

THE DISPATCH.

VOL. 6. NO. 29.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., DECEMBER 20, 1899.

PRICE TWO CENTS



Perhaps
An Overcoat,
An Ulster,
A Reefer, or
A Suit,

Would be a most acceptable gift for some member of your family. If so, here's the place for you to come for it, no matter whether it be for the boy 4 years old, or the big man, or perhaps some other article of Boys' or Men's Wearing Apparel might suit you better to buy.

Our line of **Handkerchiefs, Mufflers, Gloves, Mitts, Braces, Shirts, Collars, Cuffs, Underwear, etc.**, is large, and up-to-date in style.

Our selections in **Neckwear** have been very carefully made, and surpass all previous

XMAS EXHIBITS.

JOHN McLAUCHLAN,

Men's and Boys' Clothier, Hatter and Furnisher.

NOTICE.

**GREAT CLOSING SALE OF
BOOTS and SHOES.**

We have decided to close out our Boot and Shoe business, and will from this date sell our entire stock of Boots and Shoes **at less than cost.** Call and satisfy yourself that now is the time to shoe your family at reduced prices.

We will take Hay, Oats, Butter, Cheese, Buckwheat Meal, Hemlock Bark, Hard and Soft Cordwood, in exchange for Boots and Shoes. Call early and secure the best bargains.

J. D. DICKINSON & SONS,

Corner of Main and Connell Streets, Woodstock.
Dec. 18, 1899. **Cash Paid for Hides.**

VICTORIA ICE RINK.

Grand Opening Christmas Day.

**Band in attendance Afternoon and Evening.
ADMISSION 25 CENTS.**

Come and see one of the largest rinks in the province. The Rink will be open for skating every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday afternoon and evening during the season.

Season tickets as follows: GENTS, \$3.50
LADIES, 2.50
CHILDREN (good for afternoon only), 1.50
MONTHLY TICKETS, 1.75

It is the intention of the management to maintain the best of order, and give the public the best of healthy exercise and clean sport throughout the winter. The management reserve the right to admit or refuse admission to anyone. **WE WANT YOUR PATRONAGE.**

A. D. HOLYOKE, Proprietor.

**The Temperance and General
Life Assurance Company**

Closed their Books Dec. 31st, 1898,

Without a dollar of interest overdue, Without a dollar's worth of real estate ever having been owned by the company, Without ever having foreclosed a mortgage, Without a dollar of claims in dispute, With a larger new business than in any previous year, With a premium income for '98 of \$183,744.14 With an interest income of 25,381.55 With an increase in total income of 17,538.00 With an increase in assets of 93,022.72 With an increase in expenses of only 714.58 With total assets amounting to 667,214.22	With an increase of 713 policies and 639 lives dur- ing '98, With a new business of over \$2,100,000, With total insurance in force, \$7,985,859.00, With a death rate in their thirteenth year of only \$5.38 for each \$1,000 of average risk carried during the year, With a death rate of only 3.44 per 1,000 of average number of policies in force, With a record for care and economy unexcelled. Such has been their record. It is a record of steady, solid progress. Where is there a cleaner record, or one that can beat it in any respect?
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T. A. LINDSAY, Special Agent, Woodstock, N. B.
E. R. MACHUM, Mgr. Maritime Provinces, St. John, N. B.

HER COURSE DEFENDED.

Mr. Arthur Balfour, M. P., puts the Case for England, Clearly.

An Unimpassioned Statement of Causes Which led up to the War.—Several Points Taken and Plainly Discussed.—Dutch Ascendancy Aimed at.

Mr. Balfour, the English statesman made a speech recently, published in full in the London Times. Those who have any doubt as to England being in the right, would do well to read it. We give a skeletonized report of his points. In the first place he deals with

FOREIGN CRITICISM.

The fundamental charge, he says, by foreign critics is that the government and the country have been moved by corrupt motives to adopt a policy having for its object to destroy the independence of free and self-governing republics. Persons making these charges have not made themselves acquainted with the colonial system of government. What penny of direct profits is it our habit to exact from our colonies? It is true that we have a great though indirect interest in seeing that in no part of the world is commerce strayed by tyranny, corruption or maladministration. To the criticism that South African capitalists have moved the government to wage war, he states that the owners of the mines are suffering every day by the war. They have been told that the mines will be burdened with some of the charges of the war, yet they prefer this war with all its loss to them, with the expectation of a heavy tax, and yet with the hope of good government in the end, to government by the Transvaal which has so iniquitously used its powers to strangle a legitimate industry.

UITLANDERS AND IRISH.

It is claimed that the Uitlander has no more grievance in Africa than the Irishman at home. What are the facts? One of the most fundamental and important functions of free government is the right of public meeting. There has been no check on public meetings in Ireland to discuss public grievances real or imagined, so long as they do not degenerate into the means for promoting crime. In the Transvaal a single policeman could dissolve a meeting of more than seven persons at his own sweet will. In the Transvaal no Roman Catholics could hold office. In Ireland practically every office is open to Catholics. As to taxation, no Irishman will contend that the Irish are taxed at the rate of £16 a head, which is what the Uitlanders are taxed at. Again the Uitlanders are not represented. They bear all the taxation. They have no representation in parliament. Ireland is not under-represented in the Imperial parliament. In Ireland everything has been done to make elementary and secondary education as harmonious to the prejudices as well as to the interests of the people as possible. In the Transvaal the Uitlanders are practically not allowed to educate their own children in their own language, or in their own way, while they have to contribute immense sums to an educational system of which they disapprove. Pres. Kruger rejected with scorn the suggestion that when the Uitlanders were represented in the Transvaal Assembly they should be allowed to use their own tongue. This was unlike the Orange Free State, unlike the Cape parliament, unlike the Canadian parliament. It was not possible for England to tolerate that in the very middle of one of her own dependencies, her own sons should be treated like inferior creatures.

THE NEGOTIATIONS.

If English diplomacy had for its object to provoke war, the South African Republic up to the very day they declared war might have checkmated English diplomacy, by giving immediate and substantial representation to the Uitlanders. England offered to guarantee their independence in 1897, had they made these reasonable concessions. It is folly to say that people who could have avoided war by this simple procedure were driven into war itself by the wiles of unscrupulous diplomatists. They could have chosen peace and permanent independence had they preferred to do so. It was claimed again that the government had a majority of 140 and they could, whatever the Transvaal did, make war a necessity. If the Transvaal government had offered immediate and substantial representation to the Uitlanders, and we had refused to accept that offer, that 140 majority would have melted like summer snow. Our power is as nothing if we once persuade the House of Commons and the country behind the House that there is some sinister object at which we are aiming, some object neither recommended by national honour, nor, approved by the national conscience.

WHY THE FRANCHISE WAS REFUSED.

What is the explanation of the fact that the Transvaal preferred war to any concession as to the franchise? We asked far less than is done for Uitlanders by the Orange Free State, and far less than is done for the Dutch Colonists in Natal and Cape Colony. The answer is, by reason of corruption. When you have a system in which you use a subject as a kind of milch cow—from which vast sums are drawn and distributed among a comparatively small governing class, common sense points out to you that the whole forces of corrupt interest are on the side of maintaining that interest intact. Had the franchise been given there would have been that public criticism before which corruption flies terrified and that impartial investigation into the finances which would have made impossible, illegitimate distribution of public wealth

among the few who contribute not at all, or scarcely at all to its production.

A BOLD BID FOR EMPIRE.

I now believe, also, that the declaration of war by the two republics was a bold bid for Empire, for a Dutch speaking paramount power in South Africa, excluding forever the hated British from any dominating influence in the future of that part of the world. That is all that makes the policy of the Orange Free State explicable. We never had any quarrel with the Orange Free State; we never interfered nor desired to interfere with their internal affairs. If I had been asked two months ago whether it was likely we would be at war with the Orange Free State I should have said "You might as well expect us to be at war with Switzerland." They did not go to war to prevent the Uitlanders in the Transvaal getting a vote, but it was part of a larger transaction to substitute Boer for British rule. How could, it is asked, these people think they could out the British from South Africa?

INDUCEMENTS TO MAKE THE BID.

The leaders of the two republics knew the difficulties of a campaign in South Africa. We had to make an expedition without parallel in the history of the world, 7000 miles across the sea, to a country incapable of supporting an army, and then 300 miles by rail. They knew they had the advantage of strategical position. They knew that their irregular militia were specially qualified for the species of warfare. They also knew, what we did not, till nearly the beginning of the war, that the Orange Free State would take a hand. They conjectured that there would be European interference. They counted on our party system of government at home, and in this as in the matter of intervention they counted in vain. "And let me say how fortunate I count the country, which has among its statesmen men like those who not agreeing with us in politics have spoken in patriotic and statesmanlike language. We here, the Conservative union, are essentially a party organization, but it is our business, our pleasure, and as we think it our duty to support and promote the interests of the party to which we belong, but we know of course that in the fluctuations of our institutions, now one party, now another, is entrusted with the responsibilities of government, and I am sure all of you rejoice with me that when we end our term—I trust not soon, and not dishonourably, when we end our term of office there are men among our political opponents, not less imbued than us with the traditions of an Imperial people, not less worthy to carry on the Imperial policy, or to protect the great interests of the Empire.

THE POLICY AFTER MAJUBA.

A cause seemed to justify the Boers in a profound contempt for the military capacity and resolution of Englishmen and that contempt so little justified by the history of the world, with which I presume the Boers are not intimately familiar, was in a chief measure due to the policy after Majuba. Radical orators have said this policy was due to a generous desire to restore independence to the Boers. A noble earl who was Mr. Gladstone's colonial secretary at that time, says there was another motive that put the generosity in motion. It was the fear lest the Orange Free State and the Dutch of Cape Colony should throw in their lot with the Transvaal and bring on serious military complications. Now, as the Gladstone orators always forgot half the motives which induced the government to give way after Majuba, are the Boers to blame for forgetting the other half? If these apologists talked of nothing but generosity, were the Boers altogether wrong in talking about nothing but fear? They argued—that is the Boers—if they compelled the government to give way in 1881, when they were weak and unarmed what could they not do now, when with the money brought to them by others, industry, they had heaped up all the latest implements of warfare. It was a stupid calculation on their part. Indignation has been aroused in this country, when the people know that this is no capitalist question, but that Englishmen accustomed at home to have a voice in municipal and imperial affairs and to be treated as free men have been subject in a country, within our sphere of influence, to treatment that should be resented if meted out to an inferior race.

THE FUTURE.

Never again shall we allow to grow up within our midst communities of our own creation in a position to use the liberties that we have granted them to turn their country into a place of arms to be used against us. Never again shall we see the spectre of an English Colony being invaded, of English farmers being raided, of the Queen's dominions being annexed by these insolent Republics. (Cheers.) Whatever else be done, whatever other arrangements are come to, however the future policy be worked out, the people of this country are unalterably determined that the paramount power in South Africa shall be the paramount power indeed, and that the Pax Britannica shall be supreme over all the regions in which the Queen now has territorial rights or paramount rights arising from her position.

Concluding an eloquent and convincing address, Mr. Balfour referred to the courage, endurance and patriotism shown by Natal, a small colony, a relatively poor colony on which has fallen the chief of these heavy military operations. Our great self governing colonies have not, indeed, been called upon to bear the burden which has been thrown upon the shoulders of Natal, but they, too, have shown themselves worthy members of that great confederacy we call the British Empire. They, too, have shown themselves sensible of the responsibilities which that Empire involves; they, too, have sent their brave men to fight for the cause, and I doubt not, if more men are wanted more men will be forthcoming.

GAOL QUESTION AGAIN.

Resurrected After a Protracted Interment—

Decision on a Question of Law, with Costs to the Defendants—The Injunction Order Remains Just Where it was, for the Present. Anyway.

The question of a new gaol in the town of Woodstock has again come to the front by reason of Judge Vanwart's decision on a demur, to the bill filed by the plaintiff's attorney, D. McLeod Vince. Mr. A. B. Connell for the defendants, viz. the County Council, demurred to the plaintiff's bill, on the ground that the plaintiff Dr. Curtis, of Hartland, did not sustain any special damage as alleged over and above that to any other ratepayer of the county, and that therefore the suit should have been by information in the name of the attorney-general. The judge as stated has allowed the demurrer, the plaintiff, however, being allowed to convert his bill into an information, if the attorney-general consents, costs to be for the defendant whatever the decision of the attorney-general. This is but one proceeding in the case upon which a decision has been reached, and it would perhaps be too soon for the advocates of the new gaol to crow lustily.

The following is the wording of the decision: In view of the settled practice as to the proper mode of procedure the demurrer will have to be allowed. The plaintiff will have to convert his bill within forty days into an information if the Attorney General consents, and to make all amendments necessary to that end. The plaintiff also asked for leave in the event of the Attorney General refusing his consent to allow him to amend his bill by making the Attorney General a defendant. In Long v. Purvis 15 Moore P. C. it is said that "if the Attorney General declines to interfere and the parties differ among themselves as to the proper mode of administering the trust a certain number may file a bill on behalf of themselves and others, making some of the dissentients and the Attorney General defendants." If the Attorney General refuses his consent then the plaintiff to have leave to amend his bill and add such parties as Counsel may advise within forty days from the refusal of Attorney General, all without prejudice to the injunction order granted in this suit.

The defendant's cost to the demurrer to be costs in the cause to the defendants in any event. If the plaintiff does not convert the bill into an information or amend within the delay the demurrer will be allowed with costs.

ANDREW STEPHENSON DEAD.

A Worthy Farmer of This County Passes Away.

Andrew Stephenson, of Plymouth, died quite suddenly, as far as the public was concerned, shortly after midnight on Monday. The cause was apoplexy, the indirect result of an injury he sustained by a fall last autumn. He was 68 years of age. He was one of the most enterprising farmers of the county, and a first class citizen, one of the best men in the community, and his death is sincerely mourned. Mr. Stephenson lost his wife about a year ago, and his brother John, died quite recently. There are three daughters, one married and living at Aroostook Junction, Mrs. Manzer. Robert, living in town and Thomas, below town are surviving brothers. The funeral will be this afternoon at two o'clock.

Christmas Trade.

Bright weather and lots of snow are the indications for Christmas at this time of writing. Merchants were asking for snow and it came in all sufficient quantity nearly a week ago. The stores are full of all manner of good things and perhaps not before in the history of the town have there been such handsome goods on exhibition, nor such a pretty selections from which to choose Christmas remembrances. Trade is good, on the whole. Farmers are getting better prices than for several years past, and this must mean increased purchases. Every afternoon there are lots of people in town and if the merchants complain that they are not doing much, it may be from long habit.

"It will cost you \$1," said the jeweller, inspecting the works of the timepiece through his eyeglasses, "to put this watch in thorough repair."

"Hand it back," haughtily replied the young man on the outside of the counter. "I can get a new one for 89 cents."—Chicago Tribune