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THE WEEKLY SUN.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 19, 1898.

THE COMING SESSION.

In a little over two weeks we shall have the announcement of the government programme for the third session of the present parliament. Down to this stage the eighth parliament has not been fruitful in measures. The government came in with a variety of promises of reform, but as yet the ministers have not found much to change except in matters of administration, where the changes have mainly been in the interest of a few favorites. The tariff of last session did not, to any appreciable extent, redeem the pledges of the party, and there is now a strong agitation among influential supporters of the government to undo some of the few radical changes that were made. It is not probable that the government will open up the tariff question again if it can possibly be helped. The experience of last year, when the tariff bill was brought down, was withdrawn, and brought back again with one hundred changes, and when the amendments were, again amended and re-amended, affords an awful lesson.

The measures promised in the speech from the throne at the beginning of last session included a franchise bill. It was introduced and withdrawn after several days debate in the course of which the premier declared that the bill would be forced through if it took all summer. Another measure was the plebiscite bill, which was not even introduced. There were also certain measures relating to the civil service which were dropped. The bill of Sir John A. Macdonald, the second countess, which was defeated in the senate, and the first countess, which was defeated in the house, were also dropped. The bill of Sir John A. Macdonald, the second countess, which was defeated in the senate, and the first countess, which was defeated in the house, were also dropped.

The franchise bill and the plebiscite bill will not doubt be on this session's programme. If this franchise measure is the same as that of last year, it will be resisted. The measure of last year was not a franchise bill at all, but an act of abandonment. It proposed to hand over the control of the federal election list to eight separate local legislatures, each authorized to prepare a system of its own, and to decide what classes of men should be entitled to vote for members of the central parliament. There is no more reason for the provincial legislature to fix the federal franchise than for the federal parliament to lay down the terms on which the members of the local legislature should be elected. At the same time it will not be wise for the opposition to contend for the perpetuation of the existing system. The points for which the contention may well be made are, federal control; simplicity, cheapness and uniformity; and the inclusion of all who are now entitled to vote. These features can be obtained by a simple manhood residence franchise, with registration. Such is the principle which this journal has supported, and we shall be glad to see parliament adopt it.

Whatever different opinions may prevail about prohibition, there can be no question that the government is bound in honor to submit the question squarely to the people of Canada. There is only one fair way to put the question, and that is to state it simply and plainly, unencumbered by any other issues. It is understood that at about time last year the ministers had about decided to add to the question another, in which the people would be asked to say whether they were prepared for direct taxation. If the government proposes to adopt the principle of government by plebiscite any question of tariff or revenue policy may be submitted to popular vote. Sir Wilfrid can ask the people to vote on the question of suffrage. Mr. Blair may ask them to vote "yes" and "no" on the Drummond railway question. Mr. Fielding may submit the alternative of protection and free trade. But we may expect that the honest members of the two houses will insist on the presentation of the plebiscite issue in its simplest form. We have the impression that the practical wisdom of this course has been borne in before this time on the ministers themselves.

If there is to be no direct amendment to the tariff bill, we have the pleasure made by Mr. Fielding in England that the government will give Great Britain and the low tariff colonies a preference over foreign countries.

tries. This can only be done by a complete change in the preference clauses of the tariff bill. As it stands the law gives preferential terms not on the basis of nationality but on the ground of reciprocal tariff advantages. This principle, which Mr. Fielding, Mr. Patterson, and Sir Richard Cartwright commended so highly a few months ago, is now, according to the finance minister, to be abandoned altogether.

While in England Mr. Fielding became much impressed with the importance of enacting for Canada an insolvency law. It is possible that such a measure may be introduced. The framework of it may be found in a bill which occupied the senate during a great part of a recent session. No doubt the new bill, if introduced at all, will be handed over to the senate to be dealt with, though there is reason to fear that Mr. Mills will be a good deal at sea with it. On the whole, it is hardly probable that an insolvency law will emerge from parliament this year.

The indications are that some of the most exciting scenes of the coming session will be witnessed in the railway committee of the commons. The middle session of the parliamentary term will not be allowed to pass without a great exploiting of railway schemes. The Kootenay, the Klondike and all the rest are now the paradise of the promoter. Last year a great number of conflicting railway projects were before the committee, while many others were promoted, which some of the western members connected to be hostile to public interest. The liberal revolt in Quebec is complicated with questions of railway rights and subsidies, and we look for a resumption of hostilities over an application for incorporation or for special privileges. Sorer hearts are sometimes made over these matters of business than over questions of principle. The coming session will probably be one in which Mr. Blair and Mr. Tarte will enjoy rare opportunities.

THE CHARLOTTE ELECTION.

Mr. J. D. Chipman is authorized to take his seat as one of the members for Charlotte, though the people of that county do not appear to have had much to do with the matter. The new member comes to have been in the first instance the choice of the government, whose selection was ratified by a majority vote of certain delegates for St. Stephen and Miramichi. This election may be claimed as an exhibition of confidence in the ability of the ministers to make choice of a member for Charlotte. How much farther it is a sign of confidence it would be hard to say, as Mr. Chipman makes the safe promise to support Mr. Bismarck in all good measures, which pledge would probably be taken by any member of either party. He reserves to himself the right to go with the conservative party in case provincial politics should be conducted on party lines. It is not quite clear whether the leader of the opposition would have Mr. Chipman's support in establishing such a line of political policy, though that point will perhaps be settled before the next session is over. If the new member for Charlotte had marked out for himself some clearer course, and not left it so much to others to decide his future he would have made a stronger impression in starting out in his career as a member of the legislature. Mr. Chipman is a man of large business influence and of good repute in his county and throughout the province. He ought to have come into public life with a clearer declaration of principles and under better auspices.

A TEMPERANCE GAIN.

The report of the license inspector for Ontario for 1897 is described as the most favorable from the temperance standpoint ever presented. The Globe, dealing with the subject, points out that the total number of licenses issued was 3,190, compared with 3,191 in 1896, and 3,560 in 1898. In 1894 there were 4,201, and in 1894 the number was 6,185. The 3,190 of last year in licenses for six months and beer and wine licenses. The decrease in ordinary licenses since 1893 is 464. In 1897 of the 612 municipalities no licenses at all were issued; in 261, only one or not more than two. In 673 municipalities, or 82 per cent., no shop licenses were issued. In 1898 the commitments to jail for drunkenness were 4,797; in 1897 only 1,716. Of the latter 1,200 were in the six counties containing the cities of Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Kingston, London and Brantford.

ST. JOHN NOT IN IT.

The Sun has received from the minister of the interior a copy of a handsome printed and illustrated "official" handbook of the dominion of Canada. It is a splendid volume of 115 pages, on thick toned paper, containing scores of engravings and giving much information to immigrants. In order to start the colonies right he is informed that "Quebec and Halifax are the principal ports of entry in Canada for colonists, and the government at these points maintains es-

tablishments for their reception and proper care immediately on arrival. If they are provided with through tickets before sailing, which is strongly advised, their steamship tickets are exchanged at these stations. This is at page 29. Turning to page 30, the enquirer learns that "the Canadian Pacific railway also offers a special rate to emigrants from Quebec, Montreal or Halifax to Manitoba or other points in the west." On page 33 the enquirer finds a large type, double column catechism. It begins with the question: "Where shall I arrive in Canada?"

"Answer—At Quebec, between 1st May and 12th November, or at Halifax between 12th November and 1st May or thereafterabouts."

The next question and answer instruct the stranger what he shall do when he lands at Quebec. Then comes the question: "And if I arrive in winter?"

"Answer—You will find the same kind of accommodation and the same officials at Halifax."

St. John is not mentioned in any of these instructions.

Premier Bismarck told the farmers at Hillsboro the other day that the discussion of his wheat policy would do good, and that people would grow wheat next year who had not thought of it before. The farmers of the province should congratulate themselves on having two such experienced and timely advisors as the premier and his commissioner for agriculture, whose merest suggestions have power to make the wilderness a grain field. Possibly it will not be necessary to utilize those old threshing machines in the manufacture of cheese, after all.

In connection with the contract awarded by the government for the substitution of electric light for gas in the parliament buildings at Ottawa, and for fire protection, the Toronto Globe enters a mild protest against the practice of letting such contracts without tender. "It creates," says the Globe, "an undesirable precedent for a practice that may be abused." It also shivers at the plank of the grip platform, but this does not come with the shock of a great surprise.

The retiring president of the Winnipeg grain exchange, in reviewing the past season's trade, said at the annual meeting last week that the Manitoba farmers had an average quantity of wheat for which they received nearly double the current price for the preceding three years. He felt, he said, he could truthfully declare "that there is no place in America where the farmer has prospered in the same extent as he has done in the province of Manitoba and the adjoining territories."

The following item is deemed of sufficient importance to be given a place in the New York Herald: "No new leaks or breaks were discovered yesterday in dry dock No. 3 at the navy yard." The American nation is to be congratulated.

In his annual report on the asylum for the insane Dr. Clark of Toronto discusses causes of insanity, and in the course of his remarks observes that much injury is being done by overwork in schools.

MR. ROBBINS' DEATH.

(Springhill, N. S., Observer.)
 The death occurred at noon Saturday of Alexander Robbins, an old and well known resident of Springhill. Though in poor health for the past two or three years, Mr. Robbins' death came as a sudden surprise to his relatives and friends. On Saturday morning he showed a slight disposition to drowsiness, and though his medical attendants were at once summoned and everything possible done Mr. Robbins sank gradually, and before even the members of his family, who were away from home, could be summoned he had passed peacefully away. Mr. Robbins was very widely known throughout the county, and was universally esteemed for his kindly generous disposition. A warm conservative all his life, he took the most lively interest in political questions until his death. Among the different denominations much sympathy was expressed for the bereaved family. Four sons and three daughters survive him, one of whom is Miss Mary Robbins of the editorial staff of the St. John Progress. Mrs. Robbins died five years ago, and a son, James Robbins, was killed in the explosion here in 1891. To the remaining members of the family universal sympathy is extended.

His Sad Experience—"I had the worst experience of luck in the Klondike," said the returned gold-seeker. "Didn't you find any gold?" asked his friend. "Oh, yes, I found gold. But every time I had three of a kind I was dead sure to run against a full house."—Puck.

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 S. KERR & SON,
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BOSTON LETTER.

Six Murders in the State Within Seven Days.

Tuberculosis in Maine—A \$250,000 Fee—Bram Case for March.

The Gigantic Trust—Lumber Trade Dull—Fish Market a Little Better.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BOSTON, Jan. 15.—Those who delight in reading the accounts of murders in the newspapers had nothing to complain of this week. There have been no less than six persons murdered in this state within the past seven days, and in the neighboring state of Rhode Island an old man is being tried on a charge of murdering one member of a family which was wiped out of existence one night last summer. About a week ago, a farmer, his wife and daughter were killed in their home at Brookfield, this state. All three were killed with an axe. A farm hand, who has been missing since, is suspected. The usual weekly murder occurred in this city.

General business continues dull, although some branches report trade dull. The wool business, of which Boston is the centre, has been good, due to the strong demand from the mills which are all running, most of them having been shut down last year. The Wilson tariff was in operation, under which wool was admitted free of duty. Business in the cotton mill centres is very dull, owing to the general reduction in wages, and Boston is more or less affected thereby. Strikes in Providence, Lynn and elsewhere have also hurt business.

The following provincialists were in the city this week: H. A. Austin, Virgo Peterson, J. B. Knight, John King, P. McDermott, Elizabeth McDermott, St. John; George F. Gregory, Mr. A. Tweeddale, Frederick; Fred Moore, Woodstock; R. McInch, Hillsboro; George S. Boak, J. H. Johnson, A. E. Donovan, Halifax; T. I. Sears, Wolfville.

Joshua Fowler of St. John was in the city this week, attending the annual reunion of the 44th Mass. Regiment, in which he served in the war of the rebellion.

Monte Q. Spurge, formerly of St. John, died in East Cambridge Jan. 12. Miles McInnes, a native of Halifax, died here recently, aged 65 years. William Reade Matthews, a Nova Scotia man, died in this city Jan. 10, aged 66.

The Maine cattle disease continues under their direction last year for tuberculosis was 415, against 202 in 1896. The commissioners say that they are killing only those cattle the owners of which make request, and that animals be slaughtered. This state of affairs is due to the fact that the commissioners have no funds, and Dr. George H. Bailey, chairman of the board, says that the state will not continue in office unless the legislature sees fit to appropriate enough to carry on the work in a business like manner.

A. C. Burrage, a Boston lawyer, received as his fee for services in negotiating the sale of the Standard Oil properties in Boston to the Whitney syndicate the sum of \$250,000. The Whitney syndicate by co-operation of Standard Oil now dominates the Boston gas fields as well as the coal mines at Cape Breton. The Standard Oil Company, as is well known, is the most powerful corporation on the continent.

The leading directors are John D. Rockefeller and John D. Brown, two of the wealthiest men in the United States. It is now thought that the celebrated Bram case will not be tried before March 15. The delay is due principally to the fact that the witness, Herbert Fuller, the vessel upon which the case was committed, will be unable to reach here before that time. She was not here at the first trial, but both the prosecution and the defence considered that it would be advisable to have her in port this time. One reason why the presence of the craft is desired is so that an experiment can be made before a jury, for the purpose of ascertaining beyond any doubt whether a man at the wheel could see another in the captain's cabin through the small window. It will be remembered that the seaman Brown, who was said to be at the wheel at the time of the murders, testified that he saw the man at the wheel strike several blows with an axe. Brown swore that he saw Bram in the cabin by means of the window, and that he (Brown) did not leave the wheel at the time. The defence maintained that a man could not be seen distinctly under the conditions named. Bram will have the same lawyers at the second trial, and Mr. Cotter, his senior counsel, is one of the best in the state. The prosecution will be under the disadvantage of having a new district attorney to handle the case. It is said that the defence has learned more of the career of the man Brown since the last trial. Brown's real name is Westenburg, and at one time he was confined in an asylum at Rotterdam. The defence attempted to shift the crime onto his shoulders at the trial. It is understood that the defence will examine another witness who was on the Fuller at the time, more rightly than before. All those who were on board the vessel when she reached Halifax, with the exception of the student Monks, are still here in custody of the United States.

This principal event of national interest this week was the election of Mark Hanna to the United States senate. Mr. Hanna's election displeased at least one half of the republicans, who appreciate that his triumph means the loss of thousands of votes in many states. Whichever way the contest went, it is the general opinion that the republicans will lose Ohio at the next election. Hanna, who is sometimes known as the American Warwick, is the old man of the sea in politics, and although it is admitted

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VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Conducted By J. W. Manchester V. S., St. John, N. B.

THE WEEKLY SUN takes pleasure in notifying its readers that it has perfected arrangements with J. W. Manchester, V. S., whereby all questions with respect to diseases of the lower animals will be answered by him, and treatment prescribed in those cases where it is asked for through the columns of THE SUN.

All enquiries must be addressed: VETERINARY DEPARTMENT, Weekly Sun, St. John, N. B.

Farmer—I have a nine year old stallion rather cross, lately have had difficulty in putting on his bridle; he seemed swelled back of the ears. A few days ago he broke on on side and discharged some matter. What is the trouble and what the cure?

Ans. The trouble is poll evil, caused by a blow or pressure of halter or bridle. The case would require a rather severe operation, as the opening discharging matter would have to be freely opened and dressed with caustic. You had better employ a good veterinarian.

P. S.—I have a four year old and very valuable horse which carries tongue out of side of mouth. Can I do anything to stop it?

Ans.—You can get a bolting bit to remedy the trouble. It often effects a cure, especially in a young horse.

M. T. C.—Have a very fine driving mare, four years old, that went lame about two months ago. She has a lump on back of her hock joint, which gets warm after driving, but cools off if she rests for a few days. What is the trouble and what would you advise?

Ans.—Your mare is lame from curb. Give complete rest and blister with Hygea. Discharge the part to land four parts. Repeat blisters as often as necessary at intervals of three weeks.

Farmer—A few weeks ago my horse kicked the distal end of his tail, and a cough and brachitis in a peculiar way, am afraid he is going to take the heaves. He is in good condition and feeds well. Please prescribe.

Ans.—Feed very little hay and that at night, water often and feed plenty of good, sound oats. If bowels are constive give a little linseed oil every day; also give daily one ounce of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic in water. Quince Cress of Lobelia Pulv. given daily might be beneficial.

NEW BRUNSWICK BOY HONORED

(London Daily Mail, 1st Jan.)
 The list of honors conferred by the Queen at the commencement of the new year was issued last night. In this list we find, among the promotions in India and appointments to the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, the name of Thomas William Holderness of the India civil service, C. S. I. (Companion of the Star of India). Mr. Holderness was born in Richmond, in 46 years of age, removed from there with his parents, many years ago, to England, where he was educated; graduated from Oxford University, and afterwards passed his examination for the India civil service, and is now resident at Simla. Mr. Holderness is a nephew of George Melrod of this city.

THE POLITICAL AXE.

(Halifax Herald.)
 Nicholas Ashton, postmaster at Bourc Secum, Guysboro county, has recently been dismissed, no cause assigned except that he was suspected of being a conservative. Last provincial general election he was threatened with dismissal by one of the glib candidates if he voted. He did not vote, but he has been dismissed just the same.

Captain James Hemlow, postmaster at Lacombe, in the same county, has also been dismissed. His only offence was that he did not support D. C. Fraser at the last election. Richard Denmore, section foreman on the I. C. R. at Shubenacadie, and for 30 years an employee on that road, has been dismissed within the last few days. "Offensive partisanship" was charged against him after the general election, but was not proved. Nor could it be proved, for Denmore was a man who attended strictly to his duty and paid small attention to politics. His dismissal at this season is bitterly resented by his neighbors at Shubenacadie, quite irrespective of politics.

THE WHIELD.

Starbuck the Winner.
 PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 15.—The twenty mile bicycle race between Frank Starbuck and Edouard Taylor was a disappointment. After going five miles Taylor fell and was so seriously injured he had to be carried from the track, and Starbuck, who was 11-2 laps behind him, was declared the winner.

CITY

Recent Events Around

Together With from Correspondents.

When ordering THE WEEKLY SUN, the NAME of the paper that the office of the office must be ensured prompt request.

The Sun has F. Morash of pianoforte piece, from March. The time of the jubilee a splendid comedy.

The pope's emotio school quest cathedral and in churches through high mass on Sunday published in last.

Rev. Honore O. Deneau, of his work in Oct. all health, died of gonorrhea, Montreal. Father Quillet was.

Toronto Globe Skagway makes that "Skagway" 000 people within Donville added to Skagway and.

At Chubb's corner Lockhart offered, land situated at St. John and owned by L. was sold to satisfy a mortgage. C. H. Fairweather.

A quiet wedding evening, when invited in marriage, of Deneau and Mrs. Lydia many friends in wishing them a joyous journey through.

The government, Dr. Frank, farm at Cambridge with Mr. Mott. Mott's herd of 12, can registered evidence of the same.

James Shrods owes the McLaughlin \$118, was ex- Forbes yesterday ed to pay \$5 per cent for the McLaughlin and L. A. O. dant.

The steamer "F" moved on Friday after a very favorable weather being light cargo and light wind. The cargo was: Jas. Wood, Kirkland, and three Chinese.

In the window press Co. James I. moved long distance to order for J. N. B. These latest improvements on adjustable ohms bridging box and 450 ohm range work.

Superintendent O. P. R., talking Globe reporter of with the I. C. R. Springfield, said it brought about the arrangement winter port but greater demand than the barges with, and the considerably becoming handling it gets.

A new firm of insurance broker started under the name of Stevens & Co. Mr. Stevens is a man of business with his father well known pool, England, combine the business of insurance brokers and special advertisements. The office of Stevens & Co. are in the corner Broad and York City—M. Y.

Judge Wallace, other annual term of Brea of Han whom he has not for years. He has the reputation of being a French tactician, silver pit last present is a gold rimmed eye which was accompanied by a letter for the holiday prizes these gifts Record.

A great ruin of Halifax harbor and one of the made by the brought to the pounds, mostly captured by the Flora and other vessels state that he has reported, high in Borne recently went turned with only was not more full cargo.—Herald.