

The Week's Delays Epitomized.

Mr. McLaughlin presented a large number of petitions in favor of the amendments to the game laws respecting foreign sportsmen. The following Bills were introduced and read the first time: Mr. Morris—An Act to empower the Corporation of Toronto to issue corporation stock, to be styled the debenture stock of the city of Toronto. Mr. Mowat—An Act to confirm an agreement between the town of Woodstock and the Great Western Railway Company. Mr. Awey inquired whether it is the intention of the Government during the present session to introduce legislation to provide for the repayment to the counties out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of certain expenses connected with the maintenance of prisoners in the county jails who have been convicted of felony by police magistrates. Mr. Mowat said the Government contemplated some legislation on the subject. Mr. Creighton—Resolution. That in the opinion of this House it would be in the public interest to have the various Departmental Reports printed as soon as possible after the expiration of the years to which they respectively relate, and to have the same circulated immediately upon being printed, whether the House shall be in session or not. He complained particularly of the delay always experienced in getting the Education report. They had not yet, though in 1883, the report for 1881. The same remark applied to the Insurance report for 1881. Mr. Mowat said that as a matter of fact the only report not brought down during the session was the Education report; and even if they took the Education report in 1882, brought down last session, they would find the second division covered the proceedings of 1881, which was the next preceding year. The practice of all Governments was to sanction the propriety of bringing down reports to the Legislature first before distributing them to the country. He hoped the House would reject the motion, though the Government was anxious at all times to furnish important information as early a date as possible. Mr. Meredith asked the reason why, for instance, the Education Report could not be distributed during the recess. Mr. Fraser said that if the reports could be distributed during the recess the pressure necessarily put upon those preparing them in time for the session would be relaxed, and too great delay might ensue. Besides the constitutional rule required that reports should be presented first to the Legislature. The House divided on the motion, which was rejected by 26 yeas to 44 nays. Mr. Ross moved for a return showing, in a tabulated form, the total amount paid by the Government for Public, Separate and High Schools for each year since Confederation to each county and city in the Province, including in the total for each county the amount paid to towns and villages therein. Carried. Mr. Ross moved for a return showing the amount paid to each county and city in the Province for each year since 1867 for expenses of criminal justice. The motion was agreed to. Mr. McCraze—Order of the House for a return of copies of all correspondence and reports made by the judge of the County Court of the county of Kent to the Government relating to frauds in respect to the assessment or voters' lists in any municipality or municipalities in said county for the year 1882, as provided by the 17th section of the Voters' Lists Act. In making this motion he said he did so in order to call attention to the fact that there had been frauds in the county of Kent. The municipal councils were now about electing assessors for the present year, and he thought it was certain that many of them did not know the law, or had willfully violated it, and it would be well to make an example of some of them. He believed that certain facts had been brought to the attention of the Government as to the conduct of certain officers, and he desired that the returns should be brought down with a view of the Government taking some action. The motion was carried. The Speaker read the following notice of motion by Mr. Wood, as the next order: That the Treasurer of the Province, upon receiving a copy of the inspector's report, certified by the reeve and clerk, shall reup to the treasurer of the municipality one-half of the sum paid by the township under the authority of the Act to encourage Tree Planting, the said copy to be forwarded on or before the 1st day of November in each year; that the sum of \$50,000 is hereby apportioned and set apart for the object, and shall be known as "The Ontario Tree Planting Fund." Mr. Mowat announced that His Honor had communicated that his attention had been drawn to the Bill and he commended it to the House. Mr. Wood said the Bill was one calculated to beautify the general appearance of the country and, so far as it was intelligently carried out, to increase its wealth. The Bill proposed to give authority to any and all municipal councils to grant aid up to 25c. for each tree planted, provided it was one of the kinds named in the Bill, and reported by the inspector to be in a healthy state at the end of three years from the planting. This would be paid by the municipalities, and upon a copy of the report being sent to the Provincial Treasurer the Province would reup half the expenditure. He did not suppose that the Bill would be taken advantage of by a very great proportion of the municipalities at first, or that the full amount would be granted by all the authorities. He supposed that the average would not be higher than 20c. It was clear to him that a tree properly planted and cared for would be worth much more than 25c. at the end of three years; in fact he thought it would not be worth less than \$1. He thought that the Bill would be appreciated, and the highways and side roads of the Province would become fine avenues, bordered on both sides by shade trees. It was proposed to vote \$50,000. He concluded by moving the resolution. The motion was carried. The Speaker read a ruling on a point of order raised by Mr. Meredith on the second reading of the Bill to establish public

creameries. He stated that after consulting the authorities, Imperial and Canadian, and searching the journals of the House, he was of opinion that there was no question of order, and the second reading of the Bill would proceed. Mr. Broder was of opinion that something was wanting to teach the agricultural class to make a uniform standard. The Bill was perhaps good, but it did not overcome all the various difficulties in good butter-making in a country where there was so much wild grazing land. He favored a system of instructive lectures being delivered on the subject. Mr. Hay said it was simply out of the question to expect the farmers to go to the home expense indispensable to the conditions favorable for good butter-making. The same remark applied to cheese. After remarks offered by Messrs. Hunter, Long and Graham the Bill was read a second time. Mr. Wood moved the second reading of the Bill respecting Ditches and Water Courses. Mr. Mowat moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the revised Act respecting the solemnization of marriages. He explained that his attention had been called to the fact that through the elders of the body of Christians called the Disciples of Christ had been in the habit of solemnizing marriages, doubts had arisen as to the validity of them. The Bill made such marriages legal, and provided not merely for the future but the past. Mr. Meredith asked if this proposal to pass an *ex post facto* law would not be interfering with the Dominion Legislature. Mr. Mowat said they only proposed to make those marriages valid to the extent as it affected the civil rights of the persons concerned in this Province. They had passed similar Bills and there had been no objections. The Bill was read the second time. The House, in Committee of the Whole, further considered the Bill to authorize the construction of street railways. Mr. Mowat said it had been suggested that provision should be made for fences in cases where steam was the motive power, and he proposed a sub-section that when steam was the motive power and part of the railway was situated within a township or municipal authority, the section of the Railway Act of Ontario, cap. 165, under the head of fences, is to apply.—Carried. The House, in Committee of the Whole, considered the Bill respecting the establishment of public parks in cities and towns. Mr. Mowat moved that during the remainder of this session Government business shall have precedence over other business, except Private Bills, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The motion was carried. Mr. Hardy presented the report of the Inspector of Insurance for 1881; a return showing the conditions of sale of 485 square miles of timber limits in 1871; and a return of the Police Magistrates appointed in the Province. The Government Bill to encourage the planting of trees was read a second time. The House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Act respecting solemnization of marriages. Mr. Merrick advocated the abolition of the license fee of two dollars, as it would, he thought, be a wise policy to encourage matrimony as much as possible. Mr. Mowat said the adoption of the suggestion might be popular, but they wanted to give hon. gentlemen opposite a chance to gain some popularity. (Laughter.) Mr. Pardee presented the fifth report of the Committee on Railways. Mr. Fraser presented the fifth report of the Committee on Private Bills. The following Bills were introduced and read the first time: Mr. Mowat—An Act to facilitate the establishment of free libraries. Mr. Bell—An Act to provide for the safety of the inmates of public buildings, hotels, factories, theatres, churches, etc. The following Private Bills were passed through Committee of the Whole and reported without amendment: Mr. McKim—An Act to consolidate the general debenture debt of the village of Elora. Mr. Deroche—An Act respecting the Napanee, Tamworth & Quebec Railway Company and a certain bonus granted to the said company by the town of Napanee. Mr. Dryden—An Act to change the name of the Canadian Literary Institute to Woodstock College. Mr. Chisholm—An Act relating to the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada. Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—An Act amalgamating the Standard Fire Insurance Company and the Alliance Insurance Company as the Standard Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Mowat, in Committee of the Whole, moved: In case of any Mechanics' Institute transferring its library and reading-room, or either of them, to any board of management of a free library, under section 10 of the Free Libraries Act, 1883, if it is part of the agreement that the board shall thenceforward receive the appropriation from the Mechanics' Institute grant which the Institute would otherwise receive, the board shall, on the condition, if any mentioned in the agreement, be entitled to the like aid from the unappropriated moneys in the hands of the Treasurer of the Province in respect to such reading-room and library, or either of them, as such Mechanics' Institute would have received under the provision of the Revised Act, chapter thirty-five, relating to Mechanics' Institutes. The motion was carried and the resolution reported. The following Bills were read the second time: Mr. Deroche—An Act to enable the trustees and executors under the will of Robert Wilkes to lease and sell certain real estate. Mr. Field—Respecting Victoria College, Cobourg. The House went into committee of the whole on the Bill to encourage tree planting. After some minor amendments the committee rose and reported progress. The orders for the second reading of the Acts for consolidation of the Acts respecting the Education Department, High Schools and Public Schools were discharged, owing to the absence of the Minister of Education; also the order for the second reading of the Bill for simplifying conveyancing. Mr. French asked, in view of the Act passed 44 Vic., chap. 25, sec. 35, whereby it is enacted that "No municipality shall make any sale, assignment or lease of its market fees for a period longer than 1st April, 1883, unless and until hereafter empowered so to do by the Legislature,"

is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill to enable municipalities to lease, assign, or make sale of the right to collect market fees? Mr. Mowat said it was the intention of the Government to make some provision in that direction. Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) asked whether it is the intention of the Government during the present session to introduce any amendment to the Judicature Act for the purpose of relieving judges of the Court of Appeal from circuit duty, or otherwise facilitating the despatch of business in that court. Mr. Mowat said the Judicature Act did not make it imperative on the judges of the Court of Appeal to perform circuit duty, though it authorized them to do so. There was no intention on the part of the Government to forbid them discharging this duty, though he intended to introduce a Bill for the better administration of justice, which would contain some provisions which to some extent would effect a remedy. Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) moved for a return of all correspondence—subsequent to that covered by the former return—between lady under-graduates of the University of Toronto and the authorities of University College on the subject of admission of ladies to the lectures of the college; also of all correspondence between the college authorities and the Government on the same subject.—Carried. A NIGHT OF HORROR. Experiences of a St. Louis Man in a Hotel Fire in 1855—Hair Turned Suddenly White. Cases of rare occurrence in which, as in Byron's "Prisoner of Chillon," one's hairs grow white. In a single night, as men's have grown from sudden fears; but there is a well-authenticated instance of this kind in the person of Charles B. Wardrop, the cigar store man, of No. 218 North Fourth street. "This Newhall House fire in Milwaukee vividly recalls an incident in my early life," remarked Mr. Wardrop to a *Globe-Democrat* reporter who dropped into his store yesterday afternoon for a few samples of the fragrant weed. "My white hairs date from Feb. 20th, 1858, and if you care to hear the story I will tell it to you. The old Pacific Hotel in this city was opened for the reception of guests on Seventh and Poplar streets on June 28th, 1857. The hotel was three stories high, the first being occupied by stores, and it was a very good hotel for those days. I was about 25 years old at that time, and after serving a while as clerk changed for the position of head porter. The house had been opened less than a year, when, on February 20th, 1858, it was swept by such a fatal fire as this city has never seen before or since. That night thirty occupants of the house perished in the flames, and it was by the merest chance that I was not included in the number. I had given up my room for that night, and was sleeping with eight others, mostly railroad men, in the same room on the third floor of the house. About 2 o'clock in the morning I was awakened by the fierce crackling of the flames, and was conscious of a sheet of fire rolling through the chamber in which we were sleeping. I rolled on the floor and crawled along on my hands and knees under the flames, which filled all the upper part of the room. The stench from the roasting bodies of my dead companions was fearful, and I expected to meet the same fate. Although badly scorched I kept my presence of mind and crawled along out of the room, through the hall, and to the stairways leading to the second floor. On attempting to descend them I fell through the fire which had destroyed them, setting my shirt on fire and striking on the banisters leading from the first to the second storey, and breaking two ribs. From this place I gained the street and was saved. Of the other eight men in the room not one escaped. Among the dead was Mr. Gerry, a newspaper man. In making my escape my hair was singed off my head, and when it grew out it was as white as snow. The terrible experience of that night whitened it completely, and although succeeding growths have had some dark hairs mingled with them, my head is still very white, as you see. A long investigation was conducted after the fire, but its cause was never fully explained. It was proved that the watchman, who perished in the flames, was drunk that night, and, although some thought the fire incendiary, I always charged it to some swinging lamp in the back part of the house. The night was bitter cold and the wind blew fiercely. The fire department, which had recently been organized, was hindered by frozen fire-plugs. From that day to this I have never slept in a room that was not within easy jumping distance of the ground, although I have travelled a great deal and stopped in many hotels. Whenever I could not get a room suiting me in that particular I have frequently spent the night in a chair in an hotel office. From my experience I have a good opportunity to judge of what the poor people in the Milwaukee fire suffered, and I can tell you that it must have been something terrible.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.* Turning the Tables on Him. Davit Elshender joined to many appreciative qualities the too common infirmity of frequently allowing himself a glass too much. He was, he said, happiest when he was 'fou', and possibly this formed the secret of his so frequently being so. The minister lectured him on the subject time and again, but the easy shrug of the shoulders, the quiet, sarcastic laugh, and the remark, such as "Whiskey is a bad thing, sir, especially bad whiskey," showed clearly to what poor effect. Gradually the ministerial lecture dwindled into a reproving shake of the head in passing. Leaning over the garden fence one day as our hero made his irregular passage homeward, the minister, however, ventured the addition—"Drunk again, Davit!" "We're eeky-peaky, then," hiccuped Davit; "for faith, sir, I'm three sheets in the wind myself!" C. P. Hungerford, the well-known Pacific slope millionaire, was forty years ago a poor pedler in Otago County. He went to California in '48, and is now said to be worth \$100,000. The water that has no taste is purest; the air that has no odor is freshest; and of all the modifications of manner the most generally pleasing is simplicity. It is a good rule to be deaf when a slanderer begins to talk.

SECOND SIGHT. A Gift which, in Some Parts of Scotland, is Still Believed to Exist. According to a theory which in years gone by was much credited in Scotland, the gift of second sight is conveyed to some persons by means of dreams. It is asserted that occasionally dreams are used as a vehicle of intercourse between the visible and unseen world, whereby an intimation is made not only of what is actually taking place at a long distance off, but of coming events. Indeed, this belief is still a deep-rooted one; and, it must be acknowledged, many curious instances are on record illustrative of its truth; evidence which, as Sir Walter Scott affirms, neither Bacon, Boyle, nor Johnson could resist. Mr. Henderson has collected together some striking cases, two of which we quote. A lady of Truro dreamed, the night before a boating party, that the boat was upset, and she herself drowned. She therefore determined not to join it, and sent an excuse. The party returned safely, however, and the lady, after telling a friend what had passed, and describing where she had dreamed the body would be found, ceased to think of the matter. A month or two later the lady had occasion to cross the Truro River at King Harry's passage; the boat was upset, she was drowned, and they sought for the body in vain. Then the friend to whom she had told her dream came forward, and pointed to the spot marked out in the dream as the body's resting-place, and there it was found. The second instance, which occurred in 1848, and was narrated in the papers of that day, is as follows: Mr. Smith, gardener to Sir Clifford Constable, was supposed to have fallen into the Tees, his hat and stick having been found near the waterside, and the river was dragged for some time, but without success. A person named Aude, from Little Newham, then dreamed that Smith was lying under the ledge of a certain rock about three hundred yards below Whorlton Bridge, and that his right arm was broken. The dream so affected this man that he got up early and set out at once to search the river, and on the first trial he made with the boat-hook he drew up the body of a drowned man, and found the right arm actually broken. There are numerous cases of this kind, many of which it has been found difficult to explain; but the question is one which has already engaged the attention of the psychological student. In years gone by it was supposed that fairies in their nocturnal rambles visited sleeping mortals, and suggested to them the subjects of their dreams, an allusion to which Shakespeare makes in "Romeo and Juliet" (act i., scene 4), where Romeo says, "I dreamed a dream to-night," whereupon Mercutio replies: O, then I see Queen Mab had been with you! She is the fairies' midwife, and she comes; in a shape no bigger than an agate stone On the forefinger of an alderman. One way, as we have shown in a previous paper, whereby they terrified sleeping mortals was by nightmare. In "Cymbeline," too (act ii., scene 2), Imogen, on retiring to rest, says: Sleep hath seized me wholly, To your protection I commend me, gods. From fairies and the tempters of the night Guard me, beseech ye. —The Gentleman's Magazine. Mouth Breathing. A Philadelphia scientist, recently lecturing on the subject of mouth-breathing, said that many ills that are ascribed to other causes are in reality due to the effects of this habit. Nature intended the nose to be used for inhaling and exhaling the atmosphere and fitted it up for that purpose. The mucous membrane contains what are termed serous glands, which give moisture to the air as it is inhaled, while it is warmed and purified by its passage through the nose. When taken directly through the mouth into the lungs the air is apt, by reason of its lack of moisture, impurity or improper temperature, or all three, to act as an irritant, especially in the larynx and in the air cells of the lungs. Owing to the imperfect oxygenation of air inhaled directly by the mouth habitually there is often set up in the system a condition that gives the symptoms of dyspepsia, consumption, etc. The Best Inheritance. To inherit a fortune is sometimes a misfortune to a young man. To have no necessity of struggling for a living may keep a man from living a life worth living. A well-known American is reported to have been asked, recently, for a sketch of his biography, and to have answered frankly that he had been nothing, and had done nothing worth telling the world about; and this because enough of a "competency" had been left him to practically destroy his competency. The estate left him by his father was, he says, "ample enough to allow me to decently defray all my expenses. I have followed no calling, and given no cause for a biography." If an heir to a fortune comes to be a useful and efficient man, it will be in spite of the drawback of his inheritance, not because of it. If you are an heir expectant, beware. If you expect nothing by inheritance, be thankful.—*Sunday School Times.* We came across something the other day that had three feet, and yet no one regarded it as a curiosity, because it was a simple yardstick. President Grevy, who is an enthusiastic sportsman, has been shooting in the Rambouillet woods with the Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia, and the hereditary prince of Monaco. Lord Hartington, in a speech delivered on Saturday night at Over Darwin, in Lancashire, denied that the Government had followed the policy of its predecessors in regard to the Egyptian question. He believed that French intervention in Tunis had been promoted by Lord Salisbury during his tenure of the Secretaryship of Foreign Affairs, and that this action had induced the Sultan to conduct intrigues with the military party in Egypt, which found their logical outcome in the insurrection in Egypt and its attendant consequences. All the Powers except France approved of the action of England in intervening in Egypt. France, he said, attached too much importance to the dual control. He declared that England did not wish to hold the sole control of Egypt, financial or governmental, and when France saw the disinterested character of England's policy the present distrust and jealousy would cease.

MILLIONS IN IT! Suit for the Recovery of Property Valued at Three Hundred Millions—An Anglo-American Romance. A Pittsburg (Pa.) telegram says: Papers are in course of preparation in this city for the institution of ejectment proceedings for the recovery of over 50,000 acres of land located in northeastern New York, upon which is situated the town of Whitehall. The property is estimated as worth 300 million dollars. The claimants are relatives and descendants of Major Philip Skene, heir to the baronetcy of Skene. The Baronet's family is said to have been very powerful, being near blood relatives to Laing of Scotland, and was distinguished by its antiquity, bravery and loyalty, as well as by many noble alliances and descent derived from several royal and illustrious families. Major Skene came to this country and served in the wars of the Revolution and 1812. In appreciation of his services the King of England granted him the land mentioned above. This grant, however, was made before the revolution. He died in 1826, and about 1830 his daughter Henrietta married William Trotter, a descendant of Henry John Trotter. Tradition asserts that the Trotter family sprang from the noble house of Gifford. The eldest son of Wm. Trotter is now living. He is a barrister-at-law, deputy lieutenant and justice of the peace for the county of Durham, England, and is one of the most prominent claimants. Until quite recently the heirs of Major Skene declined, although frequently requested to do so by eminent counsel, to give information for the prosecution of their claim. During a recent visit to Europe Robert Morrison, of this city, was retained by the heirs to enter. He will file a bill in a fortnight, and have associated with him eminent counsel. The property was confiscated from Skene by the Government, and plaintiffs claim that the violation of the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain of 1783 and 1794 voided the confiscation. Girls and Boys. Our deadliest enemies are our boys. Girls, indeed, are often a great nuisance to a father; they have to be fed, doctored, clothed, educated, if possible married, and, if nobody will have them, provided for as old maids. All this means a good deal of worry, no doubt. But, on the other hand, a daughter, if of a fairly good disposition, and not absolutely repulsive to look at, is often a great convenience in a house. She sees to the warming of her father's slippers, is always ready to sew a button on his shirt, or find his spectacles, or docket his papers, or, in fact, do any of those innumerable things which wives forget to do, and which no servant can be trusted to do properly. Moreover, a girl's pleasures are usually quiet and unobtrusive. And even if she be a little high-spirited, a man must indeed be a unicorn or a pooka if he can't snub and bully his own daughter into a complete sacrifice of her whims to his convenience. There is this, too, to be remembered, that a daughter, if moderately well treated by nature in point of appearance and by her parents in point of clothes, is often quite a credit to an old gentleman as he walks down the street with her, arm-in-arm. This is a matter to which fathers are often keenly alive. For he it observed that no one can get much dash out of a wife when once "the spread of age," as it is called, has taken fairly hold of her. For these and other reasons it often happens that a father is quite fond of his daughter, and almost grudges her to the husband who is prepared to take her without a penny. But a son stands on a very different footing. Look at him from what point of view you please, a boy is an unmitigated nuisance. Of course, it is always possible that some good may grow out of him, as mushrooms out of manure. When he ceases to be a boy, and grows to man's estate, he may become a very amiable member of society. But where is a father's satisfaction in that? When the youngster grows up he takes to paddling his own canoe, and might just as well be somebody else's son for any benefit his parents get out of him. This is a sad truth, which fathers are not slow to anticipate. I have it on the authority of one of the most celebrated members of the College of Physicians, and a man of undoubted veracity, that, when a son is born, the first question which the father asks is, "Will he live, doctor?" This question being answered in the affirmative, the next which may be supposed to suggest itself to the paternal mind, though it may not rise to the lips, is "How soon, I wonder, shall I be able to send him to school?"—*Truth.* The Missing Link in London. Mr. Farini, of the Westminster Aquarium, the enterprising discoverer of the tatted Greek nobleman, has crowned his feats in anthropological research by the capture of a real "missing link." This rare creature is described as "a very bright-looking, intelligent girl of about seven years," differing only from the rest of her sex by being, like the Bheels, "more hairy." The tribe to which Krao belongs inhabit the wild country to the northeast of Siam, and the process by which this interesting specimen was procured is not a little curious. Hearing of the existence of "a race of hairy-tailed men" in the regions, Mr. Carl Bock, a traveller, "offered a reward for the capture of a specimen." The result of a hairy-tailed man hunt got up under Mr. Bock's auspices was the capture of this little girl with her father and mother. The feat is doubtless a great triumph for science, for though Miss Krao has no tail there is a very promising "lengthening of the lower vertebrae suggestive of a caudal protuberance." But what, we should like to know, has Mr. Allen, of the Anti-Slavery Society, or Mr. Chesson, of the Aborigines' Protection Society, to say of this audacious case of kidnapping? Are human beings, through having a suspicion of tails, to be run down and captured in the woods merely to furnish the Westminster Aquarium with a novel attraction.—*Whitehall Review.* Libel suits are generally brought by characterless people who want to make money out of some toil-worn newspaper man, rather than win their bread by honest labor.—*St. Thomas Journal.* England has a new field Marshal—a rare event—in Lord Napier of Magdala.