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An American View of the Mudson Bay Question.

New York Sun: The settlement of the Alaska boundary question has given vitality to another question of importance to our northern neighbors. The Canadian Government is now giving attention to the exact and political and geographical status of Hudson Bay. Is it or is it not a mere clausum? A glance at the map shows the great bay so effectively surrounded by Canadian territory that no reasonable doubt would seem possible. It might almost be said that the very heart of Canada, geographically, is 580,000 square miles of water area, practically approachable only through Hudson Strait. Yet the matter is sufficiently indeterminate to justify Canada in making an official investigation.

Although the question is by no means a new one, it is but recently that the matter has become really important. A few years ago the shores of the bay were a wilderness known only to Indians and trappers, who dealt with the outside world solely through the agency of that venerable institution, the Hudson Bay Company, Chartered, originally by Charles II., in May, 1670, this company claimed exclusive trading privileges throughout the region of Hudson Bay and Jamas Bay for nearly two hundred years. Champlain's energies made Canada a French colony but the northern boundary of French possessions was vague. French interests disputed the rights of the Hudson Bay Company until the Treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, gave England sovereign rights to the bay, the strait, and the surrounding territory. The gave to England full control and possession of that which is now known as the Dominion of Canada.

By a treaty concluded in 1783, the people of the United States obtained certain fishing rights in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the Newfoundland bank, and also in "all other places in the sea where the inhabitants of both countries used at any time heretofore to fish." The Treaty of Ghent, which closed the war of 1812, appears to have established the fishing rights of Great Britain and her colonies in the territorial waters of British North America. But this did not fully deter mine the limits of those territorial waters. than one claim regarding their fishing rights. This convention established the "three mile limit" over certain areas, but gave to American fishermen equal rights with British and Canadian fisherman in certain other areas whose northern limits were only vaguely de fined beyond the fact that the rights were to be "without prejudice to any of the rights of the Hudson Bay Company." The long monopoly of the Hudson Bay Company was surrendered to the Dominion Government in 1868 for \$1,500,000, and it may be presumed that thereafter the waters of Hudson Strait and Hudson Bay fell under the same conditions as those prevailing in regard to other Canadian waters.

But the rights secured to American fishermen by the convention of 1818 remain. Under that convention they were at liberty to fish along the coast of Labrader and "northward | I haven't seen you at church lately?" indefinitely." For many years they have fished and maintained whaling stations "northward indefinitely," past Cape Chudleigh, along Baffin Land, through Hudson Strait, and in Hudson Bay. The Canadians have done no business there. The Americans have done much. Canada is now considering the establishment of a barrier from Cape Chudleigh to Baffin Land, at the entrance to Hudson Strait, on the ground of sovereignty over these waters as an inland sea, and under the old British 'headland theory," which the ally recognized.

In point of area Hudsod Bay stands third among the world's inland waters. The Medterranean Sea covers an area a little less than 1,000,000 square miles in extent. The Caribbean covers 680,000 square, only 100,000 more than Hudson Bay. Hudson Straight is a waterway 500 miles in length, varying in width from 50 to 100 miles. To claim all this a private property of the Dominion of Canada is to assume a considerable responsibility, and possibly to open a question whereof the settlement would involve many years of diplomatic discussion. Canada can hardly claim that American fishermen have trenched on the rights of Canadian fishermen, because for about sixty years Americans have been the only people who have gone there. New Bedford whalers have made many a profitable voyage into the bay, while the Canadians have paid no attention to their opportunities.

The strongest influence for the determination of the question is in the projects of railway extension to the shores of the bay. Lines are now being pushed in that direction, and others are projected from the south and from the west. For four months in the year the bay route would be available for transatlantic traffic and constitute the shortest possible line, by many hundreds of miles, between the Canadian wheat fields and the markets of Europe. With railway connection, read: the bay and its adjoining waters would become available and valuable as a fishing

the whales, walrus, porpoise, and hair seal now captured by the enterprising New Bedford mem.

The wisest policy for Canada, so far as the water area is concerned, would seem to be an "open door" for many years to come. Such policy might do much toward building up the vast waste places of Keewatin and Ungava, and constitute a highly valuable source of national wealth. It may be found difficult, as well as impolitic, to close a door 100 miles wide at the end of a 500 mile channel leading into a 600,000 mile expanse of ocean water.

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Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, 50 cents a box, 6 boxes for \$2.50, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Company, Toronto. To protect you against imitations, the portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous receipt book author, are on every box.

Taking no Chances.

A new reason "why men do not go to church" has recently been discovered by an English clergyman. Walking along a lane one day, says Tit-Bits, the village rector noticed an old man ahead of him. Seeing that it was one of his congregation who had not been to church of late, the vicar hurried and soon caught up with him.

"Hallo, John!" said he. "How is it that

At first the rector could get nothing out of him, but after a little persuasion the parish-

"Well, zir it be your youngest darter, Nelly, I be afeare of."

"What, afraid of Nelly, a girl of nineteen, and only just returned from school!"

"Yes, zir. You see," replied John, "when I went courtin' an old forchin-teller told me as 'ow I should be spliced three times. First to gray, an' then to a yeller, an' then to a ginger. Now, when I buried my poor yeller United States Government has never offici. Sally three months ago, an' your darter wi' the ginger air comed 'ome from schule, I says to myself, I says, 'That's 'er; that's the ginger 'un; an' if I don't keep away from church she'll nab me.' "

The Sham Sallor.

It happened at the Mansion House police court. A man who claimed to be a sailor and who said that he had been badly injured through an accident at sea was charged with begging in the city. The chief magistrate caught sight of a bluejacket in court and, addressing him, said, "You might please ask this man some questions to find out whether he is a sailor or an impositor." The naval man stood up, and, looking at the prisoner, asked. 'Can you tell me how many yards of canvas there are on the mainsheet?" After some consideration the sham nautical man replied, "I think about sixty yards." It only remained for the real tar to explain to the magistrate that the mainsheet was a rope and not a sail for the beggar to be convicted. -Golden Penny.

Texan Would Take no Chances. Representative Bob Henry of Texas tells

the following story:

"Word came one day to a man who lived down in my part of Texas that his motherin-law had died in St. Louis. The first telegram was followed by another one which

Snow. White Flour makes the Lightest Bread.

"Shall we bury or cremate?" "The Texas man wired back: "Both, take no chances."

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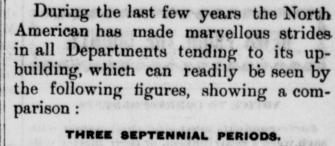
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CONTINENT

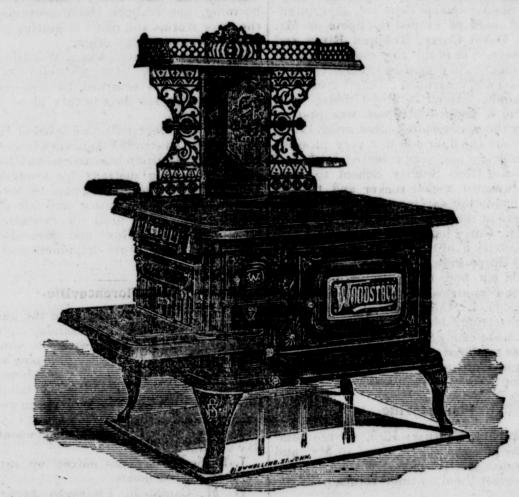
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The Methodist Parsonage, Jacksonville, Carleton Co., N. B., Oct. 11th, 1902

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