

NOTICE.

The SEMI-WEEKLY SUN will have a special correspondent at Ottawa during the session of Parliament.

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SUN PRINTING COMPANY.

ALFRED MARKHAM,
Manager.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 27, 1901.

THE GRAND LAKE COAL RAILWAY BILL.

The attention of the Sun has been called by a doubting correspondent to some of the conditions of the bill which is now an act to provide for the development of the Grand Lake coal areas. This bill, as printed, provides that the government of the province shall guarantee the principle and interest of bonds to the amount of fifty-five per cent. of the actual cost of the road, rolling stock and plant. Thus the province will be responsible for more than half of the cost of the road, which is a very heavy burden.

We look next to see what certainty there is that the actual cost is correctly returned. Clause three requires that the contract for construction shall be the lowest tender, but this is "unless the lieutenant governor, in council shall otherwise allow." The books of the company are open for inspection, but we find no provision for appraising the value of the work otherwise, and the report of the dominion auditor general shows that railway companies' books are uncertain guides in these matters.

The guarantee is not to be given until the road is completed. It is proposed that the net profit of the company shall be applied to the payment of the guaranteed interest, and to a sinking fund for the payment of the principal. If the railway, like other company lines in the province, makes no profits, the province must fall back on the coal royalties. If they fall, the taxpayers are in the gap.

It is upon the coal fields that the whole enterprise is based. The coal is to be mined in the Grand Lake area, and the measures provided for notwithstanding the sanguine statements to which we are accustomed, it is not yet established that coal may be profitably mined in large quantities in this province. We all hope that it may be possible to take out 500 tons a day, or 150,000 tons a year, of good coal at a profit, but we believe that exploration and experiment have not yet gone far enough to make it certain. The bill requires the contracting company to bind itself to establish on the line of railway a plant for mining coal capable of mining 500 tons per day, and this plant shall be in working order before the guarantee is given. As it is quite certain that the railway can be built, but is not yet proved that coal can be mined in such quantities, the coal operations would be expected to precede the railway construction. But for the purpose of assurance, the existence of a surface plant for mining that quantity of coal is not nearly so important a matter as the underground operations. It might have been better to require, as a condition of the guarantee, such underground workings as would open up and make available seams or deposits in sufficient quantity to meet the case. Or, if the mines are to be worked from the surface by uncovering the coal seam, something more should be required than the presence of an outfit of steam shovels.

There is another clause requiring that before the guarantee is given the government shall be satisfied that 150,000 tons of coal a year may be mined at reasonable cost, and that this output may be counted on during the whole life of the bonds—say fifty years.

Now we have no hesitation in saying that if the construction of the railway shall result in the mining of 500 tons of coal a day, all the year round, for fifty years, or even half that time, the government guarantee will be a good investment, provided, of course, that the cost of the road is correctly determined. The royalty collected will then at the least be \$15,000 a year, which would pay three per cent on \$500,000.

If the people of New Brunswick can be sure that Provincial Secretary Tweedie and Attorney General Pugsley will at every stage use all the vigilance that the measure calls for, they will have no great reason to be apprehensive on the financial question. If these gentlemen and their colleagues can be trusted to see that a fifty-five per cent guarantee is not worked out by the contractors into a

larger one; if it is certain that the ministers will not be satisfied on insufficient evidence of the ability of the company to mine 150,000 tons of coal a year, at competitive prices; and if there are no chances that the province will be made responsible until the road is completed, the coal development bill is a safe one. On these contingencies opinions may differ.

QUANTITY AND QUALITY IN IMMIGRATION.

It is uncertain how far dissatisfaction exists among the Doukhobors in Manitoba and the Northwest. A number have petitioned against the conditions that exist in this country, and some sort of appeal has been made for the sympathy of other nations. This may be the work of an agitator, as Mr. Sifton says, or it may represent the general feeling. There is no doubt of the dissatisfaction.

The Doukhobors do not like Canadian marriage laws and property laws. They object to individual land ownership, and adhere to the village system and common property. They are impatient of any kind of civil authority, and have objection to school laws.

In all this it is not for us to say that they are wrong. But it is for us to say whether it is well to bring such people to this country at great public expense, and to settle them, down as alien communities in our provinces. They came here protesting against Russian tyranny. They seem to be cultivating the opinion that Canadian government is a tyranny also. If they have not escaped from their tyrants, who is benefited by their exodus to this country? The Halifax Chronicle finds in the grumbling of the Doukhobors a text for an appeal to the government which it supports, not to be so reckless in peopling the Northwest.

On many occasions before and since the Laurier government took office, the Sun has expressed its disapproval of the drag net immigration policy. If we had our way there would be little money spent in the effort to bring settlers from Europe. All this hurry in filling up the dominion with strange people is pure stupidity. The children and grand-children of Canadians will need land. We do not say that unoccupied territory should be kept for them, but we say that it would be much better to do so than to spend good Canadian money to gather Bohemians, Galicians, Roumanians, Russians, and other peoples, and to plant them in colonies, or any other way, on our good prairies. Canada has been acting on the assumption that a country with unoccupied lands is poor, and that Southern Europe is rich when it is crowded with people. So we go humbly begging for settlers, when the settlers should come and ask for the land. These people who do not know our language, who do not easily fall into our ways, and do not readily assimilate with our people, are now dictating terms on which they will comply with our wishes and come and live among us. They and all others should be knocking at our doors. It should be ours to choose whom we accept and not theirs to say what terms will suit them. It is only necessary to look at the social conditions, and land, hunger, will do the rest. What matter that it does not occur in our day. It is not necessary to sacrifice our children's heritage in order that we may see strangers occupy the land.

The department of the interior makes its boast when it is able to report a certain number of immigrants. Often this immigration should be a subject of apology rather than boasting. The statistics take no account of quality. Alexander Mackenzie, the man from Scotland, counts no more than the Galician who was hanged the other day for murder. The agent who sends the most people may get the most praise and the most money, for some agents are paid by "results." But the agent who brings only thrifty, moral, healthy, intelligent and effective people, is the one who gives the best value. It is not altogether a paradox to say that the best immigration officer may be the one who keeps the most people out. The officer who says that he has settled scores of Galician farmers in a township tells a good story. But before we accept it we want to hear from the Canadian neighbors.

PREFERENCE TO FOREIGNERS.

Mr. Brock of Toronto, speaking in the budget debate, dwelt on some interesting particulars concerning the preferential tariff regulations. It is well known that large quantities of French, German, Austrian, Swiss and other continental goods are shipped from England to this country. Unless they are entered as British products they are not entitled to the Canadian preference. But the Canadian regulations provide that if one-quarter of the cost of production has been incurred in Great Britain the goods are British for the purpose of the rebate.

Mr. Brock, who is one of the leading importers of dry goods in Canada, says that he knows "where hundreds of pieces of cloth have been brought over from Germany, put through a Yorkshire mill, weighted up a bit and sent out here under the preferential tariff. Now seventy-five per cent of that preference goes to Germany and to the detriment of our own mills. German houses are sending cloth to London, where it is treated and sent out here under the preference."

Mr. Brock's statement that three-quarters of the preference goes to Germany is correct, unless the English finisher of the goods gets the whole or more than his share of the advantage. In any case, under the thirty-five per

cent tariff on woollens, one-third is given to the preference, so that there is a rebate of 112-3 per cent. of the value of the goods on articles of which only twenty-five per cent. needs to be provided in England. If the English finisher gets the whole advantage, he gets \$11.25 preference on every \$35 of value which he produces. Instead of gaining one-third of the duty which his share in the goods would pay, he has returned to him the whole of it, and about a third more. If the English finisher divides the advantage with the German who is the principal partner in the transaction, then our British preference becomes a German preference.

Let us suppose that a Canadian were to take the place of the English finisher of German goods. Instead of paying \$400 for a consignment of German cloth, repacked and finished a third in England, he would pay \$300 for the goods in Germany, where he gets them in the same form as the Englishman would at the same price. He pays \$105 duty on the lot, while the English dealer could buy the same goods from Germany, add \$100 to the value, and then send them to Canada under the preference with the \$140, less the preference of one-third, or only \$93.33.

This method of applying the preference to foreign goods is not confined to woollens or even to dry goods. Mr. Brock is further reported: "It was impossible to get at all the details of ways in which this thing was being done. He knew of one case where a large quantity of grain, supposed to have come from Aberdeen, really came from Norway, and was sent to Aberdeen, where a little work was done on it after which it was exported to this country to the detriment of the grain-growers of New Brunswick and the Eastern Townships of the province of Quebec. That was another industry which was being injured, and in which the establishment in many cases would have to be closed and a number of workmen discharged."

It is well known that the New Brunswick granite industry has found it hard to compete with the Aberdeen product, which can be delivered in Montreal and the west with no greater cost of transportation than the freight from St. George or the St. John River. The preferential tariff has swept away one-third of the protection, and now that its advantages are extended to the products of Sweden and Norway it is time to look into the application of this alleged British preference.

THE IMPERIAL COURT.

It was in connection with the Australia federation legislation that Mr. Chamberlain first discussed the reorganization of the imperial court of appeal. He threw out the suggestion that instead of the judicial committee some other tribunal would be established for the hearing of appeals from the colonies and India, and that the colonies would be represented in the court. One step was taken in providing colonial representation a few years ago, when a judge of the supreme court of Canada was allowed to sit in judicial committee. But Sir Henry Strong still sits at Ottawa, and we believe that he is excluded from taking part in the privy council in cases which have been before him in Canada. He gets an allowance of \$1,000 a year as an imperial judge, and that it is paid by the dominion. Mr. Chamberlain's plan for the future is much more ambitious. In the new tribunal the Canadian representative will probably be a lay lord, residing in England, and representing the imperial government. His associates will probably include a judge from Australia and one from South Africa. Canada has the man on the spot who would probably be regarded as best qualified, but Mr. Blake as an Irish member is perhaps under pledge not to take office from the Saxon tyrant.

A New York syndicate has a project for the construction of the largest dry dock in the world. It is to be established near Bedloe's Island, will be 1,075 feet long, and cost \$3,000,000.

R. W. LEITCH DEAD.

Robert Wellington Leitch, one of St. John's best known residents, died at the home of his brother-in-law, Eben E. Fraser, foot of King street east, yesterday morning at six o'clock, after an illness covering a period of over two months, but seriously only a week. Early in January Mr. Leitch fell a victim to the popular malady of grippe, and he had not time to make much recovery to go out now and then. Still he was not enjoying his usual health by any means. A week ago he grew suddenly worse, a weakness of the heart asserting itself. During his last moments Mr. Leitch was unconscious.

The deceased gentleman was one particularly well known to the business community, as well as having a host of friends in home circles. He was at one time in partnership with D. F. Brown, the paper bag manufacturer, under the firm name of Brown & Leitch. Later he entered into business on his own account in the clothing trade on King street. Then when Fraser, Fraser & Co. started business Mr. Leitch identified himself with their interests, after having engaged for some time in the pork packing trade at the corner of Waterloo and Union streets. It was in the office of Fraser, Fraser & Co. the deceased was last engaged.

Mr. Leitch was an Oddfellow. Beside his sister, Mrs. E. B. Fraser, he leaves two brothers, George and James, both of this city. Deceased was the son of the late John Leitch, and was a bachelor. He was 59 years of age.

An Honorable Medicine.

That appeals to the best judgment of the best people is Dr. Chase's Kidney Liver Pills, the greatest prescription of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous Recipe Book author. By acting directly and specifically on the liver, kidneys and bowels, this popular family medicine thoroughly cures liver complaint, biliousness, kidney disease, constipation and the accompanying pains and aches. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills act promptly, pleasantly and naturally. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box.

BISHOP SWEENEY.

The greater number of the Roman Catholic people in the diocese of St. John have known no other bishop than the venerable prelate whose remarkably useful career has come to a close. Forty-one years a bishop, fifty-seven years a priest, in both capacities laboring to his utmost capacity for the welfare of his flock, Bishop Sweeney has performed a great work, not the less so because he has always refrained from sounding a trumpet before him. As the head of an important diocese and for many years the senior prelate in this part of the dominion, Bishop Sweeney was entitled by courtesy and the rules of precedence, to a conspicuous place in public functions. Yet there are hundreds whose faces are more familiar to the multitudes than his. His voice was not heard in public outside his church, and few of his sermons were reported. It came to be understood long ago that the bishop disliked publicity, and his wishes were respected.

The late bishop has not been described as a great preacher, for an eminent theologian. He has taken part in no controversies and has written no books. Even when the school law was a subject of controversy the bishop refrained from public expression or from any action which would bring him personally before the public. He made his fight as best he could against the provisions of the school law, without appearing personally as a defender of the faith. When it was found that the new system would prevail the bishop accepted the situation, taking the opportunity to make satisfactory financial terms in respect to church property, and making no appearance as a diplomatist, though he may have had some claim to distinction in that field.

The history of Bishop Sweeney and his administration can be read by its results, as the processes were not visible to the public. By this method of judging he appears as a great bishop. He administered the affairs of his important diocese with unflinching sagacity and never ceasing care. With rare business gifts and an accurate knowledge of men, he made the best use of all the spiritual and religious forces at his command. He neglected nothing, forgot nothing, and never gave up an enterprise once undertaken. The fruits of his labor, skill and capacity are seen on every hand, in a well organized diocese, equipped with substantial places of worship, educational institutions, orphanages, industrial schools, shelters for girls rescued from a life of shame, and homes for the aged. The Roman Catholic church has its full share of the poor, and they had always the sympathy of the bishop, and it was a practical sympathy, as he showed when he planted a large colony of unemployed St. John people on lands which he bought in Carleton county. With all his buildings and his establishments, Bishop Sweeney avoided two customs which sometimes prevail among great builders. He abhorred debt, and he never made hysterical appeals to the community. He knew how to make a dollar go as far as it could, and he knew how to obtain without friction and without publicity such contributions as were required. The bishop's dislike of public notice was perhaps contagious, for while many large gifts must have been offered by individuals toward these enterprises, the donors and the amount of their contributions are unknown.

Bishop Sweeney saw great changes during his long pastorate and episcopate. What has been accomplished in his own church is partly told elsewhere. He has himself had a large share in these developments. Some disagreeable public controversies involving sectarian issues have arisen during these two score years. The bishop must have felt strongly on those questions. But through the whole dispute, there is no record of bitter language from his lips or pen. When the time came for him to join his old friend and school-fellow, Mr. Boyd, the chairman of the school board, in effecting a settlement, the way was open for friendly adjustment. While the late bishop has all his life kept himself secluded from the public view, and while there was little personal comradeship between him and leading men of other faiths in any kind of religious or philanthropic work, no one could be interested in benevolent work in St. John without feeling that the Roman Catholic bishop was a splendid co-worker. And while the palace may have been the nominal centre of a few storms, the memory of the dead bishop is not associated with a bitter word or uncharitable action.

WE FREELY ACKNOWLEDGE that much of our present standing and reputation is owing to the character and ability of the students of whom it has been our good fortune to have had the training. This year's class is no exception, but is fully up to the standard of former years. Business and professional men in want of bookkeepers and stenographers are invited to call upon us or write us. No recommendation will be made unless we are sure of giving satisfaction.

No better time for entering than just now. SEND FOR CATALOGUES. S. KERR & SON

THE FUTURE BISHOP COMMENCED his ecclesiastical studies at St. Andrews, Scotland, Prince Edward Island, and completed them at Royal University, Quebec, where he was ordained in September, 1844. On his return home he was first stationed at St. John and afterwards transferred to Kings County, Chatham and Harachiols.

BISHOP SWEENEY.

His Lordship Passed Peacefully to Rest at Nine O'clock Monday Morning.

A Sketch of the Life of the Distinguished Prelate and of His Successor Bishop Casey—Bishop Sweeney was 80 Years Old.

The solemn tolling of the cathedral and of the other Roman Catholic churches on Monday morning informed the citizens that his lordship, Bishop Sweeney, had gone to his rest. He had been falling for a long time, and suffered a stroke of paralysis on Saturday. Eighty strokes on the church bells this morning indicated the length in years as well as the termination of his earthly pilgrimage. On Saturday evening his lordship took a turn for the worse and gradually grew weaker until Sunday afternoon, when a slight improvement in

Dr. Dollard, the first bishop of N. B., died on August 20, 1851, and Father Sweeney was named administrator. The second bishop of the diocese was Dr. Connolly, of Halifax, and shortly after his arrival in 1852, he appointed Father Sweeney his vicar-general. On the death of Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Halifax, in 1858, Bishop Connolly was appointed his successor. New Brunswick was then divided into two dioceses and Father Rogers was assigned the northern portion of the province, with residence at Chatham. Vicar-General Sweeney was chosen bishop of



THE LATE BISHOP SWEENEY.

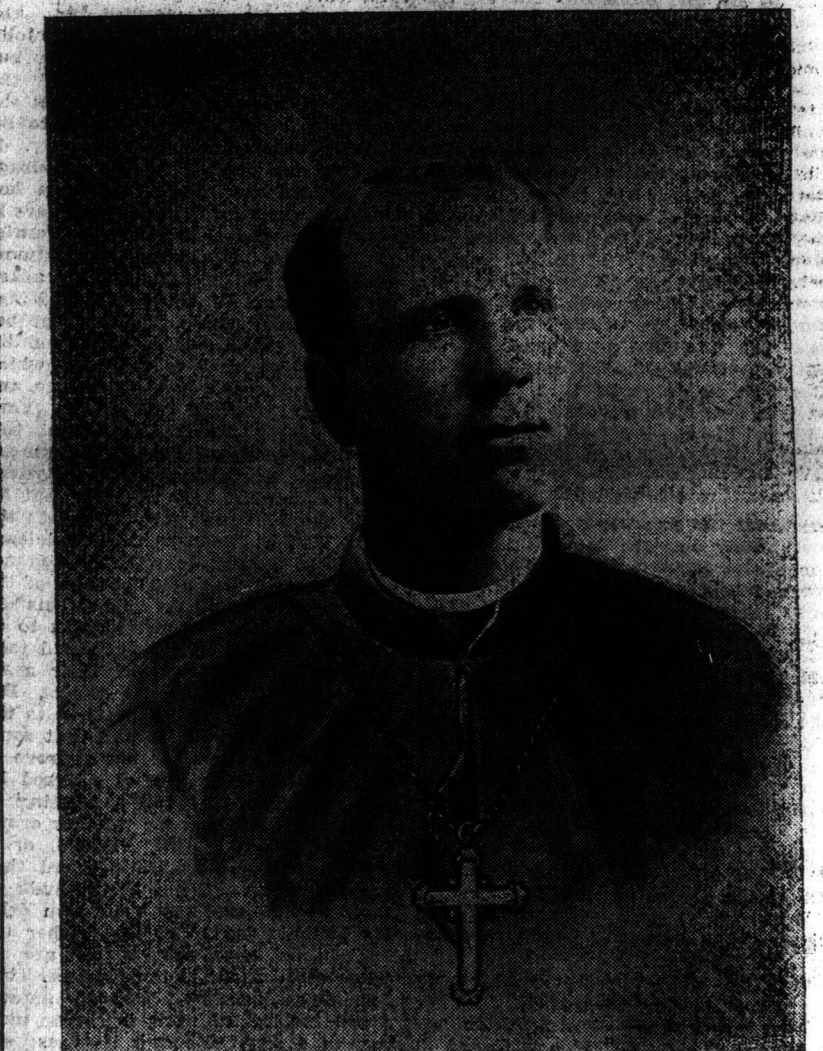
his condition was noticeable. However, he failed to regain any strength, and towards evening again grew worse. In this condition he remained, without again rallying, until about nine o'clock on Monday morning, when the end came and he passed peacefully away.

The Right Rev. John Sweeney, D. D., Bishop of St. John, N. B., Dean of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy in Canada, was born in Clones, County Monaghan, Ireland, on May 15th, 1821, and in his youth came with his parents to St. John, where he began his education at the Grammar School. Another pupil at the same time was John Boyd, who, in after years, was one of the merchants and princes, a senator of Canada, and died in 1895, whilst governor of New Brunswick.

the southern portion, with St. John as the episcopal residence.

On April 15, 1860, Dr. Sweeney was consecrated Bishop of St. John at the cathedral by Archbishop Connolly. The assisting prelates were Dr. Fitzpatrick of Boston, Dr. McKinnon, of Arichat, N. S. The Archbishop and his assistants have long since gone to their reward.

His lordship celebrated his silver jubilee in the episcopacy on July 15th, 1885, and at the same time the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception was consecrated as it was free of debt. Among those who participated in the different services were Archbishop Corrigan, of New York, the late Archbishop Lynch, of Toronto, Archbishop O'Brien, of Halifax, N. S., the late Bishop McMahon, of Hartford, Conn.



HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP CASEY.

The future bishop commenced his ecclesiastical studies at St. Andrews, Scotland, Prince Edward Island, and completed them at Royal University, Quebec, where he was ordained in September, 1844. On his return home he was first stationed at St. John and afterwards transferred to Kings County, Chatham and Harachiols.

next, Bishop Rogers, of Chatham, N. B., Cameron, of Antigonish, N. S., and the late Bishop McIntyre, of Charlottetown, P. E. Island. At the Jubilee Mass the Metropolitan of Toronto preached an appropriate sermon. In 1889, Dr. Sweeney, accompanied by Mgr. Connolly, V. G., attended the

(Continued on Page Five.)

CITY

Recent Events Around St. John.

Together With Correspondence from Correspondents.

When ordering the WEEKLY SUN to be sent to you, please state the name of the office to which the paper is to be sent. Remember! The office must be sent to you promptly on request.

"Does that young man play his trombone?" "Neither. By brute force!"

The Victoria, B. C. March 15th announces that a man, Gills, a native of 67, has been adopted daughters.

Hay and straw, next to apples as a fertilizer, are in demand, and big prices are selling at \$15 per \$3 to \$10.

Eight pure bred from the herd of Island were shipped to the tannery, having been attorney general of

Wesley Snow, son of P. E. I., has joined the at Lunenburg, tons, has just been N. Anderson of Port

An Associated Press announces the death of the school, Pernambuco, during the one of the masters sailing out

bert Co., camp, near the other day, and put his pocket. His overcoat clothes were ruined being burned.

The Hartland, Ont. says the building in the street. The Imperial Oil tank building and erect a large building the several private

The upper part of the New Brunswick Times. The latest gift to McGill by J. C. Simpson: St. Andrews, N. B. St. Andrews, N. B. St. Andrews, N. B.

Blair is a great several years he has plus on the B. O. fact he has added dollars to the gross The surplus was charging to capital should have been Windsor, N. B.

Mrs. Elsie St. shortly for Santos sent with a ring at the close of the service in Centerville. The great by W. H. Irvine, city, and Miss St. able reply. After some social enjoyments were served

The largest book-roy's Liniment, for Robert Lee, of this city, passed Duke street, on came to St. John, serving for some New Brunswick, the firm being Lee, and later, after Henderson, changed His wife, formerly him.

67

This signature is on a Laxative from the remedy that cures

We are for our customers quality value when Our about com

New Dr. Wrappers Shirt W. Skirts. Prints, Gingham

Wool cash price

SHARP &