

The Daily British Whig.

FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 12.

REMINISCES.

REMARKS BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

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LETTERS FROM TORONTO.

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE—THE LOSS OF "PINTA"—SOME AND THOSE WHO PLAY THEM.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The Opera House about to rise like a Phoenix from its ashes, brighter, larger and better in every respect than before.

Curtains are at present being removed, the debris, and galleys of men are being repaired, the dressing rooms in a wing, which was not very seriously damaged.

I understand that Mr. G. H. L. LeVoy, one of our most talented architects, has been awarded the supervision of the new structure. It is proposed to add to the area of the new building so as to enable it to seat about 600 more than the old one.

The seats will also be a little wider and consequently more comfortable. Frequenters of the House will appreciate this improvement as the old seats were altogether too narrow.

A new door curtain, constructed entirely of iron, is to be provided which will entirely shut off the stage from the rest of the house. These, with other improvements will make this one of the finest, if not the finest theatre on the continent.

Mr. LeVoy, together with Mr. Manning, the proprietor, propose visiting New York this week to inspect some of the theatres there with a view of embodying in their building any new ideas that may there suggest themselves. It was rather a surprise to some of our citizens to hear of the fearful rapidity with which this building was cleared out. We put great faith in our water works and fire system and this building being gutted in the remarkably short time it was together with the lamentable death of the three poor people who were therein, gave the whole community a terrible shock.

Of course the inflammable nature of the building contributed greatly to this result; still, after all the money spent on our water works and fire systems it is not very reassuring to hear the complaints of want of hot water which has been the case since the late fire.

A lively discussion respecting the steps taken to rescue the crew of the stone hulk "Pinta," which was crushed in the little wharf here some time since, is at present going on through the daily papers between the would-be rescuers and the relatives of the unrescued.

"Pinta" was seen to sink from Oakville and word was immediately telegraphed to Mr. Thomas Tinning, of this city, to try and rescue some of the crew who were adrift in the sea usually carried by small schooners of this class. A tug carrying the life boat was after some time started and went straight to Oakville without finding any trace of the unfortunates.

The relatives of the crew charge Tinning with cowardice in not pursuing the drifting crew across the lake instead of sticking close to the shore, and he retorts that his tug was unseaworthy, without a compass, and with an open hatch—rather a bad state of affairs to face the gale then blowing.

The discussion is carried on with a good deal of bitterness on both sides. Who will come out ahead I can not now say, but Tinning will have something to do to free himself from the imputation that he put upon him of being cowardly and unskillful.

Organic, organists and organists are to be heard and met with on every side just now; in fact it would look as if the people were going to be afflicted with a mania something like the blasphemous mania of this thing, which Mr. So-and-so, the new organist of the Presbyterian Church, gives an organ recital; straightway Mr. Blank, of the Methodist Church, advertises a recital; then Mr. What's-his-name, of the Congregationalists, announces another and so the excitement is kept up. We have just now several good organists and organists only to be heard in churches, we having as yet no public organ, still the taste for this grand instrument is growing very fast.

St. Michael's Cathedral people took in the neighborhood of \$10,000. St. Andrew's congregation are also organizing for a new instrument to replace the present one which is, it is claimed, too small. This shows the greatly progressive spirit of the age. A few years ago an organ in a Presbyterian church was unheard of, some of the old-fashioned covenanters saying that music in the church was ungodly, and if an organ was allowed in the first time they would have said so; but that they would have said so, and then perhaps—who knows—dancing. All this is changed. We now have in the principal church of that denomination a first class organ played by a first class organist, and accompanying a remarkably good choir. Not only this but the congregation are discussing the propriety of spending something like \$10,000 in buying one of the best instruments in the Dominion. Alas for the idea of bygone days! How some of the elders of fifty years ago would rave and perhaps even swear at the ungodly idea of music to lead the Psalms. Thus we progress.

Toronto, Dec. 11. 79. J. D. W.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Dutches of Connaught is a good look.

The Montreal Post thinks Dr. Hingston's report ought to be knighted.

Memoranda of the House of Commons are at present being printed.

English landowners are practicing economy in the Dominion of Wales is said to be among their number.

The dockmaster of the Grand Opera House, New York, has been indicted for refusing admission to a negro.

The Grand Trust employ 1,000 men in their Paris works. Charles' workshop there henceforth make their own engines.

George W. Childs proposes to pay the entire \$50,000 that is to be expended on the Grant recognition at Philadelphia.

Parsons and Dillon are expected to sail for America on the 20th inst. Parrell will address a meeting at Ballina on Sunday.

A judgment of \$3,000 against the New York & Chicago Midland railway road sold in New York the other day for \$25,000.

The Marquis of Salisbury, in speaking at an agricultural banquet, thought the fear of American competition was exaggerated.

It is said that the Indian Government favors giving up Herat to Persia, dividing Afghanistan into principalities, and making Turkistan independent.

All branches of the industry in Great Britain are improving, and it may be said, at least it is hoped, the very dark and dismal days have passed.

Mr. William Stewart is about to re-visit his home in the Highlands, in some work in his photographic business, in the hope of resuming operations, as the price of phosphate has advanced.

Lieut.-Col. Goussard, C.E., has gone to Oates Landing to report upon the feasibility of opening a low level drainage bridge across the St. Lawrence at that point.

Mr. McNamara, a Police Court lawyer, persists in his determination to sue the Montreal Post for libel for publishing in its Police Court report, which he considered derogatory to him, as a professional man.

Hon. Alexander Mackenzie presided at the annual missionary meeting of the Primitive Methodist Church of Canada, which was held at the Hotel de Ville, on the 11th inst. The report showed that \$11,736 has been expended on missionary in the past year.

The Kellogg Bridge Co., of Buffalo, are building a span for the Canada Pacific Railway, in this way the N. P. Government procures Canada for American manufacturers.

"It is like Jimmie's death," says Spalden's Glue.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

Condensed from the "Whig" Today.

Sir Leonard Tilley, continued his tour of the factories at St. John's this forenoon.

A female weighing 7½ pounds has been skinned by a patient in the Hotel Des, Montreal.

A fire, at 12:30 o'clock yesterday, destroyed the private residence of Dr. Buchanan, M. P. at Victoria.

Joseph Miller, Brooklyn, recovered \$1,000 yesterday in a suit against Anton Doyler, for the adjunction of the former's daughter.

An inquest was held at Montreal on Mary Ryan, who was found dead in a vacant house on St. Charles Barronnet street, and a verdict of death from cerebral congestion returned.

Samuel Singleton, ticket taker at the New York Grand Opera House, has been arrested for refusing admission to a colored man. The indictment is first found under the Civil Rights Act in the district.

The American Union Telegraph Company yesterday completed a connection with the new French cable, and a dispatch successfully sent from this city to Paris.

The Toronto police court this morning Thos. Soden was remanded on a charge of stabbing William Conroy with intent. They quarrelled in a disreputable house at the corner of St. Patrick street in the face and neck.

Archbishop Lynch, who arrived at New York to-day, is accompanied by Right Rev. Dr. Mahoney, Bishop of Eudocia in partibus and auxiliary Bishop of Toronto, and others.

The exportation of cattle and sheep from the Ottawa District has been unusually large this season. One dealer alone has shipped, since September, nine thousand and twelve from the county of Lanark for the United States, valued at \$25,000.

Mr. William Compton, Official Arbitrator for Canada, has returned to Ottawa from British Columbia. Mr. Compton has been in that province since June last, enquiring into a very important case connected with the Telegraph Line along the Canada Pacific Railway there.

Much sympathy is expressed for the officers of the 10th Regiment, and one senior officer, Stollery, who has resigned. The officers dismissed were concerned in a conspiracy, but merely gave evidence in Col. Stollery's defence.

A brilliant case, which resulted in a verdict for the defendant.

PAY THE MONEY.

The Soule Purse Yet Undivided.

New York, Dec. 11.—Hanlan had a consultation with Mr. Blake to-day, and signed a proposition to the effect that he was willing to row Courtney at Washington at any time within five weeks, each contestant to deposit \$500 with Mr. Blake, and if only one starts in the race he is to have the \$500, and forfeit money. If two row, the winner is to be paid the above money within twenty-four hours. Hanlan declares this is the last chance he will give Courtney to row for the \$500 prize.

Hanlan said in New York that Soule offered, in Toronto, to give him the \$500 prize if he would make an affidavit not to give any of the money to Courtney, as the latter had said that Hanlan had promised him a share of the stake, win or lose. Soule made this offer in case Blake is unable to get up a race.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—Information has been received that Cricket still declines to allow Hanlan anything for expenses but is willing to row him for \$10,000. An Australian gentleman paid \$65 for a cable message to Hanlan and never received answer either by wire or post.

Hanlan's course in the Courtney another chance, is not favorably received by his friends in Toronto, who think he is a fool, to waste more time over the Union Springs man. Hanlan is building a spacious and handsome summer house on the site where his old house formerly stood. His "homestead" with which the people of Ontario presented him, will be about half a mile away in a most favorable and picturesque locality, commanding a fine view of the lake to the west.

LOOSE WORK.

A Dangerous Use of Firearms.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—Yesterday afternoon four boys named George Long, John McMillan, W. White and John Kerr, while going along the shore road, on a gunning expedition, met two brothers named Stephens, driving to work the city. The younger Stephens had a cigar in his mouth and was followed by Long and Kerr, who were told him to buy the cigars. Long, who was carrying the only gun in the party, fired in the direction of Stephens, the shot penetrated their faces. The brothers drove to the office of Dr. Fisher, where their wounds were treated. Long ran away after the shooting, but was arrested last evening. He states that he was over one hundred yards from the wagon when he fired and that he aimed at a telegraph pole.

CANADA'S CREDIT.

The Reports of Farmer's Delegates—A Fine Exhibit.

(Special to the G.L.)

London, Dec. 11.—A meeting of the farmer's delegates, recently returned from the Dominion was held yesterday at Carlisle for the purpose of presenting and discussing their reports. A large number being present in behalf of the delegates. All the reports were highly favourable to Canada. At the Edinburgh cattle show yesterday a Durham heifer, bred at Guelph, Ont., was exhibited by Mr. Beattie, of the first prize for her class, besides standing well for the cup offered for the best animal in the show. She will also be exhibited at the Carlisle show next week.

A TOWN BURNED.

Coal Oil Explosion—Suffering of the Homeless.

Bradford, Pa., Dec. 12.—This morning a conflagration, involving the destruction of the entire town of Red Rock, caused intense excitement throughout the county of McKean. A tank of coal oil, containing 20,000 barrels, caught fire and exploded, in so thoroughly burning time the fire destroyed the entire village, containing 200 houses, rendering more than that number of families homeless. The weather changed last night and became cold. Hundreds of sufferers are out in open air and need aid.

Woman's Sphere.—A woman calling herself the Queen of Cuba is doing an enormous business in the sale of a peculiarly named negro. She rides in a discarded circus chariot, wearing velvet and spangles, and accompanied by a band of music. She has the reputation among the credulous of possessing miraculous powers of healing, and multitudes flock around her wherever she goes. She makes no charge for her services, but sells vast quantities of a "ointment" which she ascribes marvelous curative qualities.

Wanted.—Sherman & Co., Marshall, Mich., want an agent in this county, other, at a salary of \$100 per month and expenses paid. For full particulars address as above.

"It is like Jimmie's death," says Spalden's Glue.

THE INDICTED AGITATORS.

Opening of the Connaught Assizes—The Judge's Charge.

(Mail.)

Carriac-on-Shannon, Dec. 11.—The Connaught Assizes opened to-day. Several prisoners of distinction were brought to the Court House, which was thronged. A large force of constabulary was stationed about the town. The police were posted in strong force inside the Court room and around the building. Neither Davitt or Daly attended. Their presence will not be required until Friday. The Justice, addressing the Grand Jury, referred to the case of the National prisoners, defined the crime of sedition, and told the jury they were entitled to consider all the surrounding circumstances under which the speeches were delivered in order to judge of the merits of the case. Brennan's case was more serious, on account of the attempt of the latter to seduce the police from their duty. The Judge informed the jury that they were only bound to take a fair and just view of the trial and take place in another Court.

London, Dec. 12.—The Grand Jury at Carriac-on-Shannon found "true bill" against Davitt, Killen and Daly, for sedition. The counsel for the Crown presented a long and elaborate charge, and Mr. Keegan, counsel for Killen, protested and advised Killen to remain in prison. Castlebar, Dec. 12.—The undersheriff of Mayo, with a large force of police, has gone to Lismore, to arrest a farmer named Dempsey, to protest against his eviction the Balla meeting of the 22nd was held.

CABUL.

Fighting the Afghans Another Fight The Killed and Wounded.

Cabul, Dec. 12.—On Wednesday Gen. Macpherson occupied Sarkh Kotal, just in time to prevent the junction of the Kohistan, who occupied a position near Katal, were destroyed, leaving their standard. Our loss is a few slightly wounded. Gen. Baker is to move by way of Charbata to take them in the rear, while Massy was to join Macpherson by the ground of conspiracy against the British officers, Stollery, who has resigned. The officers dismissed were concerned in a conspiracy, but merely gave evidence in Col. Stollery's defence.

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CRISIS IN SPAIN.

Scene in the Cortes—Position of the King—Fall of Compostel Ministry.

Madrid, Dec. 11.—An exciting scene was enacted in the Cortes to-day, resulting in the fall of the Compostel Ministry. The Premier delivered a speech in which he stated that the Government was earnest in its support of the pending bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba, and would endeavor to make the passage of it a test of the support of the majority in the Cortes. A tumultuous scene followed this declaration. Some of the members attached closely to the gubernatorial candidate resented these attacks upon the ministry, and amidst a great uproar the President put on his hat and declared the sitting of the Chambers closed.

Madrid, Dec. 12.—The political situation is extremely strained. The King in placed in a more critical position than at any time hitherto. The two hostile forces are working against him, and his own Cabinet, now representing the interests of the Cuban slave holders, and other which affiliates with the Carlist. It is believed the people are for the King, and would, if necessary, give their confidence by the election of a new Cortes.

Madrid, Dec. 12.—The Generals of the army, high in command in Spain and Cuba, such as Capt. General Blanco, and Generals Pradergast and Coscío, who tendered their resignations, did so on account of the fall of Compostel ministry. Many leading newspapers deplore the resignation of Compostel. They think the Conservatives were doing the duty of resigning, and the Liberals, instead of those who for nine months have opposed and defeated the abolition and free trade policy of Compostel. The newspapers also express alarm concerning the effect in Cuba.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Murder and Rapine in the Pacific Province.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 12.—A China woman and man were chopped to pieces recently with an axe by another Chinese, who set fire to the house to burn the bodies.

John Lohr, a German agent, was murdered near Kamloops, while, with three deputies, attempting to arrest three brothers named McLean and Alex. Hove. One assistant of Lohr was severely wounded. The murderers are at large, counting their heads and threatening to burn Kamloops.

CABLEGRAMS.

News From Across the Ocean.

RUSSIAN ARRESTS. St. Petersburg, Dec. 12.—There were many arrests to-day. It is said that the plan of the winter palace was found upon one person arrested.

VIENNA FLOODS. Vienna, Dec. 12.—Nearly all the rivers in Transylvania are overflooded, destroying bridges and houses, and interrupting communication, and carrying away farming implements, and causing great loss to some inhabitants were for days on trees and roof tops.

SYSTEM OF BELIEF. Berlin, Dec. 12.—An influential committee has been formed to organize a system of belief for the famine stricken people of Silesia.

MEETING OF THE EMPEROR. Schonal-feld yesterday had an audience with the Emperor.

THE CEREAL CROP. The rise in cereals throughout Germany is not for the famine stricken increase in the military estimates for 1880.

MONTREAL FLOUR MARKET.

Montreal, Dec. 12.—Flour—receipts 1,200 bbls, sales 500 bbls, prices generally unchanged, holders are not pressing sales. Quotations Superior extra 6.25 to 6.50, extra superfine 6.10 to 6.15, fancy 5.90 to 6.00, spruce extra, new arrival, 5.90 to 6.00, to 5.95, superfine 5.60 to 5.70, strong bakers' 6.25 to 6.50, new 5.25 to 5.50, middlings 4.50 to 4.60, city 3.25 to 3.50, Ontario 2.90 to 3.00, city 3.25 to 3.50, 100 lb. 1.25 to 1.35.

Wheat per 60 lb.—No. 2 Canada spring 1.45 to 1.45, No. 2 winter 1.40 to 1.40, No. 2 white do 1.30 to 1.35, No. 1 do 1.35 to 1.40.

Corn per 50 lb.—No. 2 Canada spring 1.45 to 1.45, No. 2 winter 1.40 to 1.40, No. 2 white do 1.30 to 1.35, No. 1 do 1.35 to 1.40.

Peas per 60 lb.—70c to 70c.

Oats per 60 lb.—70c to 70c.

Rye per 60 lb.—70c to 70c.

Barley per 60 lb.—70c to 70c.