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- COAL SHOVELS from 5c. up.
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**Mattresses of all kinds,
 Wire Mattresses and Cots,
 Iron Bedsteads and Cribs, all kinds of first-class Bedding, Wholesale and Retail.**
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- Men's Overcoats - \$4.00 to 15.00
- Men's Suits - \$8.00 to 14.00
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- Men's Lined Gloves (special value) 60c. to \$1.25.

Top Shirts, Night Shirts, Hats and Caps, Boys' 2 and 3-Piece Suits, Boys' Reefers, Men's, Youths' and Boys' Ulsters at lowest prices.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Disaster Overtakes Col. Benson's Column—Large Casualty List—Kekewich Makes a Capture.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—Lord Kitchener has reported to the war office a disaster to his British force, Major-General Transvaal, in which two guards were lost, several officers were killed or wounded, and fifty-four men were killed and 100 wounded. The following is the text of Lord Kitchener's despatch dated Pretoria, Nov. 1: "I have just heard of a severe attack made on the rear guard of Col. Benson's column when about twenty miles northwest of Bethel, near Brakenlaage, during a thick mist.

"The strength of the enemy is reported to have been a thousand. They rushed two guns with the rear guard, but it is uncertain whether they were able to remove them.

Later Lord Kitchener telegraphed as follows: "Col. Barter, who marched from the Constabulary line yesterday, reached Benson's column early this morning (Friday) unopposed. He reports that Col. Benson died of his wounds."

"The other casualties are the following: "Killed—Col. E. Guinness, Major F. D. Murray, Captains M. W. Lindsay and W. T. Thorold, Lieutenants E. V. I. Brooks and R. E. Shepherd, and Second Lieut. A. J. Colett.

"Died of his wounds—Captain Eyre Lloyd." Lord Kitchener then gives the names of thirteen other officers who were wounded, most of them severely, and announces that 54 non-commissioned officers and men were killed and 100 wounded, adding that four of the latter have since died of their wounds.

The despatch then says: "I assume that the guns have been recovered and that the enemy have withdrawn, but I have no further details."

"I deeply regret the loss of Colonel Benson and the officers and men who fell with him. In Benson the service loses a most gallant and capable officer, and men were killed and wounded with marked success and judgment.

"The fighting was at very close quarters and maintained with great determination by both sides. The enemy suffered heavily, but I have not yet received a reliable estimate.

"The Boers retired east."

LONDON, Nov. 1.—A despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, received here today, says that Colonel Kekewich, during a night surprise of Van Albert's laager, northwest of Rustenburg (about 60 miles west of Pretoria), captured 78 Boers.

Briefs by Wire.

Wm. O'Brien, M. P., says a London cable, has gone on a long cruise for the benefit of his health.

The Russian battleship Persevel, which went ashore yesterday morning on the island of Lanse, has been floated.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times and the New York Times says there is already some talk of a return visit by President Loubet to St. Petersburg next June.

WAS A CANADIAN.

ST. CATHERINES, Ont., Nov. 2.—Col. Frederick William Benson, whose death in action in South Africa was announced today, was a native of St. Catherines, being a son of the late Senator J. R. Benson. He was born in 1849, was educated at old Grantham Academy, St. Catherines, and Upper Canada college, Toronto, and received his military training at the Royal military college at Sandhurst, England. He served as a volunteer in the Canadian militia during the Fenian raid in 1868 and entered the British army service in 1869. Col. Benson saw a good deal of service in India and Egypt, and distinguished himself in the service of the empire in far-away countries. He was ordered to South Africa on the outbreak of the war in '99 and had filled a number of important posts there, being frequently in the thick of the fighting.

ELEVEN ARE DEAD

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 1.—The list of deaths attributed to lockjaw as a result of the administration of diphtheric anti-toxin manufactured by the city chemists, now numbers eleven, two more deaths having been reported today. Eleven other children are reported to the health department as suffering from lockjaw with slight chances for recovery. The cause of lockjaw in each case is said to be poisoning from the city's diphtheric anti-toxin. The health department has now begun the free distribution of tetanus anti-toxin for injection into the blood of patients who have been inoculated with the infected serum and thus exposed to lockjaw. The health department has announced that no more diphtheric anti-toxin will be made by the city of St. Louis.

The investigations ordered by the coroner's jury to determine positively the cause of the deaths of the eight children who were alleged to have died of lockjaw following the administration of the city's anti-toxin, is being pushed, and it is expected it will be completed in a few days. Drs. Bolton, Fish and Waldron, three of the most experienced bacteriologists in St. Louis, are making tests with the anti-toxin and the serum taken from the spinal column of the dead children.

THE WEEK'S DEATHS.

The secretary of the Board of Health reports the following deaths for the week ending Nov. 2:—Pneumonia, 1; pertussis, 1; small-pox, 1; debility, 1; consumption, 1; cerebral meningitis, 1; congestion of brain, 1; tubercular meningitis, 1; obstruction of bowels, total 9.

INTERESTING IF TRUE.

St. John or Halifax May Be Ocean Port of 100-Hour Route From New York to London.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1.—New York to London in one hundred hours is the dream for which two great American railroad companies are considering two solutions, says the Journal and Advertiser. The New York Central's engineers are working out the details of a plan involving the following route to Europe, with a view of determining its mechanical and commercial possibilities:

New York to Boston by New York Central and Hudson River and Boston and Albany lines; Boston to St. John, N. B., by Boston and Maine railroad; St. John to Halifax, N. S., by the Irish west coast by a line of swift steamships to be established, by rail to Dublin; packet across the Irish channel; rail to London. Time, four days, four hours.

Pennsylvania railroad officials and Clement A. Gleason of the American S. S. company, are having brought to their attention anew the long cherished plan of Austin Corbin, who desired to establish a steamship port at Montauk Point, cutting many hours of the trip by way of Sandy Hook, and gaining through traffic for the Long Island railroad. The Corbin plan was modified and proposed to the Pennsylvania, which now controls the Long Island, making two jumps of the ocean voyage as follows:

New York to Greenport by Long Island railroad, the East River tunnel, when completed, would make this a two-hour run without change from a terminal in down town New York. Greenport to Halifax, N. S., by fast steamship; Halifax to Southampton.

DANNY MAHER

Will Get \$35,000 Next Year and May Ride King Edward's Horses.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—According to the World, Danny Maher, the little American jockey, is now the premier rider of the world. He has been engaged to ride the horses in charge of Training C. Blackwell and Richard Marsh at the combined salary of \$35,000 for next season—the highest amount ever paid any jockey in the world for a year's work in the saddle. Richard Marsh trains for King Edward VII. The engagement of Maher as jockey is regarded as a tactical way of expressing the king's opinion that he is not prejudiced against American riders. Maher spoke to the World representative on the subject of his engagement to ride King Edward's horses. "I am very glad to be engaged," he said, "for I have never had a better offer. I will go to my home in Hartford, Conn., in December, but will return here in March. It is possible the king's horses may be again leased next year to the Duke of Devonshire, in which event I shall not ride in the king's colors."

FRANCE AND TURKEY.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—Commenting upon the departure of the French fleet for the Levant, the Paris correspondent to the London Times and the New York Times, says: "The French opposition is now menacing the government because it sent out the squadron to the Levant without the permission of parliament. The correspondent remarks that it is folly to expect that the French government would deliberately inform another government in advance of its intention to support the arguments of diplomacy by force of arms. A great majority of impartial Frenchmen support the French position. It is a fact that the invasion of the brilliant and strange world of the Orient by a French fleet fires the popular imagination and relieves the monotony of events by which France has been seriously bored."

LONDON, Nov. 2.—A despatch to a news agency from Rome says that the second division of the Italian Mediterranean squadron has started for Turkey with the object of counterbalancing the French naval demonstration.

A CUT IN SUGAR.

MONTREAL, Nov. 2.—The St. Lawrence and Redpath Sugar Refining Companies have made a cut in the price of sugar of all grades 10 cents per hundred pounds, the new tariff going into effect this morning. This action follows the action of the Halifax refinery in making a similar cut a few days ago, as well as in sympathy with the reduction made by the American refiners of 15 cents per hundred pounds.

THE IRISH DELEGATES.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1.—John E. Redmond, Patrick A. McHugh and Thomas O'Donnell, the Irish nationalists who are visiting this country in behalf of the United Irish League, were tendered a formal reception tonight by the citizens' committee which has charge of the entertainment of the visitors. An elaborate address of welcome was read by Thomas H. Ronayne.

DUKE AND DUCHESS IN LONDON.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—Cheers greeted the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York today as they passed on their triumphant return from their world tour through streets of London. The ceremonies passed off excellently. The king and his royal family bade farewell to Portsmouth to the strains of the naval bands. All the ships in the harbor were gaily dressed, and the weather, as in London, could not have been finer.

MISS STONE.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—A despatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Bannakow, Bulgaria, says that the latest snow storms must have the negotiations for the release of Miss Ellen M. Stone, the kidnapped missionary, because fears are entertained about her health.

NEW CANAL TREATY.

It is Said Lord Pauncefote Has Draft of New One Approved by Government.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—The first official statement of any kind made for a month in relation to the Nicaragua canal has been obtained by the Associated Press. It confirms the fact that Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador to the United States, when he lands in New York today, will have with him the draft of a new treaty, abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which in every particular is satisfactory to Lord Salisbury's cabinet.

The state department does not have to see a copy of the important document Lord Pauncefote carries in order to learn its terms, though, officially, negotiations will only commence when the ambassador reaches Washington. Until then the exact condition of the new contract are withheld. Though it is admitted that Great Britain has agreed to put the Clayton-Bulwer treaty to one side and to acquiesce in the construction of the canal by and under the control of the United States, this concession from Lord Lansdowne's original contention has not been granted without some real or fancied advantage to Great Britain. It would not be fair to say that a quid pro quo construction of the main feature of the protracted party pariers, but that it will directly or indirectly result in firmly established in the minds of the members of the cabinet. One of the most responsible officials connected with these and the earlier negotiations said:

"We never really objected to the construction of the canal, but we did and do object to a cavalier abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. It was in that spirit that Lord Lansdowne couched his reply to the senate's rejection of the last Hay-Pauncefote treaty. It was not what you wanted to do, but the nasty way you said it, that was the chief reason for our opposition. Since then we have been approached in a rational, polite manner, and we have again endeavored to substitute the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in a way that will enable America to carry out a design which, in a broad sense, will doubtless benefit the whole world."

The modification of the foreign office has doubtless done more than anything else to secure the assent of the British government to a new treaty. But almost in the same breath must be mentioned the state department's willingness to agree to reciprocal arrangements regarding the British West Indies and other British possessions.

The allegation contained in some of the British papers that Lord Lansdowne has tamely given up inherent rights without any return, is strenuously denied on the foregoing grounds.

CANADIAN BRIEFS.

A Case of Smallpox in Winnipeg—Took Strychnine by Mistake.

WINNIPEG, Nov. 1.—A case of smallpox was discovered here last evening. The victim is James Foley, of Perth, Ont., who recently arrived here from North Dakota.

KINGSTON, Ont., Nov. 1.—The County of Frontenac yesterday voted on a by-law to grant twenty thousand dollars to Queen's university, with which to erect Frontenac convocation hall. The returns so far received indicate the defeat of the by-law.

HAMILTON, Nov. 1.—In response to a question from leading merchants Mayor Hendrie will issue a proclamation asking citizens to observe Monday, Nov. 11, instead of Saturday, Nov. 9, as the king's birth-day.

TORONTO, Nov. 2.—The coroner's jury in the case of police inspector Robert Armstrong, who died of strychnine poisoning, a few days ago, returned a verdict to the effect that Armstrong took strychnine in mistake for morphine, which the evidence shows he was in the habit of taking to induce sleep.

These four members of Toronto university faculty, who have had the standing of associate professors, have been promoted to the status of full professors—W. H. Vandermaesen, M. A., German; John Squalre, B. A., French; A. B. MacAllum, B. A., M. B., Ph. D., physiology; W. H. Fraser, B. A., Spanish and Italian.

The provincial government has asked the court of appeal to decide whether the act empowering municipalities to pass by-laws prohibiting the issue of trading stamps is good law or not.

THE WEATHER.

TORONTO, Nov. 2.—Moderate to fresh westerly winds, generally fair and cooler. Sunday, fine and cool during the day, afterward stormy.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Forecast—Eastern states and northern New York—Fair tonight, with colder in extreme south portion Sunday, fair, fresh northerly winds.

THE CORPORATION DRIVE.

(Woodstock Sentinel.)
 The corporation drive is making its way down river at a slow gait. It is expected it will reach Woodstock this week. The water is falling and the prospect for getting the lumber to the boom before the river freezes is not very encouraging.

In the equity court this morning before Justice Barker, argument in DeBury v. DeBury et al was heard. The decision on the branch of the case relating to ownership of Rankine wharf property and on the question of costs was reserved. A. A. Stockton, E. C. Daniel, Mullin, for plaintiff; A. O. Earle, K. C., and J. C. Coester, for defendant.

A despatch to the New York Herald from Buenos Ayres, Argentina, says: "The government has informed the American minister that it cannot allow the importation of American cattle for breeding purposes."

WE REPAIR

BOOTS and SHOES.

The only shoe store keeping five shoemakers working on repairing. Send in or call and have your Boots repaired while you wait.

Velvet or O'Sullivan Rubber Heels put on while you wait.

OPEN EVERY EVENING.

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65 Brussels Street, St. John.

A. B. OSBORNE

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 All orders will receive prompt attention.

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Carries the most fashionable stock of Millinery to be had in St. John City. Style unequalled. Prices real moderate.

339 Main St. Opp. Douglas Avenue.

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WATER STREET. Cor. Market Sq.

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It will pay you to have your work done at DUNHAM'S Upholstering, Carpet Laying, Furniture Polishing and Packing, Repairing, etc. First Class work at moderate prices.

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CONTRACTOR FOR...

Hot Water or Steam Heating and Plumbing

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Water and Gas Fittings.

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H. L. COATES,

(Cor. Main and Harrison Streets, Opposite St. Luke's Church, N. E.)

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E. LeROY WILLIS, St. John, N. B.

J. J. McCAFFREY, Manager.

PARK HOTEL.

CHAS. DAMERY, Prop.

Centrally located, facing King Square, ST. JOHN, N. B.

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Whenever or wherever it is found.

BELLE OF ANDERSON DOURDON WHISKY.

Never varies in flavor, strength and purity.

THOMAS L. BOURKE, 25 Water St.

BARGAINS AT BOSTON SECOND-HAND STORE.

There is no need to go without an overcoat this winter. The Boston Second Hand Store has a big supply of second-hand, custom-made overcoats, also new, which we bought last July from shopkeepers who were in need of cash. We bought them at second-hand prices and will give the public the benefit. We have them in all kinds to suit your pocket. This is the best place to buy your clothing.

Second-hand East and Waltham watches for sale. Second-hand Rogers Silverware.

BOSTON SECOND-HAND STORE, 2 Dock Street, Cor. Union.

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