

THE WEATHER.

Maritime - Gale, westerly to northwesterly, light local snowfalls or flurries, but for the most part fair and decidedly colder.
Washington, Dec. 14.-Forecast: Northern New England-Fair and colder Tuesday; Wednesday fair, strong west winds.
Toronto, Dec. 14.-The severe storm mentioned in the night now continues over the Island of Anticosti, causing fresh to heavy gales from the Great Lakes to Newfoundland. Snow has fallen over Ontario and Quebec, and rain in the Maritime Provinces.

Temperatures. Mtn. Max. Kamloups 10 18, Battleford 4 6, Prince Albert 14 26, Calgary 8 18, Medicine Hat 8 16, Regina 8 16, Winnipeg 22 32, Port Arthur 12 0, Parry Sound 6 14, Toronto 10 20, Ottawa 0 26, Montreal 8 20, Quebec 12 32, St. John 32 48, Halifax 38 50. Below zero.

Around the City

A Company. A Company, Home Guards, will meet for drill in the custom house this evening. There is still room for several more members.

C. A. S. C. Officer Hurt. Lieutenant D. B. Pidgeon, of the Army Service Corps had his arm badly strained in a fall from a horse on Sunday. He will be laid up for several days.

A Fine Calendar. The calendar of the National Life Assurance Co. of Canada has been received by The Standard. It is of attractive design, printed on excellent paper and altogether well gotten up.

An Instructive Lecture. The second lecture in the C. M. B. A. lecture course was given last night by Rev. Wm. Donohoe, his subject being the Magna Charta. Father Donohoe, who is a fluent speaker, gave an interesting address. He told of the events leading up to the Magna Charta, and described conditions of that period. At the close of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks was tendered the speaker.

Disorderly Soldiers. Last night Sergt. Scott and Patrolman Gibbs, of the police force were summoned to the Armory by Captain McKenzie, who gave five soldiers in custody on the charge of having been disorderly in the Armory. The men who were taken to the central station cells, were John Casey, 42, England; John Carige, 30, P. E. I.; Gordon Leslie, 30, P. E. I.; Elmer Taylor, 21, N. B.; Michael Ryan, 23, N. B. The men are said to be members of the 26th battalion.

Patriotic Fund. C. B. Allan, treasurer of the Patriotic Fund, yesterday received a letter from a Queens County man, E. G. MacLean, now resident in Sake, West Africa, enclosing \$5 for the Patriotic Fund. Mr. MacLean writes: "Though far from New Brunswick, my native province, I want to help those who are making sacrifices for the Empire." Another donation received by Mr. Allan was from Pioneer Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F., the second this body has given. The additions to the fund were: E. G. MacLean, Sake, via Lagos, West Africa \$5.00; Pioneer Lodge, I. O. O. F. \$3.00.

AGED LADY SENDS SOCKS TO SOLDIER. Mrs. Catherine Crawford at 95 Knits Socks As Christmas Present To Major Magee.

Mrs. Catherine Crawford, who is 95 years of age, and who lives at 78 Exmouth street, is a happy person today. It was mentioned some time ago that this dear old lady was knitting a pair of good woolen socks to send to some St. John boy at the front. It was also stated that considering her age Mrs. Crawford was performing the work in a wonderful manner. The socks have been finished and Mrs. Crawford has requested The Standard to send them to Major F. C. Magee, West Downs, North Camp, Salisbury Plains, England.

No doubt Major Magee will receive many presents this Christmas, but there will be none more appreciated than the pair of grey woolen, long-legged socks, knitted by a woman 95 years of age for the brave commander of the St. John artillerymen. Along with the socks is a Christmas card, also sent by Mrs. Crawford. It is of very pretty design and the old lady writes on it as follows: "With best wishes, and God bless you, to return home to your loved ones From Mrs. Catherine Crawford, 78 Exmouth street, St. John, N. B."

Then comes a few lines with the following: "Old times are sweetest, and old friends are surest. To greet you in the old sweet way, with a kindly thought this Christmas Day, From Catherine Crawford."

BELGIANS HERE ON THEIR WAY TO BATTLE LINE

Hundred and Ten Stalwart Men From West Going Home to Fight—Sail on Scandinavian.

Without pomp or ceremony nor even a cheer from the people of the Loyalist city of St. John one hundred and ten stalwart men for the army of "Britain's Plucky Little Ally" arrived in the city last evening over the Intercolonial Railway and will proceed across the Atlantic on the steamer Scandinavia when she sails from this port. These Belgians, who are on their way home to fight for the cause of civilization, came from the far western plains of Canada where they were engaged in different peaceful pursuits. The majority had formerly been in the army of Belgium and had served out their terms but the call to arms had drawn them even from the remote places of the earth and they sacrificed bright prospects in order to help uphold the honor of the home land in her struggle against the oppressive German hordes.

They had travelled under conditions that were not at all times favorable, but up to the time they arrived in St. John they had been given hearty greetings by the people of the different cities and towns through which they passed. At St. John their approach was unheeded and only a few citizens were in the station last evening when the Belgians arrived and the people present did not realize that these were Belgian troops going forward to the seat of war.

The Belgians were a fine husky set of men and seemed well pleased with the prospect of again taking up arms for their native land. One of the party in conversation with a Standard representative said he had served under the Belgian flag for 22 years and, although he was not compelled to go back, he thought it his duty to help the motherland. He was going back to do his little part.

Only one of the party was in uniform and he wore the dark blue serge of an infantry regiment. The others were appressed in civilian clothing, but a great many had a military carriage that stamped them as having been at one time thoroughly trained in soldierly ways.

The disembarked from their cars as soon as they reached the station and it was expected they would immediately go on board ship. But it was found that they would have to remain ashore until this morning. Intercolonial Railway officials provided two colonist cars for their accommodation last night. The men secured something to eat at the restaurants in the vicinity of the station.

Military men said they had had no advice of the Belgians coming here and no provision had been made by them for their accommodation. It was thought that the party would go through to Halifax and some of the officials here were surprised to find they had come this way.

At Moncton the Belgians were given a hearty greeting. About three thousand people with a band received them at the station and they had been provided with refreshments.

The majority of the party could talk English and during their stay in the station kept up their spirits with singing. The Belgian National Anthem and the French National Anthem.

They will embark on the Scandinavia this morning.

THE TRADE WITH CUBA

The Cuban Consul, Cesar Barranco, is interesting himself in the establishment of a direct steamship service between this port and Cuba, and for this purpose is asking merchants in St. John and elsewhere if it would not be possible for them to make their Cuban shipments through this port. Havana circulars of Dec. 4th, quote the following prices: Codfish in drums \$7.50; haddock \$7.00; lake \$6.00; codfish in cases, \$9.50 for Norwegian, \$5 to \$9 for other sources, per case. For herring bloaters, there is an active demand at \$1.37 per large box. Potato prices are weak, owing to heavy arrivals. Quotations are \$2.78 per barrel and from \$1.50 to \$1.62 per 100 pounds, for bags.

STEAMSHIP NOTES.

The steamship Sagamore has arrived at Boston and is expected to arrive in St. John about Thursday to take cargo for London.

The C.P.R. steamship Missionable, and the Allan Line Scandinavian are expected to get away from port today. Each ship is taking a large general cargo, and about every berth on board will be taken by passengers; in fact it is believed that all the passengers who are offering to take the voyage cannot be accommodated and will have to find passage on some other steamer.

The Head Liner Inishowen Head is due to arrive in port to take in a general cargo for Belfast, Ireland. The Manchester Line steamship Manchester Inventor is due to arrive at Halifax from Manchester, and after a short stay at that port will proceed to St. John.

SALE OF QUILTS AT M. R. A.'S

Sateen Covered Quilts, silk, floss filled, size 5 by 6 feet, at \$2.75; also quilts covered with best grade of silk-lins, filled with pure white batting, our own make, size 5 feet by 6 feet 6 inches, at \$2.75. Both of these quilts are extraordinary bargains and will be offered at \$2.75 each only until noon after 12 o'clock the regular prices will be charged. Come for them early to the House Furnishings Department second floor.

The annual meeting of St. John County Women's Christian Temperance Union will be held at 140 Union street, December 15.

GEN. HUGHES ON ST. JOHN ON WEDNESDAY

Local Military Officers Making Preparations for Reception of Minister of Militia.

Local military officers received word yesterday that Major General Hughes, Minister of Militia, would arrive in St. John at 10.40 Wednesday morning. He will come by the I.C.R. On his arrival here he will be met at the station by the officers and men of the 26th Overseas Battalion which will be turned out in full strength to receive him. During the afternoon the minister will be busy inspecting the various military units here, and the arrangements for their accommodation. In the evening it is expected he will be given a reception by the Women's Canadian Club. The matter of providing additional accommodation for men here, which is said to have been under consideration, may be decided by General Hughes after he has looked over the situation. Major General Hughes will be in Quebec today. His daughter, Miss Hughes, and Lt. Col. George P. Murphy are with him.

26th Battalion.

A regular programme of drill has been mapped out for the men of the 26th Battalion, and it is being adhered to regardless of the weather. Yesterday the programme called for squad and musketry drill and this was rather fortunate for the men as a route march in the mud would have been more trying. At the present time the battalion is being kept at work 8 hours a day, and the period of its daily duties will be further extended until the men are brought into a condition calculated to enable them to stand the strain of a regular campaign. After this week the men will be given some night work.

Whether the establishment of officers of the battalion will be increased or decreased is not yet known. If the battalion is restricted to the Imperial establishment when sent to the front two officers will have to be let go; on the other hand if given the Canadian establishment two more officers will be appointed.

NORTH END CONSERVATIVE CLUB MEETS

Fine spirit shown at regular monthly meeting - Added activity for winter months.

The monthly meeting of the North End Conservative Club was held in the Orange Hall, Simonds street, last evening. Dr. C. M. Pratt occupied the chair, and after the business had been disposed of a fine programme was carried out.

The social hour took the form of a smoker and a fine array of talent entertained the members. Several of the members gave addresses on different subjects of interest, and Messrs. Harry Gaslin and R. Carson assisted. Plans for the coming year will be held during the winter were discussed and a committee was appointed to secure speakers of prominence to appear before the club. Keen interest has been shown in the meetings of the club and it is expected that the membership will be materially increased during the next few months.

STEAMSHIP CASSANDRA OFF PARTRIDGE ISLAND.

The Donaldson line steamship Cassandra, Captain Birch, left Partridge Island last evening and anchored there. She will dock this morning with a good general cargo of merchandise for local, and other Canadian markets. The steamer left Glasgow on December 5th and experienced severe weather on a number of days during the voyage to this port. Her passengers include 58 first cabin and 46 second, and these who are mostly booked for Upper Canada, will leave on this afternoon's train.

FLOUR FOR THE BELGIANS

The Provincial Belgian Relief Committee has purchased 3,100 bags of flour in Montreal at a very low price, and the flour will be forwarded to Belgium as soon as possible. It has been suggested that societies having money for the relief of the Belgians should forward it to the provincial committee as it can be buying provisions at wholesale in large lots make better bargains.

These Furs.

It is a wonder to everybody how F. A. Dykeman & Co. sell such fine quality of furs at the moderate price they are asking for them. The explanation is found in the fact that they bought them from an overstocked manufacturer in Montreal at prices which enables them to sell these furs from one-quarter to one-third less than other stores. Handsome black fox sets that would sell ordinarily for \$120.00 are on sale at \$76.00. Handsome large size wolf sets worth \$75.00 are on sale at \$47.00. Imitation fox sets at \$9.80 for the set. Near seal coats, rich, glossy appearance, \$65.00 quality for \$46.00.

MR. LELACHEUR SOON FOR THE CONTINENT?

Louis Lelacheur writes of persistent rumors, in letter to mother in this city

In a letter to his mother, Mrs. J. J. Lelacheur of this city, Louis Lelacheur, at present a signaller with the first Canadian contingent at Salisbury Plains, writes that his officers believe the first contingent will soon be sent to either France or Russia for a four or five months' workout under actual service conditions before getting word in spoud of the guns. Whether this rumor is authoritative or not Mr. Lelacheur does not know.

The letter was written at Salisbury Plains on November 25th and contains much information regarding life at the big camp which will be of interest to friends in St. John. Mr. Lelacheur states that Major Powers is on leave in London and that he and Cyril McDonald, another St. John boy, will soon have six days' leave in which to see the old country. London is the chief centre of attraction and the two boys intend buying a monkey to fill the position of quartermaster in their tent.

Mr. Lelacheur is much pleased with his tent companions and says they are all good fellows. They have bought a lot of clothes, chiefly rubber boots, coats and hats, a floor for their tent and all together it is a happy party. Mr. Lelacheur expects that the winter quarters will soon be ready and as each house will accommodate twenty-five men, all the St. John signallers will be kept at work 8 hours a day. On Sunday last several of the boys took a trip through the country and on the way saw numerous partridge, but as they were not allowed to carry guns, did not bag any. They, however, succeeded in capturing two hens which, the writer says, made a most enjoyable pot pie.

With reference to the alleged trouble about mail not being delivered, the writer believes it is because of improper addressing, as he has never had any trouble about his.

The following is the daily schedule laid down for the signallers: 6.30 to 7.30, physical drill; rifle cleaning, breakfast at 8.15; 9.10 parade and rifle drill; 10.15 to eleven, map reading, and from then until dinner time telegraphing and signalling; from two o'clock to 2.30, target practice; 3.30 to four, care of horses and how to saddle, followed by an hour's work on the running of motor cycles; 4.30 to five buzzer practice, followed by supper at five thirty; lights out at 9.45.

Mr. Lelacheur in closing his letter wishes to be remembered to all his friends.

A SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS

Many children unable to attend school because of lack of clothes.

There are times when children in St. John are not able to go to school because they have no clothes or boots. This matter was brought to the attention of the Board of School Trustees last evening by the monthly report of Trustee Officer McMahon.

"Is nothing done to have the churches or other organizations provide clothes for these children?" asked Trustee Day.

"In the great majority of cases the parents object to charity in any form," said the Trustee Officer. "I have frequently suggested that something might be done by the churches, but the parents are strongly against accepting help. In most cases they assure me they will get boots as soon as they can, and absence from school on this account is temporary. I generally know about the circumstances of the family."

Chairman Emerson—I don't think any child in St. John should be kept away from school because of lack of clothes or boots. Hundreds of families in St. John would be willing to supply boots and clothes to school children if they were in need of them. The Trustee Officer—I have frequently asked parents if I could go to their clergyman and ask them to secure clothes for their children, but they generally object to that.

All men, other than those stationed on Partridge Island, who have handed in their names to go with the Artillery Division, Column, are requested to report at Major W. H. Harrison's office, Room 33, Royal Bank Building, King street, not later than Wednesday, 16th inst., between the hours of 11.30 a. m. to 1 o'clock, and 4 p. m. to 5 p. m.

CHRISTMAS SALE OF DRESS GOODS WILL START THIS MORNING.

M. R. A.'s annual Christmas Sale of Dress Goods will present better opportunities than ever of saving money. There will be attractive Cheviots, Serges, Tweeds, Poplins, etc., offered, and the sale price will be but 40c, 50c, and 75c a yard. Dress Goods Department, ground floor.

PARK HOTEL, KING SQUARE.

The Gift for the Well-Groomed Man. Where will you find an offering that will be more keenly appreciated by relative or friend who shaves. You might hunt the town over and find nothing more pleasing and practical than A Gillette Safety Razor. The thin, keen, tension-held blades glide over the face with velvety smoothness, removing the hardest beard easily and quickly, and leaving, even the tenderest skin smooth and comfortable. Prices Range from \$5.00 to \$6.50 Each. W. H. THORNE & CO., LTD. Market Square and King Street

The Cabinet GLENWOOD. Snug, plain and handsome, no fussy ornamentation or fancy nickle, just the natural black iron finish. The Mission Style applied to a range, every essential refined and improved upon. The Cabinet GLENWOOD burns Coal, Wood or Gas. It is an ideal Country Range, when fitted for wood takes a stick over two feet in length, and has a large copper reservoir at the opposite end of the fire box, which holds several gallons and will boil water quickly. The Cabinet GLENWOOD is the Most Perfect Baker on the market, and a warm kitchen always where one is in use. We deliver this range prepaid to any part of the Maritime Provinces, fully guaranteed. Write for the Cabinet GLENWOOD circular. Succeeding McLean, Holt & Co. D. J. BARRETT 155 UNION STREET - S- SAINT JOHN, N. B.

Let Us Help You. Here are a few suggestions of gifts that appeal to all boys or men: REACH GUARANTEED GOODS. Basket Balls \$2.00 to \$6.00, Striking Bag Swivels 30c to \$1.50, Basket Ball Goals \$5.00, Punch Bag Gloves 50c to \$1.00, Punch Bags \$1.50 to \$7.50, Boxing Gloves \$1.50 to \$7.50, Medicine Balls \$2.50 to \$7.50, Balyard's Hockey Sticks 45c to \$6.00, Hockey Skates \$2.00 to \$3.50, Hockey Gloves \$2.00 to \$3.50. Shop Early. Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

The Christmas Sale of Colored and Black Dress Goods. At Only 40c, 50c, 75c a Yard. Will Commence This Morning in Dress Goods Department—Ground Floor. VISIT THE CHRISTMAS SHOW ROOM

Two Bargain Specials for This Morning IN THE HOUSEFURNISHING DEPARTMENT. Quilts at Only \$2.75. Here are two kinds of Quilts, both to be offered at the same low price and as the object of this sale is to bring shoppers to the store in the early part of the day, this opportunity will hold good only until noon. After 12 o'clock these quilts will be sold at regular prices, so come during the forenoon if you want them. QUILTS—Kapock (silk floss) filled, covered with good quality sateen and made in panel effect the same as down quilts. Size 5 by 6 feet. Special price until 12 o'clock. Each \$2.75. QUILTS—Covered with daintily figured silkoline, filled with best grade of pure white batting. Size 6 feet by 6 feet 9 inches. Our own make. Special price until 12 o'clock. Each \$2.75.

Men's Umbrellas and Walking Sticks FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS. We are showing a very choice assortment of Umbrellas and Walking Sticks for Christmas gifts from which it will be a real satisfaction to make selections. UMBRELLAS—Many novelty designs in handles never before approached for artistic neatness. Handles in Ebony, Boxwood, Partridge and Congo, plain and with silver or gold mountings and inlaid designs, also Horn and Ivory mountings. Particularly good wearing coverings and most reliable frames. The lot includes the extreme light weight and folding suit case and club bag styles. Prices, each from \$1.00 to \$14.50. WALKING STICKS are much more popular this season and will make acceptable gifts. Our showing is very large and varied consisting of many novelties in color and style. Some of the favorite woods are Partridge, Rattan, Congo, Ebony and Snake Wood. The very latest color is light natural. Prices, each from 35c to \$5.00. MEN'S FURNISHINGS DEPARTMENT. Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited