

TOPICS TALKED ABOUT.

Stories of Interest to Progress Readers—Many Items of Public Interest—Read and Learn

An Ottawa despatch says:—Not only with the despatch of a further contribution of men and munitions of war, but, also, by sending experienced men and women to serve upon the educational staff of the newly established school system of the B. C. states, will Canada give valuable aid to the Mother Country in the settlement of the South African problem. Principal Mullen of the Normal School at Fredericton, has just been cabled, through Lord Minto, by the imperial authorities, offering him the position of principal of the Normal School at Pretoria. Positions as teachers in this institution are also offered in the same cable to two women of Fredericton. The British government has been endeavoring to settle upon an educational system for the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal, which will tend to make the Dutch in those States eventually good British subjects. Considerable difference of opinion has been held as to the kind of educational system advisable to be established there. Two systems were proposed, and both strongly advocated; one by which the English language was to be made the official language of the country and the other by which both English and Dutch were to be officially recognized.

It has finally been decided that the dual language system shall be adopted and followed in the new British colonies of South Africa, and that both English and Dutch shall be taught in the public schools there. As Canada is the only British colony in which a similar system is in vogue, E. B. Sargeant was commissioned by the Provisional South African Government to inquire into the operation of the Public School system of the Dominion, with a view to the establishment of a similar system in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony.

Before returning to South Africa, Mr. Sargeant secured the services of a number of Canadian school teachers to go there.

The Small Pox Situation.

Gardiner Fawcett, eighteen months old, son of Wm Fawcett, 247 Waterloo street, died at the epidemic hospital on Thursday. The child developed the disease on Nov 6 when he was removed to the epidemic hospital. Two of his sisters, aged sixteen and eighteen years, also contracted small pox and are at the epidemic. The dead child was buried yesterday afternoon.

Outside of this additional fatal termination of the dread disease the small pox situation is practically unchanged as to the number of cases, but the outlook for the rapid extermination of the trouble is infinitely brighter. It has been some days since any new cases have been reported.

Dr. Morris reported to day Miss Fraser is almost completely cured; the Parkers are gaining in strength and health; Miss Lord, of Carleton, is not by any means as sick as she was; the two Leonard and two Hamiltons in the same house on Marsh Road are almost ready to be out and Miss Ebel McGuire in the Refectory house on Marsh Road, is altogether well.

From the epidemic hospital comes the cheering word that Mrs. DeBow will be able to go to her home, corner Delhi street and City Road, if not to day, to-morrow. She is a total recovery case. Three other hospital patients are nearly ready to be allowed their freedom, one of whom is Mrs. Robertson, of this city, who was a cancer patient in the General Public Hospital, where she contracted small pox. Mr. Taylor is a very sick man yet, and there are several others, but the doctor said none of them are dangerously ill.

Those having to do with the hospital small pox cases are joyful in the fact their sick ones are all on the high road to recovery.

It was a week Thursday since any case was reported from the General Public to the Epidemic hospital.

Several recovered patients, between six and ten in number, were allowed out of

the General Epidemic hospital this afternoon. Dr. Lunney told the Globe they were all well, and only thirty three patients were now remaining in the big brick building.

It is hoped by the end of the week that most of these, if not all of them will be sufficiently recovered from their various ailments and injuries to leave also. If they do the wards and house generally from top to bottom will be cleansed and made perfectly pure.

FOR TOURISTS TRAVEL.

The Montreal Herald says; Mr. John M. Lyons, general passenger agent of the I. C. R., arrived in the city this morning from Boston and New York, where he has been spending a few days on business in connection with the Government Railway System. During his stay in these cities Mr. Lyons heard nothing but praise from the American tourists who have travelled over the I. C. R. and the I. C. R. transportation connections during the summer in New York. Mr. Lyons had an interview with Mr. George H. Daniels, general passenger agent of the New York Central Railway system, who made the statement that Americans are more and more going to Canada, and the Maritime provinces in particular, to spend their holidays, and so far as he has heard, they are for the service over the I. C. R. and the attention given them by the employees of the road. Speaking of the service between New York and the Maritime Provinces Mr. Lyons said that it was all that can be desired. Leaving New York at 6:25 in the evening over the New York Central, and connecting with the I. C. R. at Montreal, the Sydneys can be reached the following night, meaning but two nights on the road. At North Sydney immediate connections can be made by Steamer Bruce for Newfoundland just six hours sail across to Port Basque, and in another twenty four hours St. John's is reached by rail. On the entire journey from New York to St. John's, Nid., the traveller is provided with all the comforts of the home.

Speaking of the traffic over the I. C. R. during the past summer, Mr. Lyons said that it had shown a considerable increase over previous seasons, and that there is very indication that next season will show a still larger increase.

Personal Mention.

Mrs. D. P. Chisholm left on Monday morning for Boston, where she will reside with her son, Noel Scovil, an artist on the Boston Post staff. Mrs. Chisholm's removal will be regretted by many friends here. Hon. R. J. and Mrs. Ritchie have been entertaining Mrs. Chisholm prior to her departure.

P. J. Veniot, collector of customs, Bathurst, who has been suffering from a very serious case of blood poisoning, is much improved.

Rev. Thos. Lavery was a visitor to the city during the week.

O. M. Melanson, M. P. P. of Shediac, was at the Dufferin this week.

J. M. McGillivray, of Montreal, has arrived here in connection with the Winter Port business.

T. J. Gallagher, of Moncton, was in the city on Wednesday.

Mrs. John O'Regan received a telegram Wednesday from Boston, intimating that her sister Mrs. Lamb, of that city, was dangerously ill. Mrs. O'Regan accompanied by her nephew, Fred Lamb, left Wednesday evening for Boston.

Miss Clara Brennan of this city rendered some vocal selections at St. Mary's Church fair, Fredericton Thanksgiving night.

SABLE ISLAND.

Mrs. Parsons Had to Be Left There and May Not Get Away for Six Months.

A singular mishap has occurred to Mrs. Parsons, the wife of the agent in Halifax of the department of marines and fisheries of Canada.

Mr. Parsons recently made his regular autumn trip of inspection to Sable Island, 'the graveyard of the Atlantic,' and took his wife with him. When they reached the island, Mrs. Parsons resolved to go ashore with her husband, and see the land and the people on it. Between the hour of Mrs. Parsons' landing and the time to return wind and waves had risen, and the seas came tumbling, roaring and breaking on the sandy beaches in a manner which made it out of the question to row Mrs. Parsons back to the slip. As the storm was getting momentarily worse and immediate return of the rowboat and its crew to the vessel had become imperative, the men were compelled to leave Mrs. Parsons behind.

There is scarcely any hope of Mrs. Parsons being taken off before spring, probably not for six months.

Rich Baby in the World.

The richest baby in the world was born on Sunday night at New York when Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, who was Miss Elsie French became the mother of a son.

He is worth in prospect even now some where between forty and fifty millions of dollars, but by the time he comes into his estate, if he lives long enough it will have increased to probably twice as much. His father is the second son of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt, but his chief heir the eldest having been cut off a beggarly four million or thereabouts. because of his marriage with Grace Wilson Alfred is said to have received something like \$44,500,000 although the figures are often placed much higher. His marriage with Miss French took place January 14th last.

Until the advent of this new plutocrat on Sunday night the wealthiest baby was John John Nicholas Brown, 31, fourteen months old of Providence, R. I. He is the son of a Rhode Island manufacturer who died about a year ago leaving the youngster a fortune of \$10,000,000.

Death of a North Shore Lady.

The Chatham Commercial says: The many friends of Mrs. John Connell, of Bartibogue, were greatly shocked to hear of her death which took place Monday evening last, after an illness of only four days. The deceased was a daughter of the late Mr. John Burchill and sister of Mrs. Allen McDonald of this place. She leaves a husband, one daughter and two sons one of whom had been away from his home about a month and only returned in time to attend the funeral, which was held on Wednesday morning. The service at the Bartibogue Chapel was conducted by Rev. Father Morrissey assisted by Rev. Fathers McLaughlin and Campbell. There was a very large number present from the surrounding country and Chatham, Newcastle and Nelson. Mrs. Connell's estimable qualities endeared her to many and the loss sustained by her death is mourned by a large circle of relatives and friends.

Too Many Schools in Our Locality.

A number of residents of Orange and Carmarthen streets have drawn up a petition which will be presented to the board of school trustees, protesting against the establishment of a boy's school on the vacant lot at the intersection of those streets and asking that permission be withheld from the Roman Catholic bishop of St. John to establish it. They claim that there are three schools already situated within a radius of one block of that place, and that the addition of another in that neighborhood will cause unnecessary annoyance to those living in that district. They also claim in their petition that the district named is one of the best residential portions of the city, and that the building of such a school would tend to depreciate the value of neighboring property. The paper has already been largely signed by prominent citizens and will be further circulated during the next few days.

It is but fair to add that the property in question was sold by one of St. John's best citizens to the bishop of St. John after it had been on the market for many years without a purchaser.

A STRANGE BEQUEST.

Mrs. W. B. Hamilton to get Ten Thousand Dollars if her Husband Dies:

Mrs. W. B. Hamilton, who resided in St. John some years ago has been left ten thousand dollars by her deceased father, Hon. Wm. Law on certain conditions. The will as to this bequest is as follows:

I give and bequeath to my said executor and trustee the sum of ten thousand dollars to be by him invested as soon as possible after my decease in such manner and upon such security as he may deem expedient and advisable, with power to my said executor and trustee from time to time and at all times after my decease to change such investment as to him shall seem proper and to pay to my daughter, Annie May Hamilton, wife of W. Benjamin Hamilton on and after the death of her husband the interest income, dividends and profits that shall then have accumulated upon and from such investment and also after the death of her said husband to pay to my said daughter during the remainder of her natural life all further interest, incomes, dividends and profits that shall from time to time accrue upon and from such investment provided, however, that it shall and may be lawful for my said executor and trustee in his discretion at any time or times in the lifetime of my said daughter, and either before or after the death of the said W. Benjamin Hamilton, to pay to my said daughter if my said executor and trustee shall think proper so to do, all or any part of the said principal sum of ten thousand dollars, and all or any part of the said interest, income, dividend and profits that may have accrued or accumulated, as to my said executor and trustee shall seem expedient and necessary for the support and maintenance of my said daughter and her children; but any sums so paid to my said daughter shall be absolutely free from the disposition interference or control of her said husband, W. Benjamin Hamilton and from all and any claims of the creditors of the said W. Benjamin Hamilton.

I will and direct that upon the decease of my said daughter the said sum or investment of ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as shall then remain unpaid to my said daughter, and also all interest, income, dividends and profits thereon then accrued or accumulated and unpaid to my said daughter, shall fall into and form part of the residue of my estate.

I give and bequeath to my three granddaughters, viz Gytha Hamilton, Mary Law Hamilton and Ruth Hamilton daughters of my said daughter Annie May Hamilton the sum of one thousand dollars each to be paid to each of them respectively upon her arriving at the age of twenty one years or marrying whichever shall happen; and in the event of the death of either of my said granddaughters unmarried before arriving at such age, the sum hereby given and bequeathed to any such granddaughter so dying shall fall into and form part of my estate.

I give and bequeath to my said executor and trustee my homestead, land and premises, on the corner of Brunswick and Elm streets, at Milton, Yarmouth, with the dwelling house and buildings thereon, and the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to have and to hold to him and his heirs and assigns for his and their own use and benefit during the natural life of the said W. Benjamin Hamilton, in trust for the sole and separate use and benefit of my said daughter Annie May Hamilton, during her natural life, and upon her death, whenever the same shall occur, the said homestead, land and premises, with the said dwelling house and buildings, and the privileges and appurtenances, shall revert fall into and form part of my residuary estate.

HELLO! ST. STEPHEN.

Telephone Communication with the Border Town About Ready.

The St. Croix valley is soon to be on speaking terms with St. John says the Courier. Not that unfriendly sentiments have existed between the communities in the past, but for all that, we did not seem to be distant. The New Brunswick telephone company has about bridged the distance and we expect soon to have a lot

to say to our big neighbors.

Under contract with the telephone company, James Barnes, M. P. P., commenced on June 29th to erect the poles for the long distance telephone service between the two towns and completed his work on Friday last.

The distance covered is one hundred miles, through which over three thousand poles were erected.

The lines touch Musquash, Lepreau, Crow Harbor, Beaver Harbor, Pennfield St. George, Bocabec and St. Andrews and from there to St. Stephen it follows the shore road.

The construction crew encountered much hard soil and many rocks which greatly retarded their work.

Linemen are following with the wires and St. Stephen will soon be able to talk with about all towns in New Brunswick and with many in Nova Scotia.

Connections will be made with the long distance wires in Calais, making it possible for people in Halifax to talk with Boston New York and other distant cities.

Death of John McLeod M. P. P.

Mr. John McLeod M. P. P. died from paralysis at an early hour Tuesday morning at his home Black River. Mr. McLeod had been in poor health for many months. He was born at Greenock, Scotland, in 1825, and came to Canada, with his parents in 1826. For some years he followed the sea, went to Australia in 1852 and engaged in gold mining until 1856. In 1862 he commenced shipbuilding at Black River, St. John county, and continued in the business until his death. Mr. McLeod was a member of the Municipal Council for nearly 20 years. He was elected to the House of Assembly as a member for St. John county in 1892 and was re-elected in 1895 and at the last provincial election. For some years he had been a member of the Alms House commission. He leaves a widow, who was Miss Alward of Havelock, Kings county, and two brothers, Egbert and Peter of Black River.

There are many names mentioned in connection with the vacancy and is a very desirable position as a nomination is a good as an election.

Good News for St. John.

The success of the York and Cornwall Cotton Company is now settled beyond doubt. It is announced that the stock has been fully subscribed. The mills will start at the earliest possible date, with ample capital to carry on the business successfully. The stock has been taken up entirely by local capitalists, who are enthusiastic over the prospects of the mills.

John E. Moore, who some months ago purchased the Barnhill mill site at the point, proposes to erect a large and well equipped saw mill there. It has been hinted for some time that this was Mr. Moore's intention, but the fact that Mr. Moore has applied to the city for a supply of water goes to show that he is in earnest.

I. C. R. Promotions.

Some changes and promotions have recently been made among some of the I. C. R. clerks. R. Colclough, private secretary to Manager Russell, has been promoted to chief clerk in the manager's office, his former position being taken by Fred Robertson, private secretary to General Passenger Agent Lyons. W. N. Rippey, formerly chief clerk in J. E. Price's office, has been appointed assistant to T. E. Henderson, superintendent of car service and telegraph.

Engagement Closed.

The Robinson Opera Co. closed its engagement at the Opera House Tuesday night rather unexpectedly. Several reasons for this among the chief being which caused arrears precipitated a strike. The manager made a settlement and started for Bangor.