

THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JAN. 25, 1906.

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THE DREDGING

The civic authorities have been notified that before any more dredging can be done in addition to that for which Mr. G. S. Mayes has contracted, it will be necessary to provide therefor in the next estimates submitted to parliament. The importance of having such provision made is apparent, and the citizens should not fail to press the claims of the national port upon members of the government and of parliament. Their task should be the lighter because of the favorable report of the transportation commission.

Another matter that must be looked after in due time is the supply of timber for the additional berths. This cannot be picked up in a day, as the experience of past and present contracts proves. The sooner the intentions of the government with regard to the dredging can be learned the longer time there will be to look after the very large amount of timber to be required.

AN OCEAN HORROR

That is a terrible tale of the sea that comes from Victoria, B. C., with particulars of the loss of the steamer Valencia and the drowning of a hundred or more persons, including women and little children. It is a heart-rending story, and one shudders with horror as the mind depicts scenes which the mere words of a telegraphic despatch cannot fully describe. While it is true that the number of lives lost at sea is small in proportion to the enormous passenger traffic on the ocean and along shore, yet such a disaster as that which occurred at midnight on Monday is occasionally recorded, and thrills the world with grief and pity.

SCOTT ACT IN KINGS

The effort to replace the Scott Act Inspector in Kings County does not appear to have impressed the members of the municipal council. They have re-appointed the inspector of last year. It must be admitted that this official has not been idle. Seventy-seven cases were prosecuted last year, and fifty convictions secured. This is almost an average of one conviction per week for the year, and seems to indicate that the illegal traffic is still carried on to a considerable extent in some parts of the county. The amount collected in fines was \$705.10, but the inspector adds that there are sixty-nine convictions still uncollected in the county. It is doubtless difficult to find anything to collect from some of those who engage in the business. The councilors evidently intend that a further vigorous campaign shall be carried on.

REVELATIONS

The modern addition to the Decalogue which reads: "Thou shalt not get found out," appears to have been one of the weapons used by these elegant highwaymen in New York. Col. Mann and his friends of Town Topics. Another was the inordinate vanity of certain vulgar people suddenly made rich. By the use of these two weapons these men, and some women—were able to levy tribute upon two classes of society, and themselves enjoy all the pleasures of life, according to their code, at the expense of others. The blackmail is not a modern product, but appears to have reached a very high state of development in modern New York. The revelations now being made in the courts show that high society as well as high finance in that city has its weak points. But it does not follow that society as a whole is vicious. It is doubtless too indulgent, and is responsible for much that it does not openly countenance.

RUSSIA AND PERSIA

There was a time when any rumors from Persia or Afghanistan would provoke a feeling of alarm in some minds in England, and possibilities of war resulting from Russian intrigue would be debated in the press. But times have changed. There is trouble in Persia, and there are rumors of a Perso-Afghan crisis. This time the feeling of alarm is not manifested in London, but in St. Petersburg. Kipling's Bear that walks like a man is no longer the same. Naturally there is in St. Petersburg a feeling of hostility to England, and some talk of malevolent British influence at work on the Indian border, but Russia has troubles enough at present without adding another foreign war to them.

It is interesting to note that a movement in the direction of responsible government is in progress in Persia. The complexion of the east is changing.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION

Collier's Weekly this week has the following editorial observations on the subject of the proposed compulsory school law in New Brunswick:

"Compulsory education promises to become a law in New Brunswick. With the announcement, however, that this measure will be placed before the next provincial legislature comes the modifying clause of local option. Undoubtedly a legislature will be more likely to adopt a radical law if it can in turn make the people themselves responsible for its execution, and the people, on the other hand, will show a greater eagerness to adopt such a programme if they are invited rather than forced to accept the law. The only question thus far raised in considering the bill is that of ultimate rather

than immediate effectiveness. Many a good old English town has found the curfew law a moral boon to the community. Compulsory education supported by vigilant truancy officers can be made an equally adequate moral force. It will stop the abuses of child labor and develop a certain primary understanding of citizenship and democracy, even if the three R's are not fully and competently covered. It is a sad truth that education is no barrier to crime. But it is equally true that ignorance is no safeguard against it. Moreover, ethical values and the moral perspective of life are infinitely more comprehensible to the cultured mind than to the dullard. For these reasons we believe New Brunswick will never have reason to regret her decision to provide for compulsory commonwealth education. The competency of the succeeding generations will be increased thereby, and even if moral training be omitted from the curriculum the mere development of the mental activities will take the child half-way to the goal of high citizenship."

The Liberal majority in the British elections continues to grow. The Labor party still manifests surprising strength, having already elected 47 representatives. The next house will differ very greatly from any former one in some notable respects.

There is more talk about departures from the specifications in connection with the new steamship berth. It appears there has been a third departure. What are specifications for, and what is the inspector for? That official should explain.

In ten years the value of butter and cheese produced by New Brunswick factories has increased from \$76,156 to \$344,026. This is a significant record, but the way is open for a greater development in the next ten years. The province is becoming acquainted with its resources.

Now that the fog has departed from these parts we may safely speak of it, since a similar visitation has delayed one of the mail steamers off Halifax.

Quebec city has waked up and is making a strong bid for the Canadian Pacific summer steamship service.

ETHICS OF MONEY

(Wall Street Journal).

A writer in The Outlook, on the ethics of money, says: "A sum of money, large or small, is an order, payable to the bearer, for a proportionate amount of service."

He goes on to argue that to care more for getting the money than for giving its full equivalent in service, is to have "started on the down grade to robbery," and he declares that an enormous amount of predatory wealth has been accumulated in recent years.

The problem of today is wealth, its production, and still more, its distribution. Hence the value of the principle announced by The Outlook: "A dollar of service for every dollar of money."

Let every man measure himself by this rule. Is he giving full service? Let the man of one hundred million ask himself: Have I given one hundred millions of service? Let the man of \$100,000 salary ask himself, whether he is rendering in return \$100,000 worth of service. Let the \$1,000 clerk ask himself whether he is really earning \$1,000 in true service to his employer. Let the merchant ask himself whether he is right in fixing a certain price for his goods. Let the labor union inquire whether it is just to enforce a certain scale of wages. Measure your services in the scale of equity.

The Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Labor should each adopt as its motto:

"A dollar of service for every dollar of money."

Under such a principle faithfully applied how many great fortunes created by watering stock, how many thieving empires, how many monopoly prices and monopoly rates of wages would there be?

THE GOOD POPE

(From the Watchman)

Pius X. continues to make it evident that he proposes to pursue a policy of conciliation, by changing the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church toward people and governments. In the very difficult position in which the Church is placed in France by the abolition of the Concordat, and against the advice of some of the French cardinals, he commands the devising of measures which will avoid further complications with the French Government. The same policy is indicated by the act of the organ of the Vatican in urging Roman Catholics in Italy to register and take an active part in the elections. The attitude of sullen aloofness to political matters in Italy which has been the policy of the head of the Roman Church in the past is not to prevail under the present pope. In the same direction also is the advice of the Roman authorities to give laymen in Roman Catholic parishes in the United States a majority on boards of trustees. Hitherto the power of administering the Church properties has been in the hands of the priests in charge. The new directions will give the people who erect the buildings and pay the expenses a controlling voice in the management. This conciliatory and reasonable attitude of the head of the Roman Church will have a powerful effect in promoting peaceful and happy conditions throughout the world. There may have been pontiffs of greater intellectual ability at the head of the Roman Church, but as far as outsiders are able to judge there has never been in all its history a pope of greater piety, sweetness of character and good sense.

THE FORCE OF LANGUAGE

Here is another gem from that prolific mine, the police court. "Prisoner used such strong language," said a constable, "that I was obliged to get the assistance of another officer to take him into custody." London Telegraph.

SPECIAL VALUES IN MEN'S PANTS

This store has the well deserved reputation of being the best place in town to buy Men's Pants.

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SACKVILLE

SACKVILLE, Jan. 24.—About sixty of the leading business and professional men of Sackville gathered at the Brunswick House last evening to take a formal farewell of W. H. Harrison. Shortly after ten o'clock the company sat down to a nicely prepared turkey supper, after which speeches were in order. F. B. Black acted as chairman and discharged his duties with great acceptance. A pleasing part of the occasion was the presentation of an address and a handsome set of military brushes and a fountain pen with monogram, on behalf of the friends, to Mr. Harrison. Senator Wood gave the address, which was fittingly replied to by the honored guest. The gathering broke up shortly after midnight with the National Anthem and cheers for Mr. Harrison.

NO TIME TO LOSE.

He was poor, but enterprising, and she was rich, but homely. "Will you marry me?" he asked abruptly. "Why, this is so sudden," she exclaimed. "Give me a little time to—"

The Inglenook Philosopher of Kennebecasis Bay.

When the apple tree was in blossom, when the pea grew robust in the pod, and when the strawberry reddened on the vine I was congratulated by some kind friends on my well-considered flight from the land of the Queen street dump and the odorous Quagmire. And when the Clifton, wrapped in flames, started out on her last voyage across the bay, when the Maggie Miller gave the Ludlow its first lesson in contumacy, when the bay became an impassable barrier, for the time being, between us and the outside world, and when the snows began to fall, and the winds to howl, and the mercury to drop lower and lower, the confidences of those same friends came fluttering in, bringing balm in their bosoms instead of on their wings. Congratulations and condolences are thankfully received, but they are out of place. It is folly to crouch over the finding of a dollar (or a million dollars) which may be lost to-morrow, or to weep over spilled milk, that by no possibility can be gathered up. The season of the apple blossom will come without entreaty, and of the low down mercury in spite of protestation. Pollard and I are neither to be congratulated nor commiserated. We are like the ancient sage who "let it rain." We let it snow and blow, and when the mercury goes down to 10 degrees below zero it goes unrebuked. Pollard has an apt quotation for everything that befalls. Last night when the wind howled around the house and piled the snow high on the window sills he took up Emerson and read:—

"Come see the north winds' masonry. Out of an unseen quarry evermore, Furnished with tile, the fierce artificer Curves his white bastions with projecting roof, Roves every windward stake, or tree, or door. Speeding, the myriad-handed his wild work So fanciful, so savage, nought cares he For number or proportion. Mockingly A swan-like form invests the hidden thorn Fills up the farmer's lane from wall to wall, Mangles the farmer's eighs, and at the gate A tapering turret overtops the work. And when his hours are numbered, and the world To mimic in slow structures, stone by stone, Built in an age, the mad wind's night-work, The frolic architecture of the snow."

No, we don't want condolences. We have a skating rink 16 miles long, with an average width of a mile and a half, but Pollard and I don't skate this winter. We have in the woods about 19,000 rabbits and squirrels waiting for the interviewer but Pollard and I are not in a mood to interview them. Pollard says "Amen," settles back in his chair, and lights his pipe.

White Head, K. Co. Jan. 22.

MOROCCAN CONFERENCE

Algiers, Jan. 24.—The confidential exchanges now going on among the representatives of the powers in the Moroccan conference disclose the extreme difficulty of arranging an agreement that both France and Germany would accept.

France virtually enunciates in a modified form the principle of the Monroe Doctrine in Northwest Africa. She has acquired and holds a position toward Morocco that, according to her view, makes equal political influence with other powers impossible. On the question of economic equality she says "yes," but on that of political equality she answers "no."

Germany insists on political equality with even more tenacity than she does on the question of economic equality. The real struggle, however, is over the political future of Morocco. France would rather withdraw from the conference than tie up the political destiny of Morocco by international control. While this is not an authoritative official utterance, it unmistakably represents the feeling of the French delegation. France refuses to be excluded from what she holds to be the legitimate expansion of her influence in Northern Africa.

The French delegates appear to realize that the current of the conference is against them because neutral powers such as the United States lean toward the idea of disinterested equality rather than toward France's special geographical and historical paramountcy.

France, therefore, may strive for a negative result so far as political questions go, accepting fully a commercial equality and joining in the effort to reach just economic conclusions, but resisting suggestions for the internationalization of any of the public services of Morocco.

Germany will press for the internationalization of the police. It should be understood that this question of police does not refer to the ordinary force for the maintenance of local order, but in the larger sense to the semi-military body which is to exercise a powerful general control.

France still counts upon Great Britain, Russia, Spain and Portugal, but her earliest hopes that the United States would be with her are beginning to diminish.

Germany believes that her view as to international control has been accepted in principle by the United States, Austria and Sweden.

The position of Italy is one of uncommon perplexity. Italy naturally inclines toward equality of privileges, and besides she is the ally of Germany; yet, according to her secret agreement with France in 1902, France expects Italy in consequence of this agreement to side with her, but Italy hesitates.

Belgium is non-committal through fear that either France or Germany will raise the Congo question to an international issue after the conference if either should consider itself offended.

The foregoing tendencies are the outgrowth of constant private meetings of the delegates.

SPOKE SARCASTIC.

Two Liverpool street-Putney buses meeting, one driver inquires of the other in passing:

"What time do you finish tonight, Bill?" Bill—"Oh, as 'per'—the last turn down for me."

Old Lady (sitting behind Bill)—"But, I suppose, young man, you do get time for some recreation during the day?"

Bill—"Oh, certainly, mum! For instance, tonight I leave off at 12.15, and I get all the rest of the evening to myself!"—Exchange.

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PHOTOS PHOTOS PHOTOS!

Photos of the Scholars of Victoria and Alexandria Schools can be seen at my studio. Also views of the Launching of the Ludlow. Amateur finishing a specialty. GEO. C. M. FARREN, . . . 74 Germain Street.