SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON II.—JAN. 12, 1908.

Jesus and John the Baptist.—John 1: 19-34.

Commentary.—1. John's statement concerning himself (vs. 19-24). This was a time of great excitement and expectation concerning the Messiah. John spoke with authority and his success was great. He had proclaimed that a new dispensation was at hand (Matt. 3:2), and this was believed to refer to the Messiah. Accordingly a delegation of priests and Levites was sent to John from the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem for the purpose of interviewing him with respect to himself and his mission. They asked him, "Who art thou?" Who do you profess to be? Do you assume to be the Messiah, or are you a prophet? John positively declared that he was not the Christ, neither was he Elijah nor "that prophet." It is true that Jesus said that John was Elijah (Matt. 11:14), but he was speaking figuratively (compare Luke 1:17), while John's questioners were speaking literally, and John was not Elijah returned to earth again. The prophet referred to was the prophet of Deut. 18:15, who some thought would be a second Moses, others a second Elijah, others the Messiah. John replied to their questioning by saying that he was "the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Make straight the way of the Lord." John was not the "Word," but merely a "voice." He was called a voice because, 1. He was uttering God's thoughts. 2. The importance lay chiefly in the message, not in the messenger. The message he delivered is referred to in Isa. 40:3-5. The idea is taken from the practice of eastern monarchs, who, whenever they took a journey, sent harbingers before them to prepare the way. Before our King will come to us there must be a thorough preparation for his coming.

II. John's testimony of Jesus (vs. 25-28). 25. they asked him—The deputation from Jerusalem asked John the Baptist, why baptizest thou then—By what authority dost thou administer the rite of baptism, seeing that thou art not Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet? Baptism as a rite was common to the Jews and was administered to those becoming proselytes to the Jewish religion. "The Pharisees held most strenuously that no prophet, after Moses, had a right to introduce any new sacred usage, rite or ceremony among the Mosaic institutions, except the Messiah himself. The question, therefore, Why baptizest thou then? was a very peremptory one."—Whedon.

26. I baptize with water—John's answer is very pertinent. "My baptism is the symbol and precursor of a real baptism by the great Baptizer." there standeth one—It is not necessary to suppose that Jesus was standing in the crowd at that time, but he was living among the people, and was unknown to them. 27. after me—John was the forerunner to announce his coming. not worthy—A proverbial expression. The work of unlacing and removing the sandals belonged to the humblest servant, and because of Christ's greatness John said he was unworthy to do even that. The desire to exalt Christ and abase himself was ever uppermost in John's mind. 28. Bethabara—The R. V. has Bethany. (This was not the Bethany on the Mount of Olives.) Both names have nearly the same meaning, Bethany sometimes signifying "boat house," and Bethabara "ford house," or "ferry house." "Probably these were the names of two villages or districts near together, of which the name Bethany, the smaller of the two villages faded out. Or John may have been baptizing in a place between the two villages, and hence sometimes called by one name and sometimes by the other."

III. John points out Jesus (vs. 29-31.) 29. The next day—The day following the testimony of John to the deputation from Jerusalem. Seeth Jesus—The fact that John knew Jesus shows that the baptism and temptation (Matt. 3; 13 to 4; 11) preceded the events of this lesson. Lamb of God—There is no reasonable doubt that John gave this name to our Lord because he was the true sacrifice for sin, the true antitype of the passover lamb, and the lamb prophesied of by Isaiah (Isa. 53; 7.)—Ryle. The daily sacrifice of a lamb was continually before the people, reminding them of their need of an atonement for sin. Without doubt, John, who was the harbinger of Christ, was enlightened beyond others with respect to Christ's office and mission, and saw for him the great sin-offering for the sins of the whole world. Taketh away—Or "beareth away," as in the margin. On the great Day of Atonement the priest confessed the sins of the people and laid them upon the scapegoat, and the goat was sent to the depths of the desert. Christ's taking away the sins of the world is borrowed from this act. We have here one of the many expressions which declare the great scriptural truth that Christ's death was a vicarious sacrifice for sin. The sin—All the sins of all the children of Adam. The atonement was complete, and no one was left; all may be saved if they will accept the provisions made. "The world is weary with its cumbrous and futile methods of obtaining deliverance from sin." Salvation from sin comes only through faith in Christ.

30. After me, etc.—Jesus came after John in point of time, but he was preferred before him in dignity and honor. Was before me—This refers to Christ's eternal pre-existence with the Father. John's attitude toward Christ from first to last affords an illustrious example of true humility. Few names in the Bible stand higher than does the name of John the Baptist. Jesus spoke highly of him—See Matt. 11: 11; John 5: 35. John shows himself declines all flattering titles and exalts Christ. The greatest saints in all ages have been men in this spirit, who have not sought their own honor, but who have always been ready to decrease if Christ might only increase. 31. Knew him not—He did not know him as to his nature, office and mission until the time of his baptism. John was a cousin of our Lord, and that he had had some acquaintance with him before his baptism seems evident from Matt. 3: 14. While John did not know him as the Messiah, yet he had a knowledge of him sufficient to recognize in him an exalted spiritual nature that caused him to hesitate when Christ came asking baptism at his hands. Therefore am I come—John here declares that the great end of his ministry was not to form a sect in his own name, but to make Christ known to the Jews. The great work of the Christian church is to magnify Jesus Christ and bring out his beauty and greatness to a lost world.

IV. The Messiahship of Jesus revealed to John (vs. 32-34). 32. Bare record—John now proceeds to tell how, more than forty days before this, at the time of the baptism of Jesus, he learned that he was the Messiah. I saw—"I have beheld."— R. V. John had been an eye-witness, and was not now reporting from hearsay. Like a dove—"That the Spirit of God should descend as a dove is in accordance with the emblematic character of the whole transaction." The dove represented an undefiled character (Cant. 6. 9), harmless (Matt. 10: 16), gentle and meek (Cant. 2. 14). Abode upon him—Thus definitely designating to John that Jesus was the Messiah (v. 33). It was not a passing influence but a permanent abiding of the Spirit.

33. He that sent me—John was conscious of his divine mission. He was sent of God. Baptizeth in the Holy Spirit (R. V.)—John could baptize with water, but it was the prerogative of Jesus only to baptize with the Holy Spirit. "The gift of the Spirit is constantly represented as an outpouring." To-day we are living in the dispensation of the Spirit. It is the office work of the Spirit to convince of sin, to regenerate and cleanse the heart, and to guide and to sustain the trusting soul. The Holy Spirit dwells in the heart of the true Christian. Matthew and Luke add that Jesus would baptize "with fire." Fire here is an emblem of the Holy Spirit and brings out the thought of warmth, or heat. Baptism means cleansing—fire is a great purifier. 34. The Son of God—The Messiah—the Christ. John here declared that Jesus was divine. God also spake from heaven (Matt. 3. 17), thus confirming the sign given to John.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

"The Lamb of God."

The Word tells of Christ, the Prophet; the Lamb speaks of the Redeemer. One brings us to the revelation of God's will and truth, the other to the great Redeemer. It is not only a touch of love, but a touch of blood. Spoken after Christ's baptism, a short time after He had passed under the floods of the Jordan, a symbol of physical death and resurrection. In this typical act he had died and risen again for the sin of the world. "The Christian's escutcheon is not the Russian bear, the British lion, nor the American eagle. It is the Lamb of God. The church is ever to be an index-finger pointing to Him who taketh away the sin of the world" (v. 29). Let us consider the following points:

I. Spotless. "A lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Pet. 1. 19). The utmost care was used by the Jewish priest to select a lamb free from all blemish (Lev. 3. 6; 4. 32), and "without spot" (Num. 28. 3), for God would not accept any other (Lev. 22. 20-25). Not only must the lamb be spotless, but the priest must certify it to be so (Lev. 22. 26-33), and the words, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3. 17), were God's seal to the sinlessness of Jesus. Though He was made in the likeness of sinful flesh (Rom. 8. 3), yet he did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth (1. Pet. 2. 22). Although He was made sin for us, yet He knew no sin (2 Cor. 5. 21). Viewed from every point, He was always perfect. He was ever wholly self-possessed (Matt. 21. 23-27). He never retracted a word. He never altered a plan. He effectively turned every occurrence to a spiritual purpose (John 4. 7-10; Matt. 16. 6-12).

II. Submissive. "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb so he opened not his mouth" (Isa. 53:7). "And when he was accused . . . he answered nothing" (Matt. 27:12-14). Hugh Stowell says: "I have watched a lamb led to the slaughter and have seen the little guileless animal lick the hand about to be imbrued with its blood; patient, meek and free from all resentment. Blessed shadowing of that patient, long-suffering Man of sorrows who came among us and was never provoked to resentment or cavil or retaliation or unkindness."

III. Sacrificed. "The Lamb that was slain" (Rev. 5:12, 13:9). The Lamb of God stands for submission, suffering and death. Under law, in a figure, the sins of a guilty soul were transferred ot the white, innocent lamb ere it was slain. Under grace, in fact, the sins of "all" guilty souls were "laid" on the Lamb of God, ere he was sacrificed for us (Isa. 53:6). He took our place. He died in our stead. He became our substitute. "A gentleman who was travelling in Norway tells how he went to see the church of a certain town. Looking up at its tower, he was surprised to see the carved figure of a lamb near the top. He inquired why it was placed in that position, and he was told that when the church was being built a workman fell from the high scaffold. His fellows saw him fall and horror-stricken, rushed down expecting to find him dashed to pieces, but to their surprise and joy he was almost unhurt. This was how he escaped: A flock of sheep was passing by the church at the moment of his fall, and he fell among them as they were crowded together, and right on the top of a lamb. The lamb was crushed to death, but the man was saved. And so they carved the lamb on the tower at the exact height from which he fell, to commemorate his escape. Christ was crushed to death under our load of sin." "The continual morning and evening sacrifice of a lamb, under the Jewish law, was intended to point out the continual efficacy of the blood of atonement; for even at the throne of God Jesus Christ is ever represented as a lamb newly slain" (Rev. 5:6).

IV. Sovereign. The living ones and the elders adore "the Lamb;" myriads of angels cry, "Worthy is the Lamb;" the universe praises "the Lamb" (Rev. 5:8, 12, 13); the wicked fear "the wrath of the Lamb" (Rev. 6:15, 16); the hundred forty and four thousand "follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth" (Rev. 14:1, 4); the bride of Christ is "the Lamb's wife" (Rev. 21:9); "the marriage of the Lamb" is the great feast of the future (Rev. 19:7-9); and the title of "the Lamb" as final conqueror is Lord of lords and King of kings, and they that are with him are called and chosen and faithful (Rev. 17:14).

The witness to Jesus was, 1. The testimony of John, entirely disinterested and self-sacrificing. He gave his whole life to bearing his witness to Christ, resisting every temptation to gain notoriety, and to make friends of the influential Pharisees. 2. The witness of facts that entirely convinced John himself. 3. The witness of a voice from heaven. 4.

Happenings of 1907.

There were not so many world-shaking events during 1907 as in its immediate predecessors. There was literally, however, one world-shaker, the Jamaica earthquake, the echoes of which reverberated in the halls of diplomacy long after the shocks had died away. The chief event in America was the financial panic of September, and the very serious after-effect upon industry.

In Canada the most notable event was the collapse of the great Quebec bridge in August. The Dominion lost not a few eminent men during the year. Among the most notable were W. H. Drummond, the poet; Hon. A. G. Blair, Timothy Eaton, T. C. Patteson, Dr. John Potts, Dr. Oronhyatekha, Hon. J. W. St. John and Hon. J. I. Tarte.

JANUARY.

1—Naval dockyards at Halifax, N. S., transferred to the Canadian Government. Crops of 1906 in the three western Provinces put at 201,660,000 bushels.
2—Minister of Agriculture introduces bill to provide for the inspection of meats and canned goods. Thirty-five people killed in railway wreck in Kansas.
3—Opening of Manitoba Legislature.
4—Hotel Quinte, Belleville, burned.
7—Ontario succession duties for the past year given as $1,031,688.
8—Death of Shah of Persia.
9—Premier Laurier introduces a bill readjusting the representation of the new Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.
11—Tidal wave engulfs Simalu, Dutch East Indies—1,500 lives lost.
14—Kingston, Jamaica, wrecked by earthquake. More than 1,000 lives lost.
15—Bishop Sweatman, of Toronto, elected Primate of all Canada.
17—Quebec city experiences the coldest weather in fifty years.
18—Great famine in Central China. Dominion Government gives $50,000 towards relief of Kingston, Jamaica.
19—New Shah of Persia crowned. Governor Swettenham, of Jamaica, requests United States Admiral Davis to withdraw his marines from the island. Secretary Root at Ottawa.
24—Opening of Ontario Legislature.
25—Death of Hon. A. G. Blair, ex-Minister of Public Works.
26—British Labor Congress pass resolution favoring woman suffrage.
27—Death of Senator Dobson, of Lindsay.
28—Judge Taschereau appointed Chief Justice of King's Bench at Montreal.
31—Death of Timothy Eaton, founder of T. Eaton Company, Limited. Strike of telephone girls in Toronto.

FEBRUARY.

1—Charles McGill, formerly manager Ontario Bank, sentenced to five years in the Penitentiary.
2—Death of Judge Horn, of Windsor.
4—Death of Lady Victoria Grenfell, daughter of Earl Grey. Opening of the Thaw trial at New York.
7—Death of Viscount Goschen, ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, Great Britain.
8—Hon. C. S. Hyman resigns his seat for London.
9—Death of Geo. Nelson Kidd, M. P. P., Carleton.
11—Hon. Mr. Fielding gives notice of several changes in the tariff.
12—Mendelssohn Choir, of Toronto, win an artistic success in New York.
13—Manitoba Legislature prorogued.
14—Second reading of Mr. Lemieux's bill re strikes and lock-outs.
15—Death of Carducci, the great Italian poet.
19—Death of Sir William Hingston.
20—Duncan C. Ross, Liberal, elected for West Middlesex, Ontario Legislature.
21—One hundred and forty persons drowned in wreck of the mail steamer Berlin, near Rotterdam.
22—For the 18th time the deceased wife's sister bill passed its second reading in the Imperial Commons.
23—First Transvaal Colony Ministry organized, with Gen. Botha as Premier.
24—Death of Lieutenant-Governor Snowball at Fredericton, N. B.
25—Imperial War Secretary Haldane announces his scheme of army reorganization in the House of Commons.
25—The Protestant Hochelaga School, Montreal, burned; 17 lives lost.
28—Washington, Ark., destroyed by a cyclone.

MARCH.

1—Eddie Durnan defeated by George Downs for the world's sculling championship.
2—Death of Dr. Oronyatekha, Grand Supreme Ranger of the Order of Foresters.
3—Draft of new insurance act submitted by the Royal Commission.
4—Resignation of Governor Swettenham, of Jamaica.
5—Lemuel J. Tweedie sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, Wm. Pugsley succeeding to the Premiership.
7—Manitoba elections result in victory for the Roblin Government.
8—Death of Senator Charles E. Casgrain, of Col. R. R. McLennan, ex-M. P., and of E. Cochran, M. P. East Northumberland.
9—Great Britain and Russia agree regarding interference in the affairs of Persia.
11—Assassination of Petkoff, Premier of Bulgaria.
13—Death of Thomas Martin, M. P. North Wellington. Death of Casimir Perier, ex-President of France. French battleship Iena blown up; 300 killed and injured.
14—Disastrous floods in west Pennsylvania.
15—Death of Dr. Stockton, M. P., of St. John, N. B.
16—One hundred persons killed in two mine disasters in Germany.
18—Mrs. Featherston Osler, Toronto, dead at the age of 101 years.
19—Death of Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the author.
21—Meeting of the Transvaal Colony's first Parliament at Pretoria.
23—Joseph Phillips, President of the York County Loan Company, sentenced to five years' imprisonment for making false returns to the Government.
27—Arrival of the Hon. James Bryce at Ottawa.
28—Old age pension bill introduced into the Nova Scotia Legislature.

APRIL.

1—Canada and the United States come to an agreement regarding the rate on secondclass mail matter.
2—Hon. H. R. Emmerson resigns as Minister of Railways and Canals.
3—W. T. Stead arrives in New York on his peace pilgrimage. Salaries of Ontario Cabinet Ministers with portfolios increased.
5—The Macdonald engineering building of McGill University, at Montreal, destroyed by fire.
6—Death of Dr. W. H. Drummond, the the poet of the habitants.
7—Death of Hon J. W. St. John, Speaker of the Ontario Legislature.
8—Mr. Thomas Crawford, M. P. P., appointed Speaker of the Ontario Legislature.
10—The Thaw case goes to the jury at New York. Fifteen persons cremated in a train wreck near Chapleau.
12—The Thaw jury fail to agree and are discharged.
14—City of Chilpacingo and several towns destroyed by earthquake in Mexico.
15—Opening of the fourth conference of Premiers of British colonies at London.
16—The Medical building of McGill University burned; loss $500,000.
17—Death of Mr. Stapleton Caldecott at Toronto.
18—Seventy-five thousand persons died of the plague last week in India.
19—Longboat captures the Boston Marathon.
20—Ontario Legislature prorogued.
22—Toronto taxation for the year fixed at 18½ mills.
23—Colonial Conference decides to establish a general military staff for the Empire.
25—R. A. Falconer, M. A., of Halifax, selected as President of the University of Toronto.
27—Dominion Parliament prorogued.
30—Death of Fred G. Cox, at Toronto.

MAY.

2—At the Colonial Conference, Mr. Asquith, Imperial Chancellor of the Exchequer, refuses to accept the policy of reciprocal preference.
4—Opening of the Irish Exhibition at Dublin.
6—Death of Ian Maclaren (Rev. John Watson) of "Bonnie Brier Bush" fame.
7—Mr. Birrell introduces his Irish bill into the British House of Commons.
8—The Premiers at the Colonial Conference vote in favor of restriction of the imperial coasting trade.
9—Colonial Conference rejects a resolution asking for 1 per cent. tax on foreign imports for the purpose of furthering trade.
10—Death of G. F. Marter, ex-M. P. A son born to the King and Queen of Spain.
11—Twenty-eight Mystic Shriners killed in a wreck on the Southern Pacific.
12—Corby's distillery at Belleville destroyed by fire.
14—Colonial Conference favors an all-British route across the two oceans.
18—T. Ambrose Wood's Kelvin wins the King's Plate at the Woodbine, Toronto.
20—Cold weather and snow in various parts of Ontario.
21—Convention of Irish Nationalists vote to reject the Irish Council bill.
24—North Texas swept by tornado.
31—Bill to establish a court of criminal appeal passes the second reading in the British Commons.

JUNE.

1—Britain and Japan come to an understanding as to the latter's policy in case of the invasion of India.
3—The British Cabinet abandons the Irish Council bill.
4—At Boise, Idaho, the trial of W. D. Hayward for the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg opened.
5—Meeting of the Presbyterian General Assembly at Montreal.
6—Opening of the new Convocation Hall of the University of Toronto.
7—Prince Fushimi of Japan arrives at Quebec on a visit to Canada.
8—Maiden trip of the S. S. Cayuga of the Niagara Navigation Company's fleet.
10—Sacred Heart Church at Ottawa burned.
12—Death of John Waldie, ex-M. P., the well-known lumber merchant.
13—Jamaica again shaken by an earthquake.
14—The second Peace Conference meets at The Hague.
16—The Douma dissolved by the Czar.
17—The "Made-in-Canada" Fair opened at Guelph.
21—Canadian subsidies act read the second time in the British House of Commons.
26—Premier Campbell-Bannerman's resolution to curtail the veto power of the House of Lords carries in the British House of Commons.
27—Lieutenant-Governor Mortimer Clark knighted by the King.

JULY.

1—Death of Samuel McAllister, eminent Canadian educationist.
2—Caid Sir Henry Maclean, commander of the Cultan's body guard taken captive by Bandit Raisuli and held for ransom.
6—Opening by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux of the new lift lock at Lakefield.
9—Guelph and Goderich Railway opened as far as Blyth.
11—Canada's population returned as 6,504,900, an increase since last decennial census of 1, 135,585.
12—The Guernsey team win the Kolapore cup at Bisley.
14—Attempted assassination of President Faillieres of France.
16—Seven persons killed by collapse of Crystal Hall, London, Ont.
17—The Hague declares in favor of the inviolability of private property at sea.
18—The Premier arrives at Quebec from the Colonial Conference.
20—Hon. Edward Blake resigns his seat in the Imperial Commons owing to ill health.
21—Ninety-three persons drowned from the S. S. Columbia in collision off the Pacific coast.
22—J. Keir Hardie, the British Labor leader, addresses the Canadian Club at Toronto.
23—Disastrous fire at Victoria, B. C.; loss $250,000.
26—Nine young men drowned in Humber Bay.
28—William Haywood acquitted of the murder of Governor Steunenberg.
30—Corner stone of Carnegie's Temple of Peace at The Hague laid.
31—Death of Joseph Hatton, noted English author.

AUGUST.

1—Disorders and outrages on foreign residents at Casablanca, Morocco.
3-4—Bombardment of CasaBlanca by French and Spanish cruisers.
10—Explosion of car of nitro-glycerine wrocks Essex Centre; three persons killed and twenty injured.
11—Death of Dr. J. A. McClellan, distinguished Ontario educationist.
12—The Seneca wins the second race of the Canada Cup series. Strike of telegraph operators in the United States.
13—Seneca wins the third and final race.
14—Strike of G. N. W. telegraph operators, 40,000 Moors attack French at Casa Blanca, but are repulsed.
15—The negroes of Georgia disfranchised.
16—The deceased wife's sister bill passes the third reading in the Imperial Commons.
18—Hon. Edward Blake arrives in Toronto.
20—R. L. Borden formulates the Conservative platform in a speech at Halifax.
26—The C. P. R. line from Guelph to Goderich opened for passenger traffic.
28—British Parliament prorogued.
29—The end o fthe new bridge at Quebec collapses; eighty-three lives lost.
30—Death of Richard Mansfield, famous actor.

SEPTEMBER.

2—The scale of wages to country postmasters raised by the Postmaster-General.
3—Seven people killed and ninety injured in railway wreck on the C. P. R. at the Horseshoe near Caledon.
7—Anti-Japanese riots at Vancouver, B. C. Close of Toronto Exhibition; aggregate attendance, 750,000.
10—New Zealand given the title of Dominion by Royal proclamation.
13—Visit of the Lord Bishop of London to Toronto.
15—Twenty-five killed in collision on Boston & Maine Railway near Canaan station, on return journey from Dominion Exhibition, Sherbrooke.
19—New Franco-Canadian commercial treaty signed at Paris.
20—A. G. MacKay chosen leader of the Liberal party in Ontario.
23—Peace declared in Morocco.
26—Dr. Falconer installed President of the University of Toronto.

OCTOBER.

7—Death of Rev. Dr. William Jones, Registrar of Trinity College, Toronto.
16—Death of Rev. John Potts.
17—Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company invites business between Great Britain and Canada.
18—Close of the second Peace Conference at The Hague.
21—The Town of Koratagh, in the Province of Bokhara, Russia, destroyed by earthquake; 5,000 people killed.
22—Financial panic in New York.
29—Death of Gerald Massey, author and poet.
31—Sham fight near Hamilton. University of Toronto won intercollegiate championship at Kingston.

NOVEMBER.

1—Ontario Government Commission recommends psychiatric hospitals for the insane.
2—Socialists sustained overwhelming defeat in English and Welsh municipal elections.
3—Hon. Adelard Turgeon defeats H. Bourassa in Bellechasse, Que., by-election.
5—New Cunard liner Mauretania averaged 27.36 knots an hour on trial run.
6—Fifteen men killed and thirty injured by explosion on a German schooleship.
8—Provincial Government appoints additional factory inspectors.
9—First train ran over C. P. R. bridge at Parry Sound.
11—Japanese claims arising out of Vancouver riots and adjusted.
14—Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the British Premier, became severely ill after addressing a meeting at Bristol.
15—Seven men killed in railway collision near Bass Lake, Ont.
19—Four men killed and three injured in accident at Toronto Island.
21—Plot against the dictatorship discovered at Lisbon.
23—Centenary of Brant's death observed at Brantford.
27—Canadian Parliament opened.
28—Conservative elected at Colchester, N. S., by-election.
29—Defendants in London bribery case found guilty. Reserve case granted.

DECEMBER.

1—Mining disaster at Fayette City, Pa.
2—C. P. R. steamer Mount Temple wrecked on Ironbound Island, N. B. Tommy Burns, a Canadian, wins world's heavyweight boxing championship.
3—Canadian exhibtors win championships at Chicago Stock Show.
5—H. Lovell, M. P. for Stanstead, Que., died, aged 80.
8—King Oscar II. of Sweden died at Stockholm. His son, Gustav V., succeeds.
9—Dinizulu the Zulu King, charged with treason, voluntarily surrendered to the Natal authorities.
11—Estimated expenditure of Canada for fiscal year ending March 31, 1908, $119,237,091.
12—Boris Sarafoff, the famous leader of Bulgarian raiders against Turkey, was shot and killed.
16—American battleship fleet starts on cruise in Pacific waters.
17—Death at Glasgow of Lord Kelvin, the famous scientist.
18—Death at Montreal of Hon. J. Israel Tarte.
19—Many miners entombed as result of explosion at Jocbs Creek, Pa.
23—Liberal candidates victorious at Centre York, Ottawa and Labelle by-elections.
25—Christmas Day celebrations.
28—Japanese seek to secure 10,000 acres of land in Alberta on which to grow beets.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO LIVE STOCK

Receipts of live stock at the City Market for Wednesday and Thursday were 37 cars, 1,115, composed of 504 cattle, 353 hogs, 701 sheep and 53 calves.

There were few good to choice cattle on sale and more would have found a ready market at fair prices.

Trade was generally good in all classes of live stock, quality considered.

Exporters—A few export bulls sold at $3.50 to $4.25 per cwt.

Butchers—The highest price quoted for 4 good cattle, weighing 960 lbs. each, was $4.87½; medium to good, $4 to $4.50; common, $3.50 to $3.75; cows, $2.50 to $3.50; canners, $1 to $2 per cwt.

Feeders and Stockers—A few eastern stockers sold at $2.85 for cattle weighing 840 lbs.

Milkers and Springers—Prices for milkers and springers ranged from $35 to $55 each.

Veal Calves—Prices unchanged at $3 to $6 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs—Export sheep, $3.75 to $4 per cwt.; rams and culls, at $2.50 to $3 per cwt.; lambs, $4.50 to $5.60 per cwt.

Hogs—Mr. Harris quotes selects at $5.70, and light fats, at $5.45.

WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET

Following are the closing quotations on Winnipeg grain futures to-day:

Wheat—Dec. $1.07⅛ bid, May $1.15⅞ bid.
Oats—Dec. 45¾c bid, May 54c bid.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS

London—London cables are firmer at 10c to 13c per lb., dressed weight; refrigerator beef is quoted at 9¼c per lb.

TORONTO FARMERS' MARKET

The grain receipts to-day were small, with prices steady. Wheat pretty nominal, in absence of offerings. Barley firm, 300 bushels selling at 75c. Oats unchanged, with sales of 200 bushels at 52c. Peas sold at 88c a bushel for 100 bushels.

Hay in fair receipt, there being sales of 50 loads at $19 to $21 a ton for timothy, and at $16 for clover. Straw is quoted at $15 a ton. One load of loose sold at $10 a ton.

Dressed hogs continue firm at $7.75 to $8, for light, and at $7.50 for heavy.

Wheat, white, bush.	$ 0 97	$ 0 99
Do., red, bush.	0 97	0 99
Do., Spring, bush.	0 99	0 95
Do., goose, bush.	0 87	0 90
Oats, bush.	0 52	0 00
Barley, bush.	0 75	0 00
Rye bush.	0 82	0 00
Peas, bush.	0 88	0 00
Hay, timothy, ton	19 00	21 00
Do., clover, ton	16 00	18 00
Straw, per ton	16 00	0 00
Seeds, Alsike, No. 1, bush.	7 50	8 00
Do., No. 2	6 75	7 25
Do., red clover	9 25	9 50
Dressed hogs	7 50	0 00
Eggs, new laid, dozen	0 45	0 50
Do., storage	0 25	0 30
Butter, dairy	0 26	0 30
Do., creamery	0 30	0 32
Geese, dressed, lb.	0 10	0 11
Chickens, per lb.	0 10	0 12
Ducks, dressed, lb.	0 10	0 12
Turkeys, per lb.	0 16	0 17
Apples, per bag	2 00	3 50
Potatoes, per bag	0 85	0 95
Cabbage, per dozen	0 40	0 50
Onions, per bag	1 00	1 25
Beef, hindquarters	7 00	8 00
Do., forequarters	4 00	5 00
Do., choice, carcase	6 75	7 25
Do., medium, carcase	5 00	5 50
Mutton, per cwt.	8 00	9 00
Veal, prime, per cwt.	7 50	10 00
Lamb, per cwt.	8 50	9 50

Ontario Wheat.

The Manitoba wheat bugaboo has about run its course. It has done incalculable injury to the Ontario farmer. It threatened to destroy the market for Ontario wheat. Thanks to the gallant efforts of our millers, and the sane reasoning of many of the people, Ontario's wheat is coming into its own again.

In one of the leading agricultural journals (none other than The Farmer's Advocate) there recently appeared a letter from the McCormick Manufacturing Company, one of the oldest and best known makers of binder cutts, etc., in Canada. In this communication the McCormick Company state that "Manitoba hard wheat flour is not satisfactory for our use. We much prefer Ontario fall red and white wheat, which give us good satisfaction."

There is no doubt that Ontario wheat flour makes the best pastry. The process of blending, by which the millers add a small quantity of Manitoba wheat, adds strength, making a perfect bread flour. Thus, the blended flours are better than Ontario and Manitoba wheat flours alone. Repeated tests have proved this true. With people using blended flours, which contain a large percentage of Ontario wheat, there is a growing demand for this grain. Our farmers should carefully study the question and make their plans to plant wheat. They can help the good work along, too, by buying blended flours for home use.

Bradstreet's Trade Review.

Montreal—During the past week all trade here has been practically confined to the retail movement of holiday goods. It is as yet impossible to exactly state just what the volume of this trade will have been or how it will compare with that of previous years. At the moment it would appear as having been heavy, but there are wholesalers who state they have found business quieter than usual at this end of the season. This could not be unnatural in view of the stringency of money and its consequences in general trade. Wholesalers ahe having the usual lull. They look forward to having a good revival of the sorting trade early in the new year. Values of commodities generally hold steady. The retail trade in the country has been heavy. Receipts of produce have much increased during the week, and prices have been easier.

Toronto—Retailers are generally pretty well satisfied with the volume of holiday business done here to date. Despite the fact that the trade was somewhat slow in opening and that there has been considerable talk of coming trade depression, holiday shoppers seem to have had plenty of money with which to make purchases. In some lines of business, however, wholesalers state business during the past month has not been quite up to average. The fur trade, for instance, has been slow. In this line, as in many others, retailers have been price-cutting and it would thus appear they are all pretty well stocked up. The wholesale dry goods business is quiet, although there is a good volume of business booked ahead. Values hold steady to firm. The grocery trade is quiet and is likely to continue so for some little while.

London—Retailers have done a good business during the past week. Wholesalers find business quiet, as is usual at this time of the year. Sorting trade is quiet, but collections are coming in well.

Hamilton—The holiday trade has been heavy in all lines and wholesalers report a better tone to collections. Country trade has been good and the outlook favors the opening out of a good business early in the new year.

Ottawa—Seasonable goods have been moving briskly and the holiday trade has been of excellent volume. Collections are reported to be improving.

Vancouver and Victoria — General business holds a good tone here. The holiday trade has been good, retailers having turned over large stocks during the past fortnight. Wholesalers are getting ready for the work of next season, and they expect a good business in all branches of trade. Signs point to increased activity in local industries when the new year once begins to open out.

Quebec—As is usual at this week of the year, there is little actual trade moving. Amongst the retailers, Christ-

BEER FLOWED.

OVER 2,000 BARRELS POURED INTO SEWERS AT OKLAHOMA.

Prohibition Law of New State Would Not Allow Beer to be Kept Nor to be Shipped Out of State.

New York, Jan. 6.—The Telegraph has received the following despatch from Oklahoma City:

Twenty-three hundred barrels of beer are pouring into the sewers of Oklahoma city to-night from the great vats of the New State brewing plant, owned by the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company. The beer is worth $8 a barrel, or $18,000 in all. The efforts of half a dozen men stationed in the brew room to keep the entrance of the sewers clear were in vain, and the beer backed up, forming a bank of foam three feet high that resembled a snowdrift.

This spectacle attracted a large crowd, some men came with buckets and scooped up the beer as it flowed through the streets to the sewers. Some stretched themselves upon the pavement and drank from the gutter.

The beer is being emptied under the supervision of a revenue collector. It will require another day to finish the work. With the advent of Statehood and prohibition the brewery was confronted with a peculiar situation. The State authorities ruled that the beer in stock could neither be kept nor shipped out of the State.

The internal revenue office in Washington finally settled the controversy by sending a deputy to supervise the destruction of the beer.

ENGINEER KILLED

AND BRAKEMAN SERIOUSLY HURT IN SMASHUP.

Two Engines Running Light Were Smashed by Freight Train at Tillsonburg—Three Engines Destroyed —Others of the Crews Escaped.

A Woodstock, Ont., despatch says: There was a fatal wreck on the Air Line at Tillsonburg at three o'clock this morning, by which Engineer John Walker, of St. Thomas, was killed, and Brakeman John H. Crae, of Windsor, was very seriously injured. Two Wabash engines running light were taking the siding together, when they were run into by a G. T. R. freight. All three engines were smashed. Walker was on the Grand Trunk engine and Crae on one of the Wabashes. Others of the crews escaped without injury. Three freight cars were smashed.

STABBED BY AN ITALIAN.

Young Surveyor Badly Wounded at Cap Rouge.

Quebec, Jan. 6.—Lying in a bed in the Jeffery Hale Hospital, suffering from a number of knife wounds inflicted by an Italian, a young man named Henri Bedard, a surveyor of Cap Rouge, is in a serious condition. An Italian, who gives his name as Stephano Spano, is now an inmate of a cell in the Central Police Station, charged with the crime.

The stabbing occurred in the Cap Rouge omnibus about 5 o'clock last evening, while the vehicle, loaded with passengers, was on its way out the St. Louis road, and when it was about opposite the Plains of Abraham Spano and Bedard, who are both employed by Contractor Davis at Cap Rouge, got into an argument, and Spano, it is stated, drew a knife and stabbed Bedard some four or five times.

When Spano was arrested he appeared to be under the influence of liquor.

FIGHT WITH CONDUCTORS.

Attemtp to Collect Fares as Passengers Enter Pittsburg Cars.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 6.— Confusion followed orders issued by the Pittsburg Railway Company yesterday compelling conductors to collect fares as passengers entered the cars. Men and women fought with the conductors when held up for fares and many delays were the result.

In the rush hours the crush was terrific. Men and women fought to get on the cars, but the conductors blocked the entrances until nickles were forthcoming.

A number of conductors resigned after a few trips. One man on the Charlero line quit as soon as he reached the despatcher's office. He stopped at a way station in the country and 112 persons al tried to board the car at once. The result was a long argument while the conductor made change. Finally the crowd forced an entrance to the car. The conductor lost forty minutes on the trip.

FED THROUGH A PIPE.

Three Men Are Still Far Below in Nevada Mine.

New York, Jan. 6.—The Herald has received the following despatch from Ely, Nev.: Rescue work is progressing slowly on the Alpha shaft of the Giroux Consolidated Mines Company, where three miners, A. D. Bailey, Peter McDonald and Fred Brown, have been entombed since Dec. 4. Through a six-inch pipe food, air and water have since been sent, and a few days after the accident enough canvas was sent down to enable the men, with the help of some timbers and iron which they found on the 1,000-foot level, to make three cots.

It will take at least three weeks more to reach the men. Communication can be had with them by telephone, and they are patiently waiting to be liberated.

STRATHCONA'S GRANDDAUGHTER.

Her Coming-Out Celebrated at Knebworth Hall.

New York, Jan. 6.—The American has received the following cable despatch from London: For the first time in many years Lord Strathcona gave a big bann on New Year's Eve at Knebworth Hall, one of the most magnificent old mansions within a short distance of London. The ball is to celebrate the debut of his granddaughter, Miss Frances Howard.

ONTARIO ARCHIVES
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