

CORRESPONDENCE.

Edmundston.

SEPT. 1.—The wholesale trade have been made "very tired" the last few months by an unusually large number of disastrous failures in Madawaska county, the latest being Victorio Albert, St. Hilaire, and W. F. Bourgoine, St. Leonard.

There is no truth in the report that typhoid fever is prevalent here. It arose from the fact that several young men who went to work for Malcolm & Ross on the Bangor and Aroostook railway, drank large quantities of water during the hot weather, and got sick in consequence.

N. E. Belanger's dwelling had a very narrow escape from total destruction by fire, last Thursday evening. It caught from a lamp exploding in the bath room. It was only discovered by the lead pipe melting and letting the water leak through to the floor below.

Milton Dayton purchased some White Wonder oats in Ontario last spring and distributed them among his customers. The recipients are delighted with them. They ripened in just 3 months, and one party reports 171 lbs. from exactly 10 lbs. of seed. It will evidently be a great acquisition to the country especially on new land and for late sowing.

N. Z. Belanger had a race with his trotter Fly a few days ago at Fort Kent with B. W. Mallett's grey for \$20.00 a side. Mallett's horse won in three straight heats, best time 2.43. "Felix" says the Fly wasn't in it.

Conductor Henderson's train had 600 bbls. of apples on board when leaving Aroostook Junction yesterday. Charlie and his hands as hustlers can give any other train crew in Canada points and beat them out of sight. Yesterday they left Aroostook 20 minutes late with 14 full cars of freight. They distributed 9 carloads at different points, transferred 2 others and arrived here only a few minutes late. Walter Matthews the driver also kept his end up first class.

Sam Burpee arrived home last week after a pleasant trip to St. John and Bangor.

M. Dayton and agent Cochrane of the Peoples Bank of Halifax intend leaving next week on a hunting trip up the Allegash. Moose meat will probably be at a great discount on their return.

J. W. Hall was in town yesterday.

Hundreds Burned to Death.

The terrible element of uncontrollable fire is causing untold misery in Northwestern Wisconsin and Eastern Minnesota. The forest fires which have been raging for days, have reached a number of towns, and hundreds of lives have been lost. It is hard to realize the extent of the misery involved.

The following towns are known to be entirely wiped out, hardly a single building standing: Shell Lake, Wis.; Baronette, Wis.; Bashaw, Wis. Hinckley, Minn.; Miller, Minn.; Finlayson, Minn.; Rutledge, Minn.; Sturgeon Lake, Minn.; Moose Lake, Pardridge and Sandstone. The aggregate population of all these towns was about 4,500 or 5,000. Two hundred and forty-seven bodies have been recovered so far—two hundred at Hinckley, forty-six at Sandstone and one at Baronette. Most of the bodies are so badly burned that they cannot be recognized. The injured list includes every one in the locality of the fire.

A construction train which went out on the Eastern Minnesota road at five o'clock Sunday morning was able to get only as far as Sandstone, a small station ten miles below this city. There they were stopped by the burning of the Kettle River bridge, one of the largest structures on the line. Only the centre pier remains. A watchman at the north end of the bridge was suffocated. Supt. Thorne, of the party on the train, said: "We got as far as Pardridge with the train, and between there and Sandstone there were eight bridges burned down. Timbers of part of the big Sandstone bridge are also gone. This will tie up the Eastern road for a month, as the damage cannot be repaired in less than that time. The towns of Pardridge and Sandstone are wiped from the earth. At Sandstone 46 people are dead, lying in the streets. The remainder of some 400 are alive, having taken to Kettle River and stood in the water with only their heads out. These survivors have nothing left. The fires are now working north of Pardridge and burning fiercely."

Augustus Taylor, of Sandstone, said: "There were a great many who went to a pond near the city and stood in the water up to their necks and held their children, while others threw water over them to keep them from burning. Hundreds of them went nearly wild with fear, and rushed around the streets like so many wild animals. Many of them were not able to get to any place where they would not be caught by the flames, and being overcome by the heat and smoke they fell by the roadside and were either smothered or burned to death. There are a great many who went out toward the timber and who will probably never be found, as the fire lasted so long that it would entirely consume their bodies. A great many came from Hinckley to Sandstone for safety. There was at least 100 bodies found in the water at Hinckley. The people had gone there for protection, had been overcome by the heat and drowned."

About six o'clock in the night the fire, driven by a southwest gale, reached the southern end of Baronette, and in a few minutes there was only a pile of glowing embers and one dwelling to mark the site of a town of 700 people, who had fled to safety with only their clothes. The mill and 10,000,000 feet of lumber were destroyed. Loss \$250,000; insurance unknown. The approximate total property loss in Wisconsin is \$1,420,000; about half insured.

Labor Day.

In a leading editorial, the Toronto Globe discusses the new public holiday which was celebrated on Monday. An extract is as follows:—

It is a new addition to our comparatively short list of national holidays, and for that reason its observance will not be as universal as that of Dominion Day and her Majesty's birthday, although it is set apart by the same legal authority. Holidays, like all other institutions, require time for their development; and the readiness with which our American cousins have fallen in with the observance of Labor Day leads to the conclusion that it will soon be also a recognized Canadian holiday. The day set apart by act of Parliament—the first Monday in September—is the same in both countries, and there is room for the healthy influence of international rivalry in celebrations. Objections have been offered to the establishment of this holiday on the ground that it is a recognition of a working class as a distinct element in the community. This feeling is strengthened by the fact that the chief movers in the establishment of the holiday, both in Canada and the United States, have been the unions composed of mechanics and unskilled laborers, to whom the term "workingmen" is generally applied in a restricted sense. That they should be recognized as a distinct and separate working class, having a legal holiday of their own, is certainly opposed to the democratic spirit which is still alive in Canada and the United States. The feeling that every man must live by his own productive efforts, or by the productive efforts of others, also serves to make the idea of a distinct working class repugnant. It implies the existence of another class of citizens who do not work productively.

These ideas have been the fountain of all objections already urged against the establishment or observance of the new holiday. And, while there are good grounds for objecting to the establishment of a public holiday in recognition of the claims of any separate class of the community, there is no valid reason for regarding Labor Day in any such light. Labor Day should be every man's day, and a proper observance of the holiday should not be regarded as the exclusive province of any section of the community. We set apart every year a day of thanksgiving for the harvest yield; and it is also commendable to set apart a day of recreation for the activities which make the harvest subservient to our uses. As a change in the direction of more rest for workers with hand and brain the establishment of this holiday should meet with universal support. The trades unions are entitled to the credit of being first to make practical efforts in that direction. And their success, although neither rapid nor extensive, has been of marked benefit to their members and also to their opponents. This new achievement will be no exception to the rule, and if it is to be made permanent all classes in the community must evince an appreciation for it. The waste and loss of stopping the wheels of industry for a single day has been a favourite theme for statisticians; and, doubtless, our new holiday will call forth many ingenious calculations. But, as in all industrial problems there is a human side which eludes the most astute arithmetical investigation. The recuperative value of a day of rest and relaxation cannot be estimated in dollars, bushels or yards; and the conclusion is irresistible that we work too much and rest too little. Of enforced idleness, spent in a wearying and discouraging search for work, we have, unfortunately, a superabundance; but this is lessened rather than increased by the shortening of the hours of labor or by the more general observance of periodical holidays.

Interior of Labrador.

QUEBEC, September 3.—Sixty thousand square miles of an iron-bearing formation, a new lake larger than Grande Lac Mistassini, and the proof of the fact that the big falls of the Hamilton river are the largest in America, if not in the world—these are amongst some of the many discoveries of value made by Messrs. Low and Eaton on their sixteen months' exploration of the interior of the great Labrador peninsula, which has terminated by the return of the explorers to Quebec. After traversing Labrador last year, from south to north, and sailing from Ungava Bay to Hamilton Inlet, where they spent the winter, Messrs. Low and Eaton ascended the Hamilton River to the Grand Falls on ice, and succeeded in taking a splendid lot of photographs of it with ice cones and other surroundings. The remains of the burnt boat belonging to the Bowdoin college expedition were found below the falls, and further on the bottle containing a record of their trip to that point. The river falls 800 feet in less than six miles, with one clear steep fall of over 300 feet. The stream above the fall, is as large as the Ottawa. Below the falls it narrows into a canyon of only 30 or 40 feet wide with steep walls on either side, hundreds of feet high. Mr. Low brought back beautiful specimens of labradorite, of the most valuable kind of the gem. It exists in large quantities. The iron ore deposits to which reference has been made extended from latitude 50 to Ungava, and are very rich. Whole mountains of the ore were found corresponding with the ore of Marquette, Michigan, and containing millions of tons. The large Lake Michikamaw, in the northwest, is over 100 miles long, not narrow and full of islands like Mistassini, but from 30 to 50 miles wide. Several lakes larger than Lake St. John were seen by the party. The country to the north is a perfect network of waterways, and these contain such fish in abundance as ouananiche, brook and lake trout, whitefish, etc.

THE FACE THAT KILLS.

A Grandson of the Great Sir Robert Peel Lives Fast.

Young Robert Peel, who is now in New York, a suitor to Miss Kitty Sanford, granddaughter of Henry Sanford, president of the Adams Express Company, is one of the best-known men about town in London. He is a grandson of the famous free trade Prime Minister, and is heir to his father's baronetcy and family estates. His uncle is the greatly respected Speaker of Parliament. Young Peel came into a fortune of £45,000 when attaining his majority in 1888, but he had mortgaged practically the entire sum by reckless extravagance at Eton and Oxford, where he failed to get his degree. Nevertheless he continued his extravagant career in London and Monte Carlo, money lenders being generous because of his expectations. In August last year a petition of bankruptcy was filed against him with total liabilities of £60,000, of which only £20,000 were secured. His present assets are absolutely nil for the remaining £40,000.

His father at one time gave promise of a brilliant political future, but he has dropped back into a mere figure in fashionable society. Like his father, young Robert Peel is dashing, handsome, and good-mannered. Since his bankruptcy he has been notoriously identified in general gossip as the particular friend of Mrs. Langtry. Indeed, general report made him cause Abingdon Baird's sensational and brutal physical attack upon that fair woman a couple of years ago. Young Robert has made one notable winning at Monte Carlo of £10,000, and brought back nearly £4,000 to London, the facts being widely published. Mrs. Langtry was in Monaco at the same time. After Robert's return the announcement was formally made that his engagement to Honourable Edith Lane Fox, daughter of the Baroness Conyers, was at an end. Miss Fox was a famous beauty, and has since married a son of Lord Fitz-William. If he survives his father, young Robert, who is the only son, will succeed to the estates in Stafford, Warwick, and Lancashire, with the nominal rent roll of £25,000 a year. However, when the interest on mortgages and provisions for his mother and sisters are deducted, the value will be about £7,000 a year with an additional £3,000 per annum on the death of his mother. From February, 1891, to August, 1893, according to the statement made before the registrar in bankruptcy proceedings, he lost £65,000 gambling, and incurred £55,000 indebtedness on borrowed money.

Ingersoll and Suicide.

Some weeks ago the New York World published what purported to be a letter from Col. Ingersoll defending and justifying suicide under certain conditions. Since then the paper has been printing every day letters discussing the same question, arguments on both sides being freely printed. Since the publication of Ingersoll's letter there has been an unusual number of suicides, and in the pockets of a great many of them have been found copies of the World containing Ingersoll's letters or some of the succeeding letters on the same subject.

The Times, last week, contained an interview with one of the office associates of Col. Ingersoll, in which the statement is made that Col. Ingersoll never wrote the letter attributed to him. Instead, it is said, a reporter of the World called at Ingersoll's office and asked for an interview on the subject of suicide. The reporter then asked many questions which Col. Ingersoll answered, but instead of appearing in the form of questions and answers the interview was printed as a letter to the World from Ingersoll. The latter's business associate says that many of the things attributed to Ingersoll when put in the form of the letter were given totally different construction from that which belonged to them as answers to hypothetical questions; and this fact has been made the basis for a suit for damages against the World, papers in which Col. Ingersoll had already drawn.

His Night Shirt Ignited.

Halifax, September 3.—Kingston, Jamaica, advises say: "The community was startled by the rumor that Sir Adamslie Ellis, Chief Justice of Colony, had been burned to death. The intelligence proved to be true. His Honor, who had been in delicate health for some time past, rose early on the morning of August 16 and while standing at his toilet table his night-dress became accidentally ignited.

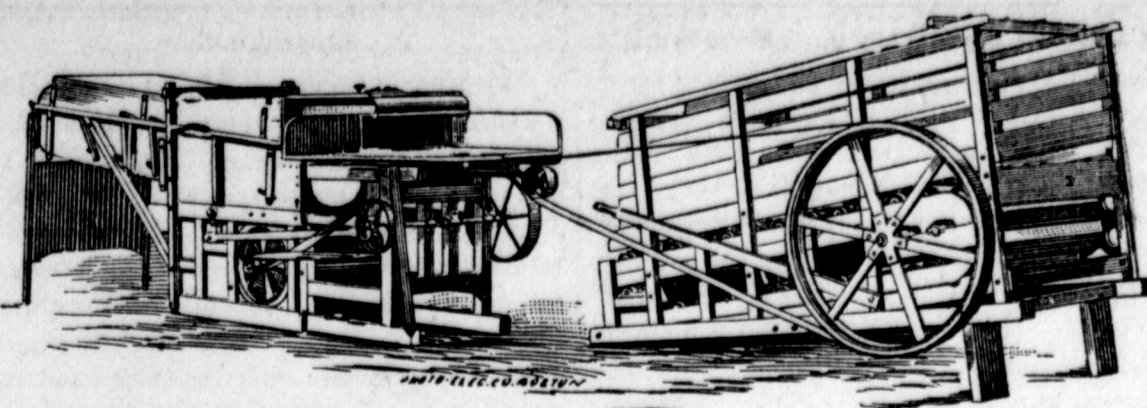
Before he succeeded in putting out the flames he was very seriously burned about the upper part of the body. His shouts awakened the servant, who, with his valet, was soon on the spot. His Honor who had lapsed into unconsciousness, shortly after the terrible event passed away in that state. He died a few hours later.

Look out for the Carnival.

Grosvenor and Blake will hold a grand carnival on Grosvenor's Flat, Eel River, on Wednesday, the 12th of September. Everybody ought to go and have a good time. Bigger, stronger, better than ever. Woodstock Brass Band will be in attendance, and also Prof. Barry's orchestra. The affair will open with a salute of 21 guns. Fireworks in the evening, dancing, and a general good time.

Corbett and Jackson.

New York, September 4.—The sporting editor of the World has received two certified cheques for \$2500 each, made payable to Jackson and Corbett provided they sign articles agreeing to fight at Sioux City. The World says it begins to look as though the contest would really take place.



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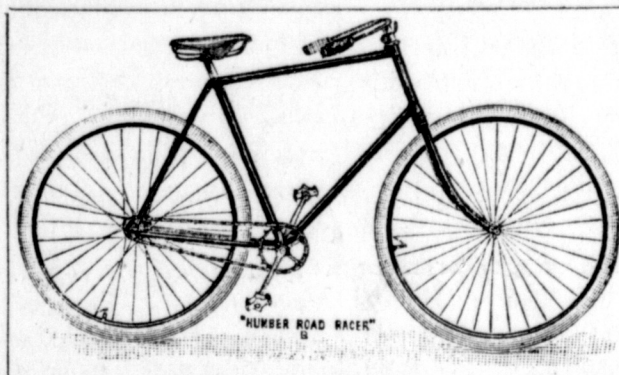
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