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SUN PRINTING COMPANY,
ALFRED MARKHAM,
Manager.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 26, 1900

A CRITICAL SITUATION.

It is announced that the imperial government has asked Australia and New Zealand for fresh corps of mounted men. We can hardly think that the call has been made on the other colonies and not on Canada, for the Strathconas now in Africa are but relatively a small body. It is of course possible that the governments of the Australian colonies and New Zealand have offered fresh contingents and that the Canadian government has not. The mounted rifles were ordered from Africa before the latest development. Had they been asked to remain the most of them would probably have been willing to continue in the service. As the matter stands the people of Canada will not be pleased if the other colonies are asked for fresh troops and no call is sent to this country. Our contingents have had more than their share of the fighting and of the losses. but there are thousands of young men in Canada ready if necessary to take the place of those who have come home or are on their way. A year of war has taught Canada as well as England what pain it brings, but time and experience have not diminished the loyalty or devotion of our people. Canadians will not willingly allow themselves to be placed in an inferior position to the Australian colonies in the defence of the empire.

The news of the last two days indicates a critical condition in Cape Colony. The Boer population of that colony is larger than the English population and larger than the Boer population of the two late republics. Recent developments show that the larger number of the Cape Colonoy Boers are in hearty sympathy with their compatriots in the Transvaal. They have been holding seditious meetings and their press is openly defiant. The British military authorities are grappling with the situation. Martial law has been proclaimed in Dutch districts, including villages within twenty miles of Cape Town. It remains to be seen whether it is too late. Meanwhile the battle grounds in Cape Colony are the same as those about this time last year. A few more engagements such as that of two days ago in which 2,000 Boers were defeated and 50 are said to have been killed may bring to an end the war in Cape Colony. But if the whole Boer population should break out into rebellion Canadians may expect to take a further share in the defence of the empire.

MR. STEAD AND MR. KRUGER.

Sixteen years ago Mr. Stead was one of the leading journalists in England, and perhaps the most influential of all the writers for the metropolitan press. He had come suddenly into prominence, for in 1880 he was editor of the Echo, a paper published in Darlington. Mr. Morley seems to have discerned the talent of the young man, who was invited to go to London as assistant editor of the Pall Mall Gazette. Three years later Mr. Morley retired and Mr. Stead succeeded to the control of the paper. Under Mr. Stead's management the Pall Mall Gazette lost many of its old friends, but gained much fame. Mr. Stead introduced the modern interview into English journalism. He introduced illustrations. He made a sensation of everything, for even in these days he was nothing if not hysterical. The Pall Mall Gazette was an enthusiastic advocate of imperial federation when that policy was regarded as a fad. It was full of strenuousness and of panic in its demand for a new navy, and made all England afraid to go to bed lest the enemy would be in the country in the morning. An interview of Mr. Stead with the ill-fated Chinese Gordon, and a frenzied appeal afterward to Mr. Gladstone and the public is said to have been the moving cause of the despatch of General Gordon to his death at Khartoum. One number of the Pall Mall Gazette in 1885 led to the passage of the criminal law amendment act. Mr. Stead insured the sale of this number of the paper by giving notice beforehand that it would deal with certain offences against women and children, and advising purchasers to keep it out of the reach of their young people. Mr. Stead developed more enthusiasm, and while he continued to interest the crowd, he began to lose influence. He pursued his exposure of the traffic in young girls to the extent of hiring an agent to go to a procuress and obtain a victim, in order to prove that the law was regularly violated. With a credulousness which is now one of his prevailing characteristics, Mr. Stead accepted the statement of his agent, who, as it was shown in a subsequent criminal prosecution, obtained the girl from her mother's home, and deceived Mr. Stead about it. As a result of this affair the agent went to the penitentiary with a female accomplice also in Mr. Stead's employ, and Mr. Stead himself served a term of imprisonment.

Mr. Stead became an impassioned home ruler and an advocate of the "Plan of Campaign." Later he went to Russia and had an interview with the Czar, returning to inform the British people that Russia was on the right side in all her controversies with Britain, a doctrine which he has maintained ever since. By 1889 Mr. Stead had brought the Pall Mall Gazette to a condition in which it was expedient for him to resign.

The scheme of the Review of Reviews, which Mr. Stead next established, has much to commend it to those who wish to find out what is in the current publications without reading them. Mr. Stead has not written largely for this magazine, and it has not gone so extensively into hysterics as might otherwise have been expected. Less success attended another plan devised by Mr. Stead, who proposed to establish a popular daily paper with several hundred thousand readers all stock holders in the enterprise. There was no rush for shares, and the paper was never printed.

Some eight or ten years ago Mr. Stead developed a new eccentricity. He became a spiritualist according to a school of his own. His familiar spirit he called Julia, and she kindly informed Mr. Stead of many things not otherwise ascertainable. She gave him opportunity to converse with the absent and the dead and was not less instructive and coherent than the spirits to which the fifty cent professional mediums introduce their dupes. Perhaps Julia is anti-British. Through some influence or aptitude Mr. Stead has during the last ten years found his country wrong in all her disagreements with foreign powers. The sure passport to the favor of Mr. Stead is to be an enemy of the British empire. Russia at the gates of India was his favorite, except during the period when the United States interfered in the Venezuela boundary.

But these friendships and admirations of Mr. Stead have given way before his enthusiasm for Mr. Kruger, whom Mr. Stead has just visited and comforted with his approbation. Many Boer children are now fatherless and many homes have been wrecked because Mr. Stead and men like him have held out to Mr. Kruger the hope of ultimate success, the assurance of international assistance, and the false encouragement that the best people of Great Britain were in sympathy with England's foes. It is not surprising that Mr. Stead comes back from The Hague fully accepting and ready to endorse the statements of that Pharisaical old apostle of mendacity and corruption. The charges of brutality to children, of criminality toward captured women, of disregard for the rules of civilized warfare, are made by an enemy of England, and the accused are British soldiers. That is enough to commend the accusations to Mr. Stead. The chief who issued a declaration of war against Britain, and invaded British territory at the same time; who raided, occupied and annexed district after district in two British colonies; who stirred up the residents of Cape Colony to rebellion, and armed the rebels against their sovereign; who besieged and assaulted every British town within reach; who has sought by intrigue with every European capital to organize an alliance to crush the British empire, now talks about arbitration and The Hague convention. The Hague convention did not propose arbitration as a method of ending a war, but only as a substitute for war. Mr. Stead of course agrees with Kruger, that the latter is privileged to try war first and ask for arbitration afterward.

HOW NOT TO DO IT.

Ten days ago the people of St. John were informed that Mr. Blair was bringing the Lake Champlain with the troops to St. John, and the minister was highly commended by his own organs for the performance. Yesterday the citizens were informed that the troops were to be landed at Halifax. Meanwhile two meetings of citizens have been held at a rather busy time. The city council has held a special meeting. A large committee of busy men has been meeting every day for a week. A contract has been made for the soldier's dinner, and one for the printing of the cards for the menu that will never happen. The mayor has been urged to try to have the troops brought here. He has also been begged to suggest that they should be landed at Halifax. He has been told by one government agent that the men would be delighted to come to St. John, and has been informed by another government officer that they desire to be landed at Halifax. Fortunately the mayor and citizens have kept their heads in spite of the conflicting advice and suggestions from agents-general, ministers, deputy ministers and their friends. They have neither begged that the troops should be brought here nor suggested that they be sent some where else. Whoever is to blame for the comedy of errors the mayor and citizens of St. John have kept out of the gap. If the troops had come to St. John they would have had a rousing reception, but no one in this town desired to keep them away from their families on Christmas day. Now let us hope that the department of militia will sober up and not try to land the next contingent in two ports at once.

THE LATE TREATY.

The Hay-Pauncefote treaty which the United States senate has virtually destroyed, offered a fair basis for the construction of the Nicaragua canal as an international water-way. The financial interest and the profits would have belonged to the United States, but the commercial use would have been open on equal terms to all the nations. The compact was so fair to the United States that the secretary of state, and no doubt his fellow ministers and the president, found it satisfactory. It is approved by a large majority of the more important papers in the greater commercial centres of the United States. But the senate, in which small states have the same voice as large ones, has mutilated the treaty, and there is no prospect of its acceptance in the present form by Great Britain. The action of the United States senate will not be likely to make much impression in Great Britain. Britain did not open negotiations, and is not troubled about their failure. The canal promoters are United States subjects whom the Clayton-Bulwer treaty does not satisfy. The Hay-Pauncefote treaty was negotiated in the interest of the canal enterprise, and now that both countries are likely to be thrown back on the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, the old obstacle stands once more in the way.

THE LIBERAL ORGANIZER AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Mention was made in the despatches some days ago of a circular letter sent out by George W. Dawson, ex-M. P., now organizer of the Eastern Ontario Liberal Association. In November a conservative contributor to the Mail and Empire, writing over a nom de plume, advised his conservative readers to vote for conservative municipal representatives. It was an open and public letter, which could be taken for what it was worth. That is the "tory scheme to defeat Premier Ross," which is mentioned in the first paragraph of Organizer Dawson's "private and confidential" circular. Following is the text of Mr. Dawson's appeal:

Eastern Ontario Liberal Association.
OTTAWA, Ont., December 4, 1900.

Dear Sir—I am sending you for distribution in your riding 100 circulars describing one of the tory schemes to defeat Premier Ross.

In our efforts in the eastern district, we are badly handicapped by the fact that the municipal councils are now and long have been largely in the hands of the tories. I have reports from 161 municipalities, in these:

Of the reeves, 111 are tories and 50 are liberal.

Of the councillors 426 are tories and 265 are liberal.

Of the clerks, 104 are tories and 57 are liberal.

Of the assessors, 100 are tories and 65 are liberal.

This should not be allowed. Every effort should be made to prevent tories from controlling the councils. There is only one way to do it: Elect liberal reeves and councillors—not tory!

Hoping this will be done in January next,

I am, ever, yours faithfully,
(Signed) GEORGE W. DAWSON.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY.

The opportunity afforded for Canadians to volunteer for service in Baden-Powell's corps will, no doubt, be found attractive to many. The war is no longer a novelty, and those who now volunteer do so with the knowledge of all that such service means. We need not expect the same expressions of enthusiasm as were heard last year at this time, but it will be a surprise to the Sun if the 1,000 men mentioned in the despatch as forming a corps are not soon found.

QUITE SO.

(Chicago Times-Herald.)

A Chicago preacher says if he were a girl he would swing Indian clubs and dumb-bells and play golf and tennis. This is all very well, but he adds that he would be willing to wash dishes, which, of course, shows that he doesn't fully understand the subject.

Xmas Vacation Will Begin Dec. 29

Classes will re open Jan. 2nd with increased accommodation, the largest attendance, the best facilities and brighest prospects we have ever had in our 33 years experience in college work. Come early to secure accomodation. Business and Shorthand Circulars sent to any address.

THE St. John Business College

Oddfellows Hall,
S. KERR & SON.

BOSTON.

A Reception to Actors, Actresses and Ministers.

Conferences on Ritualism—Claims a Fortune—Personal and Other Items.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—The holiday season is monopolizing the attention of everybody this week; the retail trade continues to flourish and the Christmas shopper is everywhere. On account of the rush, the theatres have not been as well attended as usual, but, nevertheless, a new play house was opened to the public this week. The new theatre will be known as the Colonial, and is under the management of the well known firm of Harris, Rich and Charles Frohman. The Colonial theatre was erected on the site of the old public library on Belyea street, near Tremont, at an expense of a million or more. It is one of the most elegant and comfortable amusement houses in the country. It is expected to draw its patronage largely from the smart set and from persons who are able to pay good, stiff prices. The first play put on was the dramatization of Gen. Lew Wallace's Ben-Hur. There are now ten theatres in the city, not including a number of third rate vaudeville houses.

In view of the controversy over the theatre in St. John, it might be of interest to mention a reception given at the Castle Square theatre here on Tuesday by the Boston chapter of the Actors' Church Alliance to a large number of actors, actresses and ministers. Mrs. Henry M. Whitney, wife of the Cape Breton coal and iron magnate; Mrs. Margaret Deland, Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton and a number of others not connected with the stage were present. Among those who spoke were Rev. H. M. Torbert, rector of St. Stephen's church of Boston; and Rev. Walter E. Bentley, secretary of the Actors' Church Alliance of America, of which Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter, Episcopal bishop of New York city, is president. Rev. Mr. Bentley is assistant rector of All Souls' church, New York. Among the objects of the alliance are: The prevention of performances on Sunday and the improvement of the moral tone of the stage.

One of the questions which will be brought before the triennial convention of the Protestant Episcopal church at San Francisco next year is a change of name. There is a strong belief that the word "Protestant" will be dropped as quite a percentage of the church leaders thing the word is useless and meaningless in the title, and that it is one sometimes difficult to reconcile with the term "Holy Catholic" of the creed. Furthermore, it is pointed out that the church is generally known as the Episcopal church, and that it would be well to follow the example of the organization known as the Episcopal Church of Scotland, and call the Anglican body in this country the Episcopal Church of the United States.

The Duke of Newcastle, the leader of the ritualistic wing of the Church of England, arrived in the country this week. He will have occasional conferences with the bishop of Fond du Lac and other leaders of this faction in both countries, the publication of church periodicals and other matters. The ritualists have had no clash of consequence with the broad church dignitaries until recently, when a dispute arose over the ritual and vestments used by the bishop of Fond du Lac in the consecration of a coadjutor bishop. The bishop, who formerly was a Boston rector, was charged with introducing certain rites not sanctioned by the prayer book rubrics, but he declared he followed the book of Common Prayer throughout. There is little question but that the high churchmen are gaining influence steadily in the affairs of the Episcopal church in the United States.

The Maine State Grange, Patrons of Industry, now in session at Lewiston, is devoting much of its time to a discussion of over-taxation in round terms, and a complete revision of the tax law was advocated. In the matter of fire insurance, another vigorous protest was raised, it being claimed that the rates on farm buildings were much higher than those on any other class of property. As there are many patrons in the state legislature, the taxation and insurance issues will be threshed out in that body this winter. Another grievance the farmers of Maine have is against the fee system by which some of the county officers are said to be able to make two or three times as much as their services are worth, in attending to public matters. In same sections of the state the farmers have organized in an effort to systematically bring about a curtailment of a steadily increasing drain upon their resources.

The provincial counterfeiting case, the participants in which are serving time in the penitentiary at Dorchester and in the Massachusetts state prison, were recalled yesterday when the United States circuit court of appeals affirmed the judgment of the district court, sentencing Porter N. Bliss to the East Cambridge jail for 18 months. Bliss was mixed up with the Davises and Angus Chisholm, Nova Scotans, in the plot to circulate counterfeit Dominion of Canada $2 notes in the provinces.

Alick G. Lepage of Leominster claims he is heir to a large portion of $5,000,000, which, he says, has been in a bank in Canada nearly a century. A lawyer is looking into the matter. The case is no less than a revival of the old Three Rivers, Quebec claim. Certain people have long maintained that their ancestors were granted 3000 acres by the government, and that this land is the site of Three Rivers, a Quebec town of 20,000 people. It is further said that the property was seized by squatters, and that damage suits resulted in a large sum of money being awarded to the original holders or their heirs, years ago. It is part of this alleged fund that Lepage lays claim to.

Josephine Hardwick, a native of Port Hawkesbury, N. S., died here recently and the body was sent to her former home for interment. The woman at one time was handsome and wealthy, and maintained a luxurious establishment here, but when health and beauty departed, practically all of her influential friends deserted her. When she died they did not even take the trouble to accompany the body to the Halifax boat. This Christmas, instead of the usual package of gifts, her folks in Port Hawkesbury will receive a long box containing her remains.

John B. Fitzpatrick, formerly of P. E. I., died in Cambridgeport Dec. 17.

A. L. Waring, of St. John; S. C. Baker, Yarmouth; G. A. Masters, Kentville; W. C. Tennant, Amherst, and E. Duman, of Halifax, were in the city recently.

The big schooner Carlotta, of St. John, which was sunk on Wednesday off Gloucester, was as familiar in this vicinity as in the Petitcodiac River. The scene of the wreck is not far from Norman's Woe, made famous by Longfellow in "The Wreck of the Hesperus." The Carlotta, for several years, was commanded by Capt. Joseph Reed, of Hopewell Cape, and at one time was owned by the late Geo. F. Baird, of St. John. It is said there is a chance of saving the vessel, providing no rough weather damages her further.

The demand for spruce lumber has diminished. There is some call for frames at $16 @ 17, with 10 and 12 inch dimensions offering at $18. Merchantable boards are held at $17 @ 17.50; out boards, $12.50; Eastern hemlock stock boards at $14.50 @ 15.50, and random hemlock at $13.50 @ 14.50. In New York laths are firmer and prices there are much better than they are in Boston. Here 1 5-8 in. laths are worth $2.80 @ 2.85; and 1 1-2 $2.60 @ 2.70. Cedar shingles are firmer at $2.85 @ 2.90, for extra, and $2.50 @ 2.60 for clear.

The fish market is stagnant just now and until the New Year. Live lobsters are very scarce and firm, and have gone up to 20 cents. New Brunswick smelts are in fair demand at 10c @ 14c.

FOOD MEDICINE

Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil is equally food and medicine.

A little of it sets the stomach at work on some easy food—that is medicine.

How does it "set the stomach at work?" By making strength: by creating strength: by turning the oil into body and life—that is food.

We'll send you a little to try, if you like.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

HOPEWELL HILL.

Movements of People More or Less Known.

HOPEWELL HILL, Dec. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. A. C. M. Lawson and family left by this morning's train for Salisbury, where they will reside, Mr. Lawson having been appointed to the principalship of the superior school there. Mrs. Elizabeth Cleveland has gone to Petitcodiac to spend the winter with her niece, Mrs. Dr. McDonald. Miss Janie Peck has returned from Annapolis, N. S., where she has been visiting her brother.

Job Stiles, who recently secured a lumber site at Chemical Road, expects to cut a million feet. The Hicks steam mill is sawing for him.

Miss Edna M. West visited St. John this week. A. B. Bray of the Albert House has returned from St. John, where he has been attending the Currie Business college. Luke McAllister, sr., who has been visiting here, leaves in the morning for Minneapolis to reside with his daughter. Mr. McAllister who, though somewhat feeble, is hearty and well, will celebrate his 90th birthday while en route to his western home, as he will have reached the four score and ten on the coming Christmas eve.

Geo. W. Newcomb, merchant, has bought the farm of Michael Keiver at Chester, A. Co. Mr. Keiver will continue to occupy the property for the present.

Chester Graham of Curryville, while working in the woods a day or two ago, accidentally struck the blade of his axe completely through one of his feet, making a very severe wound.

Miss Mary E. Bacon is confined to her bed with chronic bronchitis. Dr. Carnwath is in attendance.

COUNTESS SECURES A DIVORCE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A decree of absolute divorce has been granted to Countess Marie Pieri by Justice Lawrence of the supreme court from Count Pompea Luciano Pieri. The Countess is an American girl. She was Miss Marie Schroeder, a daughter of the late H. C. J. Schroeder, a wealthy resident of this city. Miss Schroeder and the Count were married in Rome in 1894. The separated in Paris last April, and the Countess returned to this country immediately and began the proceedings which resulted in a decree of divorce.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Dec. 22.—On the last day of December the Anglo-French modus vivendi respecting the Newfoundland treaty coast expires, and this, it is expected, will create serious complications between these two powers. It is highly unlikely that the Newfoundland legislature will consent to renew the present arrangements, in which case grave friction will probably ensue unless England makes another arrangement with France. The colony's position, however is so strong with the British public that such arrangement must be decidedly favorable to the colony.

SERIOUS STRIKE AT GENOA.

ROME, Dec. 22.—The strike at Genoa begins to look grave. The strikers have declined the propositions made to them and have decided to continue the strike. Troops have been sent to Genoa. Vessels are unable to leave that port, and it is feared the electricians and gas men will join in the movement, leaving the city in total darkness.

READ THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN.

OTTAWA.

Imperial Government Will Take Any Number of Canadians for B. P.'s Mounted Police.

If One Thousand Can be Enrolled Twenty-five Commissions Will be Given to Canadian Officers.

(Special to the Sun.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—A despatch from the colonial secretary states that the imperial government will accept under conditions laid down, any number of Canadians who offer for service in the South African Mounted Police, commanded by Col. Badel-Powell. If 1,000 Canadians can be enrolled in the force, ten commissions as captains, and fifteen commissions as lieutenants, will be given to officers of the Canada militia to serve under Baden-Powell. The British government will furnish transportation and rations to South Africa, and the men will be remunerated at the rate of five shillings per day from the day they land at the Cape. Officers will receive the pay of their respective rank.

Canadians anxious to join the S. A. police must be single men in sound bodily health, and able to shoot and ride. The period of service is five years. Full particulars of the offer of the imperial government will be announced in a day or two, as soon as points at which enlisting will take place have been decided upon.

Canadians of adventurous disposition and who are anxious to see something of life in South Africa will shortly have the opportunity offered to them. The British government has formed the very highest opinion of the fighting qualities of the men of the dominion. The Royal Canadians fought and worked side by side with the picked regiments of the British army, while the Dragoons, Mounted Rifles and Artillery have shown their qualities in many parts of the field. More especially has the war demonstrated to the home government that Canada can furnish irregular cavalry better adapted for such work under the peculiar conditions existing in South Africa than those procurable elsewhere in the empire. This is the principal reason for the offer just received by the dominion government.

A rumor was current here today that the government had decided to follow the lead of New Zealand and offer the services of another mounted contingent, but the report turns out to be foundationless.

TWO HOMELESS WANDERERS.

At the police station Saturday there were two homeless wanderers, both of whom had to be looked after by the police. One of them applied in person for protection and he was in a sorry plight, having tramped from St. Stephen, according to his own statements, and having his right foot terribly frost bitten. The other was a regular mystery, and was certainly a most unique specimen of the weary raggles. He was found in the woods near Bayswater and was unable to give an account of himself, or tell where he belonged or where he was going. He looked healthy and evidently was not suffering for want of food, but his clothing was a mass of tatters and terribly dirty. In fact, the poor fellow looked like a bunch of old rags. He looks like a Russian Slav, or a Finn, and is certainly a foreigner, for he cannot speak English, and only grunts and shrugs his shoulders when questioned. Some residents of Bayswater brought him to the city Friday and delivered him to the police, who are somewhat puzzled to know what to do with such a curious specimen of humanity. The tramp with the frozen foot is a Swiss, who, however, can speak English. He says his name is Albert Smith. He was sent to the alms house.

WHY HE WANTED TO KNOW.

Little Boy—The ink that papa writes with isn't very black, is it?

Mother—No, it's been watered a good deal.

"I'm glad of that."

"Why?"

"I've spilt it all over the carpet."

IN THE HARNESS.

"I suppose you will be glad to get in the harness again?" said the friend.

"I wish you wouldn't use that phrase," answered the sensitive member of Congress. "It sounds too much as if I were depending on a pull."—Washington Star.

THE FRUITS

Of Coffee Drinking.

"The fruits or results, in my case, of coffee drinking, were sallow complexion, almost total loss of appetite, as well as sleeplessness and sluggish circulation.

"I was also very bilious and constipated most of the time for eight years, and became so nervous that I was unable to do any mental labor and was fast approaching a condition where there would have been no help for me.

"I am convinced that if I had continued using coffee much longer the result would have been a total mental and physical wreck.

"I sometimes think the all-wise providence looks after us in trouble, at any rate, when I was in despair a friend urged me to give up coffee entirely and use Postum, giving the reasons why. It was hard for me to believe that so common a beverage as coffee was the cause of my trouble, but I made the change, and from the first trial experienced a benefit and improvement. My complexion was improved, the nervousness gone, as well as the bilious trouble and sleeplessness, and I am completely cured of sluggish circulation. In fact, I am well, and the return to health has been directly traced to leaving off coffee and using Postum Food Coffee. I recommend Postum to all coffee wrecks without a single reservation."—James D. Kimball, Isabella street, Northampton, Mass