THE "WITNESS"

Holds a high place in Canadian journalism. Its unswerving course has done more for it than the ability with which it is managed. It has denounced both political parties by turns, as their policy seemed to demand it. At times it has been held to have taken sides; and again its independence becomes most evident. The work of the good newspaper is to drive out bad reading with better. This the WITNESS has made its mission. It is eminently a

FAMILY PAPER.

Its progress during a year or two past has been most remarkable. The circulation of the WEEKLY WITNESS has as appears from its prospectus, grown in two years from

17,000 To 25,000.

Its progress is largely owing to the enthusiasm awakened by its position with regard to the Ultramontane aggression, so increasingly rampant in the province of Quebec. This feeling went so far as the issue of certain legal proceedings against it—and at the time it underwent the episcopal malediction—as to take form of public meetings, held in Montreal and many other large cities and towns, with a view to the sounding of a testimonial fund. But the best testimonial is the above rapid growth, owing, as it is, largely to the efforts of its readers. The publishers have taken a novel course this year in offering to all who remit ten dollars in new subscriptions a pair of

SELF-ADJUSTING SKATES

of the best make. This skate is of Canadian manufacture, but in all countries looked on as the best; is called the "Eureka," and has become an object of great desire among the young people. The subscriptions sent in to obtain the skates may be for the WEEKLY, TRI-WEEKLY, or daily WITNESS, or for the NEW YORK MINOR MONTHLY or the NORTHERN MESSENGER.

THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY—the oldest Canadian Magazine—seems to manifest signs of upward progress, both in circulation and character, and every one in Canada who wishes to see a Canadian Literature developed, must wish it success.

THE MESSENGER'S increase has been the most remarkable of all, its circulation having grown in two years from 20,000 to 50,000. It is a family and Sunday-school paper, containing a very large supply of good family reading, and is excellently illustrated.

Those wishing to work for the prize skates, or for any one of a series of money prizes which the WITNESS advertises, should write by the first mail to Messrs. John Dougall & Son, Montreal, for lists of prizes and samples of the publications. The prices are as follows:—

Daily Witness,	$3.00 per year, including postage.	
Tri Week'y.	$2.00 with postage.	
Weekly, "	1.15 "	"
New Dominion Monthly,	1.50 "	"
Northern Messenger,	30 cts. "	"

Reductions in these prices to Ministers and School Teachers.

Sample copies, subscription lists, and all information desired, sent free on application to the publishers.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
Montreal.

"A Repository of Fashion, Pleasure, and Instruction."

Harper's Bazar

ILLUSTRATED

Notices of the Press.

"For strictly household matters and dress 'Harper's Bazar' is altogether the best thing published. To take it is a matter of economy. No lady can afford to be without it, for the information it gives will save her very much more money than the subscription price, besides giving the household an interesting literary visitor. —Chicago Journal."

"Harper's Bazar is richly illustrated, and contains stories, poems, sketches, and essays of a most attractive character. * * * In its literary and artistic features, the Bazar' is unquestionably the best journal of its kind in the country.—Saturday Evening Gazette," Boston.

TERMS.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.

HARPER'S BAZAR, one year.... $4.

$1 includes prepayment of U.S. postage by the publishers.

Subscriptions to Harper's Magazine, Weekly, and Bazar, to one address for one year, $10; or, two of Harper's Periodicals, to one address for one year, $7; postage free.

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"A Complete Pictorial History of the Times." "The Best, cheapest and most successful Family Paper in the Union."

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ILLUSTRATED.

Notices of the Press.

HARPER'S WEEKLY should be in every family throughout the land, as a purer, more intelligent, higher-toned, better-illustrated paper is not published in this or any other country.—CHR. BULLETIN, Boston.

The WEEKLY is the only illustrated paper of the class that in its essential characteristics is recognized as a national paper.—HOME WEEKLY, EAGLE.

The leading articles in Harper's weekly on political topics are models of high-toned discussion, and its pictorial illustrations are often decorative masterpieces of art.—Post Express, EXAMINER AND CHRONICLE, N. Y.

The WEEKLY has to still larger degree its wide field of usefulness, and increased its power. Its editorials are quoted as the most able of their kind, and in other respects it is not less admirable. Its illustrations are, and almost out of sight excellence.—CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, N. Y.

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The Volumes of the Weekly commence with the year. When no time is mentioned, it will be understood that the subscriber wishes to commence with the number next after the receipt of his order.

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Indexes to each volume sent gratis on receipt of stamp.

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Address HARPER & BROTHERS, N.Y.

THE PEOPLE'S FAVORITE.

THE

T. & W. CIGAR

Manufactured by

TAYLOR & WILSON,

TORONTO,

DUNDALK GUIDE.

THE "GUIDE"

IS PUBLISHED

Every Friday,

At the Office, Main Street, nearly opposite the Post Office,

Dundalk, - - Ont.

TERMS:—$1 per year in Advance, or $1.50 if not paid within two months.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Professional and business cards, per year,	$ 4
Quarter column, per year	15
Half column, "	25
One column, "	28
Do. six month	50
Do. three months	28
	15

Casual advertisements charged 8 cts. per line for the first insertion, and 2 cts. per line for each subsequent insertion—brevier measure.

Ordinary notices of births, marriages, deaths, and all kinds of local news, inserted free of charge.

STRAY ANIMALS, &c., advertised three weeks for $1, the advertisement not to exceed 8 lines.

Advertisements, except when accompanied by written instructions to the contrary, are inserted until forbidden, and charged at regular rates,

J. TOWNSEND & CO.

Vol. I. No. 4. DUNDALK, FEBRUARY 23, 1877. $1 per year in Advance.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

JAMES LAMON,

Attorney-at-law, Solicitor in Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c. Office and residence—Dundalk.

DR. McWILLIAM,

University Silver Medalist, Trinity College, Toronto, and Member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. Office —Dundalk, Ont.

ISAAC TRAYNOR,

Provincial Land Surveyor, Civil Engineer, Draughtsman, Land Agent, Conveyancer, etc., Dundalk.

February 1, 1877.

ANGLO AMERICAN HOTEL, DUNDALK.

First-class accomodation for the puplic. The best vianda on hand.

SAMUEL McCULLOCH, Prop

RICHARD CLARE,

Carpenter and Framer. Repairing done at his shop. Sash and panel doors made to order. ☞ Remember the stand—two doors below the Post Office,

MAIN STREET, - - - - - - - DUNDALK.

ROBERT K. MARSHALL,

OWEN SOUND STREET,

Builder, Contractor, &c., &c.,

Contracts taken for carpentering and building of all kinds. My facilities for building enable me to do work promptly and in a satisfactory manner. Orders from a distance promptly attended to. Sashes and doors made to order.

Dundalk, February 8, 1877.

Miss Gokey,

Late of Guelph,

MILLINER AND DRESSMAKER

Opposite the Post Office,

MAIN STREET, - - DUNDALK.

February 8, 1877.

Fire, FIRE.

The undersigned would respectfully intimate to his friends and the public generally that his fire is still burning, and he is prepared to do all kinds of General Blacksmithing at the lowest rates. Special attention paid to Horse-shoeing. Remember the stand—corner of Owen Sound and Main Streets, Dundalk.

JOHN NORVAL.

THE VULCAN WORKS,

NORTH SIDE OF

OWEN SOUND ST., DUNDALK.

JAMES HANNA

Has much pleasure in informing his friends and the public generally, that he is prepared to do all kinds of General Blacksmithing, at the above works at his usual low rates. Horseshoeing a speciality.

Pay Up.

All persons indebted to the undersigned are requested to settle the same at once and save costs.

JAMES HANNA.

Correct Time!

The undersigned, while thanking his numerous customers and the public generally for the very liberal patronage bestowed upon him since commencing business in Dundalk, wishes to intimate to the inhabitants of Dundalk and surrounding country that he has removed from his old stand to his new building on Main Street,

OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE,

where he has a carefully selected stock of

Watches, Clocks,

AND JEWELRY,

all of which will be sold cheap for cash. Also, dealer in

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,

such as

VIOLINS,
CONCERTINAS,
ACCORDEONS,
&c., &c., &c.,

which will be got when ordered.

SPECIAL ATTENTION PAID TO REPAIRING.

All work warranted, and satisfaction guaranteed.

TERMS STRICTLY CASH.

REMEMBER THE STAND: OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, and call and secure good reliable time-keepers,

JOHN NICKLE.

Dundalk, Jan. 29, 1877.

A. G. HUNTER,

Commissioner

IN THE

Queen's Bench,

DUNDALK.

Life Insurance.

The M. L. A. of Canada is the only permanent basis for the far distant future; it is the only Canada Mutual Company licensed by our Dominion Government.

INSURE WITH US.

RUTHERFORD & HUNTER,

General Conveyancers,

AGENTS, ETC.,

DUNDALK, - ONTARIO.

Dundalk, February 8, 1877.

TAILORING.

ESTABLISHMENT.

Wm. Chittick,

Wishes to inform all those who require his services, that he is

Prepared to Receive Orders

FOR

CLOTHING,

AND TO

Make up the same on short notice.

AND IN THE

Most Fashionable STYLES.

Remember the stand, Main Street, DUNDALK.

January, 29, 1877.

Cash Store!

MAIN STREET,

DUNDALK.

DRY GOODS,
GROCERIES,
BOOTS & SHOES,
CROCKERY, Etc.

A SUPPLY OF GOOD

Family Flour

ALWAYS ON HAND.

Goods for Cash as Cheap as can be had West of Orangeville.

All those indebted, either by Note or Book Account, are requested to settle up immediately.

S. Haney.

Dundalk, Jan. 29, 1877.

Photography.

The Subscriber begs to inform the Public that he has purchased the Photograph Business at DUNDALK,

And is now prepared to take Photographs of all kinds from

LOCKET TO LIFE SIZE.

—Copying done at reasonable RATES—

Having been in the Business a number of years, he feels confidant he can give satisfaction to all.

Frames of all kinds kept in stock, and supplied to order at

PRICES to suit the TIMES.

An inspection Respectfully solicited.

Note the Price

PHOTOGRAPHS only $1.00 per doz.

W. Irons.

Dundalk, Jan. 29, 1877.

OUR OWN.

If I had known in the morning
How wearily all the day
The words unkind
Would trouble my mind
I said when you went away,
I had been more careful, darling,
Nor give you needless pain;
But we vex our own
With look and tone
We may never take back again.

For though in a quiet evening
You may give us the kiss of peace,
Yet it might be
That never for me
The pain of the heart should cease.
How many go forth in the morning
That never come back at night!
And hearts have broken
For harsh words spoken
That sorrow can ne'er set right.

We have careful thoughts for the stranger,
And smiles for the sometimes guest;
But oft for our own
The bitter tone,
Though we love our own the best.
Ah! lips with curse impatient!
Ah! brow with that look of scorn!
'Twere a cruel fate,
Were the night too late
To undo the work of the morn.

HIRAM JENKINS' MISTAKE.

Hiram Jenkins drove slowly up the hill road that led to the farm house of Deacon Bates. It was plain even to the casual observer that the errand he was bound upon was of no common importance. No man would have arrayed himself so gorgeously, simply for the purchase of a tub of fall butter or a yoke of steers. His hair was in a state of distressing smoothness, and seemed almost a part of the glossy hat which covered it. His coat and pantaloons were marvels in their way, and his boots, which had been elaborately blacked, reflected back the rays of the setting sun in a manner perfectly blinding to the beholder. And yet, notwithstanding his superiority in all these respects to the lilies of the field, there was apparent in his actions a singular sort of nervousness, a trepidation almost, which rendered his appearance at once ridiculous and awkward. This trepidation was in no wise lessened by the sudden vision of a red-headed urchin watching him from the barn door, and who, as the team approached, with an ever widening grin sped off in the direction of the farm house, and disappeared through the kitchen door. Hiram was conscious a minute afterwards of being the target of half a dozen pairs of eyes from the sitting-room windows, and it required extraordinary strength of mind on his part to drive past the house to the shed where the horses of all the visitors were hitched. There are few more awkward things to do than to get out or in a carriage when women are watching, and though Hiram had never probably thought of the fact before, he fully experienced its truths, as endeavoring to spring genteely from the buggy, his foot slipped on the wheel, and he came down on his hands and knees into the dirt. His remarks as he scrambled to his feet were confined to one word, but that, though short, was the most expressive one of the English language.

'I'll have to go round to the barn pump and wash my hands before I can go in,' he said to himself. 'I suppose they are having their fun out of me in the house now. Confound it. I wish I hadn't started!'

As he passed the door of the horse-barn, which was partly open, he heard the sound of voices. He listened, and his heart sank as he recognized the tones of his rival, Elnathan Rogers.

'I want her bad,' he was saying. 'She just suits me. You can't always have her, you know, and you'd better call the thing settled.'

'I don't know about that,' answered the deacon doubtfully. I wouldn't part with Jenny. But you hang on so, I don't know—'

'Say it's a bargain deacon. I've thought it over a good while, and Jenny I must have. I'll treat her well, you may be sure of that.'

The deacon hesitated, blew his nose, and finally said:

'She's got some little tricks that nobody knows nothing about but me. and I don't want to impose upon a neighbor.'

'Oh, pshaw! that's only an excuse, deacon. I'm willing to risk it.'

'She kicked me in the stomach last winter, and bit little Sammy not more than six weeks ago. I can show you the scar now!'

'Great King!' thought Hiram, 'and here I was going to pop the question this very night. Who ever would have thought it!

'I'll take that out of her,' said Elnathan, continuing the conversation. 'If she so much as lifts her foot against me, I'll give her a lickin' that'll last a month.'

'Lick!' ejaculated Hiram to himself, astonished beyond measure. 'Lick Jenny Bates! Well, that goes ahead of anything I ever heard of. And the old man doesn't say a word! What next?'

A pause ensued which, was at last broken by the deacon:

'Well, is you must have her, you must. I expect the old lady'll want something to say about it though. She thinks as much of Jenny as I do. Won't you come into the house?'

'Not now. I've got to go down to the village before dark. I'll be round some time to-morrow.'

Hiram Jenkins waited until he saw his successful rival climb the fence between the two farms. Then he deliberately unhitched his waggon and drove off, never casting a look toward the window where the fair Jenny sat in watchful expectation. Not until he reached his own door did he draw a long breath.

'It seems just like a dream,' said he to himself, as he slowly unbuckled the harness. 'To think of Jenny Bates kicking her own father and biting her own little brother, and she looking as though butter wouldn't melt in her mouth! It is just as mean, though, in the deacon to lick as 'tis for her to kick. The old hypocrite! Well, I must say, I'm mightily deceived in them Bateses. I s'pose Elnathan Rogers feels cranky enough now he's got her. I hope she'll kick his head off. Lucky for me I overheard what I did!'

Notwithstanding these self-gratulations, Hiram felt all the pangs of disappointment and jealousy. He had not only lost his 'girl,' but he had been cut out in the most mortifying manner by a man he held in thorough contempt. He felt that even with what he now knew of Jeanny's faults, if he could gain her he would carry her off in spite of his rival or the deacon either.

A week passed by, and Jeanny was never out of Hiram's thoughts. One day he went to the village, and while there, standing in front of the post-office, Elnathan drove by with the deacon's mare.

'I s'pose now he's got Jenny, he thinks he's got a right to the whole property,' muttered Hiram. 'I wish to gracious the mare would put her feet through the dashboard!'

That night the singing school met at the academy. Hiram came late. He used to sit with the tenors just behind Jenny Bates. Now he choose a different seat, and tried hard to sing bass. He could not however help seeing Elnathan Rogers pass peppermint lozenges to Jenny, and also write something on the blank leaf of her singing book, which she read and answered.

'Of course he'll go home with her tonight,' thought Hiram. 'It'll be the first time I've missed it for a year. He's welcome, though.'

All the intermission he kept his seat, and pretended to be very busy looking for some tune in his singing book that refused to be found. Jenny did not look at him.

The doxology closed the school at last, and there was a grand bustling about the door, and an eager pushing among the young men to make sure of their favourites. Hiram was trying to make his way through the crowd, when he found himself at the elbow of Jenny Bates, and at the same moment the hateful voice of Elnathan Rogers was heard in the words:

'Shall I see you home to-night, Miss Bates!'

'No, sir,' was the prompt answer. 'I shall walk home alone.'

Hiram was not prepared for this.

'Perhaps it's one of her fits,' he said to himself. 'The deacon said she had 'em: that nobody knew but himself. I'm glad she mittened him, though.'

The word mitten reminded Hiram that he had left both his on his seat in the school room, and he stepped back just as the candles were being put out.

'Here's Jenny Bates' singing book,' he heard one boy say to another. 'She went off in such a hurry to-night that she forgot it.'

'Give it to me,' said Hiram, who remembered what had taken place that evening, and with eager look sought out the written messages that had passed between Jenny and his rival. They were as follows:

'Tell your father he cheated me when I bought old Jenny. I thought by her name she must be good for something, but she kicks and bites ten times worse then he ever told me. I wish now I had spoken for the Jenny in the house, instead of the one in the barn.'

And the answer:

'I guess the horse is as good as you deserve. As for your choosing between the two you mention, you won't be able to do that this year. You have got the only Jenny you can get from my father.'

A light broke in upon Hiram.

'Well, of all the infernal fools I ever heard of, I am the biggest! A dog would have had more sense. It's not to late now thank heaven.'

The departing crowd stared as Hiram with the singing book in his hand, rushed down the stairs two at a time, and up the road which led to Deacon Bates.' If he was not too late, he was nearly so, for Jenny was just opening the gate of the front yard.

'Stop, Jenny!' he exclaimed, panting for breath, 'Here's your singing book. You left it on the seat. I tried to overtake you.'

'You needn't have taken the trouble, Mr. Jenkins: I guess no one would have stolen it,' said Jenny, with a great display of dignity, and making a show of going into the house.

'Don't Jenny! Wait—wait just a minute. I know I've acted like a fool; but just let me explain.'

Jenny hesitated a moment, made another start toward the door, then turned and went back to the gate where the discomfited Hiram stood waiting.

'Well,' she said, in as freezing a tone as she could command.

'Now don't look and talk that way, Jennie Bates. You know I never would have acted as I have if I hadn't thought I had good reason for it. I thought you were going to marry Elnathan Rogers'

'What business had you to think any such thing?' asked Jenny, firing up. 'A pretty explanation that!' and again she turned away from the gate.

'Stop! Let me tell you. Can't you listen a minute?' said Hiram in desperation. He felt there was no other way than to make a clean breast of it, and plunged into his work at once. Word for word he related the conversation he had heard in the horse-barn, and the effect it had upon him. He was deeply in earnest, and in closing humbly appealed for forgiveness. He saw her tremble and put her hands to her face. Poor girl, she pitied him! His heart rose, and his hand was upon the gate to open it, when a peal of laughter, louder and longer from being so long pent up, rang out upon the night air, almost startling Hiram out of his boots and waking the deacon and his wife from a sound sleep in the upper front bed-room.

Up went the window, and a night-capped head was thrust out, with a demand as to what was the matter. Still Jenny laughed, while Hiram stood silent by the gate angry and ashamed, not knowing whether to advance or go back. At last Jenny found her voice.

'Go home, Hiram Jenkins,' she said: 'say your prayers and go to sleep, and if you want to say anything more to me, come up to-morrow evening after supper. But mind, don't go listening at any horse barns on your way home:' and she went off in another peal of laughter.

Hiram did not wait to say good-night. Whether he slept or said his prayers that night is not recorded, but it is an established fact that eight o'clock the next evening found him in Deacon Bates' parlor. The interview was a long and probably an interesting one, and its immediate result was that before Thanksgiving the deacon had neither a Jenny in the house nor in the barn.

That was years ago, and Hiram has done the town some service as selectman, and is likewise a dignified Justice of the Peace. But in the midst of all his dignities and honors, if he ever happens to insist upon having his own way, the threat of telling about the horse-barn brings him to terms at once. It is one check to his independence—the magic charm by virtue of which Mrs. Hiram Jenkins wields the household sceptre.

British Columbia

Mr. G. M. Dawson, F.G.S., lectured to a large and attentive audience upon "British Columbia." After describing its picturesque scenery he noticed the fact that the coast range of mountains were a climatice division, the greater part of the moisture falling on the coast. At Victoria in 1875, the rain fall was 36 inches, while within the coast range at Spencer's Bridge it was but 12 inches. In Victoria and along the coast the moisture mostly falls in winter, while there is clear and delightful weather for two or three months in summer—in fact no more enjoyable climate during summer can be found. At Sitka in Alaska the yearly rain fall averages 82½ inches, while south, in Oregon, and about the Columbia River it is nearly the same. On account of the heavy rain fall the Oregonians had been nicknamed "web-feet." While the coast climate was a mild, equable and delightful one, that behind the coast range was one of extremes—like that in this Province. At Spencer's Bridge the thermometer registered—20 deg. at times, and as high as 93 deg. in summer. However, the mean average temperature was only two degrees colder than Victoria. He treated next of the vegetation. The Douglas firs grew to enormous dimensions; one which was cut down and a section sent to the Centennial was 305 feet long, and diameter 20 feet above the butt, 8 feet 4 inches. Its concentric rings showed that it was 600 years old; the seed of this patriarchal tree must therefore, have fallen to the ground during the reign of Edward the First, and in a time of the Scottish Bruce. The speaker had seen giant cedars 17 feet in diameter. British Columbia's system of enclosed water-ways was unparalleled, but they were traversed by some of the worst and oldest steamers in the known world. There were two navigable stretches on the Fraser River, upon which stern wheel steamers of great powers were running; the remainder of the river was rapid in its course, and many voyageurs and miners had lost their lives in it. In regard to geographical information, the Canadian Pacific Railway surveys had added much to the knowledge of the interior of British Columbia resources, mentioned in the order of their present importance, were as follows: Mines, forests, fishersies the chase, stock-raising and agriculture. Coal and gold were found in abundance, and here he remarked that Canada possessed the only available coal deposits on either the Atlantic or Pacific coast. British Columbian coal was excellent, and was finding its way into San Francisco despite the heavy protective tariff. The searchers for gold had pushed their discoveries farther and farther until now they were in 59 deg north latitude, at Cassiar, on the Stickeen river, in a forbidding country, with an Arctic climate:—here was the richest gold field in the province. The salmon fisheries were unrivalled, and the fertility of the soil was great, while the climate enable wheat to be raised away up in the Peace River district. In fact, British Columbia had every element necessary to wealth and prosperity; and the speaker urged the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as this once done it would secure the trade of a vast country which otherwise would fall into the hands of the Americans.—*Montreal Witness*

The Dunkin Act was defeated in Ottawa County by 200 majority.

Thousands of live snakes from 12 to 18 inches long fell during a heavy rain a short time since at Memphis, Tennesse.

A Calcutta despatch reports fifty persons killed at Adhemabed by a gunpowder explosion, and a thousand wounded.

Mrs. Brown and Miss Mason, of Dundas, are still holding revival meetings in Hamilton, and the papers say they are very largely attended.

Speaking of the Canadian meat trade, the London "Times" says the new venture already appears to have conferred a boon on the working classes.

Toronto is becoming economical. The Mayor, it is understood, asked to have his salary reduced from $3,000 to $2,000, and his request was acceded to.

As the gold yield of Australia decreases, the wool crop becomes more valuable. Last year the whole product of that country was $70,000,000, more than four times as much as its gold product.

A Victoria despatch to San Francisco states that an Indian, belonging to a tribe near Kamsecth, confessed that fifteen persons who reached shore from the wreck of the steamer "George J Wright," three years ago, were murdered by his tribe, and the bodies thrown into the sea.

The Electoral Commission in secret session Thursday by a vote of 8 to 7 adopted a resolution declaring that the Hayes and Wheeler electoral votes of Louisiana should be counted, on the ground that it is not possible to go behind the certificate of the Governor so far as it is founded upon the action of the Returning Board. A report embodying the decision will be presented to Congress.

About four hundred shanties are out on the ice in Saginaw bay. These structures are made of thin wood, lined with heavy building paper, and rest on runners so that they may be moved readily. The inhabitants are fishermen, who cut holes through the ice and capture great quantities of fish. The population is over a thousad, and there are stores, saloons, and a hotel in this strange village, which will last probably until March.

A Life Buoy marked "George Cromwell" has been picked up in Placenta Bay, Newfoundland, and there is but little doubt that this vessel has met the fate of her sister ship, the "George Washington," and been wrecked. These ill-fated vessels, although well adapted for the purpose for which they were built, of trading to the West Indies, were totally unfit for the dangerous passage between Halifax and Newfoundland, being too top-heavy.

Neal Dow favors more stringent penalties against the sale of liquors in Maine. He says the steps taken to diminish this traffic in other States have erred in making the punishment so trifling that the liquor dealers laugh at it. The political influence of the saloons often suffices to paralyze the hands of justice. General public sentiment has but little to do in really retarding prohibitive legislation. The true obstacle is the hold that the liquor interest has upon the average politician.

On Thursday last an attempt was made to assassinate Gov. Packard, of Louisiana. The Governor was shot in the knee, and his assailant was wounded in the arm by a bystander. The would be murderer was W. A. Weldon, son of a highly respectable clergyman of Philadelphia, and he is now in custody. The Republicans feel confident of being able to connect him with a band of assassins, while the Democrats claim that the whole affair was a trick to influence the decision in the Louisiana case.

In the United States Senate, on the 15th Mr. Cameron presented the resolution of the Milwauke Chamber of Commerce calling the attention to the importance of the reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada, and urging the adoption of the joint resolution introduced in the House some time ago providing for the appointment of Commissioners to confer with Commissioners of Great Britain with regard to the negotiation of the treaty to bring about such trade. It was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

About a quarter past three Thursday morning last, a fire broke out on the ground floor of the pressroom, in a small closet used for a store room, in the *Express* printing office, owned by Mr. J. B. Benson, Napanee. The place was completely gutted and the plant and almost everything connected with the office destroyed. The three presses are thought to be so much damaged as to be almost worthless. Stock insured for $4,000 in the Stadacona Insurance Company, and $2,500 in the Royal and Provincial. Mr. Benson estimates his loss at $4,000 and the Good Templars lose a quantity of books and printed matter belonging to the Grand Lodge. Loss on building about $800; insured. The billiard room sustained some loss by water. The origin of the fire is not known.

SLEEP FOR THE YOUNG AND THE OLD.—A medical writer says, up to eighteen years old every child should be allowed to rest in bed, after the sleep is over, until they feel as if they would rather get up than not. It is a very great mistake for persons, old or young—especially children, or sedentary persons—to bounce out of bed at the moment they wake up; all the instincts shrink from it, and fiercely kick against it. Fifteen or twenty minutes spent in gradually waking up, after the eyes are opened, and stretching the limbs, do as much good as sound sleep, because the operations set the blood in motion by degrees, tending to equalize the circulation.

The Postmaster General's Report.

The report of the Postmaster-General is, as usual, a very interesting document. The following statistics show the extent of the postal business of the Dominion on the 30th of June, 1876:—

Number of post offices, 5,015;
Miles of postal route, 38,391.
Miles of annual mail travel, 14,878,663.
Number of letters, 41,830,000.
Post cards, 4,646,000.
Registered letters, 1,777,000.
Free Letters, 1,059,292.
Newspapers and periodicals, 38,529,000.
Book parcels, 4,539,912.
Parcels, 70,744.
Revenue for year ending 30th June, 1876, $1,481,886.
Expenditure, $1,959,758.
Number of money order offices, 742.
Amount of money orders issued, $6,866,618.
Number of Post-office Savings Bank offices on the 1st of January, 1877, 278.
Number of depositors on the 30th of June, 1876, 24,415.
Total amount deposited, $1,726,204.
Amount of deposits and accrued interest on the 30th of June, 1876, $2,760,983.

After referring to the arrangements of the International Postal Union and to the advantages derived by Canada as the result of more liberal international arrangement, as well as some other matters, the report notices the progress of the free delivery system now in force in Montreal, Toronto, Quebec, Ottawa, Hamilton, St. John, Halifax, and London. The average of weekly deliveries in December, 1876, was:—Letters, 120,796; papers, 42,506; total, 163,302 in the distribution of which 130 carriers were employed. The satisfactory results of the opening of the Intercolonial Railway as regards the small service are noticed.

A Chance Meeting at the Counter.

The St Louis *Republican* relates the following as an actual fact lately transpiring in that city:—"Not long ago two ladies stood at the shawl counter of one of the two leading dry good stores in St. Louis. They were unknown to each other, but were each intent in the examination of the shawls. One of the ladies was finally handed something that struck her fancy. She turned the article over and over, with admiring eye upon it, and asked its price. She was told what it was, and with a sigh laid it down again. 'I like it,' she said; 'it suits me perfectly, but I can't afford it. My husband tells me that we must retrench as much as possible. The sympathetic saleswoman was about placing the shawl upon its shelf when the other lady spoke: 'You do not intend taking the shawl, then, madam?' 'No,' was the response. 'Then I think I'll take it. It suits me, too, and I was only waiting for your determination.' Then, turning to the saleswoman, the last speaker told her to do up the purchase, adding, 'Charge it to Mr. ———.' The effect the name had upon the lady who was unable to buy the shawl was electric. 'That's my husband!' she shrieked, and there was a scene upon which the curtain did not fall at once by any means."

A FRAUD EXPOSED.—Some time since an advertisment appeared in the Canadian papers from a Colonization Land Company having headquarters at Cincinnatti, offering a free ride to Texas upon condition of the purchase of some of the lands. Mr. Martin Farrell, of Ingersoll, having suspicion that all was not right, communicated with the Mayor of Cincinnatti on the subject, and requesting him to state if it was genuine or not. To this communication the following answer has been received from the Mayor's Secretary:—"Our Chief of Police has advice from the Court of the County (Mylan, Texas), that it is the worst kind of a fraud!" Now who wants that free ride to Texas?

A man in Tremont plays so sweetly on the bugle, that his wife saves the notes for sugar.

Why has an ocean voyage no terrors for physicians? Because they are accustomed to see sickness.

"Shovel off your roof," said a policeman to a citizen yesterday. "I shan't do it. I will keep my roof and shovel off the snow.'

A poor young man remarks that the only advice he gets from capitalists is "to live within his income;" whereas the difficulty he experiences is to live without an income.

Macaulay said that as civilization grew poetry declined. And now hundreds of young and ambitious poets will understand why their contributions find their way into the editorial waste basket, instead of into the columns of a newspaper. Civilization is growing.

'What do you do?' asked a farmer of a burbeggar, who applied at his door for cold victuals and old clothes. "I don't do nothing much but travel about," was the answer. "Are you good at travelling?" asked the farmer. "yes," replied the beggar. 'Then let's see you travel,' said the farmer.

An organ was some time ago introduced in a parish church in the north of Scotland, and some of the members took offence and left. One of these soon after met another member and enquired "hoo the organ was gettin' on?" "O, fine," was the answer; "jist blawin' awa the chaff an' keepin' the corn."

The late Signor Blitz, the magician, once said to Daniel Webster in Washington: "Give me 100,000 Treasury notes to count, and watch closely and you will find only 75,000 when I return them." "Signor," responded Webster, "there is no chance; there are here better magicians than you—they would not leave 50,000 after their counting."

An Irishman's friend having fallen into a slough the Irishman called loudly to another for assistance. The later who was busily engaged in cutting a log, and wished to procrastinate, enquired, "How deep is the gentleman in?" "Up to his ankles." "Then there is plenty of time," said the other. "No there is not," replied the first; "I forgot to tell you he is here first."

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