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THE DAILY HERALD

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MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1902.

PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY.

Fredericton can congratulate itself that the alleged smallpox case turned out to be an ordinary rash which will give the patient, Mr. Beer, only temporary discomfort, and save us considerable expense. However, there is constant danger of the introduction of the plague here, and all avenues of access to the city by rail should be strictly guarded. An ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure, and the Board of Health will be negligent in its duty if it takes any further risks in the matter. This is the season when New Brunswickers are returning from the lumber woods in Quebec, where smallpox has existed for some time, and every precaution should be taken against the possibility of their introducing the disease into this part of the country. Smallpox is a very expensive luxury for a city or municipality. We have escaped fairly well so far, but is our immunity to continue unless proper precautionary measures are taken?

A DEMENTED WITNESS.

Mr. Sproul who endeavored to make party capital against the Attorney General in the Kings county election by reading a telegram from one Miller of Bathurst, alleging that Dr. Pugsley was connected with the Rothesay forgery, now finds on enquiry that Miller is demented, an irresponsible. The case of the Attorney General against Miller for libel came up at Sussex, Saturday, but the defendant failed to put in an appearance, and after some evidence had been taken the matter was adjourned, and will probably be dropped, the Attorney General announcing that he had no desire to prosecute a man of Miller's alleged mental irresponsibility. The following letter received by Mr. Sproule from Miller March 9, gives evidence of the latter's incapacity.

To the Apostle George:

I offset Pugsley's libel suit by a demand on the high court of Canada to take action on my church versus State Complaint standing before Ritchie, the police magistrate of St. John city, otherwise I would refuse to acknowledge jurisdiction.

SAMUEL T. MILLER.

Bathurst, N. B., March 5th, 1902.

For publication, S. T. M.

Mr. Skinner, Dr. Pugsley's counsel, also produced to the court a paper received by the magistrate from Mr. Miller since the summons was served to the same effect as the one to Mr. Sproul.

Mr. Sproule before reading Miller's original telegram to the electors of Kings in his efforts to prejudice Dr. Pugsley and defeat Mr. King, should have enquired as to the reliability of his correspondent. He did not know the man at all, and it was certainly a serious matter for him to read the telegram without making some effort to obtain authentic information regarding Miller.

PRACTICAL ADVICE.

The Messenger and Visitor, organ of the Baptist church in the Maritime Provinces, is of the opinion that the prohibitionists of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick should not be too eager in demanding provincial prohibition. It says: "It is the opinion of a good many prohibitionists, and it is our own opinion, that it will be wise for us not to be hasty in this matter. It is well to remember that it does not lie within the power of the Provincial Legislatures to prohibit the manufacture or importation of liquor, and whether such prohibitory legislation as the Provincial Legislatures can enact, will prove an effective means of prohibiting the local traffic, is a question that admits of reasonable doubt. We therefore believe it will be wise for Nova Scotia that New Brunswick to await developments in P. E. Island, Manitoba and Ontario, whether the prohibitory legislation introduced by those provinces shall prove a success or a failure."

Witnesses in cases tried in Ontario will no longer be required to kiss the bible when being sworn. The legislature has abolished that regulation so that hereafter the oath may be administered, as in Scotland, by uplifted hand and repetition of the words: "I swear by almighty God, as I shall answer to God at the great day of judgment, that I will tell the truth and nothing but the truth, so far as I know, and the same shall be asked of me."

The following appeared in the Toronto Globe of March 13, 1852: "There is at present a bill before the House of Assembly of New Brunswick to deprive Ecclesiastics of the right of sitting in the Legislative Council. It appears that the Lord Bishop of Fredericton is ex-officio a member of the Council, although his Lordship has never taken his seat."

The Ontario legislature has concluded its business and prorogued. The most important legislation was the prohibition bill by which the people of Ontario are invited to decide whether or not they shall have provincial prohibition. There will be a general election before the Ontario House meets again.

While New Brunswick is enjoying spring weather and the ground is almost entirely denuded of snow, the Canadian North West is wrapped in the embrace of winter—railways blocked by snow and cities like Winnipeg cut off from outside communication.

Smoke "Gloria" best 5 cent cigarette in Canada.—Mar. 8, d71.

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Feb. 14.—dwf.

STORY OF THE FIGHT

In Which Lord Methuen Was Made Prisoner by the Boers.

THE BRITISH TROOPS FOUGHT GALLANTLY.

General With 200 Men Became Isolated but Fought for 3 Hours Before Surrendering.

London, March 17.—The war office has received the following communication from Lord Kitchener at Pretoria:

"Lord Methuen has sent me a staff officer with a dictated despatch from which it appears that certain particulars previously given, are inaccurate. The rear screen of mounted troops was rushed and overwhelmed at dawn. There was a gap of a mile between the ox and the mule convoys. The mounted supports to the rear of the screen, which General Methuen immediately reinforced by all the available mounted troops and a section of the 38th battery, maintained themselves for an hour, during which the convoys were closing up without disorder."

In the meanwhile 200 infantry were being disposed by Lord Methuen to resist the Boer attack which was outflanking the left of the rear guard. The Boers pressed the attack hard, and the mounted troops attempting to fall back on the infantry, got completely out of hand. Two guns of the 38th battery were thus left unprotected, but continued in action until every man, with the exception of Lieut. Nesham, was hit. Lieut. Nesham was called on to surrender and upon refusing to do so was killed.

"Lord Methuen, with 200 of the Northumberland Fusiliers and two guns of the Fourth Battery, then found himself isolated, but held on for three hours. During this period the remaining infantry, namely, one hundred of the Lancashires, with some 40 mounted men, mostly Cape Police, who had occupied the kraal near the wagons, also continued to hold out against the repeated attacks of the Boers."

"By this time Lord Methuen was wounded and the casualties were exceedingly heavy amongst the men. The ammunition was mostly expended and the surrender was made at about half past nine in the morning."

"The party on the kraal still held out and did not give in until two guns and a pom-pom were brought to bear upon them at about 10 o'clock, making their position untenable. The report that most of the Boers wore khaki uniforms is confirmed. Many also wore our badges. Even at close quarters they could not be distinguished from our own men."

"It is clear the infantry fought well, and the artillery kept up the traditions of their regiment. In addition to the 40 members of the Cape Police already mentioned, a few parties of imperial yeomanry and Cape Police continued to hold their ground after the panic had swept the bulk of the mounted troops off the field."

Lord Kitchener's graphic despatch, showing that the fighting lasted much longer than was supposed, confirms the belief that the disaster to General Methuen's forces was due to leaving too large a gap between the front convoy and the rear, and to placing an insufficient screen behind the rear guard, which brought about a panic among the troops as a result of the Boer onslaught.

Much resentment is felt here that the Boers wore British uniforms and badges, but satisfaction is expressed at the latest accounts of the affair, as indicating that the British troops behaved better than was supposed from the earlier reports.

From other despatches it appears that General Methuen was shot while riding to bring up the mounted troops and that his horse was killed. After the surrender General Delany rode up and treated General Methuen with the greatest courtesy and consideration. He ordered his return to Klerksdorp under the care of his own nephew and a medical officer.

According to the Klerksdorp correspondent of the Daily Mail, the burghers were so angry at this that a party of them went out and brought General Methuen back. General Delany however overruled the objections of the burghers.

Court Alexandra I. O. F.]

A full attendance of the members of Court Alexandra No. 141 I. O. F., of Marysville, is requested for the next night of meeting, Tuesday, March 18, in Oddfellows' Hall. Business of importance.—Mar. 15, d21.

MARCH 15th.

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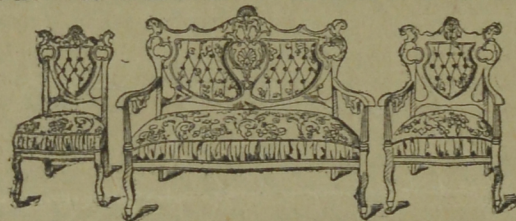
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Apr 8—d11

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