

London and Western Trusts Co.

LONDON, ONTARIO.

Acts as Administrator and Guardian

DIRECTORS.
Geo. C. Gibbons, President
John Labatt, Vice-President
Geo. Moncrieff, K.C., Petrolia, Presidents
John McClary, London.
Geo. Robinson, London.
T. H. Smith, London.
P. G. Meredith, London.
D. Regan, London.
M. D. Fraser, London.
R. W. Fiddow, London.
Robert Fox, London.
Geo. B. Harris, London.
W. H. Bowdler, K.C., Petrolia.
John McLean, St. Thomas.
J. T. Garrow, K.C., Guelph.
John Kingston, K.C., Stratford.
J. H. Nellis, Woodstock.
D. Milne, Sarnia.
Correspondence invited.
JOHN B. KILGOUR, Manager.

The Free Press,

LONDON, ONT.

Tuesday, April 30, 1901.

GUNBOATS ON THE LAKES.

A private yacht, which was converted into a gunboat during the American-Spanish war, is to be placed on the upper lakes for the use of the Illinois naval militia. During the recent unpleasantness, the Dorothea carried four six-pounders, two one-pounders and two Colt guns. The vessel is now at the Philadelphia navy yard, where these guns are being removed prior to her trip through the St. Lawrence canal. The removal is considered necessary in order to keep within the meaning of the treaty with Great Britain, under which neither nation is to maintain more than one armed vessel on the great lakes. The United States, under the terms of this treaty, is already represented by the Michigan. When the Dorothea reaches Chicago, the guns are to be replaced and the Illinoisians will be taught how to use them. So far as the presence of the vessel on the lakes is concerned, it is not likely any great harm will be done, but placing her there looks like a piece of petty sharp practice for a great nation to indulge in.

CANADIAN CANAL TRAFFIC.

United States Consul Bittinger, at Montreal, has made a long report to the Department of State, Washington, on the waterways of Canada, says a despatch from that city, which he terms "unrivalled in length, as also in service to commerce." He says that from the point where the waters of Canada mingle with those of the Atlantic to a Canadian port at the head of Lake Superior, along the entire course of which a vessel may sail in Canadian waters, the distance is 2,260 statute miles. The report shows a marked decrease in the amount of grain shipped on the canals, and also a decrease in the revenues of the canals. It says:—"19,396,518 bushels of grain were shipped from Chicago for transit through Canada in 1899. According to the report of the Minister of Railways and Canals, which has just been submitted to Parliament, the total traffic through the several canals of the Dominion for the season of 1899 amounted to 6,225,924 tons, a decrease of 392,551 tons compared with the previous year. This includes 3,006,664 tons passing through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal, which is free of toll. Of through freight through the Welland and Canadian canals vessels carried 209,546 tons, a decrease of 350,372 tons. The quantity of grain passed down the Welland and St. Lawrence canals to Montreal was 332,746 tons, a decrease of 186,786 tons, compared with the previous year. The further quantity of 39,545 tons of grain passed down the St. Lawrence canals only to Montreal, making a total of 372,291 tons. On the St. Lawrence canals 1,349,993 tons of freight were moved, being a decrease of 90,041 tons. The decline in canal revenue in 1899, as compared with 1898, was \$50,000."

IS PETROLEUM A MINERAL?

This is a question, of course, for the geologists and scientific men, but it is now before the state courts of Texas, and there is likely to be a good deal of litigation before it is settled, if it is ever definitely settled beyond the pale of argument. The question arises in this way:—The law of that state makes certain provisions for the sale of lands, which are the property of the Commonwealth, to any one who shall locate thereon, a claim to minerals in the ground. Under this provision an enterprising speculator has brought suit in the Supreme Court to compel the State Land Commissioner to sell him a section of land in the heart of the Beaumont oil field belonging to the State School Fund, on the ground that it is mineral land within the meaning of the statute, and subject to location as such. Hence the question, is petroleum a mineral? The term "rock oil," which is the English equivalent of petroleum, is sufficiently descriptive of the source from which it is drawn, but as indicating its source or character it is a misnomer, since its presence in the rocks which hold it is due to intrusive infiltration, usually from underlying or overlying strata. This fact, which we believe is not considered open to dispute by geologists, would seem to afford a slender basis for a contention that petroleum is a mineral. What individual scientists might hold it is, of course, impossible even to guess, but a consensus of expert opinion would probably class it as an animal oil, expressed from the carcasses of the fishes, saurians and amphibians of the early

world. It is also partly vegetable. The remains of the animal and vegetable life of the periods furnishing it were buried in the mud and protected from access to air, were slowly converted into oil by distillation and pressure. This was absorbed into the shales, sandstones and limestones, such as were formed by the consolidation of mud at the bottom of the sea. At no stage of the process, however, did it become a mineral, remaining what it was at the outset, a hydrocarbon of unmistakably organic origin.

LIFE IN A VILLAGE.

Many whose lives have been cast among the hurry, turmoil, jostle and bustle of a busy city life are frequently envious of the placid, peaceful and pensive life of the country village. The editor of the Leamington News recently paid a visit to such a village, and the description he gives of it is such as to make one wish to pass his days there, apart from "the maddening crowd." He says:—

"The village visited is an earthly paradise. Nowhere in the opening spring are the fields greener with the promise of abundance at harvest. Nowhere in all Ontario is a landscape richer in its quiet beauty. Every house is a miniature palace, every farm a trim and fertile garden. Churches and school houses are in sight, for religion and learning are never forgotten anywhere in Canada. Surely, for the people happy? Surely, for what is to hinder? There is not a man, woman or child who needs to seek employment the year round. Want is unknown and poverty a stranger."

What picture could be more enticing? But let us turn to the other side. But, alas, it appears that people have one another bitterly. They are uncharitable and suspicious. The young men go to church to be turbulent and insulting to ministers and are encouraged in it by the young women. Ministers specially trained for their life work and devoted to it are not allowed to pursue it in peace. *

Not long ago a strong arm of the law was invoked to punish religious services in this township, but things are said to be nearly as bad as ever. Not only so, but a general spirit of dissension and ill-will seems to prevail in some neighborhoods. Neighbor hates neighbor, so it is said, and tries to hurt his feelings or injure his standing or his person or his property. The News is discriminating enough to withhold the name of the village, but it is evidently not such a paradise as it looks at the first blush.

THE 24TH OF MAY.

Here is a paragraph from the Ottawa correspondence of the Toronto Globe that, read between the lines, has a very peculiar look:—

The continuance of May 24 as a holiday will be received with general satisfaction throughout Canada. Sometimes the objection is raised that we have too many holidays in this country, and possibly there may be employers of labor who hold this opinion. There is ample justification, however, for enacting that the late Queen's birthday shall be proclaimed a permanent holiday. In the first place, it serves to perpetuate and keep green the memory of the best Sovereign that ever occupied the throne of Britain. In the second place, it comes at one of the most delightful periods of the year, when the weather is usually most favorable for the resumption of the outdoor trips and excursions in which the mass of people are wont to indulge. Furthermore, having been in vogue for so many years, its observance has come to be regarded almost as one of the cherished institutions of the country. Under all the circumstances, the Government will be acting wisely in placing a law on the statute book providing that May 24 shall continue to be, in the future, as it has been in the past, a day of popular recreation.

The above appeared in the Globe of yesterday, and Sir Wilfrid last week announced that he would state in the House on Monday whether May 24 was hereafter to be a holiday or not, so it is quite clear that up till Saturday the Cabinet had not decided the question, and it was still a matter of discussion. Granting all that the Globe says in the matter of the holiday, there is not one word in it that was not as true a week or a month ago as it is to-day. But the Globe had nothing to say till the Cabinet decided. Now, what was the hitch in the Cabinet? Who objected to the holiday, and why?

WEST INDIAN SUGAR TRADE.

A delegation of sugar growers and Government officials from the Leeward Islands is now in London for the purpose of forming a sugar syndicate with the aid of British capital, which shall revive the sugar industry of the islands. They have printed in circular form the recent address made by the Governor of the islands, Sir Francis Fleming, at the opening of the local Legislative Council. This address advocates as the best immediate remedy of the condition of the sugar industry in the West Indian colonies the establishment of central sugar factories with the latest and most improved machinery. The address reads in part as follows:—

"By belief is that, in so far as Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, and possibly Montserrat are concerned, the only way to bring back prosperity is by restoring their sugar industry to a condition in which it can be profitably carried on. Any other measure, in the words of the Council Commissioners (recently sent to the islands to inquire into the industrial conditions thereof), 'could only be slowly applied, and must, in some cases at least, be found in the outcome to be partial and inadequate.'"

"The sole means to restore the sugar industry is, in my opinion, to establish central sugar factories, which would enable nearly double the quantity of sugar to be produced than can be manufactured by old-fashioned machinery, and which would enable such a quality of sugar to be made as would find a ready sale in our English markets. I am aware that nearly all the sugars from these colonies now find their way to the United States, where they are allowed to enter under more or less favorable conditions. But how long this state of affairs will continue it is impossible to say, and if they were to cease the difficulties for these colonies would be extreme. We should also bear in mind the possibility of Canada no longer requiring the importation of Muscovado sugars, but only those of a refined description."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Saginaw, in addition to being the home of busy academy-mongers, is the rendezvous of some of the boldest highwaymen in the state. They attack a doctor in broad daylight and demand his personal effects.—Bay City Times-Press.

A few highwaymen, more or less, is not of so much consequence. A good police force and a few athletic men should soon settle that question. But the others, and by far the worst, are not so easily handled. "He who steals my purse, etc."

Many well-informed politicians regard the coming tour of the Ontario Ministers, if not the precursor of a general election to be sprung on the province, at least as a feeler in that direction. The Toronto Star, the organ of Mr. Mulock, rebukes the Toronto Globe for its ambiguity in announcing the tour, the terms being such that they may imply either one of the above possibilities. At all events, the Conservatives should not be caught napping at any point. Notwithstanding any statements made by G. W. Ross, it should be remembered that he is first, last and all the time a humbug.

By the way, it would be interesting to know just in what capacity W. T. R. Preston is now figuring. Is he an employee of the Dominion Government, drawing three thousand dollars a year and expenses, or is he organizing the "machine" for the coming Ontario campaign? Preston is a very slippery customer, and you never know in what capacity he may turn up till he has turned, and the public accounts of both the Province and the Dominion are examined. What is he doing in Canada, anyway?

The Montreal Witness discusses the Nipissing election case, and this is the conclusion it comes to:—

"On the whole it seems as if the returning officer did the very best the circumstances would admit of to secure a just election, and that the Government cannot be blamed for upholding him in so doing."

What the returning officer did was to hide in his cellar, so that the Conservative candidate could not post his nomination papers and deposit. Now, in all candor, was that the best he could do?

Prof. Algier R. Cook, of Northwestern University, informed a class the other day that he had never uttered a profane word, smoked, chewed tobacco, drank intoxicants nor hugged or kissed a woman. Some people might be tempted to ask if Algier ever told a fib.

William Jennings Bryan announces publicly that he will not again be a candidate for the United States Presidency. The announcement is made in good time to let the Democratic party make other arrangements, but it was probably unnecessary.

A scientist has taken the trouble to measure the size of rain drops. He finds that the largest are about one-sixth of an inch, and the smallest one five-hundredths of an inch in diameter. They are larger in summer than in winter, and larger in hot than in cold climates. Here is a hint for G. W. Ross' fool problemist in arithmetic. Why not ask some eight or ten-year-old school boy to figure out how many cubic feet of water will fall on a man whose umbrella has been stolen while he is standing on the corner of Dundas and Richmond streets, waiting for a Wellington street car, with a transfer from the London West line. There are problems just as silly in the three or four-price books.

Sir Alfred Milner's vacation from his South African labors is universally believed in England to be a mere cover for his impending removal to the Viceroyalty of India, which Lord Curzon is anxious to resign in order to return to public life at home. Milner would not be accepted by any self-governing colony after his record in South Africa. Nothing but the Indian or Canadian Viceroyalty is open to an official of his rank.—Port Huron Times.

It so happens that Canada has not got a viceroy, he of India being the only one in the British Empire. Many people speak familiarly of the Governor-General of Canada as a "viceroy," but he in reality is not so.

"Thank God, he (H. H. Cook) never entered the Senate and he never shall," fervently exclaimed Mr. S. H. Blake in his speech before the Senate committee. This does not appear to be such a speech as would convince any cool, hard-headed man. In what respect has the declaration any bearing on the matter that was being investigated?

George Gould is said to have added many millions to the estate which his father left. There is no particular credit in that. Anybody could have done the same thing simply by letting the millions lie where they were and accumulate of their own accord.

Bishop Turner, of the African Methodist Church of the United States, is an able man, but his latest projected scheme will scarcely bear scrutiny. He is credited with the advocacy of a plan whereby negro criminals may be punished by banishment to the wilds of Africa. Where are the wilds of Africa? There is the colony of Liberia, given over purposely to the blacks, but the negro, trying to educate and govern himself, will not welcome his criminal brother any more cordially than will the white man. And it would be an act of wicked injustice to force him to do so. Moreover, there are other powers that would have to be consulted.

A number of our citizens—and doubtless many Free Press readers among them—are busy overhauling their

tackle and preparing to start out bright and early to-morrow morning for the stamping ground of the speckled trout, under the impression that the season opens on the 1st of May. The statute, however, gives the close season from Sept. 1 to May 1, both days inclusive. This would make the season open on the 2nd of May. The popular error may get some one into trouble.

It is surprising to know the vast number of amateur chancellors of the Exchequer there are to be found, even in the colonies. Here is the opening paragraph of a letter in the Toronto Globe:—

"The reading of the British budget is anything but encouraging. To anyone who is in any way intimately acquainted with the conditions of that country, there must come some very solemn thinking when reading the methods to which that people, so enlightened, so advanced in many respects, are resorting."

It is not necessary to go further, but, before Sir Michael Hicks-Beach resigns on account of such criticisms, it may be noted that the British war loan has been subscribed for to the extent of about seven times.

An Associated press despatch from San Francisco says that "President Hays, of the Southern Pacific is about to inaugurate a radical change in the management of the system. He will form a cabinet of advisers to be composed of the heads of practically all the principal departments of the road, with the single exception of the law department."

It is safe to predict that none of Mr. Hays' cabinet will make a secret contract, covering five years, for a supply of steel rails, and then try to bamboozle his colleagues by saying that it was only for one year. Nor will he, when shown his error, plead that he never read the contract. In that respect, Mr. Hays' cabinet will be somewhat different from that of our Dominion.

Talking about lobbying in the Parliament and Legislature, in a suit being tried at the Ottawa assizes, the judge, at the mid-day adjournment, omitted to caution the jury that while they were out to dinner they were not to speak of the case to anyone nor to discuss it among themselves. Discovering his omission before the jurors left the court, he returned to give the necessary caution, and found the defendant explaining the case to the jury. When the court resumed, His Lordship dismissed the jury and sent the case over to the next assizes. Without expressing any too high an opinion of the intelligence of a jury who would submit to such an interference from a suitor, there is the remedy for lobbying. Throw out of public life those susceptible to it and place the affairs of the country in the hands of honest, intelligent, straightforward men.

There is quite a little tiff between the Toronto Globe and the Woodstock Sentinel-Review, the paper owned and edited by Mr. Andrew Pattullo, M. P. The Globe having had the temerity to say for the guidance of rural members, the Woodstock paper reports: "Some of us are presumptuous enough to think that members of the Legislature are able to understand legislation without the help of a private secretary or a semi-divine revelation from the Toronto press."

So far as Mr. Pattullo is concerned, there is no doubt that is true. Still, even he does not know everything. He does not know, for instance, where the proposed Oxford reformatory is to be located. Neither does Dr. McKay, the other member for the county. And, for the matter of that, neither does the Premier. Doubtless he wishes he did know.

What is known as the Snow will case is before the Supreme Court of North Carolina. The cold parts of the case do not interest us up here, but it is worth noting that the testator was Mr. Ice Snow, and two of the parties in interest were Hal Snow and Rain Snow. The case should be tried at the winter term of the court.

The whole case rests upon the implication of a dead man, who cannot defend himself and whose evidence alone is needed to spoil the effect of the Cook-Tory conspiracy.—Hamilton Times.

The case does not rest upon the implication of a dead man, but what is meant by the Cook-Tory conspiracy? Sir Richard Cartwright, it is true, was once a Tory, but that is so long ago the Times will scarcely charge him with it now. Who is the Tory mixed up in the matter? It is peculiarly and specially a Liberal family affair.

ONTARIO CONSERVATIVES.

A Series of Political Meetings Throughout the Province to be Arranged.

Toronto, April 29.—A meeting of the central executive of the Ontario Conservative Association will be held in Toronto in a few days. Mr. Whitney and other party leaders will be present and a series of political meetings throughout the Province will be arranged for the summer. Arrangements will also be made for inaugurating an active campaign preparatory to the general elections. The Conservatives are determined not to be caught napping. The proposed series of meetings is intended to offset the tour arranged for the members of Mr. Ross' Government.

A "RIPPER" CAUGHT.

The Mutilator of Eighteen Women in Custody.

Oldwighafen (Baden), April 29.—The notorious "Jack the Ripper," who has assaulted and mutilated here recently eighteen women, has been caught here red-handed by two detectives attired as women.

A PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

May 24th Will Continue So to Be.

DOMINION ELECTIONS ACT.

The Government Refuses to Right the Wrong in West Durham—Proposed Subsidy for a Steamship Service Between Canada and France—Increase of Salaries of Certain Judges—Prorogation on May 23rd Talked of.

Special to the Free Press.
Ottawa, April 29.—The 24th of May will be a holiday this year, and will be made a permanent holiday by Act of Parliament. In pursuance of his promise made last week, in reply to Mr. W. McLean, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at the opening of the House this afternoon, arose and said that the Government was right, he thought, in assuming that it is the general if not the unanimous wish of the people of Canada that the 24th of May, which had so long been observed as a national holiday, should continue, as in the reign of Queen Victoria, to be so celebrated in the future. The Premier therefore moved that Dr. Horsey's bill declaring the 24th of May a permanent public holiday be transferred to Government orders. This was agreed to without dissent, and the bill will be put through as a Government measure.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.
Mr. Charlton was informed that Canada's imports for consumption from the United States from July 1st, 1890, to April 1st, 1901, were \$78,702,410. The total amount of dutiable goods imported in the same period was \$37,486,382.

In reply to Mr. Ganong, the Minister of Public Works said that the Dawson telegraph line to Ashcroft, on the C. P. R., would be completed in July. The average number of messages per month since the opening of the line to its present terminus was 2,681, receipts \$3,702. The line so far had cost \$403,000, and when completed would cost \$469,000.

THE ELECTIONS ACT.
The House then went into committee on the bill to amend Dominion Elections Act.

On the section of the bill legalizing an accepted bank cheque as a deposit upon nomination, Mr. W. F. MacLean asked that the measure be made to cover the West Durham election case and give Mr. Thornton the seat which he was kept out of by reason of the technicality provided for in this bill. The Solicitor-General replied that that would be making legislation retroactive.

Mr. MacLean contended it would only be doing a simple act of justice to allow the noted county of West Durham to be represented in the House this session. Nobody knew when the courts would decide the case. It had started long ago, and no headway was made with it yet.

Mr. Fitzpatrick said that the difficulty having occurred under the law as it stood, and the case being now before the courts, it could not be interfered with.

"Parliament," returned Mr. MacLean, "is above courts, in saying who shall occupy a seat here."

"That would be dangerous legislation," the Solicitor-General said. "It is not so dangerous as the injustice," replied the member for West York.

Mr. Bennett supported the proposition to do justice to Mr. Thornton. He said that so strong was the feeling of disgust in West Durham at the outcome of the election in Mr. Thornton's case that the Liberal convention called there recently could not get a vote to stand as the party candidate. The feeling against the Government was well deserved, too.

Mr. Fitzpatrick submitted that the question before the courts was whether Mr. Thornton was legally nominated or not.

Mr. Bennett pointed out that the House had power to summon the returning officer to the bar, and after receiving his return that Thornton had a majority of 40 votes, to declare him elected.

Mr. R. L. Borden submitted that it would have been better had the returning officer returned either one or other of the candidates elected—preferably the majority candidate. There were two gentlemen now in the House whose deposits were made also by bank cheques. Mr. MacLean's request was not so unreasonable, as the Solicitor-General seemed to think. Mr. Borden might be dealt with as suggested, leaving the other question as regards his election to be dealt with by the Supreme Court.

Mr. D. C. Fraser—"That would give him the seat."

Mr. Borden—"Exactly; just as two other members now have their seats—one on each side of the House." The suggestion was disregarded and the section passed.

Several other amendments were tabled for consideration pending further consideration of the bill in committee.

JUDGES' SALARIES.

A resolution passed committee, increasing from \$3,000 to \$3,600 the salaries of the senior circuit court judge of Montreal, and raising to \$5,000 the salaries of 17 puisne judges who reside in Montreal and Quebec. An additional judge in the Yukon is given a salary of \$5,000. The salary of the chief justice of the North-west Territories is increased to \$5,000 and four puisne judges to \$4,000 each.

The House adjourned at 11.40.

STEAMSHIP SUBSIDY.
Sir Richard Cartwright gave notice of the following resolution:—"That it is expedient to make provision for a subsidy not exceeding a sum of \$100,000 per annum for a steamship service between a port or ports in Canada and a port or ports in France."

SESSIONAL NOTES.

Prorogation is talked of for 23rd of May. The Evening Journal announces its determination to fight the Preston libel suit.

FIRE AND ROBBERY.

Thieves Take Advantage of a Blaze in a Town Hall.

Arlington, Mass., April 29.—Fire was discovered in the attic of the Town Hall here early this morning, and when the attention of the firemen and the police were directed to putting out the blaze, robbers entered the office of the town clerk, on the second floor, forced open the safe and secured \$1,200. The fire caused a damage of \$2,000.

KINGSMILL'S

Dundas St. (DRY GOODS and CARPETS) Carling St.

Brussels Carpets, \$1.00

Qualities that we control exclusively. Values that will be found in no other store. Values that simply astound all competition.

While the prices we quote for Carpets are extraordinary in every respect, it must be thoroughly understood that the carpets themselves are just as extraordinary.

We can quickly and clearly demonstrate to you that by doing your carpet business in our Carling Street Warehouse you can save money.

Kingsmill's Carpet Department

is the product of brains and enterprise. It's not a haphazard venture. We've thought it out, and worked it out to its present state of rounded perfection. You don't suppose such a big interest could come by chance or accident. Hardly.

How many are considering new carpets? Are you thinking of embellishing the floor or parlor, chamber, dining-room, hall or any other part of the home?

All prudent people will appreciate our efforts to simplify the question and lighten the burden for them.

A powerful, persistent purpose directs every movement of this great carpet store. We allow no house to undersell us. Every energy is bent upon offering the best and newest goods at prices that mean economy to you.

An offering of unusual importance that strikes home in every sense begins in our warehouse to-day.

Two Hundred Rolls of Brussels Carpets

in all the newest shades and combination of shades are here, and although we have many more higher priced carpets there are few for hard wear can equal these Brussels Carpets that we offer to-day at one dollar per yard. Most of these carpets come with $\frac{1}{2}$ borders to match and some with $\frac{1}{2}$ stairs, although you may have them without either, if preferred.

You will not find the equal of this offering in Canada.

A Visit to Our Curtain Department

will prove to you that all we have said or may say about our immense curtain stock has not been exaggerated.

From the immense assortment we particularly emphasize the \$1.75 and \$2.00 Lace Curtains.

Of course there are others and finer qualities but among these two specials are designs suitable for either parlor, dining-room or bedroom. Such pricing in combination with such really good curtains is unusual.

We are also showing some very dainty Frilled Muslins in open work stripe, in pink, blue, yellow and green, with frilling edged in same shades; price of these is per yd. 45c. Also a line of the same colorings without the frilling at per yard 35c.

Window Shades.

We make a specialty of manufacturing Window Shades, and carry in stock all the various widths and colors in both plain and combination shades.

We fit all shades on Hartshorns, perfect working rollers, and guarantee every shade that leaves our hands to do the work required of it.

We invite your inspection of our grand display of house-furnishing goods.

KINGSMILL'S