

THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 7, 1905.

The St. John Evening Times is published at 19 and 21 Canterbury street every evening (Sunday excepted), by the St. John Times Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. A company incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

ST. JOHN'S OPPORTUNITY.

In an article in yesterday's Times it was pointed out that the wholesale merchants of St. John are pushing their trade aggressively and successfully, and that a number of firms find themselves cramped for room, while others are enlarging or have lately enlarged their premises. It was pointed out that this is a result of steady growth and not of anything like a boom in trade. Reference was also made to the development of St. John trade westward.

Speaking on the last mentioned point yesterday, a leading wholesaler said it was a fact that St. John merchants are meeting with success in gradually extending business westward. He is himself one of them, and is strongly of the opinion that lower province manufacturers should do more business in the west. He deprecated the idea that a merchant should sit down and nurse a certain amount of business. The merchant should look farther a-field, and take advantage of opportunities that are always offering themselves to the progressive man. It was to the advantage of these provinces to develop their trade westward. It would bring the provinces closer together. "Winning," he said, "is not more than half as far away to me as it used to be, although the actual distance is the same." He pointed out the advantage of having travellers from St. John houses going through the country westward, bringing this city and its business and its importance as an entrepot of trade continually before the minds of people who know far too little concerning this part of Canada. Such trade broadens the ideas of the merchant here, and draws to the sympathies of the provinces east and west.

These are wise words. They illustrate also a new phase of sentiment with regard to the rest of Canada. They are as far removed as possible from the utterances of pre-confederation days, and even of days much nearer the present. It is along this line that Canada will develop and consolidate her interests, to the mutual advantage of all parts of the country.

TO THE ALDERMEN.

A motion was made at the civic treasury board yesterday to grant 200 in aid of the Salvation Army "travellers' Home, where penniless wanderers may find shelter, and where men with only a few cents can find comfort at very small cost. The motion was voted down. Ald. Christie is reported to have said: "Nobody asked the Salvation Army to fit this place up, and they would doubtless be back again next year or another grant. It was an outrage that people who were poor themselves should have to contribute to the support of a lot of loafers."

It is needless to say that no more heartless statement has ever been made at City Hall. Ald. Christie says that last winter much time was taken up by discussion of the problem what to do with begging tlemen, and that aldermen themselves told of being annoyed and members of their families annoyed by so persons. He knows that there is a general expression of hope that the Salvation Army would take up the work, and a feeling of relief in the Army decided to do so. He says that among the penniless or nearly destitute men to be found in this city today are well meaning immigrants who to their own misfortune are here without money or means, and unable to get work, in the bitterest season of the year. If they got work, Ald. Christie would see them haled before the Cadi and fined to pay a license tax of \$7.50 which they had been able to earn amount.

The Times prints today something at the work of the Army Home. A worthless man is encouraged to go there. The man who has no money is asked to get an order from the city or church poor fund if he cannot get it, but if he is given the opportunity to do some work, and is credited to him just as if he had cash or produced an order. An average of thirty men is sheltered at the home every night. The man has been told of numerous instances where the Travellers' Home has sent a god-send to really deserving during the past few weeks. The chairman of the board of works, Ald. Christie has seen the street decent run thousands upon thousands of dollars behind, year after year through wasteful expenditure left the streets little or no better and the thought of the tax on people did not trouble him. It is his him when this grant of \$200 is asked for. He would prefer a grant for the Old Ladies' Home. Does any man want to see the City Hall?

WICKED HALIFAX.

Halifax is much agitated over the alleged non-enforcement of the liquor license law. The city council on Wednesday passed the following resolution: "Resolved, that this Council requests the Police Commission to instruct the police and license inspector by resolution of said commission to stop the sale of liquors in bars and hotels in this city during Sunday and that they report to the council."

One of the aldermen said that on New Year's Day (Sunday) he and another alderman went into a bar for a cigar. The bar was crowded, but not by cigar buyers, and he and the other city father had to go away without the solacing weed. The Chronicle takes up the question and paints a very gloomy condition of the condition of affairs, which it thinks calls for prompt action on the part of not merely temperance workers but of the board of trade. The Chronicle says:—

The present state of affairs in this Province with reference to temperance really calls for serious consideration, not from philanthropists and professional reformers but from the sober-minded and well-informed business men of the Province. So far as Halifax is concerned, we are firmly convinced that there is no other draw-back to its progress nearly so great as the excessive use of intoxicants by a large and we fear rapidly increasing section of its people.

Here is a most important matter for the consideration of the Halifax Board of Trade. We are not suggesting that it or its members should take the temperance "stamp." But we do suggest and urge most strenuously that, as an organization, it should review the situation; make careful inquiry into the whole subject; examine the existing legislation which has proved so ineffective; and give the public the benefit of its mature and deliberate opinions as to whether better means for the regulation of liquor-selling and liquor-buying in this City at least cannot be found.

We are strongly of the opinion that worse than nothing is being done at present, and will continue to be done while the interests of temperance—which are the most important interests of the community at large as well as of the individuals composing it—are left exclusively in charge of those whose zeal, as an almost invariable rule, so far outruns their practical knowledge.

We are quite as strongly of the opinion that much could be done were the stronger and better formed elements of the community to take hold of the matter in a business-like way, and as a business question. No one will deny that there is much to be done, or that there is great need of its being done quickly.

SHORT MARRIAGE TERM.

Queer things come out of Kansas, and queer things stay there. The latest product of the state is a senator who proposes to meet the divorce problem and the trouble arising out of unhappy marriages by making marriage a civil contract with a time limit. He has prepared a bill, to be introduced in the legislature—and laughed out of it. But he asserts that he was asked to take action by a delegation of women. Here is the bill, which speaks for itself:—

Section 1.—All marriages celebrated in the State of Kansas from and after the taking effect of this act shall be deemed and held to be civil contracts for a period of ten years; subject to all the laws of this State now in force relating to divorce and alimony.

Sec. 2.—At any time within three months before the expiration of said contractual period, parties to such marriage contract may, by filing a joint declaration in writing, duly sworn to before some officer authorized to administer an oath, in the office of the probate judge of the county where such parties reside, renew said marriage contract for a further period of ten years, without further ceremony.

Sec. 3.—The probate judge shall carefully keep and record in a book to be provided for that purpose all such contracts, and such record shall be deemed and taken in any action, proceeding or matter wherein such marriage relation shall be called in question as prima facie evidence of the existence of such relation.

Sec. 4.—Nothing herein shall be construed as affecting or repealing any of the laws of this State now in force with regard to marriage license or the celebration of the marriage rite.

Sec. 5.—In case the parties to a marriage contract shall fail or refuse to renew the same all property accumulated by such parties during the marriage relation shall be divided equally between the parties thereto, and the wife may have alimony out of her husband's estate in the same manner and by the same proceedings as are now provided by law. The courts of a county wherein the parties, or either of them, now having jurisdiction of marriage and divorce and the care and custody of the children, may make such orders as are proper for the care and custody of minor children, by such marriage upon the application of either of the parties thereto.

There does not seem to be any good reason for making the limit of the contract ten years. Why should it not be made five, or three, or even one year? Why have anything more than a verbal agreement, terminable at the will of either party? The purpose of the bill is to

TOMORROW IN THE CHURCHES.

enable people to get rid of an irksome bond. Why force them to wait ten years? Husband and wife generally know long before the expiration of that period whether they can agree or not. If there is nothing sacred about the marriage tie, why make people miserable by legal enactment? The Kansas senator is not doing himself justice. He should prepare a bill abolishing life-partnership and making it legal for men and women in Kansas to take one another on trial without limit of time or responsibility. It would be bad for the children, and for the lawyers, but think of the rush of immigrants to Kansas.

They are playing football at Victoria and Vancouver, B. C. While we in St. John are shivering in zero weather, and falling over "hog-backs" on the sidewalk, the half-backs and full-backs and "red-shirted" forwards on the Pacific coast are enjoying free kicks, force rushes, touch downs and tackles. The reporters revel in descriptions of stunts and scrums and scrimmages, and punts and pigskins. There are lots of kicks coming in St. John, but the football reporter cannot do them justice.

The weekly reports of R. G. Dun & Co and Bradstreet's today tell of favorable business conditions outside of the raw cotton market in the south, and of a feeling of confidence and preparations in the United States for an active trade.

The directors of the Exhibition association are to be congratulated on the financial showing of the last fair. There is a balance of over two thousand dollars on the right side.

BURIED YESTERDAY.

Funeral of Rev. J. F. Forbes in Sydney Was Largely Attended.

Sydney, N. S., Jan. 7.—The funeral of the late Rev. J. F. Forbes took place yesterday afternoon. Private services were first held at the house conducted by Rev. Clarence McKinnon, and attended by members of the Presbytery, after which the body was taken to St. Andrew's church, where public services were held. Rev. J. A. McLaughlin, of Bridgeport, presided as moderator in the absence of Rev. Mr. McKinnon, of Sydney Mines, who is ill, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Clarence McKinnon, associate pastor of St. Andrew's; Rev. J. McDonald, of Whitney Pier; Rev. T. C. Jack, of North Sydney; Rev. J. Greenless, of St. Mark's; Very Rev. Archdeacon Smith of Sydney; and other clergymen. Rev. Mr. Forbes was interred in Harwood Hill cemetery, beside the remains of his wife and suitable services were held at the grave. The attendance at the funeral services in St. Andrew's church was very large and the funeral procession to the cemetery was an immense one.

Large numbers of people of all denominations viewed the body in the church and the floral tributes were both numerous and handsome. The church was heavily draped in mourning and while the obsequies were going on business along the principal streets was suspended. A large number of flags were flying at half mast.

THAT STRAY LETTER

Which Found Its Destination Through The Times.

The Women's Auxiliary of Christ church congregation, St. Stephen, held their monthly meeting in the school room on Tuesday evening with a large attendance of members. A pleasant incident of the meeting was a letter from Foo Chow, China, from a lady missionary, thanking the Women's Auxiliary, for twenty dollars sent to the mission for support of a blind girl. The letter was addressed to St. Stephen's church, Fredericton, Quebec. It went to Fredericton, N. B., then to St. Stephen's Presbyterian church, St. John, where it was advertised in the St. John Evening Times and proved to belong to the Women's Auxiliary of Christ church, St. Stephen, and was received by them last Saturday. The letter is full of grateful thanks and the ladies who sent it feel fully repaid for their efforts, and in a few days will remit the same amount. The Chinese girl's name is Wong Kok and she is seventeen years of age.—(Calais Times, Jan. 5.)

MECHANICS, FARMERS, SPORTSMEN!

To heal and soften the skin and remove grease, oil and rust stains, paint and earth, etc. use The "Master Mechanic's" Tar Soap. Albert Toilet Soap Co., Mfrs.

J. W. ADDISON,

Importer and Dealer in Builders and Housekeepers' HARDWARE, PAINTS, OILS and GLASS.

All kinds of Weather Strips now in stock.

44 Germain Street, - - Tel. 1074. - - Market Building.

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There is this about Diamonds, they are good for a life time; worth as much at one time as another. We have a fine assortment of Diamond Rings, about any size of stone or style of setting you may desire. Our stock of watches and jewelry in general is Big Enough to Supply Every-body Wants.

A POYAS, Watchmaker and Jeweller, 545 Main street, N. E.

Royal Standard Flour for Bread

WHOLESALE BY

NORTHROP & CO., - - 23 and 24 South Wharf.

After Christmas Card

FROM

W. Tremaine Gard.

Now that the holiday rush is over, and the business of that kind quieted down, I find like most tradesmen quite a lot of LEFT OVERS, that are just as good and as fashionable as what I have sold; and to get a move on them NOW, I am offering them at very low prices and heavy discounts to CLEAR THEM OUT so if you or any of your friends want bargains in WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, MANICURE, TOILET SETS, OPERA GLASSES, or such articles, just call and see what I can do for you, at

77 Charlotte St., near head of King South Side.

W. Tremaine Gard. Goldsmith, Jeweler and Optician.

AID THE DOCTOR.

Don't forget that you can assist the doctor greatly in getting the best results from his prescriptions by having them filled properly. You make sure of this in bringing them here. We can afford you absolute security both as to quality of drugs and accuracy of compounding.

E. CLINTON BROWN,

Prescription Specialist, THE FLATIRON BUILDING, Corner Union and Waterloo Streets.

ileo in 1610. The faint fifth one was discovered by Darnard in 1692. The fifth and sixth satellites are of approximately the same brightness.

OSCAR WRIGHT'S TRIAL.

The case of Oscar Wright, charged with the murder of William C. McKnight of Havelock, will be tried in the Kings county court at Hampton on Tuesday, Jan. 10th. The preliminary examination was held in October at Sussex, after which Wright was committed to jail at Hampton, where he has remained since awaiting his trial. The case will be tried before Judge McLeod, with Dr. Pugsley as prosecuting attorney and Messrs. Currie and Fowler for the defence.—Record.

A Man is Only Half a Man

When He is Worried and Depressed by a Cold or a Cough

The worry and depression are natural, for neglected colds are often fatal. Wise men aid nature to resist the attack.

D. S. HOWARD

The well known merchant, of Parrsboro, N. S., sends the Hawker Medicine Company the following unsolicited testimonial: "Some months ago when suffering from a severe cold I was advised to try HAWKER'S BALSAM OF TOLU AND WILD CHERRY and HAWKER'S LIVER PILLS, which I am thankful to say completely cured me. I have recommended HAWKER'S BALSAM to very many suffering from la grippe and severe colds, and in every case it has proved to be effective."

Such witnesses are numerous. Profit by them.

Canadian Drug Co., Limited

Sole Proprietors

St. John, N. B.

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now ready for the inspection and approval of all. Come early and get the best choice. We have good substantial goods or we have cheaper goods. Something suitable for all. A great line of

Watches, Jewelry, Cut Glass, Silver Goods, Opera Glasses, &c.

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A LARGE ASSORTMENT Boots, Shoes and Rubbers

AT LOWEST CASH PRICES. Men's Hand Made Kip Long Boots, \$5.00.

Marked Down January Sale.

Women's Felt Congress, 60c., were 75c. Women's Felt Slippers, 40c. were 55c. Women's Felt Shoes, 90c. were \$1.00. Women's Jersey Waterproof Overboots, \$2.00. Women's Croquet Rubbers, job lot, sizes 2 1-2, 3, 3 1-2, 20c. Women's Storm Rubbers, job lot, sizes 2 1-2, 3, 30c. Men's Waterproof 2 Buckle Overboots, job lot, all sizes \$2. Men's Felt, laced and elastic Boots all sizes, \$1.35, were \$1.75. Men's Felt, leather foxed laced Boots, \$1.50, were \$1.85.

Francis & Vaughan 19 King Street.