THE ADVANCE.

One of the leading Local and Family Newspapers in Northern Ontario. Published

Every Thursday,

FROM THE OFFICE,

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STARVATION IN LABRADOR.

People Killing Their Dogs and Eating Them—Fearful Sufferings Anticipated.

The following letter is to a gentleman in Montreal from a friend in the new famishing settlements in Labrador, and tells its own tale of want and misery:

I have just received sad news from our poor Labrador people, by the mail men from Esquimaux Point, which reports as follows: That below Esquimaux Point to Blanc Sablon the people are starving, they having killed in January 500 dogs, and eating dog's meat every day to save their lives, and, more so, they report that several are already starving. Last fall, late in November, Newfoundland sent a ship with a load of provisions for the aid of the people and in a great storm she was lost and never heard of. Oh, dear father, it is terrible. Just imagine, in January 500 dogs killed and eaten. Oh, what will it be in April! The Bishop from Esquimaux Point is writing to the Government to send him provisions by first navigation, because there is going to be starvation this spring at Esquimaux Point. Even at Pentecost there are several families begging, and Mr. Gagnon cannot do anything for them. They say that if navigation does not open early that they are famished. There are no more provisions here at Point des Monts, no more flour for sale and two families of eight children have only one barrel of flour. In the spring it is sure to be starvation here likewise. I am O K., thank God. I have two barrels of flour, 175 pounds of beef, potatoes and all sorts of things.

STRANGE HANGING.

Two Men Executed While Under the Influence of a Narcotic.

A last (Friday) night's New Orleans despatch says: At 7.30 o'clock this morning when the keepers made an attempt to arouse Ford and Murphy, who were sentenced to be hanged to-day, they could not wake them up. After examination the physicians concluded that the men had taken belladonna. The governor ordered the men to be executed notwithstanding their condition, and they were hanged at 12.50 p. m. At 12.40 Sheriff Butler, accompanied by several subordinate officials, proceeded to the jail, where Ford and Murphy lay still under the physicians' care. The bodies were carefully lifted from their recumbent positions and borne in the arms of the agitated deputies to the scaffold amid profound silence. The ghastly burdens were carried up the steps to the plane of the horrible platform, and held in erect positions while the fatal nooses were drawn over and around their necks. No sign of life was observable in either man. When the last sad rite had been performed the trap was sprung by an unseen hand, and the bodies were launched into eternity.

ANOTHER VICTIM.

Deliberate Suicide of an Unknown Man at the Falls—A Late Suicide's Body.

A Niagara Falls, Ont., despatch says: An unknown man committed suicide at the Falls about 11 o'clock yesterday morning by deliberately jumping into the river from a small platform at the north end of Cedar Island and coolly swimming right over the cataract. The act was witnessed by a gentleman and lady who happened to be near the Pagoda on Cedar Island at the time. He was rather a large man, and wore a dark overcoat and felt hat. It was only an hour after the man disappeared that his coat was seen floating in the river below in front of the Prospect House, having been torn off him by the action of the water.

While a large curious crowd were standing near the spot on this side where the calamity took place, another large crowd were on the American side watching Conroy and McCloy excavating from the ice the body of T. G. Dewitt, the unfortunate New York traveller who lost his life at the foot of the American Falls a week ago last Sunday.

DRAWING A CHICAGO AUDIENCE

Rev. Sam Jones Changes from Mountebank to Gospel Preacher.

A Chicago despatch says: Rev. Sam Jones gave public notice this afternoon that he had quit playing the mountebank and was going to preach straight gospel. He addressed an audience of 3,000 people, three-quarters of whom were women. At the close of his short talk he said: "Now we have had enough of mountebank. You say, Jones, why do you play the mountebank? I say, just adapting myself to Chicago audiences. (Laughter.) If I had not started out that way you wouldn't have come back again. I give you what you want first, and give you what you need second. Nothing else would have suited you up to this time, but now, thank God, we are getting some religious interest. Let's run on the gospel pure and simple from this time."

Late Scottish News.

It is stated that Mr. Grant Duff, when he returns from the Governorship of the Madras Presidency, will be raised to the peerage.

The Perth Inspector of Poor has disappeared, and a partial examination of his books has revealed a deficiency to the extent of nearly £200.

The death of Mr. Charles Gulland, Town Clerk of the ancient though small Royal burgh of Falkland, Fifeshire, at the age of 91 years, took place on the 19th ult.

On the 23rd ult., the Town Council of Edinburgh resolved to lease for fifteen years a fourteen-acre field situated in the western district of the city, to be used as a public park.

It is stated that Dr. Milligan, the present second clerk of the General Assembly, will apply for the vacancy in the first clerkship caused by the death of Principal Tulloch, and that Dr. Story, of Rosneath, will be a candidate for second clerkship.

Nero, the negro, was on the 26th ult. committed for trial in Kilmarnock on the Large charge against him. He was subsequently liberated on bail of £20. Nero asserts his innocence, and announces his intention of starting on a lecturing tour to procure funds for his defence.

It is intended that during the present year the 1st Battalion of Royal Highlanders, which has been for some time in Egypt, shall be moved to Gibraltar, and that the 2nd Battalion of the King's Own Borderers, now at Gibraltar, shall take the place of the Black Watch in Egypt.

The income of the Principal of St. Andrew's University is £544, and an official residence. The income of the Principal of the United College, including £100 for a residence, was £664. The income of the Chair of Divinity, which was paid to the Principal of the University, is £526. The Principal of Aberdeen receives £602; of Glasgow, £987, and of Edinburgh, £999.

The Elder and the Mare.

"See here, Elder, you told me when you sold me that bay mare that I couldn't make her baulk. Why, she doesn't do anything else!" "Just what I told ye, deacon. She won't baulk if ye try to make her. She just baulks because ye want her to go ahead. Never knew her to do anything ye wanted her to. Can't make her do nothing."—*Burdette.*

Alex. McDonald, his wife and child were drowned in Bras D'Or Lake on Saturday last. Singularly enough the horse got loose from the sleigh and escaped.

A number of whales have been beached at the whaling station at San Diego, Cal., and it is considered quite the thing to be photographed while sitting on one of the huge carcasses.

GAUNT WANT AND DISTRESS.

Deplorable Condition of the People on the West Coast of Ireland.

THE NATIVES NAKED AND HUNGRY

A London cable says: The Government has placed a gunboat at the service of Mr. Tuke in his work of relieving distress among the inhabitants of the islands along the western Irish coast. Indescribable distress has been developed among the people inhabiting the Arran Isles, off Galway, who, besides having hardly anything but moss and sea grass to eat, are without fire and often without clothing and shelter. It is not rare to find girls of 17 and 18 years of age kept in enforced hiding during the day time because they were bereft of every thread of clothing long ago, having been bartered away for seed potatoes or roots with which to feed the smaller children. It is feared that unless prompt relief measures are inaugurated, scores of these people will die of starvation.

A LETTER FROM ACHILL.

The following letter from the Catholic curate at Achill Sound, which recently appeared in the *Freeman's Journal*, depicts the piteous condition of the unfortunate inhabitants of Achill Island:

The many correspondents who have interested themselves in relieving the starving people of this island, and to point communications the columns of the *Freeman* have been thrown open for the past few months, have all been careful to point out that in the absence of timely relief there would certainly be starvation and consequent pestilence and death. It becomes my painful duty to announce that this terrible forecast is being daily verified. Since Christmas I have attended more sick calls in Achill than I had to attend during my previous three years' residence in the parish. This is true to the letter. On Sunday last, in the village of Dooega, one of the wretchedest spots this day on earth, I visited sixteen houses filled with the sick—two, three and four down in some, and many who ought to be in bed were striving to attend to the wants of those who were only just a little worse than themselves. It was a long and weary duty to administer the sacrament of extreme unction to all who required it. I cannot alone bear testimony to the truth of all your correspondents have said about the squalid poverty of this village, but I can say that whatever difference now exists between their descriptions and the actual fact is attributable to this, that time has intensified the misery.

I have never heard or read of anything that brought home to my mind such a keen sense of human nature's capacity for wretchedness as a scene it was my duty to take part in in Dooega. In a family named Malia there are three little deaf mutes. Two lay in a dying condition in one bed. To the afflictions which it had pleased Providence to visit them add the stupefaction arising from hunger and disease, and this will give some idea, but a faint one indeed, of the terrible and ghastly surroundings of that sick bed, and the distressing circumstances that accompanied that administration of the last sacraments. Monday and Tuesday have been equally busy days. The priest's time is now spent in this way. A call comes to visit a house in a particular village, and sacraments must be administered in half a dozen houses before the priest gets clear off. He is called in all directions and to the most unexpected people, on his way to the original sick call and on his return. It is a very common occurrence for the last week or ten days for a person to be struck suddenly ill, to send for the priest, get anointed, and be dead in a few hours. No wonder, for there was nothing to kill; hunger had already done the work. People are to be met with in every direction, along the roads and in the houses, and every lineament of the face speaks eloquently of hunger.

Of this sort of thing there is one case the most shocking I have yet seen, and the revolting circumstances of which make it deserving of special mention. In a family named MacAneela there are five idiots. They are scarcely ever at home, for their father has nothing to give them. They are to be found either in the neighbors' houses or careering at full speed along the roads in costume that, though the climate is Achillonian, cannot be truthfully described as tropical, for it is not sufficient for decency. I always believed that the gentlemen who did the artistic business for the illustrated papers in times of Indian famine overdid matters a trifle. But the condition of the MacAneela idiots for the last fortnight has shed on my mind a flood of light as to what the truth can be in a season of starvation. Their eyes protrude; their faces are like masks made to frighten children, and the poor, bare, spindle legs have become disgusting to look at, from the dirty red to which they are burned by crouching to get from the big turf fires the warmth that should come naturally from proper food and clothing.

There are hundreds of children just as badly off as the MacAneelas in the matter of food and clothes, and I mention their case only because its own terrible circumstances thrust it into greater prominence. The poor people exhibit a heroic patience in their trials, and in many instances prefer silent suffering to making their wants known even to the priest. In one or two instances where destitution did not occur to me as the cause of sickness I inquired had the doctor been sent for. It was only then that the state of the case became apparent, and hunger was admitted only very indirectly, for I was told that it was nothing the doctor could give that would serve the patient. The state of things here at present is truly appalling, and with a view of stimulating the charity of the benevolent to whom the Almighty has given bountifully of this world's gear, I request that you will be pleased to give this the favor of an early insertion in the *Freeman*. Achill must ever hold in grateful remembrance all the *Freeman* has done for the last six months in bringing its misfortunes and privations before the public, but its powerful assistance was never more wanted than in this time of peril that is before the people, and that will continue for the next six months, when for them it will not be a question of cheap land or dear land, of landlord kindness or oppression, that will be at stake, but the question of precious human lives.—JOHN FLATLEY, C.C

A WARNING FROM MONTREAL.

Children, Lye and Pills Nearly Cause a Funeral.

A Montreal despatch says: Three children had very narrow escapes from poisoning last night. A child of Mrs. Fanteux, who resides in Hochelage, was playing on the floor, and taking a bottle containing concentrated lye drank its contents before her mother could stop her. A physician was called in, and by an emetic succeeded in relieving the child. The other case occurred in the house of Mrs. P. Callaghan, St. Constant street. While two boys, aged 2 and 5 years respectively, were playing about the house they found a box of pills, and thinking they were candy swallowed them. In a few moments their mother was alarmed by seeing both children become sick and roll on the floor in convulsions. She summoned Dr. Gauthier, who, on arrival, found both lads frothing at the mouth. The eldest of the two was black in the face, which was swollen about twice its natural size. The younger was afflicted with lockjaw, and almost dead. The doctor administered emetics, and in a few hours the boys had recovered, though still very weak.

—A bell telling one to go to dinner is sound advice.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Discussion in Regard to the North-west Rebellion.

Mr. Landry (Montmagny) rose amid silence and moved the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Labrosse:

"That this House feels it its duty to express its deep regret that the sentence of death passed upon Louis Riel, convicted of high treason, was allowed to be carried into execution."

He recounted in French the facts of Riel's execution. He said he had no arrangement with the Government in introducing the resolution. He denied that it was a question of race or politics which he now raised, but one of simple justice. He regretted that the question should come up thus on a matter which would, in spite of all that could be done, be likely to arouse prejudice and feeling. He referred to the book giving the case of Riel, published by the Government, and read the proceedings in connection with the recommendation to mercy, and quoted letters to the Government to show that this recommendation was strongly pressed for acceptance as the wish of the vast majority of the people of Quebec, while petitions were received from Ontario, Manitoba, the United States and even Europe. What was the response? On the 12th of November an Order-in-Council was passed directing that the law should take its course. That act, he believed, was one to be regretted, and he asked the House to so declare. The mental condition of Riel was such as to raise at least a doubt as to his sanity—a doubt quite sufficient to justify the exercise of the prerogative of mercy. He dwelt upon the importance and rarity of the offence with which Riel was charged—treason against the Queen—and yet that crime was tried before a Stipendiary Magistrate and a jury of six men. That jury, although believing that he was guilty of high treason, and that to acquit him would be to give him an opportunity for another rebellion, yet felt justified in bringing in a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, which could have no object except to save him from death. He objected to the choice of the Medical Commissioners on the ground that men of the highest world-wide reputation should have been chosen. He then proceeded to discuss the report of the Medical Commission as to Riel's sanity. The Commission decided unanimously that he was not responsible, since they declared that on political and religious questions he was a monomaniac. He cited numerous authorities, both in the works of medical experts and of jurisconsults, to show that a man may be insane on certain subjects and perfectly sane on others, the whole with the object of showing that Riel was not responsible in questions relating to the Northwest, but there was another reason than this why Riel should have been pardoned. This he found in Gen. Middleton's message to Riel summoning him to surrender. In this, he contended, Riel found a reason for believing that he would not be treated as a criminal, General Middleton being the chief representative of the Federal authority in the Northwest at that time. Moreover, high treason was an offence which, among civilized nations, was not regarded as one for which the sentence of death should be inflicted. For the justification of its act, the Government had to go back to times when the theory of punishment was different from that which ruled to-day. Had such a view been held in the United States, Jefferson Davis would have been hanged, and many others with him. George Washington was himself a rebel, differing from Riel only in that he was successful, while Riel was defeated, and had the fortune of war been different, and the same theory held good, one of the great founders of the American nation would have met the death of a criminal. Even Sitting Bull, after the slaughter of Custer's men, had been treated not as a criminal but as a soldier.

Sir Hector Langevin, who was received with cheers, said it was hard to remain silent when one saw in the Province of Quebec, he might say entirely in the Province of Quebec, his friends going with his opponents, calling him a traitor to his race, a traitor to his nationality and a traitor to his country. After being twenty-eight or twenty-nine years in public life, and having the confidence, during that time, of all classes, not only in his own Province but in the other Provinces, he thought he might be spared the title of traitor. But that word had not been used by the majority of his own Province, nor by the country at large. They had not been traitors to their country nor to their nationality. They had done their duty to their country. Riel did not fall on the battlefield as a soldier, but was taken prisoner three days after the battle by General Middleton. They were told by the hon. gentleman who moved this motion, and he must congratulate him for the moderate tone of his speech that the General was ready to keep him safe until the Government of Canada had disposed of him or decided what would be done with him. The General never told him that he and his Council were never to be tried, and that their crime and treason were to be condoned. He placed Riel in the prison in Regina, where he was as safe as in General Middleton's camp. He regretted the loss of life that occurred, but congratulated the militia on their bravery. He knew that the country would look after the widows and children of those who had fallen on the field. The trial of Riel took place at Regina. It was said that the trial was not a proper one and that it was not constitutional. Others had been tried under the same law, and some of them sentenced to death and hanged. Accordingly Riel was not tried by court-martial, but by the law of the land, the same as if he were an Englishman, Scotchman or Irishman. (Hear, hear.) It was not a question of nationality. Riel was tried for high treason. Witnesses were paid by the Government to give evidence in his behalf, and after a fair and impartial trial, the jury found him guilty of high treason. The Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Richardson, had a most painful duty to perform, but it was the law, to pass sentence on the prisoner. That sentence, according to the Act of 1868, and passed both sides of the House, was death. It was true that the jury coupled a recommendation of mercy to the Court, but they knew that the recommendation could not be carried out. Let the members be patient, and he would show what he meant. If the jury believed him insane, if they thought there was even a doubt of his sanity, they should have brought in a verdict of not guilty. The fact that they did not do so was a proof that they thought him sane. The trial begun at Regina was taken to the highest court in the realm, and the decision was final, that the sentence was the sentence of the law. The matter then came before the Queen's Privy Council of Canada, where every member read the evidence and decided carefully upon every case. It was not the duty of the Privy Council to try a man a second time. The Government could not go back to a time anterior to the trial and examine as to the sanity of Riel. They could only examine the prisoner at the time and decide, as well as they could, whether he was an accountable being. The Government sent Doctors Lavelle and Valade to examine Riel and report, and called upon Dr. Jukes, the surgeon in charge, to report upon his condition and actions. These reports he read in full. Proceeding, he said that after considering the case fully, their duty to the prisoner, to the public, to the Queen and to the country, the Council came to the conclusion, though reluctantly, that their duty was to allow the law to take its course. The result of that was an agitation since last November, and Ministers had been insulted and maligned as much as men had ever been. Riel, fifteen years before, committed an act, one which was considered a crime, and should have been punished in the severest way. But he was not severely dealt with. He was allowed to remain for a time in exile, and he was not tried for the death of Scott. It was said that Riel was the head of a *de facto* Government, with power to execute the sentence of death, and nothing should be said about it. But if Riel had such a right in the case of a man guilty of nothing but treason against that *de facto* Government, why should this Government be called to account, not for executing Riel, but for allowing the sentence pronounced by the courts of law to be carried out? Either Riel was wrong or this Government was right. Riel had called the half-breeds to his aid and deceived them, as they themselves said. He had trampled upon their religion and established one of his own, and yet the French Canadians considered him a friend. The sober second thought of the country would deny that this was so. He hoped the majority of the House would not agree with the member for Montmagny (Mr. Landry). He hoped the majority would agree that the Government had done its duty simply. In order that there might be no side issues on this question, in order that there might be a fair, square vote, he moved the previous question.

SAM JONES ON TRUTH.

The Man who is "Dead Honest" a Kinder Lonesome in the World.

(From a sermon in Chicago.

Truth is the natural order of things. A man who tells a lie has first to push the truth out and ram the falsehood in its place. I like a truthful man. They say George Washington was the father of his country, but he did not beget many in his own likeness, for lying is general.

I have often asked in meeting if there was any one present who never told a lie to stand up. All those present were looking at each other to see if anybody was going to stand up. If any one had I should have sat down and given him the floor. All the money you spend for iron-clad documents and lawyers' services would be saved if there was no lying in the world. Stop lying for ten years and you'll starve all the lawyers. I don't say that this profession lives by defending roguery, for I have the highest respect for the lawyer who defends a good man against the onslaught of the wicked.

But for the miserable $5 lawyer I have nothing but contempt—for the felier who does mean and petty tricks and says he didn't do them as a man, but as a lawyer. Perhaps when he goes to hell he'll say he's there as a lawyer. (Laughter.)

Somebody says an honest man is the noblest work of God, but a man can be dishonest without stealing anything in the usual way.

Way down in Georgia there is a man whom the people there say is honest—dead honest—and I often felt like going out and taking him by the hand, saying: "Well, old man, ain't you kinder lonesome to be all alone in the world and you dead honest?" They say every honest man has a tuft of hair growing on the back of his hand. I have no hair on the back of my hand. (Laughter.)

Did you ever hear how the term "naked truth" came to be used? Well, Truth and Error went in bathing one day. I never knew why Truth was in such company, but they were bathing together, anyway. All at once Error ran out of the water and put on Truth's clothes and ran away. Truth had no clothes to put on but Error's, and rather than to wear such clothes she concluded to go through the world naked; hence the naked truth.

Then the honest man again. I was on a train once when a party of gentlemen were discussing the conductor. They said he was "knocking down." I said: "I won't say the conductor is dishonest, but he may collect $10, put $8 in his pocket, and give $2 to the company. And if the man does that how is it he can go through the car without looking guilty or showing in his face that he thinks he is discovered? Why, it's because the conductor knows very well that those same men who are criticising him the most are the very ones who try to deadhead their way over the line. Let the passengers become honest and there will be little left of the dishonest conductor."

EPIDEMICS RAGING.

Black Diphtheria in the States—Ten Thousand People With Influenza.

No little uneasiness prevails in Troy, N. Y., owing to the existence of many cases of black diphtheria at Winantskill, a hamlet about three miles east of Troy. The disease appeared about ten days ago, and spread with startling rapidity. No cause for the outbreak of the disease has been discovered, and the country folk seem impressed with the belief that the germs of the contagion were carried there during the recent blizzard. There have been over a dozen deaths within the last few days.

A Canton, O., despatch says: A peculiar form of influenza is raging here, and over 3,000 people are affected. Over 1,000 school children alone are confined to their bids and homes. The affliction resembles epizootic. None of the cases have resulted fatally yet, but much inconvenience and interference with business is caused. The malady is ascribed to the variable weather. Fully 10,000 people within an area of forty miles are suffering with the trouble.

Dissipation in Reading.

The morning paper reaches nineteen twentieths of its readers and the public generally at a time when they cannot read it. The work of the day is upon them. They mouth over the paper hastily and throw it aside. Nothing is read, only gulped down. This is dissipation. It is as unhealthful to stuff the mind with unmasticated food as it is the body. The evening paper is prepared at a time when men ought to work, the time set aside by nature for work. All the facts are scrutinized in the clear light of day. It comes to its readers when the work of the day is done. It is carried to the home and read in the family circle. Its contents are conned carefully and leisurely in the most favorable circumstances possible to be attained—under the softening and elevating influences of home. It becomes a part of the household economy to take part in the reading of the paper. Each member of the home circle takes an interest in it. The home is the centre of the power that rules the world. It is to the home the evening paper goes.—*Chicago Mail.*

Rats and Onions.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Mansfield, of Canton, Mass., were badly frightened one night recently, after retiring, by noises which they believed were made by burglars. They aroused the family living in the other part of the house, and the quartet, after arming themselves, made an investigation. It was found that rats had gnawed a hole in a bag of onions suspended at the top of a flight of stairs, and their rolling down when suddenly released caused all the trouble.

Instead of the phrase "telegraphic address" a classical Englishman has coined the word "Telenym."

A man has been heavily fined in Paris for cruelty to animals, he having purchased a number of cats and amused himself by watching them being torn to pieces in his rear yard by two savage bull dogs.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Wood moved the second reading of the Bill to prevent minors frequenting billiard rooms and other places. He said the presence of minors in billiard rooms and other gaming places was highly objectionable. Though billiards of itself might be harmless, yet boys learned the habit of gambling as well as the game. He proposed to prevent minors frequenting the rooms without the consent of their guardians. Again, these rooms were frequently run in connection with saloons, which was another evil. The Bill proposed to place a penalty on keepers for allowing minors to frequent the place, and on minors for frequenting after due warning.

Hon. A. S. Hardy objected to young men being prevented going to bowling alleys or billiard rooms till they were 21 years of age. If it had limited the age to 16 they could have understood the Bill better. Then again, what was "being duly warned?" The Bill proposed also corporal punishment. Who was going to inflict the punishment? The father could do so without the magistrate's consent.

Mr. Ermatinger—If the boy is not too big.

Hon. A. S. Hardy—Yes, if he is not too big. He advocated taking a reasonable view of the thing. If he would place the limit at 16 or 17 years and leave out the last clause then he would support it.

Mr. McLaughlin was entirely in favor of the spirit of the Act, though there were some particulars in which it might be amended.

Mr. O'Connor could not vote for the Bill as it stood. There was an age when a boy ought not to go to a billiard-room, but he would not place the age at 21. Though he thought the Bill would pass as it was, yet he would point out some of the absurdities. A keeper of a billiard-room was to be fined if he permitted a young man to be present. How was the keeper to know when a young man was of age? A young man of over 20 was to be flogged at the option of the father. He concluded by remarking that he was opposed to this Bill.

Hon. A. M. Ross was in favor of the principle of the Bill and thought it should go to a second reading, but some modification might be made as to the age.

Mr. Young also favored the general principle of the Bill. It was not simply that young lads spent a great deal of time there but also a great deal of money, and some even went so far as to steal to get it. He suggested that the age limit should be 17 or 18 and the flogging clause omitted.

Mr. Carnegie questioned the expediency of the flogging clause, but agreed with the Bill in other particulars.

Mr. Merrick suggested that the Act would be difficult to put in operation. Suppose a father gave consent to one place, the penalties would be incurred by the youth visiting a second place. He thought the law should be so that minors would be prevented frequenting billiard rooms by the order of a parent only.

Mr. Meredith took the same views to a great extent as the Provincial Secretary. He thought there was something in the title of the Bill. It was called the "Minors' Preventive Act," and he thought minors would have to be prevented from existing before it could be carried out. If it was immoral for a minor to go to such a place, how was the consent of a parent to make it less immoral? If the Bill was to be passed at all, it should be limited to 14 years of age, but he thought the general provisions of the law were sufficient.

Mr. Robillard said he was a member of the Canadian Institute at Ottawa and they had a billiard table there. He played billiards and he could not prevent his son following him. If it were immoral before 21, how could it be moral after?

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) said the principal evil to be prevented by the Bill was in the case of young lads frequenting billiard rooms. He would rather for his part see a provision in the License Act preventing licenses being given for billiards to saloons. He would leave out the flogging clause and strike out bowling alleys.

Mr. Wood expressed himself as considering the age of 21 too high for the restriction and suggested 18 as being the right age. He wanted the Bill to be sent to a committee. He admitted that the last clause might be offensive, but it was in effect in some cities of the United States. He was willing to strike out the clause.

Hon. O. Mowat said the only member who was against the Bill entirely was the member for London. There was a consensus of opinion that the Bill went too far, and that the fourth clause must be struck out. Even the promoter of the Bill admitted this. He showed that the permission provision in the Municipal Act confined them to places kept for "hire or gain." He thought that this Bill should be so limited.

Hon. T. B. Pardee expressed himself as in favor of a modified Bill, but suggested that the Bill must be made so that it would be acceptable to a community. If they made a law too stringent it would be a dead letter.

Mr. Cook pointed out that if a municipality desired to forbid billiard rooms entirely they could do so.

Mr. Creighton said he was now satisfied that the municipalities could fully deal with the question.

Mr. Ferris thought that almost every one in the House would agree that where a parent forbade the keeper of one of those places permitting his boy playing there the parent's will should be respected and the keeper should be fined if he disregarded such notice.

Mr. Conmee was not in favor of the principle of the Bill. People in the municipalities were the best judges of the need for the restrictions, and if they desired them they could exercise their power under the present Act.

The Bill was read the second time.

Mr. Bishop moved the second reading of the Bill to regulate the width of sleighs. He proposed to place the minimum width at three feet nine inches. He suggested in his Bill that it should come into operation November 1st, 1880.

The Bill was read the second time.

Mr. Badgerow moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the law for the protection of game and fur-bearing animals. The Bill proposes to extend the close season, and new clauses for the appointment of Inspectors, making among others all Provincial forest rangers Inspectors *ex officio*; a game permit costing $25 to be required of all persons not domiciled in the Province of Ontario or Quebec before they can shoot game.

The Bill was read the second time and referred to a special committee.

Mr. Caldwell's Bill on the same subject was referred to the same committee.

MICHIGAN'S SOLDIER GIRL.

Romantic Sequel to a Woman's Experience in the Ranks.

A Washington despatch says: The House Committee on Military Affairs has shown its gallantry on a bill which has been before it and which brought out a strange episode of the war. It appears that at the breaking out of the rebellion a young woman donned trousers, coat and vest, and enlisted as a private in Company F, Second Michigan Volunteers. Her disguise was successful for more than two years, and she participated in a number of battles. Her sex was finally discovered while she was sick in a hospital. She never returned to her regiment, and as its officers did not know the reason, the name of Franklin Thompson, her assumed one, had marked opposite it on the muster roll, "Deserted." The bill removes the charge of desertion, and has been favorably reported by the committee. Her real name was Miss Seelye.

NO MYSTERY ABOUT IT.

How Mrs. Emerson Bequeathed Her Fortune for Missionary Purposes.

The Rochester despatch published a few days ago relative to the death of Mrs. E. E. G. Emerson, of that city, contained a good many inaccuracies. Her age was much beyond 71, as stated in the despatch. She had reached her 80th year, an active and well-preserved old lady, with the peculiarity that she preferred to live alone. She occupied her own dwelling, which was well and comfortably furnished—a charwoman coming to the house and doing her work. Last summer a young relative spent part of her holidays with her. Mrs. Emerson's house and surroundings, while making no pretensions to wealthy display, gave no indications of lack of care or comfort. The mystery to the Rochester people seems to be in their ignorance of who and where her relatives were and in the value of the estate she leaves, the amount ($150,000) being considerably overstated. But in her will, made in 1876, and a codicil of 1885, she seems to have had a clear idea and purpose in her mind to put it to good use.

The executors are Messrs. Alex. Holland, Treasurer, and Charles G. Clark, Assistant Treasurer of the American Express Company, New York, and Charles F. Pond, of Rochester.

In the will she devises $10,000 to the funds of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States for the erection of churches in the new States and Territories, and $20,000 for the support of missionaries in these districts. The residue of her estate goes to the Presbyterian Foreign Missions, after providing liberal legacies to her nephews and nieces, descendants of Rev. D. W. Eastman, of Smithville, Lincoln county, Ont. To the Presbyterian Church in Smithville she leaves $1,000. Another bequest of $1,000 is made to Knox College, Toronto, as a memorial fund in recollection of her father, Rev. Daniel Ward Eastman, who was one of the pioneer Presbyterian ministers of the Niagara district. He arrived in 1801, and, travelling on horseback, preached through this section when it was an uncleared and sparsely settled country. Mrs. Emerson and some other of his daughters often travelling with him. They knew Hamilton when it consisted of a store, a blacksmith shop and a few dwellings. One sister, who is buried in Barton, was the wife of a Presbyterian minister. Another sister also married a Presbyterian minister. This lady just deceased married Rev. Mr. Gilbert, a Presbyterian divine in the United States. After his demise she became the wife of Judge Emerson, and outlived him by many years. She had no children by either husband. Until after her father's death she visited this section often, and was in this section a few years ago. Her custom, when any of her relatives visited her, was to repay their travelling expenses, and she would be dissatisfied till they accepted this. She was recognized as a well-posted, shrewd business woman, and conversant with banking stocks, bonds, and their market values. Realizing by experience of early days the difficulties surrounding missionary work, her purpose of aiding others who are laboring under the same trials is considered by those of her early and later friends who knew her best as creditable to her and satisfactory to them.

CONDITION OF THE CROPS.

Official Returns to the United States Department of Agriculture.

A Buffalo despatch says: The following important crop news was received at 1 o'clock to-day. The following statement, showing the condition of the crops, has been issued by the Department of Agriculture: The stock of wheat in the hands of farmers is 30 per cent. of the crop, was 33 last year and 28 for two years ago. It amounts to 107,000,000 bushels, against 169,000,000 last March, and 119,000,000 acreage. It is only 9,000,000 bushels more than in March, 1882—the shortest invisible supply of recent years. The visible and invisible supply, March 1st, was therefore 159,000,000, against 212,000,000 last year. The consumption of wheat for bread and other uses, the seed sown and approximately 85,000,000 export since the 1st of March, 1885, make a distribution equal to the supply from March last. The March report of the Department of Agriculture on the consumption and distribution of the grain crops makes the proportion of corn still in the hands of farmers 40 per cent. of the last crop. One year ago the proportion of the crop on hand was 37.6 per cent. Two years ago 38 per cent. of the short crop of 1883. It amounts to 773,000,000 bushels, 93,000,000 more than last March and 261,000,000 more than March, 1884. The proportion is the lowest in the West, where heavy winter feeding is required, averaging 38 per cent. in twelve States. It is 45 per cent. in the South and 49 in the Middle States. The proportion of merchantable is 82.6 per cent., which is slightly above the average.

After Fifty-six Years.

A Jamestown despatch says: Mrs. Nelson S. Woodford is a very happy woman. Fifty-six years ago, when she was a child in Cherry Valley, N. Y., she stepped upon a nail protruding from a fence picket that lay on the ground. It was not known at the time whether a portion of the nail was left in the foot, but ever since that time Mrs. Woodford has been much troubled by the member, which has at times confined her to her bed, and on several occasions has been treated by surgeons. A day or two ago a foreign substance was noticed in the running sore on the foot, and the piece of the nail, five-eighths of an inch long, was drawn forth. Though the foot was deformed by the misfortune, Mrs. Woodford hopes to regain the full use of it, after remaining a partial invalid for over half a century.

Liberated on His Own Recognizance.

A Welland despatch says: The case against Ellis, the man arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the Allanburg tragedy, came up for hearing in the Police Court here on Friday morning. As there was no evidence forthcoming against the prisoner he was allowed to go on his own recognizance, to appear when called upon to answer the charge of murder. This course was taken, instead of discharging him altogether, at the request of the prisoner, who courts the fullest investigation into his connection with the case.

Looks Like Partiality.

Indignant Customer—Look here! Wha do you call this?

Proprietor of Cheap Restaurant (examining object)—Looks like a shoe string.

Customer—Well, sir, I found that in the soup.

Proprietor (in alarm)—Not so loud, please.

Customer—You ought to be ashamed of ——

Proprietor (in a whisper)—Pray be quiet. That old gentleman at the side table might hear you. He has been coming here regularly for six months and never got a single thing thrown in with the regular dinner. It might make him frightened.—*Philadelphia Call.*

—A thoroughly generous action is at once rare and well done.

—There are 1,800 school teachers in Chicago.

—Some petrified ears of corn have been dug up at Forsyth, Ga.

—When a man wants seasoned fuel he should go to the dealer who has dead loads of wood.