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VERY BAD SIGN.
Tired Treadwell—Hold on; don't go to that house for grub.
Sauterine—Why not?
Tired Treadwell—I seen a delivery boy takin' a snow shovel in dere yesterday.—Ohio State Journal.

TO ADVERTISERS!
Advertisers in the STAR are requested to send in copy not later than TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON, in order that the matter may be set up in time for that day's issue.

THE ST. JOHN STAR is published by THE SUN PRINTING COMPANY (LTD.), at St. John, New Brunswick, every afternoon (except Sunday), at \$2 a year.

ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 20, 1901.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

If we may place any reliance in the cable despatches from China, which is perhaps doubtful, there may be lively work in that country in a short time. It is stated that the representatives of the powers have given China eight days in which to publish satisfactory edicts concerning the demands they have made for the punishment of Chinese princes and others implicated in the recent massacres. If the Chinese government fails to do so, the powers will, it is said, send a strong expedition into the interior of the country, and as soon as spring opens the warships of some of the powers may operate against the Chinese seaports. There would be more likelihood of this programme being carried out if there had not already been so long a period of negotiations and so many so-called ultimatums issued by the powers. Thus far the Chinese appear to have felt that a pretended acquiescence in the demands of the powers would serve their purpose, and that in the end the matter would be settled without the infliction of capital punishment upon the persons condemned by the foreign envoys, and, perhaps, also without the payment of the enormous indemnities of which we have heard so much. Thus far the developments have justified the Chinese policy. Whether the powers will now take final and concerted action to enforce their demands is a matter of doubt. To send an expedition into the interior of the country, would, perhaps, precipitate war, and force the allies to greatly increase their military and naval strength in China. Such a war as would occur if the Chinese flung themselves with all their power against the foreigners would be deplorable, and yet that it may occur seems now to be within the range of possibility. A cable received today states that China will agree to the terms of the powers, but the statement is not official. It is further stated that the powers are likely to disagree on the question of indemnity, and this suggests further complications.

INDUSTRIAL COMPETITION.

The Star yesterday referred to industrial competition between the United States, England and Germany; and to the enormous growth of the export trade of the first named country during the past year. A cable from London, received yesterday, too late for publication, stated that there is now in process of formation in England a national federation of Master's Associations and trades unions, the object being to "educate the minds of employers and employees concerning the grave responsibility which rests with them in respect to the extension of British trade; and to devise means to meet foreign competition; to send joint deputations of capital and labor abroad to enquire into the conditions of other countries, and to provide a federation where employed and employers may meet on the same plane." An endowment fund of \$25,000 is asked for.

This announcement shows that British manufacturers and merchants are waking up to the fact that they have been losing ground in competitive markets, and that prompt and effective action is necessary if they would regain the supremacy. We are reminded that there was, not long since, an agitation in Canada in favor of sending a commission abroad to study the question of technical education as applied to manufacturing and to gain other information that might be beneficial in the expansion of Canadian industry and the growth of Canadian trade. The matter was discussed at considerable length by boards of trade, and at public meetings; but no definite action has as yet resulted. The question is certainly one worthy of most thoughtful attention. Canada should be able to extend her trade in manufactured goods; and should be able to hold more extensively than at present her own markets in the same line.

FRENCH DIVERSIONS.

It seems very strange to us, living in a civilized country, amid civilized people, to read in a letter from Nice the reports of their first bull-fight. The whole scene is graphically described. "The foredooms stuck darts into the bull's neck, but the animal apparently suffered no pain," is one remark, and then the writer goes on to tell of how furious the poor beasts became. If it was not vain making them so, what

was it? "Only in one instance was direct cruelty shown, when an attendant behind a barrier prodded a sulen bull viciously with a lance, otherwise the proceedings resembled a circus." Surely the French nation, which is notably resourceful, could find some better way of passing the time than in encouraging cruelty either direct or indirect. Nearly 4,000 people assembled to witness the fight, the majority of whom were enthusiastic. To the credit of the English, who were present, it is stated that they seemed indifferent. The public amusements committee expect to have a real Spanish bull-fight during the season.

The Rev. P. J. O'Brien, of St. John's, Newfoundland, has been in London demonstrating the advantages of his discovery that a hollow-bottomed steamer will diminish the discomfort of rolling on the big liners, and will give greater speed. Mr. O'Brien has submitted his designs to naval and marine authorities in Canada and the United States. He stated in London that his invention has been used successfully in Newfoundland fishing boats, and in a miniature steamboat. The main feature of his design is that the boat has a concave bottom between the keel and bilge transversely, with the side forming an angle at the bilge. A vessel thus constructed, the reverend gentleman affirms, can carry twenty-five per cent more sail area than an ordinarily built vessel.

The Irish members seem determined that the present session of the British parliament shall not be without an element of burlesque. Mr. Thomas O'Donnell, yesterday, began to address the house in the Irish language. He was called to order by the speaker, but was supported by several other Irish members in his demand to be allowed to make his speech in Irish instead of English. The session was marked by several mischievous speeches, by liberals, on the South African question, and the secretary of state for war appealed to the opposition to refrain from the circulation of pamphlets which, he said, did an immense amount of harm in South Africa.

A cable yesterday stated that the members of the British cabinet, and the leader of the opposition had met and discussed the question of the civil list, in order that the debate need not be unduly prolonged in the commons. Doubtless the agreement between the leaders would have the effect of satisfying the great body of members on both sides of the house, but it is safe to assume that Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon and their followers will have their fling at the civil list, as they have at everything else.

Stephen B. Appleby, K. C. of Woodstock, was elected by acclamation yesterday to represent Carleton County in the local legislature. He is a supporter of the Tweedie administration. Mr. Appleby is not without legislative experience, having been a member of the federal parliament from 1873 to 1878.

ONE WOMAN'S VIEW.

Believes a Sincere Sense of Duty Impels Mrs. Nation.

All are at liberty to condemn the methods of Mrs. Nation, writes a New York lady, and they are very generally criticised; but at least she cannot be found guilty of selfishness. She is a fanatic, and as such must make errors; but she has at heart the large motive of benefiting her fellow-men. She is an altruist of the staunchest sort, who will take from her brother that which he desires if thereby he will be benefited. If any one doubted her sincerity, let him read the letter addressed to the children of Topeka. And was she far wrong when she spoke to them of the evil "which is on the streets and protected by the police and city officials to destroy you, my darlings?" It is not hard to fancy that there are many sorrowing women who have wrung their hands in helplessness over the police protection of the shops that sell liquor to ruin innocent lives. Mrs. Nation sees what everybody sees; many cases of unpeppable unhappiness; many light hearts clouded, many noble men gone astray, purely because of the accessibility of spirits. Tales of intemperance which written down are too gloomy to read, and so melodramatic as to sound like cheap literature in the telling. But once that form of sorrow comes into your own life you can never look on it with the same indifference. It seems the source of all evil, the downfall of the man, the destruction of the promises of youth, the eternal burden of woman. And although it is for all of these things, nothing more is done to stamp it out than each woman can do by prayer and entreaty, by tender watchfulness of the beloved one who is susceptible to the fascinating poison.

The gentleman of high breeding, trained to conventionality and reserve, makes no fight outside his home, but the purple blood of a Mrs. Nation takes fire at the wrongs she sees and in her own vigorous way she tries to avenge and to right them. Her actions have made her a target for the arrows of sarcastic ridicule, but very few of them have been aimed her way.

THE DEAR GIRL.

(Philadelphia Press.)
Father—I shouldn't like to see you marry that Mr. Pinchenny.
Daughter—Why, father?
Father—Well, I've noticed that the very close.
Daughter—Why, father, how did you notice that? Surely you haven't been spying on us?

PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, Feb. 19.—The house got down to serious business today, the first time on MacLean's motion to remove the government railways from political influence. Mr. MacLean used much the same arguments as when he first brought up the question a few days ago, but he added to his observations on that occasion many quotations from newspapers, government and opposition supporting his nationalization scheme. He advocated the leasing of the C. P. R. to the government, but he was before doing so he would like to see political interference removed. He was informed in Ottawa that \$30,000,000 could secure control of the C. P. R., while \$20,000,000 would have the same result in the G. T. E. Competent men could be had to run the road to the advantage of the people and the country. He pointed out at length the evils of the political control of the Intercolonial.

Mr. Borden (Liberal) followed and thought the chance of the house was due to the member for East York for bringing up the question. He (Borden) was not willing to go as far as MacLean, but he was surprised that the government had not been ready to take it up. He favored the removal of political influences from the Intercolonial, particularly as the government was brought into competition with others in this department. He thought the railways should be the first to move in the matter. Mr. Borden pointed out the success of state railways in Australia, and thought the government should have the same policy in this case. Money had been spent on far less worthy objects. Action should be prompt and earnest.

Mr. Blair, replying, pool-pooled the idea that the Intercolonial could be removed from politics. He could not conceive of such a situation. Concerning the nationalization of the railways, he submitted that Mr. MacLean's proposal was not practical. Mr. Blair pointed out with the statement that the arrangements with Australia and New Zealand had been a success. He intimated that a return to state control had been decided upon in preference to the administration by a commission.

Mr. Heyl (South Brantford) made a typical oration in which he condemned everything tory, on general principles. Then came Mr. Monk, who in an erudite speech showing dispassionate and calm consideration, asked the house to treat the great question at one of national import. A great danger threatened Canada and should be met by parliament, with those powers which are at its disposal. Everybody knows that if the Americans secured the roads they would use them for selfish purposes, and every effort should be made to prevent a bargain which meant the sacrifice of Canada's trade to Portland. Mr. Monk expressed surprise at the sentiment expressed by the minister of railways that it was impossible to keep the railways free from political influence. In Europe it was managed to have politics apart from such matters, and such a practice was feasible here. He closed with an earnest appeal for interference on the part of the government.

Mr. Bourassa took up the debate and denounced Mr. Blair, roundly for his neglect of Canada's interests. Although (Bourassa) differed with Mr. MacLean, he agreed with Mr. Monk and asked for consideration of what he deemed to be the greatest national question of the day. He had no objection to foreign capital, but he wanted to see such capital used for the advancement of Canada. He warned the government that neglect of this question would not be tolerated by the Canadian people.

Clark Wallace and Mr. Hughes followed in support of the motion which was lost, however, by almost a straight party vote. Supplementary estimates, brought down include: \$50,000 for the Paris exposition, and a like amount for the Pan-American exposition. Other amounts for public works make a total of \$120,000.

On going into supply, the amount for management of debt was voted. Mr. MacLean took advantage of the opportunity to ask for a general increase in the salaries of letter carriers, and Mr. Fielding answered that the postmaster general would probably be found generous. The house rose for dinner and the first night session was ordered for Thursday.

At the night session consideration of the estimates was resumed. The opposition watched every increase, however slight, with jealous care. The proposed increase of \$800 per annum to the deputy minister of the interior was sharply criticized. The government on pressure consented to withhold this item. The estimates provide for large increases in the number of clerks employed in the civil service.

The house will adjourn tonight until Thursday. Mr. Borden, Halifax, on Thursday will move an address to His Excellency the governor general for copies of all orders in council, reports and correspondence, papers and documents relating to real estate at St. John, N. B., purchased by the government or by the department of railways since the first of January, 1897, and relating to the claims for payment of compensation thereon, including all orders in council, correspondence, documents or papers showing what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken with respect to such claims or claims.

On Thursday Mrs. Fowler asks concerning the dismissal of James A. Pennington, Kings, N. B., the charges against him and at whose request was he dismissed, and if a petition for his re-appointment has been received by the government.

A Chance to do Your Plumbing Cheap.



I am offering this first class highly sanitary, up-to-date Low Down Closet Combination worth \$24 for \$14.95. For one month only. If you are thinking of making changes in your Bath Room or putting in new w.c., why not get one of these high class closets at the extremely low price I am selling them at.

John S. COUGHLAN
122 Charlotte Street.
Shop Tel. 1087. Residence Tel. 1185.

ST. JOHN COTTON MILLS.

Meeting of Shareholders of Wm. Parks & Son, Limited.
The annual meeting of the shareholders of William Parks & Son, Ltd., was held at the company's office, yesterday afternoon, when the following report was submitted by the directors:

The mills were run full time during the first half of the year, and showed a profit of \$1,038,771.
From the 1st of July to the end of the year the mills were on reduced production, and made a loss of \$221,000.
The raw cotton used, Jan. 1st to June 30th, was 2,188 bales.
The raw cotton used, June 30th to Dec. 31st, was 1,451 bales.
Wages paid during the year, \$115,304.14.
Bales of 48 lbs. year, 837,725.74.
Price of raw cotton advanced from 5 1/2c to 11 1/2c during the year.
Price of goods remained the same all the year, excepting a small advance in March.

On the 1st of July, owing to want of working capital, we were compelled to reduce our production.
Being unable to arrange for working capital, we were forced to shut down the mills on Jan. 8th, 1901.
At the special meeting of the shareholders held Jan. 21st a report was made of the financial position of the company, a copy of which was sent to all the stockholders.

Since that time our inventory has been kept in force by the mortgages, they paying for coal, firing, etc., necessary for the mills in accordance with the resolution of the shareholders, passed at the meeting held on the 31st day of January last, we have advanced for heating, etc. The foregoing proceedings justified by Messrs. Jones and Turnbull have been continued.

Since Jan. 31st, 1901, when the business accounts have shown profits of \$221,000, out of which have been paid the following amounts:
Interest on mortgage \$74,458.90
Interest on bank account \$2,975.87
Interest on deposits \$2,975.87
Bonus to Messrs. Turnbull and Jones \$1,764.29
Salary to trustees for mortgages \$181.00
Taxes and water assessments \$153.00
The mills would have made a better showing had our working capital been sufficient.

Especially during the last four years the operations of the mills have been seriously interfered with. We have not been able to purchase our raw material to best advantage, and the period of extremely low prices and low rates for power, etc., has been a serious handicap to the inventing advance. The mills are both in good repair and in good order. Our costs for fuel and through working order. Our costs for fuel and through working order. Our costs for fuel and through working order.

We beg to submit the balance sheet and profit and loss account for the past year and the auditor's report.
Respectfully submitted,
By order of the board of directors,
J. H. PARKS, President.
St. John, N. B., Feb. 19, 1901.

SACRED CONCERT.

A sacred concert was held in the Carleton Methodist church last evening. There was a large audience, which was favored with an unusually good programme as follows: Male quartet, Messrs. Hopkins, Vincent, Thomas, Tennant; solo, "Voice of Jesus," Miss Titus; reading, Alex. Baird; solo, Mrs. Fred G. Spencer; duet, Howard and William Holders; solo, Devitt Cairns; male quartet, Messrs. Vincent, Thomas, Tennant; solo, Mrs. Fred G. Spencer; solo, J. N.

Hotels.

HOTEL DUFFERIN.
E. LeROY WILLIS, St. John, N. B.
J. J. McCAFFREY, Manager.

PARK HOTEL.
CHAS. DAMERY, Prop.
Centrally located facing King Square. Newly furnished throughout. Best \$1.50 a Day Hotel in the Lower Provinces.

TO LET.
These notices, not exceeding four lines, cost TEN CENTS for one insertion, THIRTY CENTS a WEEK.

TO LET—The lower flat of Sharkey House (so called), situated on south side of Bell Row, at present occupied by John M. Dick, Esq. Rent \$200. Can be inspected on afternoons of Friday, A. C. FAIRWEATHER Solicitor, etc., Sarabell's Building.

TO LET—A large Store and Cellar, at corner of Union and Waterloo streets, opposite Golden Ball corner. This is one of the best business stands in the city. Requires of FRASER, FRASER & CO.

TO LET—Lower flat, with basement, of House No. 45 Garden street. Recently remodelled. Apply to A. R. WILSON, 23 King street.

TO BE LET—Dwelling house No. 191 Prince street, at present occupied by G. F. Calkin, Esq. Dining room, double drawing rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. May be seen on Thursday afternoon, or on other days on application to E. T. STURDIB, 5 Prince Wm. street.

TO LET—Lower flat, No. 116 Duke street. For particulars apply to A. GILMOUR, 6 King street, or J. S. ARMSTRONG, 37 Charlotte street.

FOR SALE—Freehold property, 10 2/3 x 27 1/2 feet, with buildings thereon, known as the Neil Farren property, south side of Winter street. Price, \$800. Apply to E. V. PAUL, 166 Waterloo street.

LOST.
LOST—Last evening, the 18th, between Union and Duke streets, Gent's Open Face Silver Watch. Kindly return to Star office.

ARTICLES FOR EXCHANGE.
Advertisements under this head will be taken for a quarter of a cent a word.

25 CLOTH bound books, mostly novels, of a new suit of clothes, or what have you. Write, Exchange small Printing Press 11 Prince St. or anything useful of same value. Printer, Star office.

MONEY TO LOAN
On Freehold and Leasehold Property—repayable by small instalments. Apply to CHAPMAN & TILLEY, Barristers Palmer's Building, Friesen street.

Sutherland, reading, Alex. Baird; solo, Miss Bessie Knight, of Carleton, who accompanied the various vocal selections in a sympathetic and brilliant way.

VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 20. Verdict of manslaughter in the 3rd degree has been returned by the jury in the trial of Frank Hamilton, newspaper reporter, for the killing of Leonard R. Day, a young millionaire in the billiard rooms of the West hotel Nov. 12 last. This finding entails a penalty of imprisonment at hard labor for a term of not less than five years and not more than twenty years. The jury qualified its finding by recommending Hamilton to the mercy of the court.

THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Forecast for Eastern states and northern part of Canada: Fair in east; snow burries in West portion tonight and prob. Thursday; colder tonight, except southeast portions; brisk northwesterly winds.

TORONTO, Feb. 20.—Forecast of weather: local snow falls; Thursday, which was favored with an unusually good programme as follows: Male quartet, Messrs. Hopkins, Vincent, Thomas, Tennant; solo, "Voice of Jesus," Miss Titus; reading, Alex. Baird; solo, Mrs. Fred G. Spencer; duet, Howard and William Holders; solo, Devitt Cairns; male quartet, Messrs. Vincent, Thomas, Tennant; solo, Mrs. Fred G. Spencer; solo, J. N.