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Lindsay, 17th June, 1876. 801-1y

Publisher's Notices.

Terms. THE CANADIAN POST is $1.50 per annum in advance. If not paid at the end of six months the price will be $2.00 per annum. School teachers and clergymen $1.00 per annum in advance. $1.50 per annum if not paid at the end of six months.

Note. The figures after each subscriber's name (the date of their order for the paper) shows the date to which he has paid up. Thus, **John Walker, 31 Dec. '76,** shows that he has paid to the end of 1876. **John Smith, 3 Jan. '75,** shows that he owes from that date. Subscribers are requested to give notice at once if they see any inaccuracy in the date.

Remittances. Care should be taken to register remittances. Postage stamps may be sent for fractions of a dollar. Name and address should be plainly written. Post Office orders can be had at the following rates:—$1 to $4, 2c.; and $4 to $20, 5c.

Irregularities. Subscribers would oblige us by promptly reporting any irregularity in the delivery of their papers.

Local Correspondence. We shall be glad to receive items of local news at all times, and must be regular and prompt; no gossiping. State facts briefly, and the matter will be carefully pruned for the printer. The name of the writer is not wanted for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Post and The Globe. These two papers can be had in Lindsay at the same price—one at the office of the Post, and the other at Porter's Bookstore.

Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, SEPT. 8, 1876.

THE PORT HOPE CENTRAL EXHIBITION.

We have received the prize list of the Port Hope "Central," and direct to it the attention of all in this section interested. We trust Lindsay and Victoria will make a first rate exhibit at Port Hope, and that there will be a large attendance from this County. Our North Riding should put in a good appearance; nothing is to be lost but much to be gained by so doing. The prize list bears the *Times'* imprint, and is a very creditable specimen of printing.

DRAINAGE IN OPS.

In a former issue we drew attention to a movement recently initiated in Elton by Mr. Sidney MacKenzie and his neighbors to take advantage of the Municipal Drainage Act, which is the first public effort to improve any portion of the waste and swamp lands in this county, where there is unhappily too much in that state. We refer to the subject again, being fully persuaded that the scheme is worthy of the serious consideration of those whose lands are swampy or the soil absorbing or retentive. The subject cannot be too fully discussed, as projects of this nature are largely influenced by public opinion, and it is generally by this influence that efforts prevail or result in failure and postponement.

Under the old system farmers too often calculated on the number of acres which they cultivated more than on the productive capabilities of the soil, and without any efforts to fertilize or revive its exhausted powers they hope to realize results only attainable by skilful industry and labour judiciously applied, and hence we occasionally find a farmer whose operations barely produce enough to afford a scanty subsistence for himself and his family.

It is now more generally understood that the main object in modern agriculture is simply to increase the productiveness of old lands and to extend the arable area of new lands, verifying the patriotic theory that "he who can make two ears of corn or two blades of grass grow on a spot of land where only one grew before, deserves better of mankind and does more for his country than a whole race of politicians put together." But the productiveness of lands cannot be much increased or new lands successfully brought under cultivation without a proper system of drainage, and as lands are becoming scarce and only obtainable at a high price, the improvement of waste and swamp land is now more than formerly engaging scientific enquiry, forcing itself on public attention, in all cases winning popular favor, and developing the important fact that under a proper system of drainage, whether by intercepting or intersecting ditches, lands lying in a state of nature and utterly worthless can by a small outlay of capital be transformed into smiling fields "waving with golden grain."

We will revert to this subject on further developments of the Eldon drainage, when Mr. Deane's report and estimate will enable us to afford information as to the probable cost per acre in such undertakings. The people of Ops particularly should, and we have no doubt will, take a deep interest in the Eldon enterprise. There are in Ops several extensive swamps that if drained would make as good land as there is in the Province, for alluvial land of that character when brought under cultivation and well drained would be practically exhaustless. The leading men of Ops,—the Reeves and Councillors and such men as Mr. John Connolly, Mr. Jas. Farrel, Mr. Thos. Ray, Mr. David Cornell, (who has done some good draining already), and others, should put their heads together and see what the township requires, then act accordingly.

A SENSIBLE SUGGESTION.

After carefully surveying the field the Montreal *Witness* comes to the conclusion that the people at the next general election will give the Liberal party another lease of power, and will not entrust the management of public affairs to charter-sellers. There will be no chance for them until the Pacific Railway is built and in good running order. The Toronto correspondent of the London *Advertiser* makes some practical suggestions as to the benefit of organization, which we commend to those locally concerned:—"The great object will be to watch the voters' lists, and if in any county this duty is neglected, the recent elections in Lincoln and the two Ontarios convey a pretty plain intimation of the consequences which may be expected at the next general election. The talk about a Conservative reaction is of course pure buncombe, and none know this better than those who indulge in it; but under it all is discernable a settled purpose to win as many seats as possible, and the only chance of winning any is to cook the voters' lists. Should Mr. Rykert be unseated within the next few days—a by no means improbable contingency—the value and importance of watchfulness will receive another illustration. The reaction which enabled him to defeat Mr. Nelson was created by the assessors, and as the matter has since been attended to by the Reformers, another election would show a different and more legitimate result. It is not too much to say that the party which allows its opponent to take any advantage in this respect will be guilty of the most suicidal folly. It would be unwise as well wrong for Reformers to attempt any wholesale manufacture of votes by means of the next assessment rolls; nor is such a course at all necessary to success. All that is requisite is that Conservative assessors shall be well watched, and that the county judges shall in every municipality where wrongs have been committed be asked to redress them. The machinery for self-protection is ample, and Reformers may thank themselves for any losses they may sustain on account of bad votes. The best method to pursue would be to fee in each county some barrister of the Liberal stripe who would go into the scrutiny of the lists *con amore*, and secure that justice and fair dealing of which Reformers have been too often deprived by the unprincipled machinations of their rivals. More than fair play we need not care for, and less than it we cannot afford to be satisfied with. So much having been secured, public opinion may safely be trusted to do the rest. The time has just arrived for the full justification of Mr. Mackenzie in the matter of the Pacific Railway, which will before the general election be under contract from Lake Superior to the Pacific. The country has no reason to wish him away from the helm at this juncture, and equally little reason has it to wish the substitution of Sir John Macdonald for Mr. Blake in the Ministership of Justice. Two years of sleepless vigilance and untiring work on behalf of their cause will ensure the retention of office by Reformers for a decade to come—an event for which the country cannot well be too grateful."

MUNICIPAL MISGOVERNMENT.

Several of our cotemporaries are discussing this question, and all agree that there is great need for reform in our municipal system. We append some sensible remarks of the *Monetary Times* on this subject: "In such cases, criticism generally begins at the wrong time—after the obligation has been incurred or the money spent. One of the principal sources of embarrassment arises out of the authorization of heavy loans and the consequent increase in the item of interest. Whether the expenditure is directly productive or the reverse, of course makes a great difference. Some English cities derive a large revenue and a considerable profit from gas and water. Here one of the chief sources of municipal revenue—the supply of gas—is generally in the hands of private companies. If any thing is to be made out of the privilege, the municipality would seem to have the best right to make it. The same remark applies to the supply of water. Private companies were often welcomed when they proposed to supply these wants, and when they have once acquired rights it is not easy to make a change. If cities could manage street railways as well as individuals, they would have the first claim to this source of revenue; but that they could do so has yet to be proved. The general opinion seems to be that what they do now is seldom well, not always honestly done. But does no share of the blame properly belong to the taxpayer? Does he perform his whole duty by sitting still, with his hands folded, and complaining of the acts of representatives from whom he demands a constant sacrifice? The ordinary municipal councillor probably does as well as we have a right to expect a man will do who discharges a public duty gratuitously, and often at great inconvenience and no inconsiderable sacrifice. It is a delusion to suppose that here, any more than in any other case, unpaid services prove a real economy to those in whose interest they are ostensibly given. The acceptance of such gratuitous services is unquestionably a source of corruption. It is not always all patriotism that induces Aldermen to take charge of public interests with such charming alacrity as they show. The proper mode of managing municipal finances is one of the problems of the time. That we are destined to go on forever as we are is an assertion that no prudent man would risk. But in what precise direction the reform will come there are, at present, no decided indications. Two reforms in municipal finance which are coming, at least in Ontario, it requires no prophetic vision to foresee: the abolition of exemptions and the levying of a frontage tax for all street improvements. There are reasons which will probably prevent the adoption of the former in Quebec; though there is no reason why the adoption of the latter should not become general. And we venture to predict that the adoption of the frontage tax will give the greatest satisfaction, and the only regret will be that it was not adopted before. Men like to see where their money goes, and still better to know that the expenditure directly benefits their own property. There are some street improvements which have an astonishing effect in raising the value of property. The Nicholson pavement has been known to double the value of property, on either side of it, in some American cities. The improvements will be much more rapidly effected, and be of much greater extent, when those who pay for them find the investment a good one, and the return direct and immediate. Further delay will only add to future complications, and there is really no excuse for its continuance."

THE WHITBY RAILWAY.

The contractors of the Whitby Extension, Messrs. Gibson & Dixon, are pushing on construction with great vigor, and have now nearly a dozen large gangs of men at work. There are three gangs in the neighborhood of Galbraith's Hill; and we believe next week one of the contractors will come to Lindsay to arrange for going on with preliminary work in eastern Mariposa and Ops. At present their energies are devoted mainly to the section through Reach, which, being of a swampy nature, can be cleared and graded at much greater advantage during this dry season than in the spring. However, a great deal will be done in this County this fall, for the Company having now completed all its arrangements is anxious to get to Lindsay as soon as possible. Mr. Holden has purchased the iron for the road,—to be delivered in Whitby in October,—so that the section to Manilla will undoubtedly be built this fall. We are informed Mr. Myers, who built the excellent bridges on the Nipissing, is to build the bridges, culverts and cattle-guards on this road.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Mr. Gow is to be appointed Sheriff of Wellington. This will necessitate a new local election for South Wellington.

—It is now proposed that the Dominion Government should purchase he Riviere du Loup section of the Grand Trunk at a price fixed by arbitration, the money so obtained to be employed in putting down a double track from Toronto to Montreal.

—The technical difficulty about the Youngs has been got over as anticipated by following an old English precedent. They were taken to the Court of Queen's Bench at Toronto, and having been identified the sentence of death was ordered to be executed on the 22nd inst.

—Another sign of the "Conservative reaction" is to be found in the defeat of Mr. Mackenzie by nine hundred votes in a competition with Sir John A. Macdonald for a gold-headeded cane which some shrewd Windsor people had put up. It is plain the Tories are keener at buying votes.

—The London *Advertiser*:—Nice timber the ex-Premier used to make British Columbian Senators, if Senator Carrall is a specimen. The latter hopes when he is dead, it will be said of him "that, with all his other faults, he had been born in the faith, and died in the faith of Sir John Macdonald." He does right to include his faith among his faults.

—Messrs. Geo. and Andrew Holland, lately of the Ottawa *Citizen* and *Hansard*, have established a stenographic reporting office in Montreal. Stenography is now largely used in the law courts in the sister Province, and as the Hollands are expert and experienced in the art we have no doubt they will obtain a lucrative practice. We wish them all success.

—The Montreal *Herald* says: "The Hon. Mr. Blake's recent visit to England will be acknowledged as one of the most important visits ever paid by a Colonial Minister to the mother country. Among other good works accomplished, owing in a great measure to his representations, is that the British and United States Governments have decided to mainfain the action of the existing extradition treaty until the new one can be framed."

—The Chatham *Banner* gives the following useful hints on organization. "It is not probable we will have an election for either House before the expiration of the present Parliament in January, 1879; but it must be borne in mind that the work necessary to secure victory cannot be done on the eve of the contest. Active associations should now be at work scanning the voters' lists, taking care that these lists are weeded of all bogus voters, and that no *bona fide* elector's name has been omitted."

—The Hon. John Beverly Robinson is spoiling for a fight. He declared in the police court that he wanted to thrash 500 Editors. In order to give him a chance an emergent meeting of the Canadian Press Association, of the Dominion Editors' and Reporters' Association, the Montreal Koklosk klan, the Bluenose Penholsting Fraternity, with the New York Press Club as referees is to be held in Toronto next week. These organizations will send out picked men each morning till J. B. R. cries "hold, enough."

—Ever since Chicago fires have apparently become more "sweeping" in character. St. Hyacinthe, a flourishing town of 10,000 inhabitants was all but completely destroyed Sunday night. The place was largely built of wood, and when the fire once started it was impossible to stop it. The loss is estimated at a couple of millions. Three or four persons perished in the flames. Seaforth met with a similar calamity Monday morning, but less in extent. Some forty buildings in the business part of the town were consumed.

—In connection with the contemptibly small fine of $5 and costs imposed by the Police Magistrate on Hon. J. B. Robinson for striking Ross Robertson of the *Telegram*, the Dundas *True Banner* says "$5 and costs" appears to be "the fixed rate for thrashing Editors." Our confrere continues:—"We know how it is ourselves, and it is satisfactory to learn that the Judges of the land make no distinction in this matter between city and country editors. They are all served alike. $5and costs is the price. Who wants satisfaction? Just hand us that black thorn." We were not aware editors were held at so low a figure up west. In Lindsay when a man *attempts* to thrash an editor he is fined $20 and costs and gets a broken head in the bargain. "We know how it is ourselves."

—It is alleged that the Northern Railway investigation has already developed that some $14,500 of the Company's funds were misapplied to political purposes. The alleged payments are said to have been $2,500 towards the Sir John A. Macdonald testimonial; $1,000 to the *Mail* newspaper in shares; $8,000 to elect a Tory to the Ontario Legislature; and $6,000 to elect a Tory to the Commons, presumably the Hon. John Beverly Robinson. It is no wonder that the investigation is causing no little trepidation amongst select circles in this "little ring," and no wonder that a desperate attempt is being made to stave off enquiries by maintaining that the commission is unconstitutional.

—The London *Advertiser* is of the opinion that the gradual adoption of the Dunkin Act will solve the problem of finding revenue for that which would be lost through Prohibition. This difficulty has been one of the great arguments against prohibition, and it is one the temperance advocates have failed to meet satisfactorily. Our cotemporary says:—"Putting the revenue from excise and duties upon liquor at $6,000,000, of which Ontario pays three-fifths, supposing the Dunkin Bill to be carried and enforced in twenty average counties of this Province; there goes one million of the revenue from liquor, and another year an equal amount can be cut off. Provision will have to be made to meet this deficit as it occurs—supposing there would be any deficit, which we very much doubt. We fancy that the money saved by the partial suppression of the liquor traffic would be spent in such a manner as to contribute largely to the revenue. But laying aside that view of the case, it remains evident that the revenue question can be met so gradually as to present no serious trouble to Parliament when the day comes for declaring the whole Dominion subject to a prohibitory law."

—"Goldwin Smith," (Mr. A. Bystander) publishes a letter in the Toronto *Telegram* on the subject "Is Protection the real remedy?" which concludes in this way; "What is wanted is the abolition of the Customs line. Let that be done, and Canada may be as prosperous as New England. All producers are in the same boat. The farmer and the lumberer are as near free access to the American market, as well as the manufacturer, but the case of the manufacturer is by far the most urgent. Canadian manufacturers must burst the Customs line or die."

—The Ottawa *Free Press* is rather cruel in its treatment of Mr. W. H. Gibbs, M.P. Contrasting the silence of that hon. gent. with his recent outburst, when he made a signal blunder in attacking the Premier's Secretary, Mr. W. Buckingham, our cotemporary says:—"W. H. is singularly unfortunate in his stump exploits so far, and we incline to the opinion, from his success in making "bulls," that there must be some Milesian blood mingling with the proud Norman fluid that courses through his veins. Probably his friends had better induce him to make another venture; he always appears to more advantage when he confines himself, like Paddy's owl, to "a dale o' thinkin'." As a politician, he recalls the party who—

"Baited his hook with a dragon's tail,
And sat on a rock and bobbed for whale."

—Calling attention to the great advance in the publishing business since the late Chas. Heavysege brought out his first book, the London *Advertiser* enquires if it would not be possible "to publish a neat Canadian edition of his works, the proceeds over expenses of printing to go to his family! By common agreement the newspapers could ensure a large sale of the book, without expense for advertising. Friendly reviewers say that Heavysege's 'Saul' is a poem that will be valued by the readers of the future. Does it not lie with the press of Canada to hasten the arrival of that flood of appreciation which can do more good now than fifty years hence?" The idea is a good one and we trust some publisher will take the hint. THE POST "will be one" with the *Advertiser* to push on the praiseworthy scheme.

—The Oshawa *Vindicator*, noting the arraignment and trial of two Lindsay School Trustees, and the clause in the school act by which two ratepayers can summon for punishment recalcitrant or neglectful trustees, thinks there is therein indicated "a wide field of usefulness for some philanthropist in Oshawa. The whole Board might be tried for neglecting the duties of their position. Even when the majority attend the meeting the business is generally neglected after they get there and the most tiresome and ridiculous wrangling indulged in instead." We may then have the poor consolation that disgraced as our Board is by some of its members we are not so badly off as some of our neighbours. The Police Magistrate's decision in Leroy and Fee will be given to day.

—The local Tory organ is apprehensive that the "Reformers as a class "will not have sufficient manhood and "independence" to resist Toronto domination. The truly rural Tory organs have an undoubted right to be heard on this matter of "manhood" and "independence." Having rejected their leader for his charter-selling proclivities; having declared that he must keep those hands clean; having snubbed Messrs. Boultbee and King Dodds for employing the party machinery to augment the *Mail's* circulation at the cost of the local prints; and having rebelled against the interference of the United Empire Club, they are, of course, qualified to criticise their Reform acquaintances. The reputation of the Tory organs for "independence" and "manhood" is so well known that the people can without hesitation place the proper value upon their professions.

—The performances of Messrs. W. Fee, S. Irwin, J. Leroy and W. Wray at the School Board Wednesday night did not add to the reputation of even that body. The "Ring" having been broken up their plan now is apparently to harry the other members and obstruct the general business, particularly that connected with the new building. There have been few funeral orations more touching than Mr. Sam. Irwin's on the plans and specifications prepared by his bosom friend. Nothing could be more impressive than the lofty and disinterested patriotism he displayed; while the pathetic tones in which he referred to the action of the Board in dispensing with his leader's services showed that his heart was almost "a-busting." There is another meeting of the Board to-night. Mr. Heap should not fail to be there to draw up the resolutions for the "Ring." His absence Wednesday night made it rather awkward.

—In spite of the "hard times," the "depression in trade," the backwardness of delinquent subscribers in coming forward, and the kindred influences, newspapers continue to prosper in greater or less degree. Our veteran friend of the Millbrook *Messenger* brings out his exultant "Rooster" in a handsome "dress" from Miller & Richard, in which appear several "faces" of the handsome advertising type employed in THE POST. The *Messenger* is a power in the land; and we trust it will go on and prosper..... Readers of THE POST will be pleased to hear of the increasing prosperity of Mr. C. B. Robinson, now publisher of the *Canada Presbyterian*. The paper has largely increased in circulation; and the printing business has necessitated considerable additions to the machinery of the office.....The *Monetary Times* is flourishing with a $5,000 libel suit.....The Bowmanville *Merchant* has accomplished its mission, and will be gathered to its fathers. Its place will be supplied by the *Observer*.....The Ottawa *Free Press*, now the only Liberal newspaper at the capital, is conducted with a spirit and energy that have won it an excellent reputation and a large circulation. Its enterprising proprietor, Mr. C. W. Mitchell, means to exhibit additional enterprise and we have no doubt will be duly rewarded.

—The Editor of the *Farmer's Advocate* accompanied the Canadian Press Association to the Centennial, and in writing an account of the trip, concludes with the following good advice, which we commend to farmers in this section, and others interested: "For the present we must say to our readers, or those of you that can spare $40 of $50, by all means go and see for yourselves; take a ticket by the Erie R.R. via Lehigh Valley route, and you can return by New York at a very small additional expense. You will find it the best expended money that you have ever spent. Do not be selfish, take your wife, or your daughter or sister with you; they richly deserve a holiday. If you have no such relation take some other person's sister with you. We do not advise people to run into debt to go there; but there are hundreds of our readers that have thousands saved that some thankless heir may fool away. To such we say go; see, learn. It is without doubt the most useful and the most beneficial school that has ever been opened, in which all may learn. It is a duty you owe to yourself, to your family, to expend as well as to hoard. Go to this grand, pleasing, ennobling school if you can afford it. This year you have the opportunity, and you never will have such another. We have been so much pleased with it that we hope to go again if we can afford it and spare the time. We would if we could afford it, take every one of our family there."

LITERARY NOTES.

MOODY'S BEST THOUGHTS AND DISCOURSES.—(Toronto, J. B. Maguire; Lindsay, R. S. Porter.)—The title is an indication of the character of this book, and those who have not heard the Evangelist will find his best ideas collected and arranged under appropriate headings. There is also a sketch of the lives of Moody and Sankey and steel portraits of them. The collector has done her work with care and discrimination; and the publisher has given a neat and convenient book.

THE CANADIAN MONTHLY.—(Toronto, Adam Stevenson & Co.)—The September number is before us and is fully as interesting as usual. The instalment of F. W. Robinson's story, "As Long as She Lived," opens the number. Mr. W. D. LeSuer, of Ottawa, continues the essay-writing on "Liberty of Thought and Discussion," being a review of Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's latest work. The magazine contains the prize essays on "Mechanics' Institutes and the best means of improving them," the first by Mr. Thos. Davison, and the second by Mr. R. Lewis, both of Toronto. They are well worthy perusal by all interested. Mr. James Douglas writes about the Australian Colonies at the Centennial, and his paper will be sought after in view of the talked-of trade ventures with our distant cousins. "Heavyseges Saul," by Miss Murray, and "Archbishop Connolly," by a Protestant will have a melancholy interest even to readers who knew the fame of these men only. "Curiosities of Advertising" is entertaining poetry. Current events and look reviews make a very good number

WHO HANDLED THE PROFITS.

[London Advertiser.]

According to Sir John Macdonald's Toronto newspaper, the following extract from a recent number of the *Monetary Times* gives an insight into the way public affairs are managed at Ottawa:

"More than a year ago the Marine and Fisheries Department bought a schooner called 'The Ella G. McLeay,' for $6,000. The vessel had just previously been purchased for $3,000. She was thoroughly repaired and put into the service. But a few days ago the Government having no further use for the schooner offered her for sale by tender, and the highest bid was $2,250. Some gentlemen in New Brunswick handled the profits on the transaction."

The Halifax *Chronicle* answered the *Monetary Times* by snowing that it was considerably "more than a year ago" that the transaction dates from. Let the Conservative organ at Toronto ponder on the following facts:

The names of the "gentlemen in New Brunswick" must not escape notice. The great Peter Mitchell was Minister of Marine, in Sir John A. Macdonald's Government, as the time the transaction took place. Mr. Mitchell employed his son to purchase a vessel for the Government, or agreed to make a purchase from him. The son bought the Ella G. McLeay from a Mr. Clinch (if we remember correctly) for $3,000. Then Mr. Mitchell took $6,000 out of the public treasury and paid it to his son for a vessel which had only cost $3,000. It was a relative of this same Mr. Mitchell that "handled the profits"—enormous and dishonest profits—on the purchase of the worthless Halifax lightship and of large quantities of rails for the Intercolonial Railway. The Minister of Marine and the Government that managed these transactions are the same that are being daily extolled by the Conservative organs. No doubt Mr. Mitchell and his relatives and the horde of Tory office-seekers want a return of the late Government to power, but who else desires such an event?

Communications.

QUOITING.

[*To the Editor of* THE CANADIAN POST.]

SIR,—In the last issue of your journal you have copied a statement which appears to be going the rounds of the press, to the effect that I had played a match game of quoits with one James Rennie, of Toronto, and been defeated. The statement is a bogus one, intended no doubt to place me in a false position. I never played a match game of quoits with James Rennie in my life. The act of furnishing such a statement to the press, is both cowardly and ungentlemanly on the part of the informant. I defy James Rennie to produce any man who witnessed the great match (?) referred to. Before he can defeat me at pitching quoits, he will have to eat several tons weight of oatmeal, and be better known throughout the country as "Rennie's Improved." During the present year I have only played one match game of quoits, and that was on Dominion Day, at Barrie. Then I was successful against all-comers. Pardon me for troubling you. Yours truly,

ALEXANDER MUIR.

A TRIP TO MUSKOKA.

PORT CARLING — LAKES JOSEPH AND ROSSEAU — SUMMER RESORTS — THE "SUMMIT"—"PRAT'S"—A GOOD STORY FISHING AND SHOOTING.

[From our own Correspondent.]

PORT CARLING, Aug. 29th.

Port Carling is a little hamlet composed of about a dozen houses, situated on a narrow peninsula with Lakes Rosseau and Muskoka on each side and Lake Joseph about three miles in its rear. Its central location should make it the most popular resort in the district, but the lack of good hotel accommodation has kept it in the background, and as a general thing tourists do not remain longer than a day or two but seek other places, not for more desirable situation or better sporting grounds, but for more comfortable hostelries. There is talk of another hotel being built here, which if erected and well kept will be hailed with pleasure by not a few tourists, and will attract to the village a large amount of summer travel. For piscatorial pursuits the place offers great inducements. Black bass and pickerel are in great abundance at this season, while in the spring and fall salmon trout weighing from five to thirty pounds are plentiful. To the Nimrod the neighboring woods offer attractions in the way of partridge and pigeon, and along the banks of the lakes duck are—if not abundant—in sufficient numbers to provide good sport. The village boasts of a saw mill, two stores, hotel, post-office, a church and a school house—the latter but recently built is a pattern of neatness. The various religious denominations are well represented, and judging from the preparations being made for the erection of churches, have taken root deep root. Two churches—Presbyterian and Episcopalian—are to be built this year, and work has commenced on the Presbyterian which will occupy one of the prettiest sites in the place. Mr. James Campbell, of Toronto, who preaches here every Sunday during the summer months, is the promoter of this enterprise, and besides using his influence to secure contributions, has given a large donation towards the erection of the building. The Episcopalians as yet have not made a commencement, but will I learn, sometime this fall. The Methodist denomination is the only one represented by a resident clergyman, Rev. Mr. Moore, who has charge of six appointments in the circumference of about thirty miles. The "tillers of the soil" in the vicinity do not depend alone on the products of their land for subsistence, or I am afraid, their living would be meagre. Shanty-ing in the winter and work on the Government roads in summer, are resorted to. There are, however, a few farmers who more fortunate than their neighbors in securing a "good patch," are now in comfortable circumstances, but where you will find one of these you will find ten in poor circumstances. But enough has been said of this place.

To continue my trip to Lakes Joseph and Rosseau the steamer "Kightley" is again taken advantage of as a means of travel, and the vessel steams out of port about dusk. Before twilight we are on Lake Rosseau and the vessel stops at "Lily's Island," to leave the mail of Capt. Ord, of Toronto, to drop a basket full of provisions into a boat which has been pulled alongside to receive it. A pleasant sight is to be seen in shore—a bright fire which illumines the whole island is burning in front of a log house, and around it are gathered a number of happy young faces radiant with pleasure derived from the free life. We are again under weigh and soon Port Sandfield is reached, and we enter Lake Joseph—considered the prettiest lake in the district—but for what reason I do not know as the scenery and water are very much the same as the other lakes. Between here and Port Cockburn "Chief Island," the resort of Mr. James Campbell, and the rendezvous of the Toronto Club are situated. Mr. Campbell has built a handsome summer residence, where he and his family spend the greater portion of the summer months, "roughing it" and enjoying the healthful recreations the spot affords. Further on at the head of the lake is Port Cockburn, where is the "Summit House," a first-class hotel in every respect kept by Mr. Hamilton Fraser, who is noted for attention to the comfort of his guests. The house is pleasantly situated on the summit of a bluff, surrounded by a fine grove and well kept grounds. A short delay and the vessel retraces its course to Port Sandfield, where she is headed for Rosseau, which is reached at midnight. As the vessel touches the dock Pratt, the popular landlord of the "Rosseau House," steps on board, and in a short time we climb the hill at the top of which is the hotel—a large building which will accommodate about one hundred guests. Pratt is a character; his eccentric ways and joking propensities have gained for him wide celebrity. He is generally civil and obliging but sometimes to his own disadvantage he carries his jokes too far with people who do not understand him. But he means no offence, he merely wishes to gratify a predominant passion. Several good stories are told, one of which will bear relating. A few days ago one of the managers of a western railway—an American—stepped off the boat with a small satchel in his hand, and Pratt spotted him as a good subject to work upon. He accosted the stranger with the question, "How long are you going to stop?" "That just depends upon how I like the house," was the reply. "Got to pay in advance, that satchel isn't good for your board," remarked Pratt, while he scrutinized the satchel with one eye closed. "What's that you say? Taint good for my board, eh? Look here, stranger, bless your eyes, that satchel will buy you and your whole castle, and I want you to take care of it, and if you give me any of your 'sass' I'll close your meat-trap summarily. Now, look out!" Pratt picked up the satchel and placed it carefully behind the counter, and gave the railroader the best room in the house. He was met in the manner he wished. One of my fellow passengers a lean, lanky young man from Toronto, when we arrived at the hotel ventured to ask Pratt if the fishing was good about Rosseau. "Good enough," was the response, "but you don't want to bring any fish round here—it's a good piece of salt pork you want," and a ridiculous criticism of his appearance followed, which furnished splendid amusement for the crowd of lookers-on, but made the young man regret his temerity in entering the lists with Pratt.

Rosseau has several stores, a neat little church, post office and the Maganetawan House, kept by Capt. Kirkland, of the "Nipissing." The "Captain's," as it is generally called, is a very comfortable stopping place, and is constantly full during the season. The very best attention is paid to guests, and the table is supplied with the best. The Dunkin Act is in force here and consequently liquor is not openly on sale, but some persons say good "potatoes" are to be had. There are many attractions about Rosseau to interest the tourist and several weeks may be pleasantly spent in Isaac Walton's favorite pastime with appreciable results.

THE UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

Speaking of Mr. John DeWitt, the new President of the Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., of which Mr. J. H. McNairn, Toronto, is general agent for Canada, the Boston *Insurance Index* says:—"Though young, he has an insurance record running through years, and is known to insurance men through his record made as an agent and through his record made as an officer. He has a thorough, practical acquaintance with the details of every branch of the business. His record is so open that no one need, for want of material, hesitate to make up his opinion of the man himself. In the first place, he is an energetic, untiring worker. Skilful, systematic, he accomplishes far more than average officials; but what he accomplishes is by work, earnestly done and intelligently directed. He is, moreover, in reality the head wherever he is such in name. He is not given to occupying positions merely as a figure-head, and we may rest assured that so long as he is president of the Union Mutual Life its affairs will be skillfully administered. As a financial manager none can question the marked ability he has shown. * * * When we turn to the company we find that it is in every respect worthy to have such a man as Mr. DeWitt at its head. Staunch, trusted, and respected, with large assets well invested, and a good business already in hand, it offers a magnificent foundation for the building of such a structure as Mr. DeWitt is capable of rearing. * * * In conclusion, if we were to sum up briefly the matter, we should say that the Union Mutual is now a staunch, strong, old company, with a young, energetic, and able president at its head."

A WONDER.

A few days ago a gentleman from Indianola, Iowa, exhibited, without a single exception, the grratest curiosity of the whole Exhibition. After watching the mighty Corliss engine for some time, he took from his vest pocket a small object that would have defied almost any person to have guessed what it was. Striking a match he lit a tiny alcohol lamp, and a moment after a slight motion was perceptible in the small device connected to it, and then for the first time it became apparent that the little object was a diminutive steam engine, and one of the smallest that was ever made. The whole of the engine was placed on a 25 cent gold piece, as to base, and many of its parts are so minute that they cannot be distinguished with the naked eye. The fly wheel is but ⅛ of an inch in diameter, the stroke of the piston one twenty-fourth of an inch, and the cut-off one sixty-fourth of an inch. Boiler and engine together weigh but 7 grains, while the engine alone weighs but 3 grains. No part of a perfect working engine are wanting down even to the steam gauge. The various parts are made of gold, silver and platinum.

DOMINION NOTES.

—St. Catherines wants the Provincial Fair to be held in that city in 1877.

—For a bet, W. Henry, of Brussels, Ontario, jumped batefoot into a heap of slacked lime. He was badly burned.

—The hotel keepers of Walkerton have been furnished with a list of parties to whom they are forbidden to sell liquor.

—William Carruthers, station-master of the Great Western Railway, at Chatham, absconded with about $10,000.

—Mr. J. A. McMillan of East Nissouri has harvested a splendid field of barley. It is an excellent sample and yields 50 bushels to an acre.

—A Canada Southern Express one day last week ran 111 miles in 123 minutes. Another train 48 miles in 53 minutes, with five stoppages.

—The night of Sunday, the 20th inst., ice a quarter of an inch thick was formed on standing water in the township of Arthur.

—We, says the Owen Sound Advertiser, are getting on fast to be a town of five thousand inhabitants. The streets will have to be lighted soon.

—A young man named James Cooney, who resides near Vernonville, cradled sixteen acres of wheat and oats in two days last week! Who can beat that?

—Mr. Thos. Bobier, of Dunwich, threshed eighteen acres of wheat last week and had over fifty bushels. The wheat was the variety known as the Scott. Thirty bushels per acre is not so bad for this season.

—A Montreal firm calls for consignments of goods for Australia to be shipped on a vessel now loading at Boston for Melbourne. It will sail in October if sufficient freight is obtained.

—John Breen, a young man of an imaginative turn of mind, was the other day charged with sending a letter to Sheriff Woodruff, of St. Catherines, threatening to murder, slay, slaughter, quarter, and kill him, clean through from stem to gudgeon, not leaving a single grease spot. The accused was admitted to bail.

—The Dunkin Act has been carried in the counties of Missisquoi, Argenteuil, Addington, Lambton, Lennox, and Prince Edward, and temperance bodies are preparing to submit it in the counties of Wellington, Ottawa, Brant, Elgin, Durham, Frontenac, Grey, Hastings, Northumberland, Ontario and Oxford.

—A melancholy report comes from Sarnia to the effect that the steam barge City of Port Huron, of Buffalo, foundered Monday afternoon ten miles above Port Gratiot lighthouse, and that eighteen or twenty of the crew perished. The ill-fated vessel had the barge Dreadnought in tow, but the crew of the latter were unable to render any assistance to the sinking vessel.

—One day last week, three little girls went out from Woodstock, berrying. Approaching the house of S. B. Branton for a drink, a house cat sprang at one of the children, and with head and claws bit and tore the child's face and shoulders in a dreadful way. Attracted by its shrieks Mr. Branton, who had been at work near by, ran up, and snatching the child up in his arms, beat the maddened and infuriated animal off with a club. Thrice was the attack renewed on the same girl, and had assistance not been at hand there is no doubt the beast would have overcome the child. Mr. B.'s clothes were covered with blood.

—The Supreme Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows will meet for the dispatch of business in Philadelphia, on the 20th inst., the Hon. M. J. Durham, Grand Sire, presiding. The representatives from Canada are from the Grand Lodge of Ontario, Dr. Geo. Wright, Toronto; Jas. Woodyatt, Brantford; and from the Grand Encampment, J. Ham Perry, Whitby, and Col. W. H. Cole, M. P. P., Brockville. The demonstration that is to take place on this occasion will without doubt be one of the grandest and most inspiring affair that has ever taken place in connection with this order on the continent.

—A trick of the Licensed Victuallers in Prince Edward County is to get as many parties drunk as possible, and then turn them out upon the streets, the object being to show that the Dunkin Act is not a success. They are said to drug the liquor for that purpose. To prevent conviction, they mix liquors and call it by a certain name. They put lemon in whiskey and call it lemon syrup, and call other liquors other, Mrs. Younman's soothing syrup, Blakely's liniment, &c