THIRD
Going Dec. 30, 31, 1903, and Jan. 1, 1904. Return limit Jan. 6, 1904.

FAST OTTAWA SERVICE.
Leaving Montreal 8.40 a.m. week days and 4.10 p.m. daily.
Arriving Ottawa 11.40 a.m. week days and 7.10 p.m. daily.

EPIPHANY.
JANUARY 6, 1904.

SINGLE FIRST-CLASS FARE between all stations in the Province of Quebec and from stations in Prov. Que. to Ottawa and intermediate points on the Canada Atlantic Railway.

Good going Jan. 5, 1904, and 1904. Return limit January 7th, 1904.

CITY TICKET OFFICES,
157 St. James Street, Telephone Main 609 and 611 or Bonaventure Station.

Rutland Railroad

WINDSOR ST. STATION

TRAINS LEAVE AS FOLLOWS:
8.50 A.M.—Day Express daily, except Sunday, arriving Burlington 11.55 a.m.; Troy, 4.20 p.m.; Albany, 4.55 p.m.; New York, 8.00 p.m.; Boston, 8.00 p.m.; Worcester, 7.33 p.m.

7.10 P.M., Night Express, daily, arriving Burlington 10.10 p.m.; Troy, 2.50 a.m.; New York, 7.20 a.m.; Boston, 7.00 a.m.; Worcester, 6.28 a.m.

Pullman Sleeping and Parlor Cars on through trains.
Secure accommodations and tickets at 153 St. James street and Windsor Station.

F. H. GILMAN, Agent
City Passenger and Ticket Agent.

Advertisements.

NOTICE
It is hereby given that the City of Sainte-Cunegonde de Montreal, will apply to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next session, for the purpose of amending the charter of the City of Sainte-Cunegonde, and to obtain legislative enactments for the following purposes, amongst others:

To determine the manner of opening and prolonging the Dominion Street, and to amend section twenty-eight of its charter. To obtain supplementary powers referring to the by-law, number ninety-eight, of the Council of the City of Sainte-Cunegonde, and for other purposes.

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.

A Matter-of-Fact Romance.

(By Charles Reade, D.C.L.)

CHAPTER X.—Continued.

Robinson was taken out into the garden; it was a small piece of ground that had once been a yard; it was enclosed within walls of great height and to us would have seemed a cheerless place for horticulture, but to Robinson it appeared the garden of Eden: he gave a sigh of relief and pleasure, but the next moment his countenance fell.

"They won't let me stay here!"

Fry took him into the centre of the garden, and put a spade into his hand. "Now you dig this piece," said he in his dry unfriendly tone, "and if you have time out the edges of this grass path square." The words were scarcely out of his mouth before Robinson drove the spade into the soil with all the energy of one of God's creatures escaping from a system back to nature.

Fry left him in the garden after making him pull down his vizor, for there was one more prisoner working at some distance.

Robinson set to with energy, and dug for the bare life. It was a sort of work he knew very little about, and a gardener would have been disgusted at his ridges, but he threw his whole soul into it and very soon had nearly completed his task. Having been confined so long without exercise his breath was short, and he perspired profusely; but he did not care for that. "Oh, how sweet this is after being buried alive," cried he, and in went the spade again. Presently he was seized with a strong desire to try the other part of his task, the more so as it required more skill and presented a difficulty to overcome. A part of the path had been shaved, and the knippers lay where they had been last used. Robinson inspected the recent work with an intelligent eye, and soon discovered traces of a white line on one side of the path, that served as a guide to the knippers. "Oh! I must draw a straight line," said Robinson, out loud, indulging himself with the sound of a human voice: "but how can you tell me that, he enquired of a gooseberry bush that grew near. The words were hardly out of his mouth before peering about in every direction he discovered an iron spike with some cord wrapped round it and, not far off, a piece of chalk. He pounced on them, and fastening the spike at the edge of the path attempted to draw a line with the chalk using the string as a ruler. Not succeeding he reflected, a little, and the result was that he chalked several feet of the line all round until it was all white; then with the help of a stake, which he took for his other terminus, he got the chalked string into a straight line just above the edge of the grass; he now removed the string, took the knippers, and following his white line trimmed the path secundum artem. "There," said Robinson, to the gooseberry bush, but not very loud for fear of being heard and punished. "I wonder whether that is how the gardeners do it: I think it must be." He viewed his work with satisfaction, then went back to his digging, and as he put the finishing stroke Fry came to bring him back to his cell; it was bed-time.

"I never worked in a garden before," began Robinson, "so it is not so well done as it might be, but if I was to come every day for a week, I think I could master it. I did not know there was a garden in it as big as Belgrave square."

"You are precious fond of the sound of your own voice, No. 19," said Fry drily.

"We are not forbidden to speak to the warders, are we?"

"Not at proper time."

"He threw open cell-door 19 and Robinson entered."

Before he could close the door Robinson said "Good night and thank you."

"G'night," snarled Fry, sullenly, as one ashamed against his will into a civility.

Robinson lay awake half the night and woke the next morning rather feverish and stiff, but with the leaden thing he was the day before.

A feather turns a balanced scale. This man's life and reason had been engaged in a drawn battle with three mortal enemies—solitude, silence, and privation of all employment. That little bit of labor and wholesome thought, whose palsy and childish details I half blush to have given you, were yet due to my story, for they took a man out of himself, checked the self-devouring process, and helped elastic nature to recover herself this bout.

The next day Robinson was employed washing the prison. The next he got two hours in the garden again, and the next the trades-master was sent into his cell to teach him how to make scrubbing-brushes. The man sat down and was commencing a discourse when Robinson interrupted him politely.

"Sir, let me see you work, and watch me try to do the same, and correct me."

"With all my heart," said the trades-master.

He remained about half an hour with his pupil, and when he went out, he said to one of the turnkeys, "There is a chap in there that can pick up a handicraft as a pigeon picks up peas."

The next day the surgeon happened to look in. He found Robinson as busy as a bee making brushes, pulled his eye open again, felt his pulse, and wrote something down in his memorandum-book. He left directions with the turnkey that No. 19 should be kept employed, with the governor's permission.

Robinson's hands were now full; he made brushes, and every day put some of them to the test upon the floor and walls of the building.

It happened one day as he was doing housework in corridor B that he suddenly heard unwonted sounds issue from a part of the premises into which he had not yet been introduced, the ward devoted to hard labor. First he heard a single voice shouting; that did not last long; then a dead silence; then several voices, among which his quick ear recognized Fry's and the governor's. He could see nothing; the sounds came from one of the hard-labor cells. Robinson was surprised and puzzled; what were these sounds that broke the silence of the living tomb? An instinct told him it was no use asking a turnkey, so he devoured his curiosity and surprise as best he might.

The very next day, about the same hour, both were again excited by noises from the same quarter equally unintelligible. He heard a great noise of water slashed in bucketsful against a wall, and this was followed by a sort of gurgling that seemed to him to come from a human throat; this latter, however, was almost drowned in an exulting chuckle of several persons, amongst whom he caught the tones of a turnkey called Hodges and of the governor himself. Robinson puzzled and puzzled himself, but could not understand these curious sounds, and he could see nothing except a quantity of water running out of one of the labor cells, and coursing along till it escaped by one of the two gutters that drained the yard. Often and often Robinson meditated on this, and exerted all his ingenuity to conceive what it meant.

His previous jail experience afforded him no clue, and as he was one of those who hate to be in the dark about anything, this new riddle tortured him.

However, the prison was generally so dead dumb and gloomy that upon two such cheerful events as water splashing and creatures laughing he could not help crowing a little out of sympathy without knowing why.

The next day as Robinson was working in the corridor the governor came in with a gentleman whom he treated with unusual and marked respect. This gentleman was the chairman of the quarter sessions, and one of those magistrates who had favored the adoption of the present system.

Mr. Williams inspected the prison; was justly pleased with its exquisite cleanliness; he questioned the governor as to the health of the prisoners, and received for answer that most of them were well, but that there were some exceptions; this appeared to satisfy him.

He went into the labor-yard, looked at the cranks, examined the numbers printed on each in order to learn their respective weights, and saw that the prisoners were not overburdened.

Went with the governor into three or four cells, and asked the prisoners if they had any complaint to make.

The unanimous answer was "No!" He then complimented the governor—and drove him home to his own house, Ashdown Park.

There after dinner he said to a brother magistrate: "I inspected the jail today; was all over it."

The next morning Fry, the morose, came into Robinson's cell with a more cheerful countenance than usual. Robinson noticed it.

"You are put on the crank," said Fry. "Oh! am I?"

"Of course, you are. Your sentence was hard labor, wasn't it? I don't know why you weren't sent on a fortnight ago."

Fry then took him out into the labor-yard, which he found perforated with cells about the size of his hermitage in the corridor. In each of these little quiet grottoes lurked a monster, called a crank. A crank is a machine of this sort—there springs out of a vertical post an iron handle which the workmen, taking it by both hands, works round and round as in some country places you may have seen the villagers draw a bucket up from a well. The iron handle goes at the shoulder into a small iron box at the top of the post; and inside that box the resistance to the turner is regulated by the manufacturer, who states the value of the resistance outside in cast-iron letters. Thus:

5 lb. crank.
7 lb. crank. 10, 12, etc. etc.

"Eighteen hundred revolutions per hour," said Mr. Fry in his voice of routine, and you are to work two hours before dinner." So saying he left him, and Robinson, with the fear of punishment before him, lost not a moment in getting to work. He found the crank go easy enough at first, but the longer he was at it the stiffer it seemed to turn.

And after about four hundred turns he was fain to breathe and rest himself. He took three minutes' rest, then at it again.

This was Robinson's first acquaintance with the crank. The tread-wheel had been the mode in his time; so by the time he had made three thousand turns, he was rather exhausted. He leaned upon the iron handle, and sadly regretted his garden and his brushes; but fear and dire necessity were upon him; he set to his task and to work again. "I won't look at the meter again, for it always tells me less than I expect. I'll just plough on till that beggar comes. I know he will come to the minute."

(To be continued.)

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Wish their friends and patrons a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR
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BIBLE WORDS.

THURSDAY, DEC. 31.

FIVE MARKS OF TRUE FAITH.

Faith is simply belief. Faith in Christ includes trust. The faith, means the gospel, or Christ as the object of trust.

The difference between belief and trust is this: A man falls overboard at sea, a rope is thrown to him, he says, "I believe that rope can save me," but does not grasp it, that is belief, but he resolves to lay hold of the rope, and is drawn out of the water, that is trust. He clings to the rope and is saved. The sinner clings to the Living Christ and is saved forever. There are five marks of a true faith.

First. Appropriation. It claims all that God has provided and promised. In hope it trusts against hope, resting simply upon God's promises. (Rom. iv., 18-20.)

Second. Expectation. Blessed is she that believes, for there shall be a fulfillment. (Luke i., 45.) I believe God, that it shall be even as it hath been spoken unto me. (Acts xxvii., 25.)

Third. Imitation. The example of Jesus. (I. Peter ii., 21), whose steps of faith we are to follow, and be imitators of God. (Eph. v., 1.)

Fourth. Obedience. Set your hope perfectly on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ, as children of obedience, be holy in all manner of behavior. (I. Pet. i., 13-15.)

Fifth. Unity. Fitting yourselves for building up the body of Christ, till all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God. (Eph. iv., 12-14.) The closer we cling to Christ the more shall we manifest this unity of the one faith.

That was a sensible father, alert to his moral responsibilities as a parent, who declared to his son, in the course of a discussion as to church going, "As long as my boy sits at my table he must sit in my pew." That sort of training raises up generation after generation, firm and loyal supporters of the church.

There is no reason why children should share in the privileges without sharing also in the duties of the home. And the home duties are not confined to the area of the parlor or the dining-room, but should properly be recognized as having an outward sweep in the direction of the church and of society in general.

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THE OLD YEAR.

Of its words of comfort spoken, Of its joys, give we no token To the swiftly dying year? While we sorrow o'er its sadness, Shall we pass by all its gladness, All remembrance of its cheer?

Nay, the sorrows we have known, And the winds that chill have blown, Only make it the more dear, And we, weeping, say adieu, —From 'American Messenger.'

THE RECORD IS CLOSED.
Look up! Lift up! Trust and do; Faith from work ne'er sever, Look up, all life's journey through Lift up. Falter never!

OLD YEAR.
Ye shall henceforth return no more that way.—Deut. xvii., 16.

THE RECORD IS CLOSED.
Look up! Lift up! Trust and do; Faith from work ne'er sever, Look up, all life's journey through Lift up. Falter never!

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READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

CHARIVARIA.
Asked by an interviewer to give his views on the Fiscal Question, Mr. Bryan (U.S.A.) answered: "The English must on a question of this sort come to their own decision. This is a little unkind, when he might so easily have decided for us."

Modern methods of advertising are sometimes so subtle. The 'Daily Mail' starts a discussion on the subject of reading in bed, and then announces the publication of its book on the Fiscal Question.

We are sorry to hear that 'Consul,' the wonderful man-like monkey, drinks and smokes. We hope he will not turn out to be merely a Vice-Consul.

The object of the British expedition to Tibet is said to be to impress the Lama with a sense of the power of Britain. This renders it more important than ever that the expedition should be a success.

Mr. Cleveland has made a statement, showing that his decision not to come forward again as candidate for the Presidency of the United States is once more unalterable and conclusive.

The Navy has had a fairly satisfactory week. We have lost one vessel and acquired two.—'Punch.'

"But the love you profess to have for me—is it an unselfish love—a love so strong that it could even make you humiliate yourself for my sake?"

Sylvester was hurt. Had this girl so soon forgotten that he had, for one whole day, worn the necktie she had given him for Christmas?—Brooklyn 'Life.'

Use Lever's Dry Soap (a powder) to wash woollens and fannels,—you'll like it.

A NEW YORK STREET INCIDENT.
One incident for the moralists: A tiny shop girl in a sleazy black dress in the forenoon when the wind nipped, came out of one of the fur shops near University Place and walked east toward Broadway. Around her neck was a sable boa, her ungloved hands were stuffed into a big ruff. Under her arm she carried a seal coat. She made a queer little figure. Because she was a child in a land of imagination the pride of possession entered her soul, her back stiffened, and there was a naughty lift to her head. She walked as became a grand dame under the eyes of the populace. Her errand of delivery took her into one of the big retail shops near by. In a few moments she emerged without her flattery, wrapped her hands in her apron, and scudded back to her work. More than one person who saw and understood envied her the interlude.—New York 'Commercial Advertiser.'

COULDN'T FORGET HIS PET THEME.
Down in Virginia, says Thomas Nelson Page, there was an old darkey preacher, who had preached about infant baptism morning and night until his congregation couldn't stand it any longer. They told him to preach something else or they'd have to find some one who would. He promised, and the next Sunday announced his text, "Adam, where art thou?"

"Dis, brethern, can be divided into four heads," began the dominie. "First, every man is somewhat. Secondly, most men am where they ain't got no business to be. Thirdly, you'd better look out or you'll be gittin' there yourself. Fourthly, infant baptism. Now, brethern, I guess we might's well pass by the first three heads, and come immediately to the fourth, infant baptism."—New York Exchange.

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The Other Senator—We can't get around our plain duty to Cuba, my dear sir. It is just as plain now as when—
Beet Sugar Senator—"Plain?" It's worse than that, sir! It's repulsive!"—Chicago 'Tribune.'

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Advertisements.


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OTTAWA WON.
First of the Stanley Cup Games Goes to the Champions of the C.A.H.L.
WINNIPEGGERS WERE FAST-ER SKATERS BUT OTTAWA HAD BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF THE GAME

The first of the matches for the Stanley cup, between the Rowing Club, of Winnipeg, and the Ottawa team, champions of the C.A.H.L., which took place at Ottawa last night, resulted in a victory for the home team by a score of 8 to 1. The crowd which witnessed the match was a large and enthusiastic one.

The match was a strange one. Both teams did good work but the Ottawas were undoubtedly the better players, and judging from last night's match, it is likely that the much coveted piece of silverware will remain in Ottawa.

The Rowers possessed great speed and strength. Their skating was splendid, they occasionally indulged in some sensational play. The Ottawa men seemed to have a better conception of the elements of the game, and the result of the game was due to their superior hockey skill.

There was considerable rough play during the evening, but in fairness it cannot be said that either club was to blame, or it may be said that both were to blame, though after all there were no really serious injuries. Alf Smith and Frank McGee required some care, and Hall, Bawlf, and Breneest were on the Rowing Club's list. The two latter retired from the game in the second half, and Bawlf claimed to be hurt in the back, owing to a tumble in collision with Suddie Gilmour. To replace these men Kirby and Borland went on and the latter, a much better player, proved easily to be the star of the Osemen's team. Mr. Harry Trihey, the referee, ruled with a firm hand and kept the game from degenerating into a four corner.

For Ottawa, "Red" Westwick, played a very effective game, while Frank McGee worked in his best style. Of Moore and Pifford it is only necessary to say that they played their own game in their own way, and the score tells the rest of the story.

Players, officials and summary follow:—
 Ottawa (8). Rowing Club (1).
 Hutton Goal A. Brown
 Pifford Point P. Brown
 Moore C. point S. C. Richards
 McGee C. point B. Brea
 H. Westwick Rover J. Hall
 A. Smith Right wing Breneest
 S. Gilmour Left wing Bawlf
 Referee—Mr. H. J. Trihey, Shamrocks.
 Umpires—Mr. W. A. Harroby, M.A.A.A., and Mr. C. J. Harroby, Shamrocks.

The Summary:
 First half—
 Goal. Won by. Scored by. Time.
 1. Ottawa T. McGee 12.00
 2. Ottawa T. McGee 12.00
 3. Ottawa T. McGee 12.00
 4. Ottawa Westwick 1.30

Second half—
 5. Ottawa Westwick 0.00
 6. Ottawa T. McGee 0.30
 7. Ottawa S. Gilmour 1.00
 8. Ottawa Westwick 2.00
 9. Rowing Club Bawlf 2.15
 10. Ottawa Westwick 3.00

WILL GO TO TORONTO.
 The Montreal Wanderers hockey team will play an exhibition match to-morrow evening at Toronto with the Marlborough Club of that city. The following are the members of the Wanderers' team who will travel to the Queen City to-morrow:

Goal Nicholson
 Point W. Strachan
 Cover Point Dicky Boon
 Forwards Bert Strachan
 C. Blatchford
 J. Marshall

The above players held a lively practice at the Montagu rink last night. The Shamrocks are a strong team, and it is expected that the match will be an exciting one.

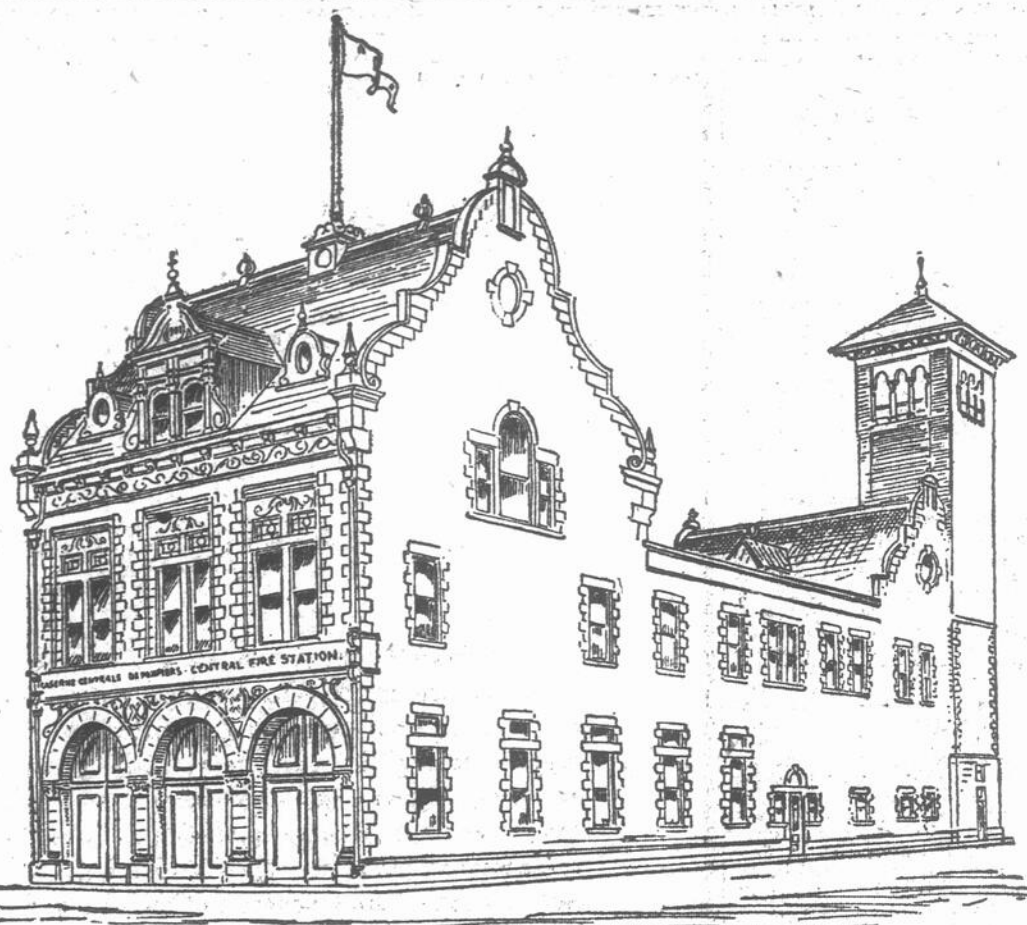
THE M.A.A.A. RECEPTION.
 The directors of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association have arranged for a big reception from 10 to 12 o'clock to-morrow morning. Refreshments will be served, and the gym will be tastefully decorated for the occasion.

HOCKEY

THE SHAMROCKS' PRACTICE.
 The Shamrock senior and intermediate teams put in an hour's hard work at the Arena on Tuesday night in preparation for their matches on Saturday when the former meet the Victorias in the opening match of the senior series, and the latter the Montreal intermediates in the afternoon. Both teams will be strong, and should give a good account of themselves.

The Westmounts also held their final practice previous to meeting Victoria on Saturday afternoon in the second round of the intermediate series, when they hope to wipe out the defeat sustained at the hands of Montreal last Saturday night.

Montreal and Victoria both put the finishing touches to their work to-night, in preparation for Saturday's games. It is more than likely that the Vics. will be



THE NEW CENTRAL FIRE STATION ON PLACE D'YOUVILLE.

The work of construction on the new central fire station on Place d'Youville, east of St. Peter, has been finally suspended for the winter in spite of the notarial protest filed by the city upon the architects, Messrs. Perrault & Le-

sage. The builders and architects claim, however, that there will not be much delay, as all of the material, even to the fitting of the woodwork and glazing of the windows, will be done in the workshops during the winter. Chief Benoit considers that, according to the plans, the new station will be one of the most

up-to-date and convenient in the world. The stabling accommodation and living rooms for the men will be of the best. The equipment will include a large fire engine, water tower, two hose wagons and an aerial wagon. The materials used in the exterior construction are an olive sandstone and pressed brick.

without the services of Blair Russell, owing to the injury received in Toronto, but he will be out again for the following Saturday, when they play in Ottawa.

THE JUNIOR SCHEDULE.

At a meeting of the Junior Hockey League, held at the Arena on Tuesday, the following schedules were drawn up for A and B sections:

Section 'A'
 Jan. 4—Shamrock vs. Westmount.
 Jan. 5—Y.M.C.A. vs. Montreal.
 Jan. 7—Shamrock vs. Victoria.
 Jan. 11—Montreal vs. Westmount.
 Jan. 12—Shamrock vs. Y.M.C.A.
 Jan. 14—Westmount vs. Victoria.
 Jan. 18—Shamrock vs. Montreal.
 Jan. 21—Y.M.C.A. vs. Victoria.
 Jan. 25—Montreal vs. Y.M.C.A.
 Jan. 26—Westmount vs. Shamrock.
 Jan. 28—Montreal vs. Victoria.
 Feb. 1—Y.M.C.A. vs. Westmount.
 Feb. 4—Victoria vs. Shamrock.
 Feb. 8—Westmount vs. Y.M.C.A.
 Feb. 9—Victoria vs. Montreal.
 Feb. 15—Y.M.C.A. vs. Shamrock.
 Feb. 18—Victoria vs. Westmount.
 Feb. 22—Westmount vs. Montreal.
 Feb. 24—Victoria vs. Y.M.C.A.
 Feb. 26—Montreal vs. Shamrock.

Section 'B'
 Jan. 8—Stirling vs. Atheneum.
 Jan. 12—Loyola vs. Atheneum.
 Jan. 15—St. Lambert vs. Loyola.
 Jan. 21—Atheneum vs. St. Lambert.
 Jan. 22—Loyola vs. Stirling.
 Jan. 23—St. Lambert vs. Stirling.
 Feb. 2—Atheneum vs. Loyola.
 Feb. 11—St. Lambert vs. Atheneum.
 Feb. 12—Stirling vs. Loyola.
 Feb. 19—Stirling vs. St. Lambert.
 Feb. 23—Atheneum vs. Stirling.
 Feb. 28—Loyola vs. St. Lambert.

WITH THE CURLERS

THE PROGRAMME FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY.

To-morrow will be a big day with the local curlers. Several interesting matches are scheduled to take place and the clubs will all hold receptions to their friends. The following is the programme:
 Montreal rink—First draw for the president and vice-president's medals. Reception by the president and officers from 3 to 5 p.m.
 Caledonia rink—Reception from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friendly matches during the day and evening.
 Thistle rink—Reception by president and officers from 1 to 5 p.m. Luncheon at 1 p.m. Friendly matches day and evening.
 St. Lawrence rink—Reception by president and officers from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friendly matches day and evening.
 Heather rink—Reception by president and officers from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friendly matches day and evening.

CALEDONIA SPOON COMPETITION.
 Mr. William Lyall won the first of the Caledonia Club's fortnightly individual spoon competitions by 15 points.

MEETING OF THE BRANCH.
 There will be a meeting of the Branch at the Thistle rink on Saturday evening, for the purpose of allotting the medals for the season.

SKATING

SPECIAL MUSIC AT THE CRYSTAL.
 Special music will be furnished by the rink band, New Year's afternoon and evening.

SKATING AT THE ARENA.
 The Arena will be open to the public for skating on Friday (New Year's) night, when the Prince of Wales Fusiliers band will furnish a musical programme in keeping with the event.

ing with the event. Arrangements are now under way to have the results of the Stanley cup match between Winnipeg and Ottawa bulletined at the rink during the evening.

THE ONTARIO RINK.
 The Ontario Rink, the popular East End rink, corner of Ontario and Delorimier ave. continues to enjoy a large patronage. A band is in attendance every Wednesday and Saturday. Special music will be furnished New Year's afternoon.

BOWLING

Y.M.C.A. DEFEATED NORTHERN ELECTRIC.

The return match between the Y.M.C.A. and the Northern Electric Clubs, which was played on the St. Henri alleys, resulted in a win for the Y.M.C.A. by 199 points. The score was as follows:

Y.M.C.A.	NORTHERN ELECTRIC.
A. Hall 104 122 157 483	C. Dillon 148 153 401
G. Dillon 148 153 401	C. Tweedie 135 154 460
C. Tweedie 135 154 460	W. Douglas 172 182 534
W. Douglas 172 182 534	L. Bristow 158 159 467
L. Bristow 158 159 467	E. Flower 137 180 495
E. Flower 137 180 495	
Total 2,849	

NORTHERN ELECTRIC.
 E. Campbell 149 160 465
 G. Grey 156 117 427
 S. Cairns 149 183 480
 J. Taylor 133 167 451
 R. McNece 146 125 425
 Cooper 142 146 441

Total 2,550
 Majority for Y.M.C.A. 199

CHESS

THE INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT.

Paris, Dec. 31.—Arnaud de Riviere, the manager of the forthcoming international chess tournament, to be played at Monte Carlo, announced yesterday that the following players had been selected to start in the tournament for the challenge cup in February:
 Swiderski, of Berlin; Marco and Schlechter, of Vienna; Marshall, of New York; Maroczy, of Budapest, and Gunsberg, of London.

BASEBALL

PREDICTS IMPORTANT CHANGES.
 Baltimore, Md., Dec. 30.—Hugh Jennings, manager of the Baltimore Baseball Club, of the Eastern League, had a conference yesterday with "Ned" Hanlon concerning the make-up of next season's team.

Jennings expects a consolidation of the American Association and Eastern League, as he thinks the two organizations could furnish a circuit of good paying cities which would come close to rivaling the big leagues. At present it is necessary to handicap both the American Association and Eastern League with smaller towns in order to complete their circuits.

In addition to this, Jennings declares that the large cities now in the smaller ball leagues, like Baltimore, rather resent the idea of being placed in a league with second-rate places. He predicts important changes in baseball associations before next season.

MONTREALERS MAY ATTEND.
 The London, England, Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual banquet on March 2, and an invitation to attend has been received by the Canadian Committee which had in charge the arrangements for the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, which met in Montreal in August last. It is expected that some of the members of the committee will accept the invitation, but nothing definite has yet been decided upon.

ILLIMITABLE EMPTEINESS.
 An interesting article by Canon Scott Holland, on the present condition of South Africa will be found in this week's "World Wide."

Three cents from all newsdealers, or \$1.00 year from the publisher, John Dougall & Son, Montreal.—Adv.

A NEW BUILDING

TO BE ERECTED BY THE FEDERATION OF ZIONIST SOCIETIES OF CANADA.

The Federation of Zionist Societies of Canada has decided to erect a building in Montreal for use as headquarters for their organization. This decision was arrived at at a meeting of the council held on Tuesday evening.

The building will be used both by the Federation and the local societies. It will contain a large auditorium for mass meetings, a Hebrew library and reading-room, well supplied with current Jewish journals and periodicals, committee rooms, a music room for a Zionist Glee Club, a chess room and various lecture halls; it will also include a large gymnasium and bowling alley for the use of the Zion Athletic Club. It is intended to make the building an important centre of Zionist and Jewish activity, both for the Canadian community generally and for the local Zionists. The lecture halls will be utilized for regular courses of study in Jewish history, literature, and the Hebrew language, as well as for the promotion of all the objects of the Zionist platform and the cultivation of Jewish ideals.

The meeting of the council which took the initial steps was presided over by Mr. Clarence L. de Solà, president of the Federation of Zionist Societies of Canada, and there were present Mr. J. S. Leo, corresponding secretary of the Federation, and president of the Montreal Zionist Society; Mr. H. Gittleman, a vice-president of the Federation, and president of the Ottawa Zionist Society; Mr. A. Pierce, of Winnipeg; Mr. I. Rubinstein, of Vancouver; Mr. H. Bernstein, treasurer of the Federation; Rev. Melinda de Solà, Mr. M. Shapiro, Mr. A. Goldberg, Mr. H. Lehrer, Mr. Hiram Liebow, Mr. M. Davis, Mr. Z. Fineberg, Mr. M. Roback, Mr. L. Yellin, Mr. S. Kirsch, and others.

A subscription list was opened at the meeting, and some very handsome donations contributed. A special committee has been organized to obtain subscriptions from the Canadian Zionists generally, and in view of the very large membership of the organization there is every indication that a large fund will soon be realized. The committee on finance and collections includes representatives of the Federation and outside communities, and also representatives from each of the local societies, including the "Montreal Zionist Society—Agudas Zion," "The Daughters of Zion—B'nai Zion," "The Dorshat Zion," "The B'nai Zion," and "The Zion Athletic Club."

SECURITY MUST BE GIVEN.
 Mr. Justice Pagnuelo has granted the petition asking that the plaintiff be ordered to furnish security for costs, before the plea is filed, in the case of Greenley vs. Kert. This, it will be remembered, is an action of damages against the father of Max Kert, the young man now serving a term of imprisonment for the involuntary homicide of Geo. Greenley. The action is taken by the father of the victim, and as his domicile is outside of the province, the law provides that security for costs may be exacted from him.

PLAGUE AMONG RATS.
 Hamburg, Germany, Dec. 30.—The enquiry into the mortality among the rats on the German steamer "Oordoba," from Santos, Brazil, confirms the report that they died of bubonic plague. The vessel has been towed to Strandsdafen, and quarantined. There is no sickness among the crew.

CAUGHNAWAGA INDIAN MISSION.
 The annual Christmas tree at Caughnawaga Indian Mission was held on the night of Dec. 22, and was favored by fine weather and an exceedingly large crowd. The tree was heavily laden with gifts of various kinds for young and old. Over eighty scholars were in evidence. Besides the treat of candies and oranges, every scholar was remembered by some suitable present to take home. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental selections rendered by home and city talent, to an appreciative audience. The entertainment was brought to a close by the passing of a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen of

STEWART'S
Annual Shoe Sale!
The Most Popular Shoe Sale of the Season!
DURING JANUARY the following discounts will be offered:
10 percent off all regular lines.
20 percent to 33 percent discount off odd lines to clear.
Two Stores

As usual, our Bargains for MEN at **\$3.45** will be as attractive as ever, and which has been always so popular.

2295 St. Catherine Street.
 237 St. James St.

Douglas Church, to whose kindness and generosity the mission is indebted for the excellent tree and entertainment and to Miss C. A. Matheson by whose faithful and persevering efforts as a teacher the attendance has so materially increased during the past session.

BAD BLOOD

THE OTTAWA MAYORALTY CAMPAIGN CAUSES IT.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The Ottawa Mayorality campaign is developing into a nasty religious and national embroglio. Ald. Ellis is charging ex-Ald. D'Arcy Scott with being a Fenian and pro-Catholic. He is reading speeches delivered by Mr. Scott five or six years ago sympathizing with Ireland's plea for Home Rule, and saying if in Canada the same state of affairs existed he would be sore on England. Ald. Vincent, a French-Canadian lawyer, is ranged with Mr. Ellis also in attacking Mr. Scott, whom he charges with signing a petition to Rome to have French priests removed from the University of Ottawa and English-speaking men substituted. Mr. Vincent is being hoisted at meetings, and if it keeps on there will be hot times before Monday.

THE ALASKAN AWARD

DISSATISFACTION OF CANADIAN COMMISSIONERS WILL BEAR FRUIT.

(Canadian Associated Press.)
 London, Dec. 31.—The Manchester "Courier" in taking a retrospect of 1903, refers to the Alaskan award, and thinks that the slightest protest against the composition of the arbitrating tribunal will have greater weight in the future owing to Canada's dignified dissatisfaction at the outset of the Alaskan inquiry.

The Liverpool "Mercury" in referring to the notable events of 1903, refers to the Alaskan tribunal, and styles the American representative three distinguished politicians, and Sir Louis Jetté and Mr. A. B. Aylesworth, the two Canadian Commissioners, two Canadian jurists.

DECLARES A DIVIDEND

CANADA LAND COMPANY HAS A PROSPEROUS YEAR.

(Canadian Associated Press.)
 London, Dec. 31.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Canada Land Company a dividend of one percent was declared. Nine thousand seven hundred and fifteen acres were sold, at an average price of \$15. Mostly all the land sold in 1903 was poor land, which accounts for the fall in price. The report showed a balance of \$9,459 in hand over liabilities.

THE LATE MR. PATTULLO.

(Canadian Associated Press.)
 London, Dec. 30.—Mr. Andrew Pattullo's idea it is said, was to return to Canada to occupy a prominent political position from his experience in British politics. The "News" says he intended to stand as a candidate in opposition to Sir Richard Cartwright. The "Times" referring to Mr. Pattullo, says he was a very able speaker, and one of his chief claims to the gratitude of fellow citizens, was his formation of the Ontario Good Roads Association.

CHRISTMAS TREE.

On Dec. 23 the Presbyterians of New Glasgow, Que., had their annual Christmas tree and Sabbath-school festival. There was a fine programme and a splendid collection for the Sabbath-school fund. Altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent. The whole congregation offered their best wishes to the pastor, and presented him with a beautiful token of esteem.

WORK FOR UNEMPLOYED.

Toronto, Dec. 30.—Mr. J. M. Longhead, of Centerville, Addington County, has written Mayor Urquhart that if any of the five hundred unemployed recently meeting in Toronto are competent farm hands, several of them could obtain employment in his district.

Advertisements.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral
 for the children. One dose at bedtime quiets their night coughs and prevents croup. Ask your doctor.
 J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

THE CHICAGO FIRE.

Feared now That Number of Dead will be Greater Than at First Reported.

MORQUES STILL THE SORROW HAUNTED CENTRES OF SEARCHERS—WHOLE CITY IS GRIEF-STRICKEN.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Chicago, Dec. 31.—To-day brought only the legacy of yesterday's monumental calamity and the prediction that the list of fatalities in the Iroquois fire will run over six hundred when information is complete.

The latest statement of dead at the various morgues is 363, and it is stated at the various hospitals and hotels to which the injured were removed that of the 157 people who were injured probably one-third cannot live. The missing to-day were estimated at 814, but it is expected that many of these would be accounted for probably a large majority of them. It is no exaggeration of language to say that the city is stunned by the overwhelming tragedy which was enacted when the theatre which housed 'Mr. Bluebeard,' became a chamber of horrors. There is the deepest woe in hundreds of homes to-day, deep sorrow in a thousand others and a pity beyond the power of words to convey in all.

The first streak of daylight found the morgues still the sorrow-haunted centres of searchers. There were husbands searching for their wives, wives searching for husbands, frenzied parents seeking children, so many of whom lost their lives, and in some instances children, still dazed from the horrors of their experience, groped distressedly about in search of father or mother.

Possibly nothing could better typify the depth of the sympathy which is felt for those who suffered directly the calamity than the action of striking livery drivers. By a vote, which was without a dissenting voice, it was decided to establish a truce of ten days. Mr. Albert Young, president of the union, following the meeting, issued the following decree which was distributed broadcast:

'Owing to the great disaster to the public caused by the fire at the Iroquois theatre, I do hereby declare a truce in the present strike of undertakers and livery drivers for ten days, and do further require that every man now on strike report at once to their respective places of employment and do everything in his power to assist his employer in caring for the wants of the public. Wages are to have no consideration. (Signed), Albert Young.'

In their turn the employers issued a call to their striking employees to return to work irrespective of any previous affiliations with any and all organizations, and promising to protect them in all contingencies which may arise in the future.

THE SEARCH FOR FRIENDS.
All night long the crowds came and went around the morgues where the bodies of the victims of the disaster lay. There were the heads of families, brothers, sisters and men and women looking for those from outside cities who had been their guests. For hours they passed up and down before the long rows of the dead searching for the faces of their missing.

Sorrow reigned in the residence of Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus, the noted divine, who lives at 2618 Prairie avenue. William McLaughlin, nineteen years of age, a nephew of Mrs. Gunsaulus, was one of those severely burned. He was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital, where the attending physicians entertained no hope for his recovery. Mr. McLaughlin's home is in Buenos Ayres. He is a member of the sophomore class of the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, and was spending the holiday vacation at the Gunsaulus home.

All night long search was kept up for Mary Dorothy Gartz, twelve years old, and Barbara Gartz, four years old, who attended the theatre with their aunt, Mrs. Adelaide Hoffelt. To-day their bodies had not been found and the result was, no doubt, that the children have perished. They are the daughters of A. F. Gartz, and the nieces of R. T. Crane, the millionaire manufacturer of this city.

Mrs. Hoffelt was taken from the theatre severely burned about the head and shoulders. The children are believed to have been caught in the crush, coming down from the balcony and to have been trampled to death on the staircase leading to the main floor.

Walter Zeisler, seventeen years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Zeisler, is missing. He is a nephew of Fannie Bloomfield Zeisler, the famous pianist.

WHOLE PARTY DEAD.
A party consisting of Mrs. Lucy Garn, her two children, Frank, ten years old, and Willie, six years old, Harriet Wolfe, ten years old, daughter of Ludwick Wolfe, a millionaire business man, and Miss Burke, a dressmaker, is dead. To-day the bodies of Mrs. Garn, Frank Garn and William Garn were identified among the dead.

Graeme Stewart, Republican national committeeman from Illinois, spent the entire night hunting for Mrs. F. M. Fox, of Winnetka, Ill., and her three children. Mrs. Fox is the daughter of W. H. Hoyt, who was president of the W. H. Hoyt Grocery Company. Mrs. Fox was taken home, but none of her children were found. Mr. Stewart said the handkerchief of Hoyt Fox, twelve years old, has been found in the pockets of a suit upon the body of a boy at Rolston's morgue. There is no doubt that it is the boy, although the features cannot be identified.

There was a pathetic scene at Rolston's morgue when the body of John Van Ingen, eighteen years old, of Kenosha, Wis., was identified. Friends of the Van Ingen family had spent many hours in searching at the request of Mr. and Mrs. Van Ingen, who were injured. To-day four of the Van Ingen children who are believed to have perished in the fire had not been accounted for. They are Grace, two years old; Dotty, five years

old; Mary, thirteen years old, and Edward, twenty years old.

SOME SAD SCENES

SEARCH FOR MISSING.

One of the saddest of the many scenes enacted in Thompson's restaurant, near the theatre, where many of the dead and wounded were taken immediately after the fire, was the search by a party of priests and nuns, headed by the Rev. J. L. Holtinger, of Ontonagon, Mich., for Edith Horton and her sister, two young girls, who in company with one of the convent sisters, had attended the performance. The body of Edith was found in the restaurant, many of the nuns breaking down and weeping bitterly at the sight. The other Horton girl and the sister who accompanied her were not found.

Charles Dexter, of the Boston Baseball Club, and Frank Houseman, the old Chicago second baseman, with their families, occupied a box. Both claimed that but for the presence of mind of Eddie Poy the death-roll would have been doubled. When the panic began Dexter and Houseman each made for and manned a door leading into the alley on the north side of the theatre. The people in the balcony had already commenced to jump to the ground floor when Houseman and Dexter forced open their doors and they were compelled to lift many of the maimed and dead in order to permit of exits from the ground floor. Houseman, having escorted his party out, took a position at his door and kept it from choking up by assisting the people through. Finally forced away by the flames, Houseman got into the alley just in time to hear the agonized voice of a woman from the window in an upper gallery shrieking, 'Catch me.' As the woman screamed she jumped and Houseman catching her to the best of his ability broke her fall to the ground and she walked away uninjured.

Clinton G. Meeker, a clerk in the registry division of the post-office, has probably lost in the fire his wife, two daughters and two sons. To-day Mr. Meeker had partially identified the bodies of his wife and two daughters. He failed to find any trace of his two sons.

HOW IT HAPPENED

ALLEGED CONSTRUCTION OF THEATRE WAS DEFECTIVE IN TWO PARTICULARS.

Among many of the theatrical men employed in the other Chicago theatres, the responsibility for the fire was ascribed to-day to the careless placing of electric arc light apparatus too close to one of the hanging borders of the scenery. The electrician of a leading Chicago theatre expressed great surprise on hearing that this was considered a possible cause of the fire. 'There never would have been any fire,' he said, 'if proper care had been exercised in handling the lights. The electric plant of the theatre was installed, as I happen to know from personal observation, in accordance with every modern requirement for safety. The plant was not to blame. If the facts I have given are correct the whole blame rests on the person who placed or was operating a light so close to the curtain.'

The failure of the expected fire protection is attributed by insurance men to trouble with the asbestos curtain. The stage is always recognized as the danger point in a theatre, and the desire is to have it cut off from the auditorium as thoroughly as possible. The insurance men declare that the curtain at the Iroquois never had worked perfectly, and that the mechanism had not been repaired.

E. R. Wetmore, an insurance agent, declared to-day that the loss would not exceed \$200,000. He asserted that the spread of the flames to the auditorium was due to the failure of the asbestos curtain to work properly.

Early last summer a prominent trade journal of Chicago criticized the construction of the Iroquois Theatre because it lacked a shaft or a flue at the back of the stage for carrying the flames and smoke upward and away from the auditorium in the event of fire. Such shafts were built in Madison Square Garden and the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, and a similar provision is made at the Chicago Auditorium. The method of fireproofing the balcony and the galleries was also declared by this magazine to be defective, because metal lath was used in what is known as exposed construction, where heat would easily affect it. In modern fireproof buildings this lath is buried in concrete. It was the buckling out of this metal lath and iron rods, giving the impression that the galleries were falling, that is believed by some contractors to have been partly responsible for the panic.

Chief Musham, of the fire department, when asked to-day what would best prevent a repetition of the horror, said: 'I don't know as I can answer the question yet. I suppose it would be a good thing for the department to have active uniformed men prepared to act stationed in every theatre throughout every performance. I understand that New York has them, and that they are paid by the management of the theatre. They had a man in the Iroquois who was an ex-member of the Chicago fire department. He was old, but he should have known what to do. It seems to me that there is nothing in the world that can save lives when a thousand persons try to pass through one doorway at one time. It was the rushing, the crowding

and the trampling that was responsible for the majority of the deaths that have occurred.'

OFFICIALS SPEAK

PROPRIETORS OF THEATRE ISSUE STATEMENT AS TO THE CAUSE.

Messrs. Will. J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, proprietors of the Iroquois Theatre, make the following statement: 'So far as we have been able to ascertain as to the cause or causes of the most unfortunate accident of the fire in the Iroquois, it appears that one of the scenic draperies was noticed to have ignited from some cause. It was detected before it had reached an appreciable flame, and the city fireman who is detailed and constantly on duty when the theatre is opened, noticed it simultaneously with the electrician. The fireman who was only a few feet away immediately pulled a tube of kilfire of which there were many hung about the stage, and threw the contents upon the blaze, which would have been more than enough if the kilfire had been effective to have extinguished the flame at once, but for some cause inherent in the tube of kilfire it had no effect. The fireman and the electrician tore down the asbestos curtain, and the fireman threw the contents of another tube of kilfire upon the blaze, with no better result. The commotion thus caused excited the alarm of the audience, who immediately started for the exits, of which there are twenty-five, of unusual width, all opening out and ready to the hand of any one reaching them. The draught thus caused, it is believed, before the curtain could be entirely lowered, produced a bellying of the asbestos curtain, causing a pressure on the guides against the solid brick wall of the proscenium, thus stopping its descent. Every effort was made by those on the stage to pull it down, but the draught was so great, it seemed, that the pressure against the proscenium wall and the friction caused thereby was so strong that they could not be overcome. The audience became panic-stricken in their efforts to reach the exits and tripped and fell over each other and blocked the way. The audience was promptly admonished and imperturbed by persons employed on the stage and in the auditorium to be calm and avoid any rush, and that the exits and facilities for emptying the theatre were ample to enable them all to get out without confusion. No expense or precaution was omitted to make the theatre as fireproof as it could be made, there being nothing combustible in the construction of the house except the trimmings and furnishings of the stage and auditorium. In the building of the theatre we sacrificed more space to aisles and exits than any theatre in America.'

THE WORK OF RESCUE

CITY AUTHORITIES INSTRUCT ACTING MAYOR TO SPARE NO EXPENSE.

It was a cause of wonder how so many physicians and so many trained nurses could arrive on the spot within so short a time. Dr. Herman Spalding, senior official in the Health Department, arranged for medical attendance. 'I telephoned to all the physicians in the downtown district,' he said, 'and went to hospitals, nurse associations and schools for physicians to assist in the care of the injured. Employees telephoned to all the principal office buildings and told the operators at the switch boards to notify every physician in the building, while others telephoned to the nurses. There were over one hundred physicians whom I personally knew at the fire, and probably one hundred and fifty nurses. Within a few minutes physicians three and five miles from the fire were offering their services.'

Mayor Harrison was on his way to the country for a hunting trip, and Mr. McGinn, comptroller, was Acting Mayor. The Finance Committee of the City Council, which was in session, told Acting Mayor McGinn to direct the Fire Marshal, the Chief of Police and the Commissioner of Public Works to proceed in the emergency without restriction as to expense and look to the Council for his warrant. A telegram at once was sent to Mayor Harrison, and it is expected that he will return from Oklahoma at once.

AT THE GARRICK THEATRE

MANAGER HAD KEPT AUDIENCE IN IGNORANCE OF THE AWFUL TRAGEDY.

One of the largest audiences ever seen in the Garrick Theatre, which is on the same street as the Iroquois, less than one block distant, sat in complete ignorance of the awful tragedy which was being enacted two hundred feet away from where they sat. When the fire engines commenced to patter past the Garrick, the manager, Mr. Schubert, became fearful lest the impression that his theatre was on fire should spread in the audience. When the intermission between acts came he ordered the doors closed and refused to allow any one to pass in or out so that no knowledge of the fire should reach the audience. Wilton Lackaye, the star, entertained the audience for over five minutes with a witty speech. The curtain rose for the next act without anybody in the audience knowing that hundreds of lives were being sacrificed almost next door to the Garrick. When the people fled out of the Garrick they were greeted at the door by hundreds of frantic men and women who anxiously scanned their faces to see if any of their friends were among them. There were many scenes of joyful recognition and astonished members of the Garrick audience were hugged and kissed in frantic delight by their relatives who up to that time had believed it possible that they were in the ghastly pile of dead lying within the doors of the Iroquois Theatre.

In the North-Western University Law School, into which many victims had

been taken, Bishop Muldoon, finding that he and the Rev. Father O'Brien were unable to attend the great number being brought in, announced that he would give a general absolution to all the Catholics among the victims. During the brief moment that the two priests with uplifted hands besought God to pardon all the frailties of his dying servants, the poor mangled men and women who lay in dozens on the floor, seemed to realize that they were face to face with the last scene in their lives. Many, though craved with pain, ceased to moan and fastened their fast dimming eyes upon the two priests. After absolution was given many of them, barely able to move, feebly stretched out their hands imploringly to the priests for one word of sympathy before they passed away. Both clergymen administered absolution, remaining till the dead were removed to the morgue and the injured to various hospitals.

SOME TOUCHING INCIDENTS

SCENES IN THOMPSON'S RESTAURANT AFTER THE FIRE.

Over one girl in Thompson's restaurant the doctors labored one hour trying to induce artificial respiration. There was no sign of a burn on her. She was not more than sixteen years of age, and when they forced her eyelids apart her brown eyes were bright yet. 'She is too perfect a creature to give up,' said the doctors. Stimulant after stimulant was tried and last of all nitro-

Advertisements

NEW YEAR'S DAY

N 1904 N

ANNOUNCEMENT.

IN WISHING our friends one and all "A Happy New Year" and much prosperity, THE CANADA PAINT COMPANY, LIMITED, of Montreal and Toronto, take this opportunity of thanking them for their support during the past year. The generous flow of business has encouraged us to erect a new color plant which is now ready for occupation, and our capacity in this department has been thereby increased one hundred percent. The Varnish plant in Toronto is extended, and each branch of the business has been pushed to its utmost capacity during the entire year.

WE have mined and ground for painting purposes over two hundred tons of New Brunswick Graphite and about two thousand tons of Oxide from our own mines in Quebec, some of which we exported to the United Kingdom and to the United States.

WE continue to invite the cordial support of all who are in quest of good Paint, Varnish and Colors.

TO-DAY, our printing and advertising department will issue and mail to each customer the catalogue and price list for 1904. Please study it carefully, there are a number of new features.

PROMPT specifications are invited so as to avoid the inevitable rush in the early spring.

THE Company's experts are at the disposal of Engineers, Architects, and large corporations requiring special paints for special purposes.

AGAIN thanking our clients at home and abroad,

We remain,
Yours faithfully,

THE CANADA PAINT COMPANY,
LIMITED.

CLEAN COAL RIGHT WEIGHT. PROMPT DELIVERY.

CITIZENS COAL COMPANY.

246 ST. JAMES STREET

PHONE MAIN 241.

glycerine was injected, but in the end the doctor gave up.

'There is nothing more to be done,' he said, 'the child is dead. It's horrible.'

Not far away a nurse and two doctors labored over a boy. After ten minutes he opened his eyes.

'What cher doin' to me?' he questioned.

'Taking care of you,' said the doctor.

'Tell us your name.'

'I ain't goin' to have any one tellin' my mother about this of me. I'm all right, I am. It was a fire, that's what it was.'

A woman who assisted in caring for the injured in Thompson's restaurant spoke of a young girl on a table near the quick-witted boy mentioned. The doctor discovered in his fair patient a spark of life. 'Strychnia, quick,' he said to the nurse. 'I hurried to get it,' relates the nurse.

The girl's hands were cold-cold as snow. 'Chafe them,' said the doctor, and I did so, already they were stiffening. It was all no use, and soon her delicate body was laid with a pile of dead.

'I'm the most grateful man in all Chicago,' said John R. Thompson, who owns the restaurant. 'My sister was in the theatre with my two children, John, aged nine, and Ruth, aged seven. She almost got to the door with both them when Ruth disappeared. My sister told me she knew that the child must be safe, but I ran around like a maniac for an hour before I found her. How it happened I don't know, but she ran back

into the theatre and out under the stage through the stage entrance.'

GLENGARRY VETERAN DEAD.

Cornwall, Dec. 31.—Widely known, a gentleman of sterling principles, and highly esteemed by old and young, Chas. Westley, East Front, of Lancaster, passed peacefully to the great beyond during the afternoon hours of Tuesday, Dec. 29. The deceased was in his eighty-third year, and his connection with St. Andrew's congregation, of Lancaster, dates back to its first inception. He held the office of elder for nearly half a century. The surviving members of the family include three sons and two daughters, Chas. Westley, Denver, Col.; Dr. Ralph Westley, Montreal; Thornton Westley, of Lancaster, and the Misses Emily and Evelyn Westley, who also reside here. The funeral took place this afternoon to St. Andrew's Cemetery, second concession of Lancaster.

A PUBLISHER ASSIGNS.

Mr. Norman M. Henselwood, publisher, has consented to assign at the demand of Mr. Alex. Burnett.

THE 'DAILY WITNESS' is printed and published at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter streets, in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, and all letters to the Editor, should be addressed Editor of the 'Witness.'

OGILVY DAILY STORE NEWS.

JANUARY SALE!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 1904,

=====BEGINS OUR=====

GREAT DISCOUNT SALE!

=====WE HAVE MADE=====

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT.

Mantles (in every line), Millinery (trimmed and untrimmed), Whitewear, Blouses, Skirts, etc., Boys' Clothing, Linens, Handkerchiefs, Embroideries, Ribbons, Neckwear, Laces, Underwear and Hosiery, Dress Goods, Silks, Trimmings, Furs, Wash Goods, Leather Goods, All Fancy Novelties, Men's Furnishings,

With an extra 10% for Cash.

CARPETS---Special Reductions in our Carpet Department, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%.

Special List will appear from night to night on this page, showing you the great reductions we are making.

Store will be Closed To-morrow, New Year's Day.

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