A MISSING PRETTY GIRL.

Laura Puy, a Former Hamiltonian, Mysteriously Disappears.

Her Mother Fears She is Worse than Dead —She Started for Church, but Never Got There.

The Buffalo *News* of last (Thursday) night says: Detectives have been working for several days on a strange disappearance in this city. It is the story of a girl, pretty, vivacious, interesting, who suddenly dropped out of the routine of her daily life and left not a trace to show whether she is living or dead.

Laura Puy, two weeks ago last Sunday, started from her parents' home at 100 Swan street to go to Rev. P. G. Cook's church in the Fitch Institute, a block away. "Now, Laura," said her mother, at parting, "be sure to hurry back from church; won't you?"

"Yes, mamma, I will," replied the girl, and that was the last the mother saw of her child. Laura is a medium blonde, with luxuriant, curling, brown hair, which that day was clasped behind with a silver pin holding a white stone shaped like a rose. She has a good complexion, gray eyes, heavy dark brows and lashes, a small, straight nose, medium-sized mouth and full lips. She is straight, well-grown for her age and well-formed. She wore a blue polkadot print dress, blue jersey cap fitting tightly to the head, and a sash of the same material as the dress. A brown jacket, No. 3½ button shoes, black stockings and black mitts completed her costume. Her dress reached scarcely to her shoe tops. She was 13 last birthday, but looks older. The missing girl's dress and appearance are described thus carefully so that if she has been seen her parents may be communicated with.

When Laura did not return after church time her friends became uneasy and one of her younger sisters was sent to the rooms of Mrs. Westfall, on Seneca street, over Tiffany's picture store, to inquire if she had been there. Mrs. Westfall was Laura's most intimate friend. She was not at home, said her husband, a driver for Chas. W. Maller, and he said Laura had not been there. His little daughter corrected him, however, and said Laura had been there that morning. Mr. Westfall said he had got up late and did not know of her being at the house. At 4.15 Miss Grein, Laura's Sunday school teacher, called at Mrs. Puy's house to know why Laura had not been to school. On the previous Friday she had promised to be there. Then another messenger was sent to Westfall's. Mr. Westfall said that his wife was still absent, that she had gone to his cousins and that he had not seen Laura. Mr. Puy afterward called and was told by Mrs. Westfall that Laura was there about 10 o'clock on Sunday morning and had stayed but a few minutes. Mrs. Westfall was emphatic in saying she had not seen her since and that she knew nothing of the girl's whereabouts. Other friends in the city were sent to, but not a trace could be found. The last known of her was when after coming out of Mrs. Westfall's Laura stopped for a moment to speak to Mrs. Bryan, who lives near by. Mrs. Puy had sent Laura to a photographer's on Seneca street for some pictures about 10 that morning, and it was during this walk that she must have gone to Mrs. Westfall's. The next day detectives were put on the case, but so far have not found the girl.

"Laura was an affectionate child," said Mrs. Puy to a *News* reporter, "and I do not know of any reason why she should go away. I believe she is secreted somewhere in the city. I am sure Mrs. Westfall knows where she is. She has been Laura's evil genius."

Mrs. Puy has five children, all girls. Her husband works for the Benedict Paper Company. The family came here from Hamilton, Ont., ten months ago. The eldest daughter, Aida, has a good position as book-keeper with a Hamilton firm. She has come on to Buffalo to help her parents find her missing sister.

"We knew the Westfalls in Hamilton," went on Mrs. Puy, "and Laura and Mrs. Westfall were always great chums. They came here two years before we did and she persuaded us to let Laura go to live with her on Chestnut street. I believe now that Mrs. Westfall taught Laura to set my authority at defiance. I always had some misgivings, and when I went to take Laura home to send her to school Mrs. Westfall objected and Laura deliberately refused to come. I boxed Laura's ears, and since then Mrs. Westfall has said that I was a cruel mother, and that she had advised Laura to run away from me. I have been told since my child's disappearance that Mrs. Westfall on that Sunday was not at the place where she told her husband she was going. Mrs. Lann, an aunt of Westfall's, went to call on her that Sunday and Westfall said she was at his cousins. 'I will go there,' said Mrs. Lann, but returned shortly and reported that Mrs. Westfall had not been there. When her husband asked her about it that night she said she had gone there, found the cousin away and had spent the day with a dressmaker friend at 74 Seneca street.

"We have found that the cousin was at home all day, that Mrs. Westfall did not call and, what's more, we can't find that she spent the day at 74 Seneca street. It was during this time, when nobody knows where Mrs. Westfall was, that my child disappeared. If she is not trying to hide something, why does she make such statements?"

Mrs. Puy further stated that she had made inquiries of old neighbors of the Westfalls on Chestnut street, and gave some of their statements, adding that she feared her child had been led wrong. "My poor child!" she exclaimed, "I am almost afraid to find her alive."

"Do you know the whereabouts of Laura Puy?" the *News* man asked Mrs. Westfall.

"I do not."

"When did you see her last?"

"Two weeks ago last Sunday morning. She was at my house for a short time."

"You do not know where she went then?"

"No."

"Was there anybody with her that day?"

"No."

"Did she tell you she was going to run away?"

"No, but I wouldn't blame her if she did run away. Her mother abused her. Once in my house she knocked Laura down and stamped on her. Laura often told me she would run away, but I told her not to. She said she would marry the first one that asked her. Her mother took her home two months ago. When we lived on Chestnut street last winter Mrs. Hughson lived in the front of the house, and some fast young women stayed there. I went out with them once or twice at first, until I found what they were. One of them told Laura one day that she ran away from home when she was 13, and had a good time ever since. I know Laura was greatly taken with her fine clothes and sprightly ways, and she told me she would like to do the same thing."

"Where do you think Laura has gone?"

"I think she has run away and got married. She used to tell me of her lovers."

"Rather young to be a wife, wasn't she?"

"She was a well-grown child. From what she told me several times I think she was older than most girls are at 13."

A friendly suit, to settle the question of the right of the Dominion or British Columbia to jurisdiction in regard to minerals in the railway belt in the latter Province, has been agreed upon, and a judgment finally settling the dispute is expected in a few days.

HANGED IN EFFIGY.

The Severe Criticism of Cleveland and His Wife Which Led to Trouble in Minneapolis.

A Minneapolis despatch says: The following is from the article in the *Tribune* on the occasion of the visit of President and Mrs. Cleveland, which has caused a great sensation and indignation among Cleveland's friends: "And it is extremely hard to respect either member of this family now touring for votes. Mrs. Cleveland is a handsome, mettlesome woman, apparently several years older than she is said to be. At least she was old enough to have exercised her own free choice in marrying Grover Cleveland. It is inconceivable that she should have married him except to obtain the position of mistress of the White House. Such a marriage would never have been thought of but for the astonishing political accidents, which, in the course of two or three years, brought Mr. Cleveland out of the obscurity, which is his proper element, to the highest position in the nation.

"It is hard to have respect for a woman who would sell herself to so gross and repulsive a man as Grover Cleveland, and one with a private record so malodorous, for the bauble of a brief social ascendancy. She is now an object of curiosity and remark for gaping crowds, and her photographs are sold almost, if not quite, as freely as Mrs. Langtry's. Such is her reward. If she can secure a re-election for Grover she will have four more years of the gratification which the highest social prominence gives and of the delight of unflagging newspaper notoriety. After that she will simply have to put up with being the wife of as insignificant and obscure a man as an ex-President could possibly be. One cannot help a pang of sympathy for her, but she has chosen her lot deliberately."

About 10 o'clock last night a hundred men and boys, mostly members of an association of the lowest class of the local democracy, known as the Algonquin Club, gathered at a saloon of a rather hard reputation and, after drinking heavily, repaired to a secluded spot in a side street and fired the usual straw man, which had been used on such occasions from time immemorial. The mob was led by Mayor A. A. Ames, who was foremost in the Cleveland reception, and takes no pains to conceal his self-proposed candidacy for the Vice-Presidency.

FIRE AMONG THE INSANE.

Cleveland Insane Asylum Scorched by Fire and Six Patients Lose Their Lives.

A last (Wednesday) night's Cleveland despatch says: The horrors of a fierce fire, in the smoke and confusion of which stalked the presence of grim death in his most terrible form, visited the great insane asylum on the southern limits of the city for the second time to-night. It was the occasion of the weekly dance given the more manageable of the patients as a healthy means of recreation. About 250 of them, in charge of their attendants, were enjoying the diversion thus afforded them when the cry of "fire" arose, and flames and smoke poured in upon them with bewildering suddenness. A stampede was the result, and the attendants had scarcely time to realize the situation when the room was filled with leaping fire and dense smoke. As soon as the first excitement had abated the attendants made a courageous rush into the suffocating smoke and rescued all they could of the unfortunates who had been overcome. The bodies of six insane women who had met death by asphyxia and burning were recovered, and three more were found in an injured condition. The fire started at the laundry, a one story building which adjoins the wing in which the chapel is located. The prompt response and active work of the firemen prevented a disastrous spread of the flames. The loss to property will fall below $25,000.

THE CAT O' NINE TAILS

Didn't Appear to Hurt Him Very Much.

A last (Thursday) night's Montreal despatch says: For the fourth time in the criminal records of Montreal, the lash was applied to-day at Montreal jail upon the person of a man named Desormiers, who some months ago, while dressed in a priest's garb, committed an indecent assault upon a young girl at St. Martine. Desormiers was tried at the last term of the Court of Queen's Bench and sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with the addition of twenty lashes. To-day Desormiers received ten out of the twenty lashes. The operation took place in the presence of the deputy sheriff and a small knot of spectators. The prisoner was securely tied to a triangle by his arms and legs, his back bared, and a muffler tied around his neck to prevent the lash reaching that portion of his body. The lash was applied by one of the prisoners, and the whole operation only lasted a few minutes. After a few lashes Desormiers was heard to exclaim, "Not so hard!" but no other remarks escaped him, and he took the remainder of his punishment without flinching. The whipping was certainly not very severe in its nature, and did not seem to have much effect upon the prisoner, who, beyond a few bruises on his back, was not much hurt.

AN EXAMPLE TO THE BOYS.

Trustee and Architect Fight at a School Board Meeting.

A last (Friday) night's Kingston despatch says: Last night's meeting of the Public School Board was one which attached much disgrace to that body. One of the trustees asked the privilege of cross-questioning the architect of the new Central School, and the result was the examination grew so warm that several trustees left the room, when the Chairman declared there was no quorum and dismissed the remaining members. The architect and the trustee who had questioned him went into an adjoining room, where they resumed the discussion. The architect told the trustee he was mixed, when the latter called him a liar. The architect then remarked that if they were outside he would use his fist. Like a flash the trustee let fly his left, and blood came from the architect's nose. The blow was returned, and then the pugilists took hold and wired into each other for several minutes until the other trustees went into the room and separated the combatants and held them till their passions cooled down. The fight created quite a sensation, as both parties are prominent residents. The whole affair rose out of the diameter of a flue.

AN ADOPTED DAUGHTER'S CRIMES.

Smothers a Baby and Sets Fire to a House —Poisons Her Foster Parents' Cow Rather Than Milk Her.

A Manistee, Mich., telegram says: Minnie Demorse, the adopted daughter of James Henderson, was arrested Tuesday for larceny committed several months ago, but the real sensation in the case has just come to light. This spring Mr. Henderson's cow died, and her milk just previous to her death killed nine pigs. The girl confesses she poisoned the cow because she did not want to milk it. Mr. Henderson's house was set on fire five times in one day a few weeks ago, and the girl confesses she did that, too. Mr. Henderson's baby died suddenly, and the girl confesses she smothered it because it cried and she did not want the trouble of caring for it. She is 18 years old and was adopted six years ago.

The French Government have decided to place a number of life-saving buoys, supplied with refreshments, on the most dangerous parts of the English Channel.

A scheme is on foot to induce the Highland Crofters to settle in British Columbia.

THE CAFFAREL SENSATION.

Strange Story of a Pair of Parisian Adventuresses—General Caffarel's Arrest—Given an Opportunity to Commit Suicide.

A London cable says: The Caffarel-Limouzin case in Paris is a sad scandal. Madame Limouzin is a vulgar adventuress. She is 41 years of age—a little, yellow, wrinkled, limping, humpbacked creature, with small, piercing eyes, extreme volubility of speech and considerable elegance of language. Last year she lived in the Boulevard Beaumarchais with a companion who called herself Comtesse de Boissier, Baronne de Beauregard, or Marquise de Clemenca, and whose real name is Henriette Boissy, a cocotte of the commercial type, who used to keep a house at Paris where you drank tea, played baccarat and placed a louis under a candlestick each time you took the cards. Madame Limouzin also has a husband, an adventurer of smaller calibre.

This trio carried on the business of an "influence agency" for the benefit of persons desiring employment in the Ministries, promotions, Government contracts, etc. Well in view in the drawing-room were visiting cards of eminent political personages, on which were written a few words, cards and writing being forged if necessary. The dupes on entering were struck by this *mise en scene* and the first interview ended by a deposit destined to grease the palms of the Ministers, Senators, Deputies and other notabilities, with whom Madame Limouzin professed to be on the best of terms. In reality Madame Limouzin and the "Comtesse" passed their time writing politicians—notably M. Thibaudin and General Boulanger—letters containing flattery, threats, calumnies, offers of service and propositions of a most compromising character. Both M. Thibaudin and General Boulanger finally warned the trio, through the police, to cease their manœuvres.

Then Madame Limouzin and the "Comtesse" quarrelled and the former removed to a gorgeous suite of rooms in the Avenue Wagram, where she continued her agency and entered into relations with General Caffarel, an officer who was overwhelmed with debts and had no longer any sense of honor or decency. The "Comtesse," first of all, denounced her former accomplice to the police; then followed complaints from various sources, and at length the police proceeded to watch Madame Limouzin, thinking it was simply a question of one of those innumerable flash agencies which abound in Paris, that paradise of adventurers. The inquiry led further than was expected.

A detective sent to entrap Madame Limouzin was taken by her to the Minister of War and introduced to General Caffarel, to whom the detective handed a sum of money in return for which, it was understood, he would receive the Cross of the Legion of Honor. This surprising discovery brought matters to a crisis. The Minister of War, in the presence of M. Rouvier, interrogated General Caffarel, who confessed. Time was then implicitly given him to blow his brains out, but he did not have the courage to take advantage of this supreme privilege. He was arrested and is now in prison with Madame Limouzin.

The case will be a formidable washing of dirty linen in the facts and personages involved. Even the son-in-law of President Grevy, M. Daniel Wilson, is involved in many of Madame Limouzin's tried tripotages. With such a case as this before us, shall we say that corruption in the Republic is less interesting than the depravity of the Empire?

THE RUTH HARLOW CASE.

Dr. J. C. Bright Tried For Murder and Acquitted.

A despatch from Sandwich (dated last Wednesday night) says: At the assizes here to-day the whole of the day has been occupied in trying the case of Queen vs. Bright, murder. The prisoner, Dr. J. C. Bright, of Chatham, was charged with committing an abortion upon Ruth Harlow, a girl from Hamilton. Ruth Harlow was seduced, it is alleged, by George P. Holden, a commercial traveller, of Hamilton. The girl went to Chatham, it is said, under the direction of Holden. The Crown endeavored to show an arrangement between the prisoner and Holden, that the prisoner should perform the abortion. Miss Harlow went to an hotel in Chatham. She was there visited by the prisoner, who procured a boarding place for her, where it is alleged the offence was committed. Several medical men were called to show that an abortion had been committed upon the deceased.

The defence rested mainly on attacking the veracity of the witnesses put in the box by the Crown who spoke regarding the prisoner's connection with the offence. Though the defence called a number of medical men, there was a very slight difference between them and the doctors put in the box by the Crown. The prisoner was defended by Mr. E. Meredith, Q. C., Mr. Pegley and Mr. White. Mr. Lister acted for the Crown.

The prisoner is an old medical practitioner, of Chatham, and is a wealthy man. His wife, who was present during the trial, stepped up and kissed her husband when he went into the box for trial. The doctor is a frail man, upwards of 70 years of age.

At 10 p. m. the jury returned with a verdict of not guilty. His Lordship, in discharging the prisoner, remarked that the evidence against him was of such a character that he could not have complained if they had found him guilty. He discharged him with a caution to be careful in the future.

A "CAPITAL" BREEZE.

Interesting Letter of One Ottawa Lady to Another.

An Ottawa despatch says: In the Assize Court yesterday, the local *cause celebre* of Walker vs. Birkett was heard. Both parties are prominently connected in the city. The charge against Mrs. Birkett is of sending letters to Mrs. W. H. Walker with intent to extort money. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. Mr. J. K. Kerr, Q. C., and Hon. R. W. Scott for the Crown; Mr. W. Mosgrove and Mr. T. McVeity for the prisoner. The letter complained of is as follows: "The Lord is the judge of the fatherless and the children." "Tuesday, 26th—Mrs. Walker,—Sister I cannot call you, for you don't deserve that name. Your small pretensions are disgusting, of course, as all sensible people have felt for years in Ottawa, but I must confess that I did not believe you were consummate serpents and thieves until I received your husband's letter. The man or woman who would quietly pick my locks and carry away 25 hundred dollars I feel would be respectable compared to yourself. Now for a little pleasant preaching. 'He that is guilty of breaking the least of these,' viz., the Holy Commandments, 'is guilty of all.' 'A chain is only as strong as the weakest link.' 'Thou shalt not steal.' 'Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods.' Perhaps the angel Gabriel may be bribed to open the heavenly gate, but according to the real regulation order of things it will be impossible. One must not only repent, but make restitution also. I seriously advise your looking up that grand old doctrine. I require five hundred dollars at your hands; if it is not forthcoming in a few days I will give myself the pleasure of treating you to some open letters on the subject, viz., postals. HENRIETTA M. BIRKETT."

The annual convocation of University College, Toronto, took place yesterday afternoon in Convocation Hall. President Wilson in his address dealt with the needs of the college, and urged that the Government should act expeditiously in conferring the benefits which the recent legislation authorized.

GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND.

The Mitchellstown Policemen Found Guilty of Murder.

A last (Wednesday) night's London cable says: Telegrams from France report that Lord Salisbury's condition causes anxiety. His rest at Dieppe has improved his health, but he can never be robust. It is stated, on what appears to be only too reliable authority, that His Lordship is suffering from Bright's disease of the kidneys. For years he has been developing the temperament and some of the habits of a valetudinarian. No English statesman ever lived so much apart from his colleagues as Lord Salisbury. His clever wife plays a great part in the political, as well as the social, relation of Lord Salisbury's position. It is believed that her influence prevents Lord Randolph Churchill's readmission to favor.

There is much anxiety among the Government supporters respecting the outcome of the Dublin Castle appeal in the Lord Mayor's case. Should the verdict be supported the defeat in the new law will be so glaring that the Castle will have to adopt one of two courses, either smuggle informers into proscribed meetings, or refuse to put the law into force. When the measure was passed through the Commons the weak point just revealed was discussed, but the Government showed no disposition to realize the expediency of alteration. The rumors of Mr. Balfour's and Lord Ashbourne's resignation in consequence of the failure of the prosecution are untrue.

There is reason for believing that there is no foundation whatever for the report which has been widely circulated that Prof. Goldwin Smith contemplates returning to England with a view to entering the House of Commons. When Mr. Smith went back to Canada recently he told some of his oldest and most intimate friends that he greatly doubted whether he would ever again cross the Atlantic.

At the inquest in the Mitchellstown shooting case to-day attention was drawn to the fact that the policemen charged with the shooting had been removed from the district on the eve of the jury's verdict. The Police Inspector said the men had been removed because their duties in the place had ceased, but they would return if necessary. The Coroner declared that the removal of the police was illegal, improper, and unconstitutional. After all the evidence had been submitted Mr. Harrington asked that a verdict of wilful murder be returned against Head Constable Brownrigg and the five policemen who fired under his general order. Mr. Harrington accused Constable Brownrigg of deliberately planning the murders.

The Coroner has issued warrants for the arrest of the men found guilty.

The inquest in the case of John Kinsella, the old man who was shot and killed by emergency men on the estate of Mr. Brooke, at Coolgreany, County Wexford, on September 28th, has resulted in a verdict of murder against Captain Hamilton, the agent of the estate, and the men and bailiffs who were engaged in the affair.

A London cable says: Mr. T. R. Buchanan, member for West Edinburgh (Liberal), hitherto opposed to Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy, has intimated his conversion to Home Rule.

A Dublin cable says: In accordance with the order issued by the Inspector-General of Constables, Inspector Brownrigg and the other constables who were found guilty of murder by the coroner's jury at Mitchellstown have not been arrested. They have, however, been suspended from duty pending the appeal from the verdict of the jury.

Much surprise has been caused by the announcement of the appointment of Mr. Valentine Hinds as a new Land Commissioner. Mr. Hinds is a bailiff on Lord Lansdowne's Luggacurran property. He managed the recent eviction of 80 tenants, Lord Lansdowne on his advice refusing to grant the reduction of 15 per cent. which they demanded.

Mr E. Walsh, the proprietor of the *People*, a Nationalist paper published at Wexford, has received six summonses to appear in court for alleged illegal publications relating to the National League.

A Belfast cable says: Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Bushmills, County Antrim, yesterday, said that it was not the upper classes, but the poorer classes of Ulster that were opposed to the Parnellite proposals. The artisans and farmers did not see any chance of improving their condition under the rule of men like the Home Rule members of Parliament. The poorer classes rightly looked forward with the greatest dread to the changes that would be involved in the creation of a Parliament at Dublin. He admitted that a part of the north of Ireland was strongly in favor of Home Rule, but he was certain that if he could infuse into the people of Donegal the same resolute, law-abiding disposition as that shown by the people of Antrim, the outcry for great constitutional changes would become little heard of.

Mr. Chamberlain, continuing, referred to the persistent silence which Mr. Gladstone had maintained regarding the form of his new Home Rule Bill. The Gladstonians, he said, made a great parade about vague modifications of Mr. Gladstone's original plan, but many earnest Liberals remained totally unable to gather from Mr. Gladstone's utterances what the changes really were. (Cries of "Hear, hear.") If an amended scheme existed, why did not Mr. Gladstone take the nation into his confidence? It was not fair for a leader to claim the absolute trust of his followers, while refusing to give a clear insight into his intentions upon a matter of life or death. Surely upon a question involving the fate of the Empire, Mr. Gladstone might even at this late hour make a clear, definite statement which plain men could understand.

In conclusion, he declared that it was beyond the competency of the Parliament of the United Kingdom to dispose absolutely of the destinies of any part of the Kingdom. Parliament might relieve Ulster of its allegiance and cut it adrift from the Empire, but it was not competent to transfer the allegiance of Ulster to a Parliament at Dublin. In counselling Ulster to offer resistance, he did not mean a resort to physical force. He put that aside. (Cries of "You needn't.") Its was constitutional resistance he meant. If it were decided ultimately that Home Rule was desirable for the south of Ireland, that would not justify the imposition of Home Rule on Ulster, which under no circumstances would submit to it. (Cries of "Never.") Animated by this spirit, the time would never come when Ulster men would cease to be citizens of the United Kingdom.

The Loss of the California.

At an investigation into the loss of the propeller California before Capt. Harbottle and W. J. Meneilly, at Toronto yesterday, Chief Engineer Ellis, Second Engineer Mills and Captain Trowell were examined. The only new point of importance brought out was that the steamer had not a full cargo and the officers neglected to put in shifting boards.

Capt. Harbottle expressed himself as not quite satisfied that the most strenuous exertions had been made to save the California, suggesting several things that might have been done; to which Capt. Trowell replied that it was easy enough to plan in an easy chair and carpeted office, but it was a far different matter on a sinking ship [illegible]

[illegible] telegraphs [illegible] of the steamer California was resumed this morning before Mr. W. J. Meneilly and Capt. Harbottle. Capt. Trowell detailed the particulars of the disaster much the same as they have already been given in the telegraph despatches. The inquiry was then adjourned indefinitely.

ABOUT THE MANZANILLA.

Particulars of the Wreck—The Captain Saved.

A despatch received Thursday night from Dunkirk, N. Y., says: During the fearful storm on Lake Erie last night the schooner Manzanilla, of Hamilton, Ont., was driven ashore six miles above this city, and has become a total wreck. She was commanded by Capt. Geo. O'Brien, and bound from Cleveland to Toronto with a load of block stone. All the crew were saved. The vessel was built by Jos. Shickluna, of St. Catharines, and owned by R. Williamson, of Hamilton, and J. S. Murphy, timber merchant, of Quebec. The Manzanilla was valued at about $7,000 and is but partially insured.

Another despatch says: The crew left the captain and vessel when the craft was a mile and a half off Brocton, and had great difficulty in getting ashore. They afterwards tried to take the captain off, but the breakers were so wicked and the boat so unserviceable that the perilous undertaking was given up. The crew reported the vessel's port side stove in, and her rigging all gone, and that she is entirely at the mercy of the waves. The Customs authorities made every effort to get a tug to go to the rescue of the captain of the vessel, but all refused. The life saving crew held itself in readiness all day for a tug.

A Buffalo despatch says: No marine disasters of consequence are reported as the result of Wednesday night's gale in this section except the schooner Manzanilla, which was reported ashore last night. The Manzanilla went on between Brocton and Dunkirk, on the southern shore of Lake Erie. A Brocton, N.Y., correspondent sends the following details: The Manzanilla, a three-master, Capt. Geo. O'Brien, of Kingston, master, sprung a leak off Van Buren Point, and was run ashore west of the Point at about 8.30 o'clock yesterday (Thursday) morning. She was bound from Cleveland to Toronto with a cargo of block stone and grindstones. There was a crew of seven men besides the captain. The crew went ashore in a small boat, leaving the captain on the vessel. The boat was smashed by the waves soon after the crew landed. The life-saving stations at Buffalo and Erie were notified by telephone, but failed to respond, and Captain O'Brien remained on the wreck until late in the afternoon, when he was rescued by Sherman Oats and two other men who came from Barcelona in the fishing boat Beecher. The rescuing party were unable to land at Van Buren, and were obliged to bring the exhausted captain to Dunkirk, where they arrived at 8.30 last evening. The vessel is a total wreck. She had an insurance in the Western Assurance, of Toronto, of $4,000. The vessel was built by Shickluna, of St. Catharines, and was one of the fleet owned by Captain James Murray, of St. Catharines, which laid the basis of his fortune before he became a contractor for Government works. She was a mate to the ill-fated Magellan.

RISKED HIS LIFE FOR $10.

A French Canadian's Feat at the Chaudiere Falls.

An Ottawa despatch says: A remarkable and daring feat was accomplished here yesterday, when a courageous Frenchman threaded his way along the edge of the Chaudiere Falls, passing safely from shore to shore. The man was Francis Potvin, who has worked in the various mills in the summer and the shanties during the winter since he was a boy, and is now a splendid specimen of a French Canadian shantyman. He made a wager with some friends in Hull that he could walk through the big kettle. The wager was taken and the money, about $10 in amount, put up. Potvin, accompanied by a number of friends, proceeded across the large table rocks on the Hull side of the Chaudiere Falls to the brink of the rock over which the water falls. Owing to the phenomenally low water in the river and the addition of the new dam to the former series of dams above the falls, only about four inches of water was passing over the falls, except in one place, near the Ontario shore, where the water was ten inches deep. Potvin, after putting on a pair of raftsmen's boots, well caulked, with the usual sharp nails in the soles, started to walk across the face of the falls. He proceeded very steadily until about three-quarters of the way across, when the current became very strong and the water deeper. Steadying himself, he proceeded cautiously, carefully planting one foot on the rocks before lifting the other, and in a few minutes from the time he started climbed up on a pier, below Perley & Pattee's sawmill. The feat was watched by a large number of people, mostly men who were employed in the mill, as it was not generally known that Potvin intended to make the attempt. Notwithstanding the lowness of the water the feat was a dangerous one. Had he missed his footing for a moment he would have been hurled into the cauldron below, with no possible hope of escaping death.

WHY AM I A HEATHEN?

The Chinese Lecturer Taxed $50 for Coming to Canada.

A Kingston despatch says: On Saturday, before leaving for New York, Wong Chin Foo, the unconvertible Chinaman, ventilated his grievances against the Canadian Government. It had, through the Customs collector at Suspension Bridge, imposed upon him the tax of $50 provided by the Anti-Chinese Immigration Act passed some time ago. Wong Chin Foo has been about fifteen years a resident of the United States. He claims that for thirteen years he has been an American citizen, being naturalized at Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1874. He had been a frequent visitor to Canada ever since the existence of the Act referred to, and until the present he has not suffered by its enforcement. He says that on arriving at Clifton the other day while on a lecturing tour the Customs officer sized him up and declared that he was dutiable. Wong Chin Foo professed to be ignorant of the law and took the action of the officer as a joke, but the officer was not inclined to be at all funny and intimated that upon the payment of the assessment depended his detention or progress. Now Wong Chin Foo, being quite chatty and possessed of an oily tongue, he set about showing the officer the mistake he had made. The officer was not to be subdued in that way. He had learned that Wong was a Chinaman and that was enough. "I didn't deny," said Wong Chin, "that I had been a Chinaman, but I said I was now an American and claimed the rights and privileges of American citizenship. I made affidavit of the facts before the American Consul. I suggested that the New York *World* be asked for proof of my identity and all to no effect. I was told to pay the demand or return to New York. I was at first disposed to return, but I had made engagements for two lectures and was bound to fulfil them, and so I was duly appraised, tagged and taxed," showing the receipt for $50. "Yes," he went on, "$50 for one Chinaman weighing less than 100 lbs., and so more than 50c. per lb." Wong Chin said he would lay the case before the American Government when he went home and he looked for the return of the money.

The Paris *Journal des Debats* says that an official despatch has been received announcing that the Sultan of Morocco is better and that he mounted his horse before the palace and showed himself to the people.

A by-law to invest $32,000 in a Holly waterworks system was carried at Welland yesterday by a vote of 155 to 45.

AMONG THE IRISH TENANTS.

A Traveller's Description of Scenes Amid the Starving Poor.

William Hennessy was the only Irish peasant I had met who had no humor in him—or at any rate did not show any. He was horribly in earnest from beginning to end. "Look where he sleeps," he almost screamed; "a place more fit for a brute baste than for a man; there it is, and he and two gossoons (their mother is dead) share it between them." "Gossoons" means "boys," and, striding up to the dark corner where the bed lay, he pulled it roughly about, dragging out the coarse sacks which served as blanket and coverlet, then tossing up the moldy, stale, broken straw. It did not appear to occur to him that in tossing about the things in that manner he was making work for Jas. Walsh when Jas. Walsh returned home at night from the Gombeen man's to his cold-as-death pratics. He was, as I have said, horribly in earnest; he was too completely possessed by the idea of the human misery he was depicting in a wild stormy way. "You see that big stone," he said, in a quieter tone, when we went outside. The stone was an enormous boulder, weighing I don't know how many tons, and he told me a story about it. Under that boulder, he said, a noise of hammering had been heard many a time at midnight during a period of forty years. The wise folk about the place said that treasure must be concealed beneath the stone, and that some ancient ghost was notifying the fact to living men; so five of the Corrigeen tenants—William Hennessy among them—resolved to remove the boulder. This they did in the dead of night with the help of a lever. Hennessy was deputed by his four associates to search the hole. He did so, and found a rusty kettle. All this was very superstitious of Hennessy and his friends, but men better educated believe in things as absurd as ghosts and hidden treasures; besides, Hennessy and his friends, in spite of their superstition, are perhaps pretty good judges of the Irish land question

Poor James Walsh's plat of potatoes looked very ragged and scraggy. "The accursed deer!" exclaimed Hennessy again; "the accursed deer!" and he described how they came up at night and in the morning from the beautiful glen opposite and enter the field and garden plats, and how the peasants sit up at night to watch for them, and how very often it seems as if the deer were not coming; the watchers retire to rest, only to find that the deer have committed more ravages in an hour than the sleepers can replace by the wages of a week's toil. All the tenants tell the same story. "Is no allowance made to you in your rent from all that damage?" I ask. "No," is the universal reply.—*London Daily News.*

Latest from the Northwest.

A Northwest farmers' association, similar to the agricultural associations of other provinces, has been organized at Regina. Mr. G. W. Brown, of Regina, was elected President.

The yacht Nettie, of Port Arthur, has been wrecked near Welcome Island, and there is little doubt that the six men who were on board have lost their lives. Among those lost are Mr. Murray, from London, England, and Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Fox and his son, of Fort William.

Concerted action is being taken to secure the taking up of the $300,000 of the bonds issued by the Provincial Government. The proposition is for the City Council to take up $150,000 and the citizens the remainder. Some of the most substantial moneyed men in the city are in this new movement. The bonds will be taken up only on the express understanding that the road will be completed this fall.

Foley Bros., the contractors who have just completed a contract on the Duluth & Manitoba Road, are in the city and have made a proposition to the Government to complete the road and take the Provincial bonds in payment.

Chief Justice Wallbridge is seriously ill of kidney disease and is not expected to live.

Reports received from all portions of the Province show that the wheat crop is scarcely more than started. The weather is only now taking a cold turn, and as soon as ploughing operations are suspended a blockade may be looked for.

The American Government has established a customs office at Pembina and placed an officer in charge to facilitate the transportation of goods to and from Manitoba on the Duluth & Manitoba Railroad.

The *Manitoba Gazette* contains the proclamation of disallowance by the Governor-General of certain Acts of the Local Legislature passed several years ago, but which were not properly proclaimed at the time. In fact, all disallowance Acts have been proclaimed a second time.

Prairie fires have been prevailing in the district between Lesalle and Boyne. The settlers, however, have escaped pretty well, excepting James Sutherland, who lost almost everything.

The total arrival of immigrants to date this year is 15,000.

A syndicate of New York capitalists intend to engage in slaughtering cattle from the Canadian Northwest, and a representative will shortly visit the country for the purpose of making preparations. It is the intention to slaughter the cattle at some point on the Canadian Pacific Railway, probably Medicine Hat or Maple Creek, and ship the dressed meat to New York.

He Stood and—He Struck.

A Buffalo man who was recently in England tells the *Courier* of a remarkable experience he had at a fair in a small village on the outskirts of London. He was walking aimlessly about the grounds when a man walked up quickly and said: "Are you working, or will you stand?" "I'll stand," said the Buffalonian, and he remained where he was for probably fifteen minutes. During that period the stranger came to him three times and handed him money. At last he began to think he had enough of "standing," and struck out for his hotel. Soon after his arrival there he tumbled to the fact that he had been doing "stool-pigeon" work for a gang of pickpockets, who had evidently made a mistake as to his identity, but he cleared about $10 by the contract.

Very Liberally Rewarded!

The engineers of a heavy double-header train saw a child on the track near the village of Rock Glen, N. Y. They whistled for brakes, and when the train was almost upon the child one of the engineers leaped from his locomotive, and, running ahead, caught the infant from the track. As a reward, the mother has recorded the engineer's name in the family bible! Great Scott!

Obituary.

The death is announced of Sir William Miller, who was largely interested in Northwest land.

Rev. David R. Kerr, D.D., of Pittsburg, editor of the *United Presbyterian*, and one of the foremost preachers in his Church, died yesterday morning after a prolonged illness, aged 70 years.

A steam launch has been chartered by the Dominion Government as a cruiser to protect the Bay of Fundy fisheries during the winter.

When Benjamin Disraeli married Mrs. Wyndham Lewis she was his senior by 16 years. Yet five years after his marriage he gave her this character: "The most severe of critics, but a perfect wife."

Adam Darling's sudden disappearance from Montreal last year caused a sensation. He is said to be a citizen of Kansas City, and to have made a heap of money since he went West.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Sir Henry Tyler's Speech at the Half-Yearly Meeting Yesterday—The Double Tracking—St. Clair Tunnel—The C.P.R. Competition.

A London cablegram of last (Thursday) night's date says: The half-yearly meeting of the Grand Trunk was held to-day at the Cannon Street Hotel, Sir Henry Tyler presiding. There was a large attendance.

The Chairman, before moving the adoption of the report, referred to the great loss the company had sustained by the death of Sir Charles Young, one of the directors, and was sure it would be the wish of the meeting that on behalf of the directors and shareholders he should in fitting terms express their sympathy for Lady Young in her bereavement.

A GREAT IMPROVEMENT.

Reviewing the company's history for the past half year, Sir Henry said they had rapidly recovered from the disastrous effects of competition and were now making satisfactory progress. The winter of 1886-7 had been an abnormally severe one in Canada, and the competition facing them constantly was increasing; yet, so far, they had maintained and even improved their position. The results of the past half-year indicated a revival even beyond that which took place in the memorable year 1883. They had carried more passengers and a greater quantity of goods than in any previous half-year, and at the same time, despite the unusually heavy snowfall, had reduced the working expenses to 70 per cent. The effect of the Inter-State Commerce Law had not yet been fully experienced, but as far as the local Canadian traffic went they were not, of course, affected by the Act. They had lost passenger traffic to the Northwest in consequence of the competition of the Canadian Pacific, but only to a moderate extent. They had also lost some traffic from the Baltimore & Ohio line and from the Central Pacific, but had been able to make the losses good in other directions. Their Pullman cars were equal to any running in America, and much superior to those on the continental railways in Europe.

COMPETITION IN CANADA.

They had met increased competition between Montreal and Peterboro' to a greater extent than anywhere else, yet at those points they had taken more traffic in and out during the half year than ever before. They had lost Mr. Squires' hog traffic, and in the last few weeks had temporarily lost the dressed beef traffic, but he thought the quarrel would only be a lover's quarrel and that they would get the traffic back. Adding together all the receipts from their lines, they had £11,500 more than in the corresponding period last year. In the present half-year they had so far done better than in the first half, and up to the latest accounts had an increase of £16,000 in the gross receipts over the corresponding period in 1885.

THE DOUBLING OF THE LINE

between Montreal and Toronto was an important work, and would add to the safety and do away with delays and enable them properly to compete with the Canadian Pacific. It was not their intention, however, to proceed in any way so as to hamper their financial resources to the smallest degree. They hoped to carry on this great work without encumbering the resources of the company. The construction of the Montreal station had been delayed, but the directors were anxious to hurry the work on before winter. The city was now doing what it ought to have done before, namely, making a dyke to keep out the river. Negotiations were proceeding to enable the company to place their rails along the dyke. Last winter was a most extraordinary one, as he had said