The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 2, 1908.

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Measures for the material progress and moral advancement of our great Dominion.
No graft!
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TO OUR PATRONS

The Times is once more in a position to handle all the news of the day and has so advised its correspondents. The wants of advertisers can also be attended to with the usual promptness.

STRANGED RELATIVE

The relations between the United States and Venezuela have reached a critical stage. The southern republic has, to use the phrase of Secretary Root, treated its northern friend in a curt and contemptuous way; and there is talk of such tariff restrictions by congress as would quickly bring the Venezuelan president to his senses.

When there was trouble between Venezuela and European powers the United States was the friend of the former. The European governments were in the right, but that fact was not material to the issue as viewed from Washington. Now the United States government is itself about to take the grip with Venezuela, to force a settlement of five questions in dispute. One of these relates to the expulsion of one Mr. Jaurett from Venezuelan territory, and the other four to claims of American investors against the Venezuelan government, as in the famous case of the New York & Bermudez Asphalt Co.

Various attempts have been made to settle some or all of these claims, but the Venezuelan government simply declined to take action, and even refused to submit any claim to arbitration. Secretary Root had hoped to be able to accomplish something where others failed, but he too was disappointed. The correspondence handed to the senate this week by President Roosevelt is very interesting. In issuing general instructions to the American minister, Secretary Root said:

"You will call the attention of the government of Venezuela to the fact that, notwithstanding the long and unbroken friendship manifested by the United States for Venezuela, notwithstanding the repeated occasions upon which the United States has intervened as a friend in order to relieve Venezuela from disagreeable and dangerous complications with other powers; notwithstanding the patience and consideration which has always characterized the action of this government toward Venezuela, the government of Venezuela has within the past few years practically confiscated or destroyed all the substantial property interests of Americans in that country. This has been done sometimes in accordance with the forms of law and contrary to the spirit of the laws; sometimes without even form of law, by one device or another, with the action of the government apparently always hostile to American interests, until of the many millions of dollars invested by American citizens in that country, practically nothing remains."

And just there is the explanation of the present strained relations. Venezuela, which is always ready to repudiate a debt, is disposed to treat Uncle Sam just as it treated John Bull and the Kaiser. Mr. Root sadly observes that "the United States has intervened as a friend to relieve Venezuela from disagreeable and dangerous complications with other powers" only to receive in return a curt and contemptuous treatment of the claims of its own people in that country. We quote further:—

"The answer the Venezuelan government makes to these demands practically refuses consideration. It is practically confined to a simple denial of the correctness of the attitude of this government. The curt and contemptuous way in which it ignores or dismisses the serious and respectful representation of the United States produces a painful impression of indifference and disrespect."

The final paper in the correspondence sent to the senate is the following from Minister Russell, the United States representative in Venezuela. He wired as follows:

"The Venezuelan government answered today my note sent in accordance with your cablegram of instruction of Feb. 18. Minister for foreign affairs states that Venezuela refrains from considering for the present the question of arbitration because I 'have not as yet refuted the arguments in notes of July 9 and Sept. 20, in which notes Venezuela plainly stated the grounds for refusing to arbitrate.' The note concludes as follows: 'Consequently, as the cases referred to cannot be considered as being comprised among those which call for diplomatic action, the government of Venezuela would view it with satisfaction if the government of the United States would consider this question as closed, the parties interested always having the right of recourse to the tribunals of justice of the republic should they deem fit.'"

The next step in this interesting controversy will be taken by congress, as indicated in the despatches in today's Times.

VERY IMPRESSINE

The new-born zeal for civil service reform which marks the editorial utterances of some newspapers is as refreshing as it is remarkable. There was no hint of it prior to the startling report of the civil service commission. It came with the shock of a great surprise. The editors went to bed one night wholly unaware that a great light would come to them with the dawn of another day. To their credit be it stated they did not flinch. They rose to the occasion with fine fervor and hailed the report of the civil service commission as another proof of good government. True, there were irregularities, and there must be some dismissals. True, also, this government has been in power and this sort of thing has been going on since 1896; but the general elections are about due, and the government wants another lease of power. Therefore, the civil service is to be reformed. Sir Wilfrid intimates that it may not be possible to do very much at the present session of parliament. Before another session the elections may be held, and after that event, if the government should be sustained, the work of reform could be carried on with the calm deliberation which has marked the past dozen years. But, in the meantime, the government press is determined to let no guilty man escape.

With the coming of spring the work of completing the water distribution system so that the city may receive the full benefit of the Loch Lomond extension, and the promised reduction in insurance rates should be pressed forward with vigor. It is the most important work, next to the question of harbor development, that will occupy the attention of the council this year.

Serious charges are made against those who should enforce the prohibitory liquor law in P. E. Island. Evidently the machinery must be strengthened.

The falling off in customs receipts and in bank clearings indicates that the period of dullness in industrial and commercial circles has not yet passed.

The Canadian marine department promises disclosures which will reflect seriously upon the heads of that department for some years past.

THE SPHINX MADE CROKER WHISTLE

London, April 2.—Charles J. Glidden, the noted American automobilist and millionaire promoter of telephone enterprises, has the distinction of drawing from Richard Croker one of the quiet whistles to which the former Tammany Chieftain resorts when he prefers not to notice a comment. The story came out soon after Mr. Croker's return from Egypt recently.

Mr. Glidden took Mr. Croker in his automobile to see the Pyramids, but the latter was far more interested in the Sphinx, which subsequently he went to see more than once.

"The Sphinx has just the face for a New York political boss," Mr. Glidden remarked.

Mr. Croker's face was imperturbable except that he puckered up his lips and Mr. Glidden heard a sound like the soughing of a breeze through a cranny of the Sphinx. The two men motored together on many occasions while they were in Egypt.

Mr. Croker is said to have returned to London purposely to see the fight between Tommy Burns and Jem Roche, the Irish champion. He backed Roche and he was one of the guarantors of the $7,500 purse. This money was returned, and more with it, from the sale of seats. In fact, the promoters found it as profitable as if the fight had not been a fiasco.

Mr. Croker's language to Roche following the latter's defeat is said to have nearly provoked Roche to violence.

Mr. Croker announces that he had a most enjoyable time in Egypt. He looks bronzed and robust and is in excellent spirits.

BIG DECLINE IN BANK CLEARINGS.

(Montreal Star.)

Montreal bank clearings have declined $41,400,000 in the first three months of the present year, the figures being as follows:

	1908	1907
January	$116,108,737	$128,194,689
February	95,031,138	107,651,009
March	108,282,582	125,041,649
	$319,422,457	$360,890,347

In Toronto March clearings decreased $24,459,510, while the decrease there for the three months is $56,158,500. The total clearings in Toronto for the three months were $256,122,013.

Stores open till 8 P. M. St. John, April 2, 1908.

Boys' Wash Blouses Sale Price 39c.

We have placed on sale today a large lot of Boys' Wash Blouses and Boys' Wash Suits which have just been received from leading English and New York houses. The prices are lower than any ever offered on same class of goods in St. John before. See them in our Clothing Department.

BOYS' WASH BLOUSES, SALE PRICE, 39c.

BOYS' WASH SUITS, SALE PRICE, 78c, 98c, $1,25, $1.50, $2.00, $2.50 to $4.00.

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Women's $3 Button Oxfords

We believe our Patent Button Oxfords for Women cannot possibly be beaten for smartness, fitting qualities and satisfactory service. See this style and others in our window.

Women's $3 Button Oxfords

FOOT FITTERS **McRobbie** 94 KING STREET

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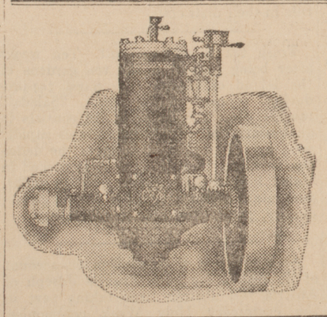
Nearly every family has something around the house that they wish to dispose of and that some other family needs and would pay for. Get together to your mutual advantage. A FOR SALE ad. in THE TIMES will sell anything, thing, for THE TIMES REACHES NEARLY EVERYBODY. One cent a word per day is all an ad. costs.

Call, Write or 'Phone Main 705

ALWAYS IN STOCK:

TOMATOES, CUCUMBERS, RHUBARB, SWEET POTATOES, CAULIFLOWER, SPINACH, SQUASH, CABBAGE, CAPE COD CRANBERRIES, CELERY, LETTUCE, RADISH, PARSLEY FRESH EVERY DAY.
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1908 Fairbanks — Morse

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The Canadian Fairbanks Co.
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Wall Paper price starts 2c., 3c., 4c. and 5c.
Roller Blinds as low as 20c. each
Rubber Balls all sizes
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Kitchen Crockery, Graniteware, Tinware, Woodware in large variety at

WATSON & CO'S,

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"Uranus" Razor Strop

Puts edge on Razors quickly and with less labor than any Strop sold. Fine quality. Great durability. Used by best barbers.

Special Price $1.25

CHAS. R. WASSON, - - 100 King St.

HENNERY EGGS

Shipped from our own hennerles in Sussex (daily). Put up in boxes holding 1 dozen.

THE WHITE DAIRY, 38 Sydney St.

Store closes at 9 p. m. Tuesday, April 1st, 1908.

THE GOLD BOND SHOE

had its banner day on Saturday last. It is a big thing

Big Style, Big Value, Big Fitters, Big Ease

Try a pair, Spring Styles complete, prices **$4, $4 50 and $5.00**

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Foot Furnisher. 519-521 MAIN STREET
SUCCESSOR TO WM. YOUNG

SNOW, SLOP AND MUD

WEAR RUBBERS and Prevent a Cold.
RUBBERS FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN
ALL SIZES AT

A. B. WETMORE'S, 59 Garden St.

AVOID EXTREMES.

(From "Essay on Criticism.")

Avoid extremes; and shun the fault of such,
Who still are pleas'd too little or too much.
At ev'ry trifle scorn to take offence,
That always shows great pride or little sense;
Those heads, as stomachs, are not sure the best,
Which nauseate all, and nothing can digest.
Yet, let not each gay turn thy rapture move;
For fools admire, but men of sense approve;
As things seem large which we thro' mists descry,
Dullness is ever apt to magnify.
—Alexander Pope.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

HORSE LORE.

Our grandfathers were hard to beat at a horse trade. They lived up to the ancient jingle:

One white foot buy him;
Two white feet, try him;
Three white feet shy him:
Four white feet, go by him;
Four white feet and a white nose,
Cut off his head and feed him to the crows.

Here is another version:

One white foot, buy him;
Two white feet, try him;
Three white feet, look about him;
Four white feet, go without him.

The superstition that white hair means weakness in the pasterns and unsound feet still obtains among countrymen everywhere. We see very few white feet on the race tracks.—New York Press.

MORE SATISFACTORY.

Wife—"My dear, I do wish you would use the word 'sheol', it sounds better."
Hubby—"It may sound better at times, but when a man steps on a tack he wants the old version."
—Illustrated Bits.

TIME TO MOVE ON.

Just a bit of moonshine'n
Just a bit of song,
Just a big policeman—and
It's time to move along.

NO [illegible] FOR PLEASURE.

"Are you ever going to pay back that five?"
The man addressed looked pained.
"It would be a pleasure to do so," he replied, "but I cannot indulge in pleasures during the Lenten season."

THE DIFFERENCE.

Little Willie—"Say, pa, what's the difference between an optimist and a pessimist?"
Pa—"An optimist sees only the doughnut, my son, while the pessimist sees nothing but the hole therein."

GO AWAY.

Mistah Wintah, please go 'way,
I been freezin' till I's froze;
Lemme thaw in time to say
"Howdy" to mah summah clo'es.

FUN OF THE HOUR.

"Can I have a pass over your line?"
"No," replied the railroad man, "Law's too strict. We can't pass anything but a dividend now."

OFFENDED.

One morning a rustic appeared at the window of a postal station, and after peering through the bars inquired:
"Hev yeou got about fifty cents worth of stamps, mister?"
"Certainly," returned the clerk. "What denomination, please?"
"Wa-al, sir, if it's enny of your business, I'm a Baptist."

QUITE THE OPPOSITE.

"I should like to know, Mr. W., why you are so cross when I ask questions. Surely you don't think I have idle curiosity."
"Great Scott! no. Yours is the most perniciously active, wide awake, sleepless energetic curiosity it was ever my fate to encounter!"

HE WAS THE COOK.

"So you once lived in Africa, Sam?" there, Sam?"
"Oh, yes, sah! I was cook for a cannibal chief, sah!"

J. P. MORGAN A REAL COURTIER

New York Financier Pours Tea for Queen of England and Her Sister

London, April 2.—J. Pierpont Morgan has become an accomplished courtier.

When Queen Alexandra and her sister, the Dowager Czarina, visited Mr Morgan recently to view the art treasures in his residence at Princess Gate, the Queen immensely admired a miniature by Smartt, a remarkable likeness of her daughter Maud, the Queen of Norway.

Queen Alexandria dwelt on the miniature with the greatest interest and when she was about to depart Mr. Morgan, as generously as courteously, offered it for Her Majesty's gracious acceptance. The Queen, of course, hesitated to deprive him of such a treasure, but she confessed she had fallen in love with it and finally permitted Mr. Morgan to give the miniature to her equerry, who took it to Buckingham Palace.

Next day Mr. Morgan and his daughter, Mrs. Herbert L. Satterlee, were the Queen's guests at Buckingham Palace. Then Her Majesty shoed him the miniature he had given her. She had placed it next to some atrocious modern portraits of Queen Maud. The juxtaposition, the contrast, so enhanced the beauties of the miniature that Mr. Morgan must have realized how much he had sacrificed to his courtesy.

The Queen took him around the palace and showed him her objects of art. They are of enormous value and great rarity, for Her Majesty has selected all the finest things in the palace and concentrated them in her own apartments.

Without being envious, Mr. Morgan's mouth must have watered more than once. Again and again he expressed the sincerest admiration. Thereupon Queen Alexandra made haste to explain, as if regretfully:

"These objects are not mine, alas! They belong to the Crown and I could not part with one of them. Even to my dearest and nearest friend."

Of course Mr. Morgan did not expect a gift in return for the Smartt miniature, so the Queen's ingenuousness amused him.

Mr. Morgan and his daughter went from here to Monte Carlo. There Ralph Hickox, with Louis Webb and some others, gave him a farewell luncheon. Before leaving, Mr. Morgan gave $200 to be distributed without distinction among the charities of Monaco.

Mr. Morgan stopped at Siena, where he is having copies made of some wonderful old tapestries in the cathedral. Three English ladies, artists in needlework, famed for their skill, are doing the copying with extraordinary minuteness and fidelity.

Mr. Morgan went aboard his steam yacht, the Corsair, at Naples, then visited Rome, where he is now.

From there he will go to Venice, touching at some historic towns on the Adriatic. He seems to be restored to perfect health.

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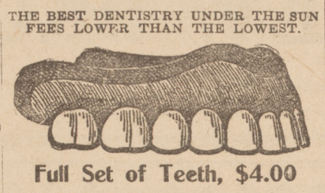
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THE BEST DENTISTRY UNDER THE SUN FEES LOWER THAN THE LOWEST.



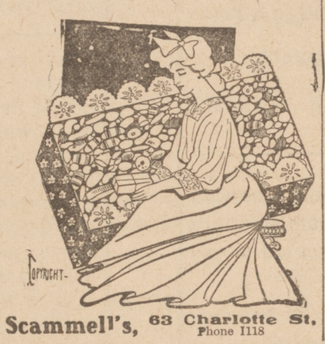
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DR. EDSON M. WILSON. - Prop



Scammell's, 63 Charlotte St. Phone 1118

Women's Dongola Laced Boots

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Splendid Value and a wide range of shapes and styles.

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Dongola, Blucher Laced, Patent Tip, Double Sole. **$2.00 $2.25**

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Francis & Vaughan

10 KING STREET

FERGUSON & PAGE,

Jewellers, Etc., Etc.,

41 KING STREET.

YOUR EYES.

Stop and think about your eyes. They often pain you a little. You simply give them a rest and you are relieved. But they ought not to pain you with ordinary use. There is something wrong. Let D. BOYANER, Graduate Optician, 38 Dock street, test them.

Wall Papers

Our third shipment of Wall Papers has just come to hand; prices: 3c., 4c., 5c., 7c., 8c., 10c., 12c., 15c. roll. Remember we have best values in Canada.

Rubber Balls

1c., 2c., 5c., 8c., 10c., 12., 15c., to 65c. each.

Marbles

Clay Marbles, 16 for 1c. Glass Marbles, 4 for 1c.

Bargains in Skirts

Ladies' Cloth Skirts at reduced prices to make room for new goods: 95c., $1.25, $1.50, $1.75 to $3.00.

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A LOAF OF BUTTERNUT BREAD

Probably costs the manufacturer more than any other loaf made in St. John, yet the retail price is only 7 cents—just the same as ordinary bread. If you want most value for your money, get it only.

AT ANY GROCER'S, OR

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4 STORES

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A Business Man's Suit--$18.



At this modest figure we offer a Spring suit, ready to wear, which will appeal to every business man's judgment.

Two, three and four button sack style, many different patterns in fabrics that come from the best mills.

But perhaps it is sufficient to say that the famous "20th Century" brand is the cleverest make we carry, insuring the correctness of the style and the genuine goodness of material and making.

Really remarkable value at $18. Other good suits at $10 to $25.

And if you very sensibly decide to buy a Showerproof Coat, by all means see our line of individuality—coats that are both smart and exclusive, at $10 to $25.

In the tailored-to-measure department we are ready to execute your commands, creating suits and Spring overcoats that combine distinctive style with the permanent elegance that marks the well-tailored garment.

Gilmour 68 King Street
Established 1841.

A Lynn despatch says that Miss Vilroy Robinson Brown, whose residence is given as St. John, and Jas. F. Glidden, of Calais were married on Friday in Lynn after being engaged only a few hours.