

Northern Railway of Canada.

RICHMOND HILL TIME TABLE MOVING SOUTH. Mail Train... 7 55 A. M. Through... 8 50 P. M.

New Advertisements.

Wm. Atkinson—Oysters! Oysters!! Dry Goods—Fringle & Co. New Fall and Winter Goods—W. S. Pollock.

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The York Herald, \$1.00 a year,

The York Herald.

RICHMOND HILL, DEC. 1, 1865.

Pro bono Publico.

We had neither space nor time, last week, to comment at length upon the circumstances which produced the death of the late Mr. Osterlag, at Maple, on the 18th inst.

That a large majority of our rural tavern keepers are men of discretion and humanity, is beyond question. Against the abstract worth and respectability, of a class so directly under the protection of the law, we have nothing to urge;

Now the Dunkin Act provides that in case any person in a state of intoxication shall do or suffer any injury, the party who supplied him with the liquor shall be held responsible, and in case of death from intemperance, heavy damages may be recovered by the relatives of the deceased.

There seems to be prevalent, a mistaken idea, to the effect that there is no remedy for intemperance, but a prohibitory law. We can discern no just reason for such an opinion. Prohibitory laws are usually carried against the wishes of a very large number of the people whom they affect, and their opponents, believing them to trench upon the rights of the individual, violate them without scruple;

What then is there in the plain lesson that these facts teach us? Namely this—that it is a false and delusive policy to wait or struggle for laws that in most instances resulted in total failures.

with a vigorous and fearless execution of the laws now in force. One of the most common and fatal errors of communities, is to secure the passage of a law and, then rest content with its existence on the statute book, without making any worthy effort for its execution.

Oil Companies.

ENCOURAGING PROGRESS.

Notwithstanding the dicta of geological authorities, public faith in the existence of oil in the neighborhood, seems to be rapidly on the increase. It is possible that the indications which some experienced "oil men" amongst us, declare to be so abundant and reliable, may be somewhat exaggerated; but even so, after making all necessary allowance, we cannot deny that appearances, and the imperfect tests hitherto made, to a great extent justify their expectations.

Of course the whole matter is yet problematical, since no oil has actually been discovered, or its certain existence determined by sufficient experiment; and therefore the premature belief that so many in the neighborhood are fostering, that they have only to "bore" and be rich, is simply foolish and mischievous. Even if there be oil lauds in the county or vicinity, their locality is strongly marked, and bounded by definite limits. This fact has been proven beyond question at the Pennsylvania, Emiskillen and Bothwell oil regions, where even in the likeliest tracts places have been found where all boring was useless, though rich veins were struck but a few yards distant. Nothing is more natural than for men to believe that oil is to be found more abundantly and speedily on their property than elsewhere.

With respect to the progress already made, we are glad to learn that the Head-Port Company have completed the erection of their derrick and engine house, and purpose to commence boring about the 4th inst. The derrick, which is fifty feet high, and twelve by sixteen at the base, is built of strong timbers and looks substantial enough to meet all requirements. The stock of this company is fast going off, one gentleman from the Bothwell oil wells having taken \$1000 worth, and expressed his willingness to purchase the remainder if more capital were needed.

The Richmond Hill Petroleum company also, is making rapid headway. Over twenty shares have been subscribed for, and as the land leased for operation (Klinek's farm) is a most promising site, the remaining stock will find ready purchasers. The prospectus of the above company will be found in our advertisement columns.

Another company called the Markham Oil Mining Company is, we believe, in process of organization. Whether these gentlemen are possessed of some secret and infallible knowledge, unknown to the vulgar, we presume not to say, but their operations certainly indicate an unwavering faith, since they have already leased 1,300 acres of supposed oil bearing lands in the township of Markham alone.

In all this there is doubtless much pure speculation, but the speculation is at the east legitimate, and viewed as a public enterprise, whose success will confer incalculable benefit, it is altogether beyond the pale of condemnation. There is no attempt to conceal the chances of loss and failure, and individually it is for each to consider whether he can afford the risk. The connection of some of our wealthiest and most respectable men with these companies is sufficient guarantee of honest and economical management, and whatever loss may result, will fall lightly, and on those best able to bear it; while the few thousand dollars expended to make the necessary test, can, in view of the objects, be well afforded.

Markham Council.

The above Council met at Size's Hall, Unionville, on Saturday, the 25th Nov. at 11 a.m.

Reeve in the chair. Members all present. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

By A. Barker, from Francis Pike and 128 others, for a grant of \$100, to improve the road on the 8th concession of Markham, from lots 15 to 35.

By James Gormley, from Chris. Graham and others, praying for a grant of \$10, to build a bridge between lots 30 and 31, in the 7th concession.

By W. M. Button, from Chris. Reesor and David Traa, praying for a grant of \$46-25, for repairing bridge between lots 15 and 16, in the 10th concession.

Said petitions were received and read. Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Gormley, moved that the Treasurer be and he is hereby required to pay to the order of Councillor Ward No. 3, the sum of \$100 towards the erection of a bridge over the west and main branch of the Rouge, on the side-line between lots 10 and 11, in the 6th concession of Markham, and that Wm. Eakin, John Gormley and Jacob Eckardt be commissioners to expend the same.—Carried.

Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. Barker, moved that Peter Heise be paid the sum of \$16, for keeping and supporting Robert McClelland, (a blind man) for sixteen weeks past, and that the sum of \$1, per week, be paid to the said Peter Heise, for keeping and maintaining the said Robert McClelland from this date, payable to the order of the Councillor for Ward No. 2.—Carried.

Mr. Gormley, seconded by Mr. James Bowman, moved that the sum of \$40, be granted to build a bridge on the side-line between lots 30 and 31, in the 7th concession, and that Chris. Graham, Robert Armstrong and A. B. Grove, be commissioners to expend the same.—Carried.

Mr. Wm. M. Button, seconded by Mr. James Bowman, moved that the sum of \$46-45 be granted for repairing the bridge over the Rouge, in the 10th concession, between lots 15 and 16.—Carried.

Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. James Bowman, moved that the Treasurer be, and is hereby required to pay to the order of Councillor for Ward No. 3, the sum of \$100, towards the improvement of the 8th concession, from lots 15 to 35, and that Phillip Bartholem, John Ravmer, Abraham Strickler, Joseph Marr and John D. McCaul, be Commissioners to expend the same.—Carried.

Mr. Wm. M. Button, seconded by Mr. James Bowman, moved that the Treasurer be, and is hereby required to pay to Mr. Hugh McPherson the sum of 75 cents, being the amount overcharged on his assessment.—Carried.

The Council adjourned to meet on the third Saturday in December.

(To the Editor of the York Herald.)

DEAR SIR.—Allow me through the medium of your useful paper, to express my own regret and that of a large circle of friends, at the removal from our village of George McPhillips, Esq., and family; wishing them that success and prosperity in Southwark—the place of their adoption—which they so richly deserve.

A NEIGHBOUR. Richmond Hill, Nov. 27, 1865.

Skating.

There are, doubtless, many gentlemen who would like to have a Skating Rink established near the village during the present season. If so, steps should be taken immediately, to procure the services of some person to keep the ice clean. All who feel interested in the matter will please meet at this office on Tuesday evening, at six o'clock p. m., when the subject can be fully discussed, and a committee appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

Mechanics' Institute.

The committee of the Mechanics' Institute are requested to meet at Mr. W. Harrison's this (Friday) evening, at eight o'clock, p.m. A full attendance is expected.

On Friday evening, the eighth inst., at half past seven p. m., the ordinary meeting of the Mechanics' Institute will take place in the Temperance Hall. The programme of the evening is as follows:—Essays and Literary readings, Debate.—Subject—Resolved, that a confederation of the British American Provinces, would be advantageous to Canada.

Some burglars entered a store on Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, on Monday night, and carried off an iron safe weighing half a ton. They made about \$2,500 by the operation.

The following lines are inserted by special request. As is our usual custom in such cases, we have adhered strictly to the manuscript, which must be held responsible for all faults.

LINES

ON THE DEATH OF LITTLE JESSIE A.

She has gone to that land where no sin ever enters. Where her Father and God lives and reigns throned above.

Then why should we mourn her with too deep a sorrow. Tho' her fair little head now in death is laid low.

And her sweet eye of blue in the grave cold and narrow. Is closed in that sleep that no waking shall know.

The' she now from our circle has vanished forever. And her wee little chair stands vacant alone.

How oft we'd wake the echoes, no never, Save the echoes awakened in memories throned.

And half worn shoes, broken toys, and wee dresses, Once unobscuredly thrust to one side in rude haste.

Now sacredly treasured, with thousand caresses, As we think of the loved one from sorrow released.

Yes, and is thy heart, thus bereaved, doing another, To think that thy darling has taken her flight.

And has left thee behind her, thy feelings to smother, And all silent mourn, plunged in sorrows dark night.

Alas! that no father was near her, so lonely, To cheer her while passing across the dark tide.

Ah! how often she called his loved name and his only, And he heard not the call, as his little one died.

But be hush'd my sad muse for my harp strings sound sad, And who should we mourn for the lov'd one at rest?

Shall we number, repining, when all should be glad, That Justice is safe in the land of the blessed.

J. W. F. M. PATTERSON, Nov. 26, 1865.

ARRIVAL OF THE NOVA SCOTIA.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS. THE IRISH HEAD CENTRE. FRENCH ARMY MUCH REDUCED.

SPAIN AND SOUTH AMERICA. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. LATEST VIA LONDONDERRY.

THE FENIANS ONCE MORE. SWITZERLAND. SPAIN.

ASTORIA. ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

ASTONISHING PROGRESS.—It has recently been stated on good authority that the number of weekly and monthly magazines issued in England has increased 600,000, to 6,900,000 per annum since the year 1831; and that the number of newspapers has increased from 38,549,000 to the almost incredible number of 546,000,000.

The steamship City of New York, from New York, reached Queenstown on the evening of the 15th inst.

The American ship Addison, from Baseline, 14 days, was spoken on the 21st of October. Forty-five guineas premium had previously been paid as insurance upon her.

The London Times states that it is reported that Mr. Cushing is instructed not only to co-operate with Mr. Adams, in bringing the respective claims of the two Governments to a settlement, but to ascertain the feeling prevailing in England concerning American finances.

Where her Father and God lives and reigns throned above. Where saints ever dwell and holiness centres, And the blood-washed through sing of His pardoning love.

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General News.

A Liverpool letter states that the rumors of General Garibaldi's poverty are totally unfounded.

The whole of Manhattan Island, on which stands the city of New York, was once purchased by one Peter Minuit for \$24.

The medical advisers of Lord Palmerston state that his death was solely caused by his imprudence in driving out without a great coat, and with not even an under waistcoat.

A couple of foot-pads attempted to rob a man named Hughes in Galt the other night, but another person appearing in the nick of time, the highwaymen decamped.

The Fenians held a large meeting in New Orleans recently. The principal speaker denounced the Roman Catholic clergy with great vehemence, making one or two exceptions to his general strictures.

The Sausdsky Register understands that the catch of herrings this season is so large that the contractors are unable to dress and salt them down, and have instructed fishermen to let them go.

INCIDENTARY FIRE.—On the night of Monday week, a stack of straw in the barnyard of Mr. Edward Bramby, on the first concession, township of London, was destroyed by fire.

A bright bay mare was stolen from the stables of Mr. John Raynor, Hillier, on Saturday last; and on the same night a black mare was stolen from Mr. Wm. German, of the same place.

President Johnson has decided that no patents shall be issued to any person in the rebellious States, until he shall have issued his proclamation declaring those States restored to their privileges.

The steamer Thames has discharged ten 110, and ten 28-pound Armstrong guns at Q. B. C. a large quantity of heavy land and naval gun carriages, ammunition and other Fenian provisions.

The Democrats are now in a minority in both branches of every Northern State Legislature, and nearly all the States and a large majority of all the municipal officers throughout the North are against them.

The Niagara Mail says that typhoid fever of a mild character has been raging at Stamford for some weeks past. In one instance five members of one family were down with it at one time.

WINTER ASSIZES.—The winter assizes for the county of the city of Toronto will commence on Wednesday the 29th of December next, and the York and Peel assizes on Thursday the 4th of January following.

The forthcoming American Postmaster General's report will be a very satisfactory document. During the fiscal year the Department has been not only self-sustaining, but has accumulated three quarters of a million of dollars.

The Secretary of State for India had received the following announcement:—"SATTARA, Nov. 14. Colonel Bruce signed a treaty of peace with Lhotian in the public Durbar yesterday."

WEST COAST OF AFRICA. The west coast of Africa mails are received. The communication with the interior continued closed. Negotiations were progressing favourably for the re-opening of communications with Ashabante.

At Sierra Leone the native wars continued. The Spaniards in Mexico. The Indians of the Western Territories fled off all their ammunition at the late eclipse of the sun. The prevalent idea among them is that anything contrary to the usual routine portends evil, and a great noise will drive the evil spirit away.

An old lady in Paris, wishing to make coffee, used snuff by mistake for the infusion. The liquid tasted strangely, but she and her husband both drank of it, were shortly seized with agonizing pains, and the physician was able to save the life of only one of them.

The Envoy Extraordinary to the Belgian Government arrived at Pekin in the beginning of August last, to arrange for a treaty of commerce, and the Chinese Government immediately appointed a plenipotentiary to treat with him.

An American, writing from Mexico, undoubtedly sums up the truth in saying that, without three million of foreign emigration, a vast acquisition of capital, and thoroughly liberal laws, neither empire nor republic can ever stand in Mexico.

The following error in punctuation is a good illustration of the use of the comma. At a banquet this toast was given—"Woman—without her, man is a brute." The reporter had it printed—"Woman—without her, man is a brute."

It is said that when the deaths by cholera in Paris were at near a hundred a day, the total bill of mortality was not increased. The reason for this was that people were so frightened and took good care of their health, so that ordinary maladies in the system were not developed.

A dentist of Edinburgh has patented an ingenious modification of forceps, which he artificially cooled air through its points to the gum, so as to deaden sensation previously to the extraction of the tooth, and thus render the operation painless.

Extensive frauds on the government, by evasion of the internal revenue, are said to have recently been discovered in the Pennsylvania oil regions, near Pithole. The government claims amount to \$10,000,000, and some of the largest wells have been taken possession of by officers.

The Prescott Jeannette says that M. H. L. Laidlaw, of the Montreal disillery, has been bound over, and his accomplices Meade and O'Donoghue committed to gaol till the Spring Assizes, when they will be tried for assaulting Armstrong the detective.

The Spectator says, by returns from the Hamilton Custom House it seems the imports for the week ending November 18, are \$72,715 in excess of the same week last year, while the exports for the same time have also increased \$25,523.

A chess match has recently been played by telegraph between the Quebec Literary Association chess club and the Montreal Mercantile Literary Association chess club. Quebec won eleven games, Montreal six and one was drawn.

A Montreal paper remarks upon the inconsistency of Lord Mandel, who recently refused to pay the Sanders kidnapers, and then libellating as he did on Friday, one Jean Baptiste Rochon, committed for trial for a murder at St. Cleot.

The largest fire wheel in the world has just been cast at the Fort Pitt Works, in Pittsburgh. The molten iron was conducted from the furnace across one of the streets of the city, a distance of one hundred and sixty-three feet to the mould. The diameter of the wheel is twenty-five feet and its weight forty two tons.

G. T. R. ACCIDENT.—Two HUNDRED HOGS KILLED.—We learn of a very distressing accident which happened on Monday evening near Grant station, G. T. R., between St. Mary's and Luena. A freight train bound east ran off the track. A number of cars were badly smashed, and a great deal of freight broken and destroyed.

A shipment of logs from the Western States, to the number of two hundred was on board and strange to relate, nearly all the animals were killed! The scene of the wreck is described as horrifying in the extreme, as might easily be imagined amid such a wholesale slaughter of live stock. We are glad to know that no person on the train has been seriously injured. The express train going west was detained some hours by the mishap.—Free Press.

A 'SPECIAL' to the New York World says that the Government of the United States have been, for some time, obtaining information with regard to the Reciprocity Treaty, and that negotiations with the British Ambassador will be opened as soon as possible, for a discussion of the "propriety of making a new treaty."—Globe.

A BIO BARCEL.—In the garden of a restaurateur at Vienna there had existed since 1853 an enormous beer barrel the capacity being such that the interior had been converted into a room for dancing. Recently a ball took place there, which visitors did not leave till three in the morning. At half past four, when all was quiet, an alarm of fire was given, and the barrel was found to be in flames. In the course of two hours in spite of all the efforts of the proprietors it was reduced to ashes.—The loss is estimated at 40,000.

MEXICO.—The prospects of the Liberals in Mexico, which but a few weeks ago appeared so promising, now present a reversed appearance. The authority of Maximilian is stronger than ever. At Matamoros the Liberals were recently badly beaten, and Generals Linza and Galindo, and Corralinas, Amagosa and Col. Garza wounded. There is a report which alludes to the execution of General Ortega, Scullion and other officers, in accordance with a decree of Maximilian's, and this report is said to have been confirmed.

A BIRTH ON THE GREAT WESTERN.—An incident of a peculiarly interesting character occurred on board the Great Western Railway on Friday night last, when a short distance west of London. A lady of Tennessee extraction was suddenly prostrated from the regular course of nature, and after receiving the attentions of a number of other kind ladies on board, the passengers of the train were informed by a decree of Maximilian's, and this report is said to have been confirmed.

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