

What was it?

The latest "sea serpent" story comes from Lake Simcoe, and is told by Mr. Allan G. Canava, Dominion Land Surveyor, in a letter to his uncle, Mr. Charles Gibbs, of Toronto. Mr. Canava has been employed lately in examining the waters of Lake Simcoe and Cuching and the marshes adjoining. A day or two ago he was engaged with an assistant examining the swamp bordering on Lake Simcoe, on the boundary of the townships between south Orillia and Oro. They were in a boat and were moving slowly along when their attention was attracted by a peculiar puffing sound similar to that produced by the escape of steam from an exhaust pipe of an engine. Mr. Canava remarked that was a strange place to have a mill, upon which his companion rejoined that the sound came from the cars on the railway. But it was seen that both gentlemen were wide of the mark, for in a few minutes he saw emerging from the water an extraordinary creature, having a head as large as that of an adult human being, and a body resembling a serpent and increasing in thickness downwards. It seemed frightened and made a peculiar puffing sound like a small engine. After going out into deep water it stopped for a short time, and with the cessation of a locomotion there was an end to the puffing noise already referred to. Mr. Canava and his companion propelled the boat forward a short distance to have a better view of the creature, upon which the puffing recommended more vigorously than before; and it moved off at the rate of about 15 miles an hour. It carried its head about three feet out of the water as it went.

The above is the strangest of the many strange stories recently told about sea serpents, but as the reciter of it is, Mr. Gibbs says, trustworthy, there seems no reasonable grounds for withholding its publication in the absence of any other objection than that it is a somewhat strange tale.—*Globe*.

John Wilkes.

John Wilkes is widely known through the canvas of Hogarth, who has immortalized his altogether abominable squint in a manner which constitutes the likeness—so true, we suppose, and yet so altogether diabolical—as one of the most illustrious illustrations of the malignity of art. Indeed, his squint was something altogether peculiar and impressive among the revelations of a physiognomy. In the "Life of Lord Sidmouth" there is an anecdote showing how it once upset the House of Lords; it was when Sidmouth was Prime Minister. Bishop Watson got up to speak on some subject connected with Nootha Sound. The Bishop commenced by observing "My lord, it is impossible at this moment, and in connection with this subject, to look at the north-east without at the same time giving a glance at the south west." Sidmouth, in a conspicuous part of the House saw this optical difficulty at once; but when he heard someone behind him quite audibly say, "Eh! I'll be bound there's nobody but Wilkes can do that!" he broke out into a laugh which as it suggested the point of the humor, upset the gravity of the whole assembly. Yet a hundred years ago that ungraceful face shone conspicuously upon a tenth part of all the tavern signs in England, and Wilkes himself used to relate with great gusto how his attention was once drawn to an old lady looking up to one of these evidences of his unbounded popularity, and how he heard her exclaim, "Ah, there he hangs! He hangs everywhere but where he ought to hang!" Such are the popular traditions, and such the general estimate by which John Wilkes has generally been known. Byron in his flippant way describes him as "A merry, cock-eyed, curious-looking sprite," and Southey, in graver terms—but really not much more worthy of our respect in this description—tells how "He by the east of his eye oblique, I know, as the firebrand whom the unthanking populace held for their idol and hero."—*Leisure Hour*.

THE LATE DOCTOR MACADAM used to tell of a tipsy Scotchman making his way home upon a bright Sunday morning, when the good folk were wending their way to the kirk. A little dog pulled a ribbon from the hand of a lady who was leading it and it ran away from her, she appealed to the first passer-by, asking him to whistle for the poodle. "Woman!" he retorted, with a solemn visage which only a Scotchman could assume, "Woman this is no day for whistling."

NEW ARCHAIC DISCOVERIES.—Several pyramids have just been opened in Sakkara, Egypt, enclosing the tombs of kings of the fifth dynasty. The mortuary chapel of each contains about eighty square metres of the smallest and most closely written texts giving precise details of the religious belief of that age. Except the finding of the Rosetta stone in 1799 scarcely any discovery in Egypt equals this in scientific value. All the Sakkara pyramids, about sixty in number will be opened as soon as possible and new discoveries of value will probably be made.

A FAITHLESS WIFE.—Buffalo, July 17.—Captain Smith, of the 5th precinct, arrested a man named Wm. Stephenson for vagrancy yesterday afternoon. The Captain had noticed the man walking along the bank of the river for the past three days, and thinking that all was not right arrested him. He was brought before Justice Feldman, where he told a pitiful story. He said that at one time he was a prosperous plumber in Ogdensburg, and worth about \$20,000. After losing his first wife he married again, and lived happily for a short time, travelling all over the country and gratifying the slightest wish of his wife, until she ruined him with her extravagance. After that she did not care for him, and became unfaithful, having intimate relations with other men. This was more than he could bear and he determined on self-destruction, and in all probability would have succeeded if his purpose had not Captain Smith discovered him. Justice Feldman sent him to the Poor House for ninety days.

Progress of Christianity.

The statistics compiled with great care by Dr. Dredgester, of Boston, disclose the marvelous progress which Christianity and especially Protestant Christianity, has made.

He gives the population of the earth at 1 billion 437 millions in 1830. It took ten centuries for Christianity to gain a nominal adherence of 50 million, and five more centuries to gain 50 million more; but starting with the year 1500 at 100 millions, in three centuries more, the gain was 100 millions. Since 1500 the gain has been greater than the previous eighteen centuries, and now reaches 410,000,000. Of this increase in nominal Christianity the population under Christian governments was as follows:

Year	Population
1500	100,000,000
1600	110,000,000
1700	120,000,000
1800	200,000,000
1830	300,000,000

Since 1830, Romanism has increased 80 per cent, the Greek Church 26 per cent, and Protestantism 170 per cent. At the opening of the last century only 155 millions of the earth's population was under Christian government now 655 millions of people are under such sway, or nearly half the population of the globe. In the year 1700 the population under Roman Catholic government was 90 millions. In 1876 it had doubled, and numbered 180 millions. The Greek church in the same time increased from 33 to 96 millions. In 1700 there were 32 millions under Protestant rule, while in 1876 there were 408 millions—more than 12 fold increase. Romanism has added 90 millions, and Protestantism 376 millions—or, four times as much as the gain of Romanism. Since 1730 Romanism added 43 million to her civil sway and Protestantism 215 millions.—*Evangelical Charchman*.

CANADIAN ITEMS.

Bears are said to be very numerous in Eastnor.

Southampton is to have a grist mill, having voted a bonus for the erection of one.

A lad named Samuel Moore, living near Blain, while working a horse rake on the 14th instant, was kicked so severely by the horse that he died on Sunday.

On Monday last at about 3 p.m. a fire broke out in a barn owned by Dr. Lightbody late 4 c.n., 2, Bentinck and the building was totally consumed. Insurance amounted to \$600.—*Brace Herald*.

Nineteen Nihilist conspirators against the Czar have been arrested on the strength of information given by the twentieth, who was chosen to kill the Emperor, but prepared to commit suicide as before reported.

Little Robbie went to a show and saw an elephant for the first time in his life. When he came home his mother asked him what he had seen. "An elephant, ma," he answered, "that gobbed hay with its front tail."

An east-bound Grand Trunk freight train ran off the track at the Northern and North-Western junction, near Georgetown on Friday morning. Two cars are a total wreck, and the Northern and North-Western bridge was injured.

Two small boys died of lockjaw at Cross Point, Tuesday week. One of them, named Deasport, was injured some days before by the explosion of a toy pistol, which he had loaded with a stone. The other boy cut himself with a rusty nail.

During this month summer complaints commence their ravages. To be forearmed, Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry is the best known preventative and cure for all forms of bowel complaints and sickness incident to the summer season.—*Brace Herald*.

ANOTHER OLD RESIDENT GONE.—Last Thursday afternoon, after a long and painful illness, which she bore with Christian fortitude, Mrs. John Hamilton, sr., was called home, at the comparatively early age of 55 years. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton settled in Tara some 30 years ago, theirs being the first house erected where the thriving village now stands, and their home afforded protection to many a weary traveller. Her husband and four children survive her. She has been an adherent of the Presbyterian Church for some years, and on Sunday morning the Rev. Mr. Blain made a touching reference to her decease. Vaular disease of the heart was the immediate cause of her death.—*Leader*.

Having Just Received a

CAR LOAD of HARDWARE

I am Prepared to sell at Prices that Cannot be Beat.

Cut Nails, Clench Nails, and

Finishing Nails very Cheap.

Spades, Shovels, Garden Rakes, Hoes, and Manure Forks. Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Japans, Glass and Putty

At Bottom Prices.

Barn door ROLLERS and Hinges, DOOR LOCKS & PADLOCKS.

Carpenter's Tools of all Kinds.

A Large Display of Table & Pocket Cutlery, &c., &c.

NOW is the Time and the LEADING HOUSE is the PLACE to get HARDWARE

Cheap for Cash.

T. J. ADIE,
Upper Town, DURHAM.

SPRING AND SUMMER!

1881.

We have pleasure in announcing that our Stock is now complete, and we are prepared to show special values in

MILLINERY,

Mantles, Staple and Fancy Dry Goods.

Consisting of Grey Cottons, White Cottons, Shirtings, Denims, Ducks, Ticking, Cottonades, Linen Towels and Clothings, Honey Comb Cloths, Terry Cloths, Toilet Mats and Covers, Table Cloths, Napkins, SOYLES Quilts, Robe Prints, Cretonnes, Plain and Fancy

Dress Goods, Black Lustres, Coloured Lustres, Fancy Lustres, White Dress Muslins, Linen Handkerchiefs, Black and Coloured Cashmeres, excellent value, all the latest designs in Laces, Lace Scars, Lace Fichus.

LACE CURTAINS, a choice variety and very cheap.

Our Embroideries, Frillings, Dress Fringes, Buttons, Coloured and Black Silks and Satins, are undoubtedly the best value in the trade. Men's, Women's, Misses' and Children's Hosiery and Gloves. Kid Gloves all shades and sizes; Women's, Misses' and Children's Corsets; Infants Robes and Dresses.

Mantle Cloths; TWEEDS, extra good value.

MEN'S FELT HATS in all the newest Styles.

A Choice Selection of GROCERIES always on hand.

Any quantity of Butter and Eggs wanted and highest cash price paid.

E. & A. DAVIDSON.

Durham, April, 1881.

HACYARD'S PECTORAL BALM.

Has no equal for the permanent cure of Coughs, Colds, Throats, Rheumatism, Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, and all Lung Diseases.

It is particularly calculated to give satisfaction.

T. MILBURN & CO., Proprietors, Toronto.

The Celebrated Brantford STONEWARE:

Milk Pans,

Churns,

Butter Crocks,

Preserve Jars,

Jugs, etc., etc.

Just received at H. W. Mockler's.

ALSO A LARGE STOCK OF THE

Oshawa Scythes, Forks, &c.,

Which are Justly Considered the best in the Market.

Snathes, Rakes and Cradles,

A good assortment, AND CHEAPER THAN EVER.

Any quantity of BUTTER AND EGGS wanted and Highest Price Paid.

H. W. MOCKLER.

June 23d, 1881.

HARDWARE.

Buy your Cut Nails and Builder's Hardware at MOWAT'S,

Lower Town, and save money. We are bound to sell at bottom prices.

Our Stock of HARVEST TOOLS, is unsurpassed for quality, quantity and cheapness.

We offer special inducements in Oil,

Paints and White Lead, which will be found to be of the best quality, in the market, Glass, Putty, Brushes, &c. &c., at prices lower than ever. Give us a call.

JOS. F. MOWAT.

Lower Town, Durham.

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Durham, April,