

QUEENS COUNTY GAZETTE, JAS. A. STEWART, Publisher, GAGETOWN, N. B.

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Queens County Gazette.

GAGETOWN, N. B., MARCH 22, 1899.

ST. JOHN LETTER.

When some of the oldest of us were boys we were told in the geographies a good deal about Popocatepetl, (a word we could never pronounce) "the smoking mountain" in Mexico. We were told that it had an elevation of 17,540 feet, 1,800 feet higher than Mont Blanc, and that its crater was about three miles in circumference, 1000 feet deep, within which were vast quantities of sulphur. The volcano was in great activity in 1519, and in 1542 a man was let down into the crater by ropes to a depth of 450 feet. It is said that the Aztecs were in the habit of casting human sacrifices into the crater to appease the anger of the demon of the volcano.

Now, Popocatepetl has been sold to an English syndicate for \$250,000 dollars who will build a railway to its summit and remove the sulphur from the crater where millions of tons have accumulated, it is said, "in the long lapse of ages."

W. C. Pitfield & Co., of this city have effected a compromise with their creditors at 15 cents on the dollar, part cash and part secured notes.

A Quaker church has been established in this city by Elder George E. Elwyn, of Philadelphia.

A dozen Manitoba farmers passed through the city last Wednesday on their return from a visit to England.

Rev. Leo Hoyt of this city was run over by a furiously driven team last Wednesday and seriously injured.

Stmr. Monticello, long on the Digby route, sailed for Yarmouth last Wednesday and will be placed on the South Shore route.

The project of building a third pulp mill in the vicinity of the city is under consideration.

Thieves broke into a railway car at Sand Point last Wednesday night and stole a quantity of grain.

The store of J. W. F. Harrison, on Smythe street, was considerably damaged by fire last Thursday morning. Insured.

The Rev. G. M. W. Carey preaches his farewell sermon in Brussels Street Baptist Church on Easter Sunday to the great sorrow of all but three or four of his congregation.

It is reported that the Yarmouth Steamship Co., and the D. A. R. Co., will put steamers on the St. John-Boston route next summer in opposition to the International Line.

Practically the markets are unchanged since last week; P. R. molasses is a little stronger and is firmly held at 34 and 35 cents. Business is active for the season; the leading houses report very satisfactory collections and sales through their travellers. Geo. S. DeForest & Sons are receiving direct from Havana the largest stock of fine cigars held in Canada east of Montreal. It comprises such famous brands as Diaz and Garcias, Manuel Garcias, El Rico Queens, Constanzas, etc. They also handle two or three private brands of domestics which are very popular.

The Hesse suit vs. the Street Railway Co., is now in progress. The plaintiff claims \$100,000 for damages sustained. EDWARD EDWARDS, St. John, March 18th.

Dominion Parliament.

OTTAWA, March 16.—At three o'clock this afternoon His Excellency the Governor General proceeded to the chamber of the Senate in the parliament building, and the members of the Senate being present, and the members of the House of Commons having been summoned to the bar of the Senate His Excellency was pleased to open the fourth session of the eighth parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In meeting you for the first time since entering upon my duties as the representative of Her Majesty in this Dominion it affords me great pleasure to be able to congratulate you on the large degree of prosperity which the people of Canada at present enjoy as evidenced by the expansion of trade and commerce, the flourishing condition of the public revenues and the increased number of immigrants which are to become permanent settlers amongst us. To these evidences may be added another, which is even more gratifying, the almost total cessation of the exodus of our population, which at one time was a regrettable feature of our affairs.

The negotiations which we set on foot during the recess between Her Majesty's government and that of the United States in reference to the settlement of certain questions in dispute between Canada and the latter country, were, I grieve to say, greatly delayed by the illness and subsequent death of two of the most eminent members of the commission appointed for that purpose. Considerable progress had been made on several of the subjects sub-

mitted, but a serious disagreement arose between Her Majesty's commissioners and the commissioners of the United States of the question of the delimitation of the boundary between Canada and Alaska. The question was referred by the commissions of their respective governments to the commission being adjourned to the second day of August next in the hope that in the meantime the difficulty might be overcome.

In compliance with the act passed last session a plebiscite was held on the question of prohibition, and the official figures of the vote will be placed before you.

I observe with pleasure that the mother country, Canada and other British possessions have recently adopted a penny postage letter rate. The satisfaction with which this action has been received by the Canadian people is a further proof of the general desire existing amongst our people for closer relations with the mother country and the rest of the Empire.

I am also glad to be able to state that the satisfactory condition of the finances of the country permitted a reduction on the first of January last of the Canadian domestic letter rate from three to two cents, and although such reduction involves a temporary loss of revenue, it is nevertheless confidently expected that the cheaper rate will prove of such service in the promotion of trade and in the general interchange of correspondence that within a reasonable time the revenue of the post office department will be restored to its former figures.

Much information has been obtained since you last met relative to the value of the deposits of gold and valuable minerals in the Yukon and other parts of Canada. The returns from the Yukon have so far proved sufficient to meet the heavy expenditure it was found necessary to incur for the purpose of preserving law and order. It has been thought expedient in the public interest to authorize the construction of a line of telegraph for the purpose of maintaining speedy communication with the people in these distant territories.

A measure will be submitted to you for the better arrangement of the electoral districts throughout the Dominion, as also several enactments of less importance.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons: The public accounts will be laid before you and also the estimates for the coming year. They have been prepared with a due regard for efficiency and economy and the responsibilities arising from the rapid progress of the country.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I am confident that the important subjects I have mentioned to you will receive your serious consideration, and that it will be your earnest endeavor to promote the public interests and prosperity of Canada.

The day broke clear and bright, and though the temperature was too low for comfort, the weather conditions for the opening were auspicious. Lord Minto made his first official appearance on Parliament Hill at three o'clock and was greeted by an immense crowd without and within the buildings. He was escorted from Government House by the Governor General's Body Guard, and when he reached Rideau Falls the great guns on Nepian Point thundered out announcement that he was on the way. Firing continued until the Governor General reached Parliament Hill. Here he was received by a guard of honor composed by the Governor General's Foot Guards. The crush in the Senate chamber was tremendous, every inch of space upon the floor and in the galleries being occupied mostly by ladies. Society never made a braver show or brought together a more representative assemblage about the vice-regal throne.

OTTAWA, March 17.—The following newly elected members were introduced: Messrs. Holmes, (West Huron), Martineau (Montmagny), Johnston (West Lambton), McCarthy (North Simcoe), Marcell (Bagot) and Bell (East Prince). All took seats on the government side of the House, including Mr. McCarthy, who was introduced by Messrs. Stobbs of Cardwell and Douglas of the Eastern Association.

Speaker Edgar announced that he had received the resignation of Mr. Guite,

member for Bonaventure, but as it was informal he had declined to accept it. He also stated that he had received from Mrs. Gladstone a letter acknowledging a resolution of sympathy passed last session on the occasion of Gladstone's death.

Touching references were made by the leaders to the deaths of Messrs. Jamieson, Wood and Guay.

The House adjourned until Monday out of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Wood.

Sir C. H. Tupper will interrogate the government in regard to the sale of the Canada Eastern Railway and the purchase of steel rails for the Intercolonial. He will move for papers on this latter subject, also in regard to the construction of deep water terminals at St. John.

Col. Hughes wants to see the imperial government enrol a brigade of Canadian officers and men for the imperial service abroad; also the establishment of a pension system for permanent services and the free transportation for two men from each battalion to the Dominion rifle matches.

Mr. Moore wants coal oil placed on the free list.

Mr. Fontain will again present the insolvency measure drafted by the Canadian Boards of trade.

Mr. Maxwell wants to increase the Chinese poll tax to \$500.

COMPLETELY PROSTRATED.

A Quebec Farmer Tells How He Was Restored from Almost Hopeless Suffering to Complete Health.

Mr. William Goodard, a well known farmer living near Knowlton, Que., says:—"A few years ago my health gave way and I was completely prostrated. The least exertion would use me up and make it difficult for me to breathe. I suffered from headaches, had no appetite, and fell off in weight until I was reduced to 130 pounds. Finally I grew so bad that I was forced to keep my bed, and remained there for several months. I was under the care of a good doctor, but he did not seem to help me. One day a friend urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I procured two boxes. When I had finished them I could not see much improvement and would have stopped taking them but for the urging of my friend, who said that in my condition I could not expect to see immediate results. I continued taking the pills, and by the time I had taken a couple more boxes there was no doubt that they were helping me, and it needed no further persuasion to induce me to continue them. In the course of a few months I not only regained my health, but increased in weight fifty pounds. These results certainly justify the faith I have in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I strongly urge those who are weak and broken down to give them a fair trial."

More weak and ailing people have been made strong, active and energetic by using Dr. Williams' Pink Pills than by any other means. They fill the veins with new, vigorous blood, and strengthen every nerve in the body. Sold by all dealers at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, or sent by mail by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Laurier on Prohibition.

Mr. Laurier has sent his views on the prohibition question in view of the recent plebiscite to Mr. Spence, secretary of the Dominion Alliance. Among other things Mr. Laurier says: "The record shows that the electorate of Canada to which the question was submitted, comprised 1,223,849 voters, and of that number less than 23 per cent, or a trifle over one-fifth affirmed their conviction in the principle of prohibition."

If we remember that the object of the plebiscite was to give an opportunity to those who have at heart the cause of prohibition, who believed that the people were with them and that if the question were voted upon by itself, without any other issue which might detract from its consideration, a majority of the electorate

would respond and thus show the Canadian people prepared and ready for its adoption.

It must be admitted that the expectation was not justified by the event. On the other hand, it was argued before us by yourself and others, that as the plebiscite campaign was carried out by the friends of prohibition without any expenditure of money and without the usual excitement of political agitation, the vote recorded in favor of it was comparatively a large one. This statement I did not then controvert, nor do I controvert it here and now. I would simply remark that the honesty of the vote did not suffer from the absence of those causes of excitement and that even if the totality of the vote might have been somewhat increased by such cause, its moral force would not have been made any stronger.

I venture to submit for your consideration and the consideration of the members of the Dominion Alliance, who believe in prohibition as the most efficient means of suppressing the evils of intemperance, that no good purpose would be served by forcing upon the people a measure which is shown by the vote to have the support of less than 23 per cent of the electorate. Neither would it serve any good purpose to enter here into further controversy on the many incidental points discussed before us. My object is simply to convey to you the conclusion that in our judgment the expression of public opinion recorded at the polls in favor of prohibition did not represent such a proportion of the electorate as would justify the introduction by the government of a prohibitory measure.

I have the honor to be Dear Mr. Spence, Yours very sincerely, WILFRID LAURIER.

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