PERISHING IN THE TREE-TOPS.

Terrible Experience of Twelve Men in Dakota's Flood—Lions for Neighbors.

A St. Paul, Minn., telegram says: R. B. Thayer, a Pullman car conductor on the Northern Pacific road, gives a graphic account of a perilous trip of a party of twelve, made across the river at Bismarck Thursday night, during the ice-gorge there. His orders were imperative to cross the river, and he managed to hire rivermen to take him and six passengers across in a yawl. The flood was at its height, the Missouri River was full of floating ice and it seemed almost impossible for a boat to live in the angry torrent. Mr. Thayer says:

"We left the landing about 5 o'clock. It looked as though we would make the trip to Bismarck before dark, as the current was running so swiftly that it was only necessary to steer the boat and keep her head down stream. Suddenly and without warning a squall struck us, the boat almost upset, so violent was the shock, and we shipped a sea that completely filled the bottom of our barque and gave us a ducking. The wind seemed to have started the ice, and we were continually being caught in eddies that would turn the boat around and make it unmanageable even with four strong men at the oars. Once we came in collision with an ice-floe with such force that it seemed as if we should go to the bottom.

"We gradually worked the boat into the tree-tops that were a few feet above water and secured anchorage. The wind had increased in violence and soon after dark it began to rain, then hail and finally snow. Our clothing was wet through and finally froze stiff. One of the party had got his feet wet and changed his stockings, but his shoes froze and he was so benumbed that he could not get them on again. He then took a coat from his satchel, cut the sleeves out and wrapped his feet in the sleeves. We stood up in the boat, stamped, swung our arms to keep our blood in circulation and resorted to every form of exercise that our cramped position would permit. One of the party finally gave up and declared he did not care if he did freeze to death, and sank down in the boat. I aroused him by a smart slap in the face that angered him, and he got up and wanted to fight. The same thing occurred several times during that awful night.

"The roaring of the river and the cracking of the ice were simply awful. At times we could not make ourselves heard, and to add to our discomfiture we could hear quite near us the screams of two mountain lions, probably in some tree-top, imprisoned by the flood. At last it grew lighter, the tide suddenly went down, and the muddy waves diminished in size. There was less ice in the river, too, and with benumbed hands we unfastened our moorings and drifted with the flood down the river and finally managed to get ashore."

THE DONAHUE CASE.

Clutch" Escapes the Clutches of the Law Once More.

A last (Thursday) night's Welland despatch says: The case of the United States Express Co. vs. Donahue was concluded at the Assizes to-day. The defence relied principally upon an alibi, the evidence for which is as follows: Wm. Buchner, the captain of a cavalry troop, swore that within a few days before going into camp at Niagara, on the 22nd June, 1883, he borrowed a sum of money from Donahue at Fort Erie, with which to pay expenses. He was not positive as to how long before going to camp he borrowed the money, but fixed the date of the departure of his company as the 22nd June, and three members of the troop testified to being present at the interview between their captain and Donahue, and all three stated that it was about 8 o'clock in the evening, two days before the camp opened, making it June 20th. James Spain swore to taking a drink with Donahue in Fort Erie on the 22nd June, after the volunteers had left. It would be impossible to leave Fort Erie after the time sworn to by the volunteers and go to Susquehanna in time for the robbery, much less get back by the time sworn to by Spain. Mr. Osler, in a powerful address to the jury, claimed that a verdict for the plaintiff would be believing the questionable testimony of thieves and detectives against that of the reputable citizens who had sworn to the alibi. Mr. Kerr, on the other hand, pointed out that the evidence against Donahue was of the strongest kind, and that the alibi witnesses might easily be mistaken as to dates of events so long past. The jury, after about an hour's deliberation, returned a verdict for the defendant. His Lordship remarked that if he were the jury he would have found differently.

JUBILEE THANKSGIVING.

The Lords and Commons to Attend Worship in Separate Churches.

A London cablegram says: On May 22nd, the Sunday after Ascension Day, the Speaker and the House of Commons will attend at St. Margaret's, Westminster, their recognized church, upon Jubilee thanksgiving service. The preacher will be the Bishop of Ripon. The last occasion on which the House of Commons attended a church service in State was on the 4th of May, 1856, on the occasion of the national thanksgiving for the restoration of peace after the close of the Crimean war. But perhaps the most memorable occasion was the special service on the 21st of March, 1855, when a fast day was appointed by Royal proclamation, and special prayer was made for a blessing on "the just and necessary war (the Crimean) in which we are engaged." The sermon on that occasion was preached with marvellous eloquence by Canon Melville. It will be observed that only the House of Commons attend the service at St. Margaret's, which is their parish church. The House of Lords are supposed to attend Divine worship at the more aristocratic Abbey of Westminster, close by.

THE BOOM CONTINUES.

Sault Ste. Marie in the Hands of Boomers and Speculators.

A Marquette, Mich., despatch says: The army of boomers, sharks and speculators which is in possession of everything at Sault Ste. Marie continues to increase with every train. Not only town property, but land anywhere within two to five miles is gobbled up like hot cakes. For the present the boomers hold the fort and are perfectly wild with excitement. The most extravagant stories are afloat regarding deals and a great deal of gambling is said to be in progress. The excitement is increasing hourly, and it is claimed $1,250,000 have actually changed hands or are tied up in short time options.

The Judge's First Charge.

A justice's first charge. He said: "Gentlemen of the jury, charging a jury is new business to me, and this is my first case. You have heard the evidence as well as myself. You have also heard what the learned counsel have said. If you believe what the counsel for the plaintiff has told you your verdict will be for the plaintiff; but if, on the other hand, you believe what the defendant's counsel has told you, then you will give a verdict for the defendant. But if you are like my and don't believe what either of them has said, then I'll be hanged if I know what you will do. Constable, take charge of the jury."

During the flood at Bismarck, Dak., the other day, a big cake of ice went down the roaring Missouri, and on the ice was a big black bear.

THE FIGHT OVER IRELAND.

Cloture and the First Reading of the Crimes Bill Carried.

PARNELL'S GREAT SPEECH.

The Irish Will Do Nothing to Hamper Mr. Gladstone in His Glorious Work.

A last (Thursday) night's London despatch says: Lord Hartington at a meeting to-day of the Liberal Union members of both Houses of Parliament explained that the Government had made the Irish Crimes Act Amendment Bill a question of confidence, and if the Liberal Unionists failed to support the Bill, and in that way brought about its defeat, the result would be the advent of Gladstone to power. It was the imperative duty of the Liberal Unionists to prevent this. The meeting decided to support the Bill. Several members were absent. The meeting hall was crowded. Among the prominent persons present were the Earl of Derby, Mr. Chamberlain and Baron Rothschild. The meeting, with the exception of two dissentients, unanimously adopted Lord Hartington's proposal that the Liberal Unionists support the second reading of the Crimes Bill on condition that members be allowed to criticise the measure in committee. Mr. Chamberlain approved the proposal.

In the House of Lords to-night Earl Cadogan (Con.) presented a Bill providing for the purchase of Irish holdings, or in other words for the abolition of the system of dual ownership created by the Act of 1881. It was proposed, he said, to admit leaseholders to the benefits of the Act of 1881. (Cheers.) The leaseholders whose leases expired prior to 1881, numbering 160,000, were to be admitted to the benefits of the Act of 1881 in the same manner as those whose leases expired in that year. It was also proposed that a landlord must issue notice in the form scheduled in the Bill when he obtains an ejectment writ from the Court; that he be required to serve the tenant with that notice in the manner prescribed by the Courts, either by service or by posting; that when the tenant receives this notice he shall become *ipso facto* caretaker of his holding for the period of six months, and that the redemption shall run as from that date.

Earl Cadogan said the Government found it impossible to adopt the Land Commissioners' recommendation that a period of five years for the fixing of judicial rents be substituted for that of fifteen years, according to the present law. The Government agreed with Lord Hartington that it was an open question whether the Irish rents were excessive or not, or whether excessive rents were exacted. Therefore it would be unreasonable to deal anew with the settlement of rents fixed by the Act of 1881. If those settlements should be disturbed the landlords and tenants would be led to believe that there was no finality to such a settlement. The Government believed the time had arrived to formulate a further measure dealing with tenants' purchase of holdings, and looked to that mainly for a settlement of the questions which unhappily agitated the country. In that alone they believed would be found the solution of those questions. (Cheers.) The Government proposed to deal with the question in two parts. The first was the Bill which had just been described, dealing with questions of urgency and great difficulty arising from the Land Act of 1881. This Bill, which it was hoped would reduce the number of evictions one-half, would be followed by a Bill relating to the purchase of holdings. This latter Bill the Government hoped would permanently settle the difficulty. The Government asked their Lordships who were landlords in Ireland and those connected with them to make heavy sacrifices. The measure strictly regarded the rights of property and was, through an earnest desire to remedy complaints arising from the land laws, drawn in a spirit of fairness and justice. They proposed to relieve tenants who were insolvent through no fault of their own, but through misfortune. For extravagant and improvident tenants the Government proposed a county court, the judge of which, while granting the landlord judgment shall be empowered to a reasonable stay of execution for a period to be decided by the judge, the tenant meanwhile not to be removed from his holding. The Government would constitute the county court judge a judge in bankruptcy within the area of his ordinary jurisdiction.

A last (Friday) night's London cable says: In the House of Commons to-night Mr. W. H. Smith suggested that if the Irish Crimes Bill be read a first time to-night, the second reading could be taken up on Tuesday, and then there would be an interval of a week between the second reading and going into committee. He said it was the imperative duty of the Government to insist that the House come to an early decision on the principle of the Bill. Referring to the Land Bill, he said it was of vital importance that the Government use every effort to make the measure law.

Mr. Parnell, upon rising to resume the debate on the Crimes Bill, was loudly cheered. He said that with the production of the Land Bill yesterday Parliament had been put in possession of the complete plan of the Government in all its nakedness and dishonesty. The Land Bill had revealed the extent of the plot and the gravity of the conspiracy through which the Conservatives and Liberal-Unionists intended to try and coerce tenants in Ireland into the payment of impossible rents and compel them to purchase their landlords' interests at exorbitant rates. If the House should ever give the Government power thus to coerce the people, the result would most certainly be wholesale repudiation, involving immense loss to the British taxpayer. The Government were pressing on coercion with indecent haste. They had refused to carry out the recommendations of the Land Commission. If the Coercion Bill were passed, the last defence of the tenants against wholesale robbery would be removed. In just land purchase lay the only hope of settling the land question. If it was done at fair prices and in the absence of coercion, Irish tenants would fulfil their obligations to the last penny.

Proceeding to discuss the provisions of the Bill, Mr. Parnell contended that the powers given to the magistrates would enable them to send political opponents to prison for six months—to a plank bed and prison diet. No part of previous Coercion Acts had ever excited so much distrust of English justice as the proposal to change the venue of trial and bring the Irish before special English juries. The proposal meant a reign of judicial murders. Secret societies would spring up, fostered by the sufferings of an oppressed nation, and those who had been persistent in counselling the people to observe patience and moderation might counsel in vain. But he would still counsel them to submit to injustice rather than retaliate or do anything that might drive Mr. Gladstone from their side or increase his difficulties or place them in a false position with the Liberals. Their battle was now won in Ireland. (Cheers.) The party which alone could gain by violence, by the people of Ireland going beyond the law, was the present Government. That was the reason this Bill had been brought forward. Its object was to strengthen the Government's own miserable position. Let not the people of Ireland fall into the toils thus set for them. He greatly feared the results of the Bill, but he would not cease to tell them that the situation was entirely different from that of five years ago, and that for them victory was certain. The people of Ireland would again bear the strain with patience. Mr. Gladstone would not find his action hampered or his hands sullied in the great and glorious work he had undertaken. (Cheers.) He concluded by moving that the House resolve itself into committee to consider the state of Ireland.

Mr. Harrington, amid great laughter, read letters from the Knight of Kerry, Lord Monck and others, applying on behalf of friends and relatives for stipendiary magistrateships in Ireland. When asked where he had obtained the letters, he replied that he had bought them at an auction. This answer was received with shouts of laughter. Mr. Harrington proceeded to explain that the principal qualifications urged in behalf of the applicants were poverty and large families. On being interrupted by cries of "Divide," he said he was not surprised at the impatience shown by the gentlemen opposite upon the exposure of these unpalatable facts, but he had a right, he said, to show the characters of the men at whose mercy it was proposed to place the liberties of Irishmen.

Labouchere, said the disorders in Ireland were due to the execrable laws and the Government's defiance of the wishes of the people. The Conservatives seemed unable to understand that they are dealing with a nation entitled to make its own laws, notwithstanding individuals. The terrorism and outrages which flourished in the Southern States during Andrew Johnson's time ceased in 1876 when Home Rule was granted. The speaker taunted Balfour with ignorance of the condition of Ireland and said that Balfour hardly cared what measure he proposed. He denounced the partisan Irish judges for making exciting political harangues. As regarded the proposal to make the Crimes Bill a permanent measure, if that were done the Bill would never be abrogated, as a majority of the members of the House of Lords were Salisbury's subservient political slaves.

The Speaker interposed and Labouchere modified his expression to "the majority is entirely in Lord Salisbury's hands."

Continuing, he said the Irish conspirators were a class of privileged landlords who were the perpetual enemies of the people and who desired to deprive them of their civil rights. He taunted Chamberlain with having made an offer to the Liberals to oppose coercion if they would accept his Irish plans. When this offer was refused Chamberlain took his goods to the other side. Chamberlain only "wanted his miserable vanity satisfied." The Radicals would not forgive Chamberlain if he voted for coercion. The door of repentance was closing against the Radicals who were affording the Tories an unnatural, hollow and discreditable support. This was the last effort of the classes against the masses. It was a struggle between plutocrats—Irish and English landlords—and the men who occupied the land and asked a fair share of its fruits. The struggle was between a system of government by the people and a system based upon the coercion of the people. The English Democrats would stand shoulder to shoulder with the Irish Democrats. Apart from the justice of the cause it was to their interest to do so, because they knew when the Government had finished with Ireland the turn of the English Democrats would come. He did not fear a permanent Conservative success. The flowing tide was with the Democrats and the ebbing with the Conservatives. The Bill would do more than anything else to advance Home Rule.

Mr. Conybears continued the discussion amid cries of "Divide."

Mr. T. P. O'Connor moved to adjourn the debate.

Mr. Gladstone, in supporting the motion, said there were strong reasons for it. He defended Mr. Parnell's delay in moving his amendment, and said this was a grave and serious case, demanding another night for discussion. With reference to Mr. Parnell's speech, Mr. Gladstone said he had never known of an instance in which the case made for such a Bill had been so completely torn to rags. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. W. H. Smith complained because the Parnellities had not risen sooner, and said he was unable to accede to Mr. O'Connor's request.

Mr. Parnell supported Mr. O'Connor's motion.

Mr. O'Connor's motion was rejected by a vote of 361 to 254.

Upon Mr. Smith putting the question Mr. Gladstone rose and walked down the floor into the Opposition lobby, all the members of the Opposition standing and cheering him as he did so.

On returning to the House he was again loudly cheered.

The motion for cloture was carried by a vote of 361 to 253, and the first reading of the Bill was agreed to without a division.

The announcement of the result of the cloture decision was received with cheers and counter cheers, and criesfrom the Parnellites of "Tyranny!" "Down with the Speaker."

All the members on the front Opposition bench, with Mr. Gladstone leading, left the House followed by a large body of Liberals.

Mr. Morley's speech is but the prelude to organized action. Mr. Schnadhorst, the caucus king, is setting his machinery in motion, and meetings are to be held indoors and out. Demonstrations on a great scale all over the country are planned.

Canadian Cheese in England.

A London (Ont.) despatch says: Prof. Robertson, of the Ontario Agricultural College, who had charge of the Canadian cheese exhibit at the recent Indian and Colonial Exposition, left London to-day for England. In an interview he expressed the opinion that Canadian cheese will rule considerably higher this season than for two or three years past, and that the reputation earned by the Canadian dairies at the Indian and Colonial Exhibition will stimulate a much larger trade in that product than heretofore. He also believes that Canadian butter will be in great demand in Great Britain next year.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* says the Ameer of Afghanistan has no grounds for proclaiming a Holy War against Russia, and cites the resumption of negotiations at St. Petersburg for the delimitation of the Russo-Afghan frontier as a fact showing that the Ameer's fears are groundless.

The Pope's brief to Bishop Ireland on the temperance question has been issued. In it the Pope praises the Catholic Total Abstinence Union, comments on the deplorable nature of the evils caused by intemperance, and urges pastors to increase their efforts to extirpate the plague of drunkenness.

During the sitting of the Spanish Chamber of Deputies on Saturday a parchment case, containing gunpowder, within which was a metallic cartridge with a fuse attached, was found in the doorway of the President's bureau. Later in the evening a petard was exploded in the vestibule adjoining the offices of the Ministry of Finance. Windows were broken by the concussion. Nobody was injured, but the two events have caused much alarm.

Prince Hohenlohe's order of expulsion directed M. Antoine, the Protester delegate, to quit Metz by the first train leaving for the frontier. He was forbidden to traverse Alsace under a penalty of one month's imprisonment. It is reported that the authorities are in possession of documents making invalid the election of M. Antoine to the Reichstag. Should the expelled delegate return to Germany he will run the risk of being condemned to a long term of imprisonment.

The silent man may be overlooked now, but he will get a hearing by and by.

The heart gets weary but never gets old.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Gibson (Huron) moved for a return of amounts received by county or city treasurers throughout the Province on account of fines imposed for violation of the Scott Act.—Carried.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) moved the second reading of the Bill respecting exemptions from seizure under execution. He said that there was nothing very radical in the extension of exemptions which he proposed, the object being to adapt the old system to the necessities of modern life. For instance, the old exemption law made no provision for the exemption of a sewing machine, which in many houses was now a necessity. The details could be considered by a committee.

The Bill was read the second time and referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Gibson (Hamilton), Hardy, Meredith, Clarke (Wellington), E. F. Clarke, French, Awrey, Evanturel, Wood (Hastings), Chamberlain, Stratton, Guthrie, Metcalfe, Garson, Ingram, Leys, Smith.

Mr. Balfour moved the second reading of a Bill to amend the game laws by allowing spring shooting of all ducks except the mallard, bat and wood duck. He said that in the county of Essex, while the Canadians were debarred from spring shooting, the Americans came in boats, shot all the game they wanted and went back, defying the Canadian officers. He read a letter giving a vivid description of the American pirates and robbers who came over in armed cruisers and insulted and threatened any one who tried to interfere with them. He was willing that the permission to shoot ducks in the spring be confined to the section of the Province where this grievance existed.

Mr. Sprague said he was glad to hear that the member for South Essex was willing to have the Bill applied only to the southwestern part of Ontario. He would be opposed to general spring shooting.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) said he was strongly opposed to opening up the game laws, which were now considered to be the best the Province ever had.

Mr. Balfour, replying to the objections raised against the Bill, said that the law of last session had been secured mainly through the influence of members of the gun clubs, who were a special class and could afford to spend money to send delegates to represent their interest, which the people could not do. He was surprised to see the member for Lincoln (Mr. Garson) championing the views of the special class as against the rights of the people. In view of the feeling manifested against the spearing clause, he would drop it, though he could give reason for having it passed. In Essex the muskrats were very numerous and did great damage to ditches and in other ways. But that was a local question, perhaps, and he would not urge the change. But he saw no reason why the other clauses should not pass, and he hoped that the members who represented the people and not gun clubs would do all they could to have this change in the law made. (Cries of "Order, order").

The House divided on Mr. Garson's amendment in favor of the six months' hoist, which was carried—Yeas, 44; nays, 34.

Hon. O. Mowat, in moving the House into committee on the whole on the resolution regarding the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park, said that the Falls of Niagara had for many years been the most attractive place of resort on this continent, and that the interest in them was extending. In a single day they were visited by ten thousand people, and they were visited annually by from 200,000 to 300,000 people. Even before the State of New York took possession of the park the number of visitors was between 100,000 and 200,000 persons. A still more remarkable proof of the general interest in the Falls was afforded by the action of the people of the State of New York. They had lately purchased over 100 acres of land in the neighborhood of the Falls for an International Park, and had paid about $1,500,000 for the land. This was all the more remarkable when it was remembered that the revenues of the State are raised by direct taxation, so that the people, in a State where manhood suffrage prevails, had voluntarily taxed themselves for this amount, in order to restore the scenery about the Falls. All the newspapers and all the parties had supported the movement. It was a no-party movement there, as here. In Ontario, too, there had been no opposition to any step that had been taken; his hon. friends opposite had manifested as much interest in the project as had the Government and its supporters. There was thus every indication that the people were fairly alive to the importance of the duty of preserving the beauty of the natural scenery about the Falls. This was the object of the whole movement. All that was beautiful about the Falls was gradually being destroyed by the artificial means adopted for money-making purposes. The first step taken by the Ontario Government was to endeavor to induce the Dominion Government to undertake the work, and with that view the Legislature passed an Act to give the Dominion Government all the necessary power. Negotiations took place to induce them to undertake the work, and ultimately to induce them to undertake a portion of it. These negotiations were unsuccessful. Although he could not speak with authority he believed that the Ontario members of the Dominion Government favored the project, but the other Ministers did not see the matter in the same light. Thereupon the Ontario Legislature passed an Act with a view to having the matter dealt with within its own jurisdiction. In the preliminary proceedings they had the valuable assistance of three commissioners. The Act provided that the commissioners should have a survey of the property made in order to determine exactly what land it was necessary to include in the Park, and to ascertain by means of a conditional agreement or by arbitration what the land would cost. In consequence of the award not having been completed last session the Bill which was then introduced was withdrawn. It was proposed that the money should be raised by debentures charged on the revenues of the Park with a guarantee by the Province. There was no ground for doubting that the revenues would be amply sufficient to pay all expenses, to pay the interest on the debentures and to provide a sinking fund. The debentures would extend over forty years. The park would be perfectly free, and charges would be made only where guides were needed or where expenditure was required for mechanical appliances, such as inclined planes. It was calculated that a small charge, say fifty cents as a maximum, to those who used these advantages would be sufficient. On the American side a small charge was made for the same purpose. Assuming that 250,000 people visited the Falls annually, it would be necessary for only a third of that number to pay this small charge in order to afford sufficient revenue. The attractions on the Canadian side were much greater than on the other. The award for the land would amount to $400,000; the second head of expenses would be the costs of the arbitrators, and the third would be the cost of the works that would have to be constructed. It was proposed not to make the place a flower garden, but to retain in a state of nature what was in that condition now, to remove unsightly buildings and by planting to restore the sites of these buildings as far as possible to a state of nature, and to remove all obstructions which would prevent people going out and enjoying the sights. They proposed to call the park the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park.

Hon. Mr. Mowat concluded by moving that the House go into committee on the resolutions.

Mr. Meredith said although this matter had been before the House before the Province was not committed to it. Judging by the report of the commissioners, the intention was to establish this park without laying any burden upon the Province. But there were not sufficient facts before the House to show the members that there was a fair chance of this expectation being realized. In the first place, it was expected to involve an expenditure of $500,000, of which $290,000 was the estimated cost of the property to be appropriated. But it was found that $462,000 would be the cost of the property, and yet only $25,000 was added to the total estimate. As he (Mr. Meredith) understood the locality, all the property between the road and the river was the property of the Crown. In that case he could see no reason for the purchase of some of the property, especially that of Mr. Macklin and Mr. Davis. The Attorney-General estimated that a fee of 50 cents would be sufficient to clear the expenses. But there were not facts before the House to enable members to judge of that, and he threw the responsibility upon gentlemen opposite. He thought $500,000 too large a sum to be expended on this scheme if the Province was to be responsible for the expenditure. With regard to the name, while not yielding to the Premier in his loyalty and devotion to the Sovereign, he would have been quite content, and, indeed, would have preferred, to see the name by which the park must always be known among the people—Niagara Falls Park. He did not oppose the Bill.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said he had not given the estimates of expenditure upon the improvements, thinking they could best be given in Committee of the Whole.

The resolution was carried, and the House went into Committee of the Whole upon the resolutions.

Mr. Meredith asked why it was proposed to endorse securities to be issued by the Commissioners instead of issuing the securities of the Province direct.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said the object was to keep this entirely distinct from the other liabilities of the Province.

The resolutions were carried and a Bill based upon them was introduced and read the first time.

Hon. Mr. Hardy moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole upon the Bill for the Protection of Women in certain cases. He explained that it was to bring within the condemnation of the law a man guilty of seducing a woman who was at the time an inmate of a public institution, thus extending the law, which now prohibits the seduction of lunatic women in the asylums. After some discussion the House went into committee on the Bill and passed and reported it without amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Mowat, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill respecting the revised statutes of Ontario, which was considered and reported.

Hon. G. W. Ross moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act respecting public schools. He explained that one section provided for a declaration of trustees by the chairman or secretary having charge of the polling. Under the present law a trustee was required to make a declaration after election, which they sometimes failed to do, and a litigious person could put them to some inconvenience. It was proposed also to impose an additional tax on unoccupied lands. These lands were sometimes held for speculative purposes, and it was unfair to the people of the district that they should be relieved from taxation. As the School Law was being consolidated with the others the latest modifications decided upon were now proposed, and he hoped the result would be a School Law which would not need serious alteration for years to come.

Mr. Harcourt referred in terms of commendation to the clause relating to Kindergarten schools. He dwelt upon the great favor into which this system had grown, and was glad to see that it was to be fully recognized in the law of this Province.

Hon. G. W. Ross said that two years ago arrangements had been made in connection with the Normal School for the study of Kindergarten methods, and as a result the Department would be able to send out Kindergarten teachers. They would supply two from the Toronto Normal School and two from that in Ottawa, and from five to ten each year hereafter as might be required. The school in Toronto was in charge of a lady from St. Louis, and the St. Louis system had been adopted.

Mr. Wood's (Hastings) Bill to amend the Railway Act was discussed and reported. The Bill gives power to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council (in the case of any one feeling aggrieved by the proposal of a location of a line of railway) to appoint an engineer to examine the proposed line and hear the parties, after which he may alter or confirm the line through which the road is proposed to run. There is no appeal from the engineer's decision, as the Bill provides that he be a disinterested party.

Mr. Leys' Bill respecting building societies was read a second time and referred to a select committee. The Bill provides that all transfers of debenture stock must be registered at the head office of the society, or at any place in Canada or foreign country the directors may appoint. The last amendment directs that no society shall hold absolutely more than $10,000 worth of real estate at any one place of business, with a provision that no pending suit shall be affected thereby.

Mr. Gibson's (Hamilton) Bill to amend the Ontario Medical Act was read a second time and sent to a select committee. This Bill is of some importance to the medical profession; the first clause of which increases the representation on the Council of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons by granting the Western University a representative and providing the same for any fully equipped university which may afterwards be created. The profession is protected against malicious prosecutions by enacting that no action shall be taken against any licensed practitioner for malpractice six months after the professional services terminate. The last clauses provide for the erasing of the name from the register of any member of the profession guilty of any gross crime or unprofessional practice, the council having full power to take evidence and give judgment, from which an appeal may be made by the accused to a superior court, but provision is made that no action lies against the council, even if their decision be reversed by the Judge.

Before the reference to the Select Committee the Bill was briefly discussed.

Mr. Clancey's Bill to amend the Registry Act was debated for half an hour and handed over to a select committee after a second reading. This Bill contains one clause prohibiting any land agent registering an instrument in which his remuneration is provided for, and is retroactive in its character.

Rev. Chas. H. Ward, of Englewood, N.J., who attempted to kill his wife and wounded himself, has resigned the rectorship of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Mr. H. H. Hunnewell, a wealthy citizen of Wellesley, Mass., has presented the town with a fire hall, a park of ten acres, and a public library with 6,000 volumes. The value of the gift is $250,000.

While ill on Saturday night Mrs. Ernest Krouse, of Paterson, N. J., shot herself in the head with a revolver, and will probably die. An hour after the shooting the woman gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl, who are doing well.

There is nothing so necessary as necessity; without it, mankind would have ceased to exist ages ago.

If a man is right he can't be too radical; if wrong, he can't be too conservative.

SAVED BY PEPPER.

Courageous and Successful Combat of a Young Lady With a Wayside Assailant.

A Heller's Creek, Pa., despatch says Miss Netta Fink, a 15-year-old girl, had a thrilling experience while returning home from a neighboring store last evening. The store where she had visited is about a mile from her home, and the road, like all country highways, is desolate and lonely. Miss Fink, whose appearance was that of a woman of 20 rather than a girl of 15, started homeward shortly after 6 o'clock, having no fear of being molested, as she frequently travelled over the same road at a late hour. She amused herself by singing sentimental songs in a low tone of voice. When she reached a part where the road is thickly lined on both sides with tall pines she saw the forms of two men some distance ahead cross the road and enter the brush. As it was customary to see farm hands take byways and short cuts home, which branch off from the main road, she was not alarmed, but continued her journey until she passed the spot where the men crossed over, when suddenly a burly-looking fellow, with slouch hat drawn down over his face, jumped out from the brush and seized her by the throat, at the same time trying to force a big red handkerchief into her mouth. Failing in this he kept his hand tightly clasped over her mouth, and then tried to carry or drag her off the road into the brush.

Miss Fink is a robust girl and battled with her assailant with wonderful strength. A desperate struggle followed, during which the girl's clothing was almost torn from her body. She had dropped all the articles she had purchased at the store with the exception of a small package of pepper, which she held in her hand. She quickly dashed it into the brute's face, and by a supreme effort broke from his grasp and ran for her life. At the same time the two men who a short time before had crossed the road sprang out of the brush as if to assist the man who made the attack. The young lady reached home very much exhausted and was scarcely able to tell her story. Somewhat recovering from her shock she related her encounter with the men, whereupon her father, brothers and several neighbors, armed to the teeth, started in pursuit of the trio, while the mother took care of the girl, whose face was terribly bruised and swollen from the rough treatment she had received. The whole neighborhood was aroused and many recruits soon started out to join the pursuing party, who kept the search up until midnight without success. Determined to capture the gang if possible, they resumed the search this morning, but up to a late hour nothing further was heard from them

SNAKES IN THE BACK LOG.

Thrilling Adventure by the Fireside in a Catskill Home.

A Pine Hill, N.Y., despatch says: Up here in the Catskills, where two or three thousand New Yorkers while away the summer, is an old homestead in which a farmer resides with his family. The house is quaint and old-fashioned, not the least of the attractions being great yawning fireplaces, in which immense "back logs" crackle and blaze, while the kettle sings merrily on the hob.

It is still winter at Pine Hill and vicinity, so "back logs" continue to be in great demand.

When the snow and hail were coming down lively last Sunday night, and the wind was blowing no "small guns," the farmer, Matthews, replenished the fire around which his wife and rosy cheeked boys and girls were cosily gathered. As the farmer placed an immense knotty piece of wood, in which there was a deep hole, on the fire one of the children remarked:

"Hope there's no little mousies in there, dad."

"That there was something in the pine knot was soon made evident by the unusual crackling and hissing, and five pairs of dilated eyes watched the hole in the wood intently, as the blaze crept closer and closer to it. Presently there was a jumping and skurrying of the farmer and his family as a snake slowly but surely issued forth from the wood. It squirmed and jumped, and at last, by a violent effort, freed itself from the fireplace. The farmer and eldest son killed the reptile, which was found to be a young rattlesnake. Two other small snakes of the same species also crawled out of the wood and were quickly despatched. During the entire performance the farmer's wife stood on a chair with her skirts gathered heroically about her and shrieked lustily. The next morning, however, according to the farmer's story, his wife pointed proudly to the snakes and said:

"We killed them all within a half hour; didn't we, William?"

The Bohemian Oat Swindle.

A Plymouth, Mich., despatch says: Abraham Gorslin was examined here today on the charge of obtaining Mayor Gates' signature to a note on false pretences, and was bound over for trial in the Circuit Court with bail fixed at $500. Gorslin, in November, 1885, being then President of the Bohemian Oat Company, induced Gates to buy thirty bushels of oats at $10 per bushel on promise that the company next year would sell twice that amount for him at the same price, Gates giving his note for $300. The latter brings and swears witnesses in corroboration that Gorslin told him the company had $10,000 on deposit with the State Treasurer to insure the fulfilment of its bonds. Afterwards, when the company collapsed, having delivered only part of the thirty bushels of oats, Gorslin told Gates he was glad to get out of it as he had known all along it was a fraud. Evidence was produced showing the company never had any money deposited with the State Treasurer. Gorslin and his agent Lawrence denied that a statement that such money was on deposit was made.

Ceylon is the only English colony that contributes anything to the imperial navy.

Burglars entered St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Newburyport, Mass., on Friday night and stole the silver communion service and other articles of silver valued at several hundred dollars. One piece of great historical value was given to Rev. Samuel Myles by King William and Queen Mary for the use of their Majesty's chapel in New England in 1694.

Mr. Gladstone has written a letter to the organizing secretary asking to be put down as a subscriber of £50 towards the Imperial Institute as the national memorial of the Queen's reign.

Miss Mary Dickens, granddaughter of the novelist, has recently made bold advances in her profession, supporting Barry Sullivan in the British provinces as *Ophelia, Pauline* and *Desdemona*.

The man that wants the earth doesn't seem satisfied when the grocer gives it to him in the sugar.

A few rules for making good butter are: First, be very clean in milking, washing the udder and teats before beginning; use tin pails, well scalded and clean; strain in a deep pan, about 8 inches in diameter and 20 inches deep; keep the milk cool; do not allow the cream to stand over 36 hours on the milk; churn the cream 36 hours after skimming, and keep the cream at a temperature of 62 degrees before churning.

Heifers coming in with their first calves should be treated very gently, the udders and teets handled, and they be made to become accustomed to the attentions of the milker. The treatment of the heifers in the beginning will shape her conduct in the future, and her disposition, as well as submission to being milked, depends on the first week after she brings her first calf.

GASLIGHT.

Ridiculous Ideas that Prevailed When It Was First Introduced.

The first actual application of gas to lighting purposes took place in England in the year 1792, when Mr. William Murdoch constructed an apparatus for lighting his house and office at Redruth, Cornwall. So little was the invention understood and believed in by those who had not seen it in use that even great and wise men laughed at the idea.

"How could there be a light without a wick?" said a member of Parliament when the subject was brought before the House. Sir Humphrey Davy ridiculed the idea of lighting towns by gas, and asked one of the projectors if he meant to take the dome of St. Paul's for a gas meter. When the House of Commons was lighted by gas the architect imagined that the gas ran on fire through the pipes, and, therefore, insisted on their being placed several inches from the wall for fear of the building taking fire. The members might be observed carefully touching the pipes with their gloved hands and wondering why they did not burn. The first shop lighted in London by this new method was Mr. Ackerman's, in the Strand, in 1810, and one lady of rank was so delighted with the brilliancy of the gas lamp on the counter that she asked to be allowed to take it home in her carriage.—*From a London Exchange.*

Sympathy for Hackmen.

"We hackmen never get any sympathy from the public," said a local cab driver to me the other evening. "People seldom stop to think of what we are obliged to put up with. They just put us down as a lot of sharks and let it go at that, but if they had a week at cab driving I guess they wouldn't be in such a hurry to say the hard things against us they do now. Cab driving ain't any picnic and don't you forget it. I have worked many a time for twenty-four hours at a stretch without sleep, to say nothing of being half frozen to death into the bargain. Then we have some pretty tough times with our fares now and then. I have had men keep me out all night and then refuse to pay me a cent, threatening to knock me down, and even going so far as to smash the cab windows when I attempted to assert my rights. You never know when you are striking a drinking crowd, and you cannot refuse to drive them from one saloon to another until they become so drunk that they either spend all their money or will not pay up until you call a policeman. I tell you, my friend, cab drivers could relate some pretty lively stories if they wished to, and they are not the worst natured fellows in the world if you treat them right."—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

Ingratitude.

The man who would have remained forever in the obscurity to which he was entitled, except for the notoriety the press has absurdly given him, is always complaining about the d——d newspapers."—*Texas Siftings.*

It Saved My Wife's Life.

This is the report of a Princess street gentleman who had the opportunity a few nights since of testing Polson's NERVILINE, the great pain cure. Be prepared for any emergency by having a bottle of Nerviline at hand. It only costs 10 cents to test it, as you can buy test bottles at any drug store. Get a 10 or 25 cent bottle to-day. Sure in rheumatism, neuralgia, cramps, colic, headache. Nerviline, the sure pop pain cure. All druggists, 25 cents a bottle.

Edward Scruggs, of Nashville, Tenn., is totally blind, and goes about led by a negro boy. Yet he transacts business better than most men, and in the past year has made $100,000 by real estate speculation.

Mr. W. Cushman, of Petoskey, Mich., states that he was afflicted with rheumatism twenty-four years, and two large bottles of McCollom's Rheumatic Repellant has done him one hundred dollars' worth of good in relieving his distress.

"You will want to enter something for the county fair, I suppose, Mr. Hayseed?" said the chairman of the agricultural society. "Waal, yes," replied Mr. Hayseed; "you kin put me down for the biggest hog in the country."—*Harper's Bazar.*

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