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ST. JOHN, N. B.

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

By the Women's Christian Temperance Union

On Wednesday of this week the St. John W. C. T. U. made its annual visit to the jail. There were 13 women present during the service of prayer and Scripture reading, which was led by Mrs. Seymour. Mrs. Davidson sang a solo and gave a short talk. Miss Hampson sang, accompanying herself with her autoharp, and Miss Hopkins of Exmouth street church sang twice.

ent, in order that it may be followed as closely as possible by the unions throughout the province. The programmes have been sent to nearly all the unions, but is sufficient number was not sent to the superintendent to supply all. The St. John local union will observe Tuesday, the 5th. The meeting will be held in the parlor on Canterbury street at 3 o'clock. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance of members, and the public are cordially invited. It is expected that the north end union will join with the local union on that day. Mrs. Seymour, evangelistic superintendent, will have charge of the meeting. Mrs. Davidson will give a short paper on Individual responsibility, or the ministry of women. Miss Hampson will sing with autoharp accompaniment, and the prescribed programme for the afternoon will be carried out as nearly as possible.

as possible.

A new year is just approaching us the most momentous our union has ever known. For the first time in the history of the dominion of Canada the question of national prohibition is a live issue in practical politics. The promise of the plebiscite for the entire dominion has put heart, life and courage into the entire temperance army. It is like a public call to arms,

and it is ours now to look to the controller of the universe for assurances of final victory. Our help must come from the Lord our God.

Our custom has been to observe Jan. 3rd as our annual day of prayer, and it has been a source of blessing

and power.

Therefore, As evangelistic superintendent may I earnestly and lovingly call our white-ribbon army at any cost to set apart Monday, January 4th, 1897, as a day of thanksgiving and supplication. To us, our organization stands like a Mont Blanc, above the mountain peaks of other societies; and yet, we are all conscious that for the work which now lies before us, we need, not more culture, nor logic, nor power of any kind from the level, but power from on high.

Suggested programme for morning, to the superior of the suggested programme for morning.

Superintendent. Responsive reading, "Palm 146. Hymn, "Ho, Reapers in Life's"; No. 101. Addresses. Prayer: "The lumberman," replied Mr. Good emr which Spain is willing to grant to Cube was decided upon in Madrid today at a course of the present tariff has aroused them. A dozen or more sentence prayers for personal blessing—Lord bless me, and make me a blessing!" Remarks. Hymn, "Take my Life," No. 416. During singing of verse three collection for plebiscite. Lunch and social hour Afternoon 2 to 4 p. m. or 3 to 5. Hymn, "Take the Name of Jesus," No. 148. Prayer meeting for fifteen minutes; subjects: 1. For the dominion and provincial officers, that they may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. 2. That every mebmer may do their duty in the fearful struggle which will surely come in the fight for prohibition. 3. That the children of prohibition. 3. That the children of bands of hope may be converted and quickened for temperance work. Hymn, "To the Work," No. 176. Short Bible reading: "Individual responsibility," or "The ministry of women." Hymn, "Standing by a Purpose True." No. 7. Address, fifteen minutes, "Does Prohibition Prohibit?" Solo Address, What can we do for the Plebiscite? Hymn, "My Faith looks up to Thee," No. 160. Prayer. Hymn, "Saviour, Thy Dying Love." No. 119. Colection taken during first verse for plebiscite. Prayer of consecration and

AMELIA E. GORDON. Cominion superintendent of evangel-stic work. Hymn Book used, "Songs

# THE LUMBER DUTY, with the white pine interests of the northwest. At the conclusion of his

U. S. Ways and Means Committee Hear a Delegation.

A Large Number of Lumber Dealers Ask for an Increase of Duty.

udge Morris Deals With the Matter of the Alleged Disadvantage of Stumpage.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The hearings afore the ways and means commitand books. The forenoon was given to the lumber interests. C. W. Goodyear of Buffalo appeared as the representative of a committee of twenty appointed by the convention of lumbermen which met at Cincinnati early in December. He thought it perfectly fair to claim, considering all allied interests, that 2,000,000 of our population was dependent on this industry for their livelihood. It was the leading industry in over thirty states. In tion was dependent on this industry for their livelihood. It was the leading industry in over thirty states. In the east they had protection to a certain extent. The act of 1874 imposed duties of from 20 per cent. to 32 per thousand, board measure. In 1833 there was a slight change. The act of 1890 reduced the duty on one class of timber to 10 per cent., and white pine was placed in the class dutiable at \$1, instead of \$2 as hertofore. The present law practically placed lumber on the free list. They did not come now, Mr. Goodyear said, asking anything exorbitant. Substantially what they asked was that white pine, hemlock, basswood and sycamore be placed in the \$2 class. He could see no reason why the great staples he had mentioned should not be placed in the same class with spruce. Mr. Goodyear said that humbermen of the country were largely responsible for the present condition of affairs. "The state of Maine," said he, "be it ever to its lasting credit, has ever been in the front in congress." Then with a graceful tribute to Senator Frye, Speaker Reed, Chairman Dingley and Mr. Boutelle, he announced that it was for this reason that spruce, the great staple product of Maine, had previous to the present law remained in the \$2 class.

"But," interposed Mr. Dingley, smil-

"But," interposed Mr. Dingley, smil-ng, "Maine is the pine tree state." "Without any pine," retorted Mr.

"No," replied Mr. Goodyear, "we want \$2 on spruce and also on white

Continuing, the speaker went on exhaustively into the difference between the conditions in Canada and the United States to show the advantages United States to show the advantages to lumbermen existing across the border. Canada was much more liberal; it encouraged the lumberman by making terms which offered the most enticing inducements. In the dominion the stumpage was but 60 cents a thousand; in the United States it was \$2. In Canada this charge was not to be paid until the lumber was cut and ready for shipment. He said that last year about \$60,000,000 feet of lumber were imported; the exports were valued at \$27,000,000, principally from southern ports and the Pacific. The result of free trade in lumber, he said, had been a great reduction of 20 per cent. In wages to lumber of days employed.

Me Dienter and the Dienter of days employed.

biscite. Prayer of consecration and Mr. Dingley called attention to the fact that in 1890 the importation of lumber from Canada was valued at \$4,250,000; in 1896 \$16,500,000; that in the former year the revenue received by the government was \$2,250,000, while in 1896 it was but \$712,000, in other words, the government surrendered \$1,500,000 in revenues, and gave a market to \$13,000,000 more of lumber.

Mr. Goodyear thanked Mr. Dingley for his statement.

In conclusion, Mr. Goodyear said that the lumbermen believed that if the protective idea was to be enforced in regard to any industry, none stood on firmer footing than they.

Judge Page Morris, a congressman-elect from Duluth, Minn., was called upon to speak for the lumber interest. He dwelt upon the disadvantages in the matter of stumpage, in which the lumbermen of the United States were obliged to buy from private individuals or government reservations as placed besides those of Canada.

I. C. Rochs of Jackson, Mich., represented the southern lumber interests. He said he came to join in this appeal for adequate protection to lumber.

appeal for adequate protection to

lumber.

T. B. Walker of Minneapolis, Minn., devoted himself largely to the statistics of the iumber industry as a foundation for the claim of the lumbermen for adequate protection.

A. H. Winchester of Buchanan, W. Va., represented the hardwood districts of the United States. The main argument he used for placing a uniform duty of \$2 on all wood was that woods were interchargeable, and if one class became cheap it displaced the dearer woods. He said that the idea that the importation of free lumber from Canada preserved our forests, was fallacious.

The afternoon session was opened by S. H. Lang of Boston, who presented a memorial from the rattan manufacturers. They asked for five cents per pound on all manufactures of rattan not further advanced than split into weeds and strands. Ten cents a pound duty on chair cane and other products of rattan split and sawed ready for manufacture.

## BRADSTREET'S REPORT.

New York, Dec. 31.—Bradstreets Saturday, January 2nd, will say: General trade has been rather more quiet and this week proves one of the dulles of the dull season which has followed the fortnight of revived demand early.

orders received. Large Locks of unsold print cloths continue to depress quotations, and merchants in leading staple lines at larger distributing entres no not anticipate an early important in business.

The prices of oats, pelled, painting the prices of oats, pelled.

centres no not anticipate an early im-provement in business.

The prices of oats, petroleum, cotton and print cloths are lower, and buyers of factor and southern brands of pig from report a cut of 25 cents a ton. Prices are unchanged and comparathe break in iron and steel prices, con-sumers appear inclined to await de-

The exports of wheat (flour included as wheat) from both coasts of the United States this week amount to 2,707,793 bushels, as compared with 2,111,000 bushels last week. Exports of Indian corn this week amount to 2,-656,994 bushels against 2,468,000 bushels last week.

The wholesale marchants at Toronto report general trade dull and no movement of importance likely before the middle of January. Commercial port collections slow and the country roads bad. At Halifax, the Christmas trade did not meet expectations. The collections are only fair.

There are 2,170 business fallures reported from the Dominion of Canada for 1896, an increase of 203. The larger

for 1896, an increase of 203. The larger proportion of the gain is accounted for by an increase of 130 business failures in Ontario, 121 in the province of Quebec, and 41 in Nova Scotia. The increase of about 14 per cent in number of business failures in the dominion is accompanied by a gain of 7 per cent in aggregate liabilities, which in 1896 amounted to \$16,208,000.

### A NEW YEAR'S GI: T

THE NEW 'REATY

The story comes from western Kansas that money is so scarce out there that the corpse of a suicide was recently fined \$25 for carrying concealed weapons, and that amount of money taken from his pockets and turned over to the city.

The best that can be said of the London Methodist clergyman who has made and forwarded to Lord Salisbury. As it embodied all the features which had been agreed upon during the negotiations, no doubt was felt that a speedy approval would be given by Lord Salisbury and that the signatures to the instrument thereupon would be affixed at Washington. It was expected that the document would be signed coincident with the new ation for the claim of the lumbermen for adequate protection.

A. H. Winchester of Buchanan, W. Va., represented the hardwood districts of the United States. The main argument he used for placing a uniform duty of \$2 on all wood was that woods were interchargeable, and if one class became cheap it displaced the dearer woods. He said that the idea that the importation of free lumber from Canada preserved our forests, was faliacious.

Representative Boutelle of Maine made a brief argument on behalf of the lubmermen of the east, who, he said, had never sought an invidious discrimination in their favor. The spruce intersets of the east, he said, were always willing to co-operate

tures to the instrument thereupon would described at Washington. It (Philadelphia Ledger.)

Challence at Washington. It (Philadelphia Ledger.)

The curious explorer who would discover American shipping must look for it, if he would succeed in finding it, a long our coast, on the great lakes, in our branals and harbors, and except in rare instances, as in that of the few noble trans atlantic ships of the International Steamship line, not on the meantime there is no reason to believe that the prospects of ultimate agreement are less favorable than they alim and other European powers may be readily found; the ocean carrying due to some essential questions.

Latest news in THF WEEKLY SIIN.

### WHAT OUR EXCHANGES SAY.

A SCREAMER, NOT A FIGHTER, (Toronto Telegram.)

The world may rest assured that the American eagle will exhaust the entire resources of its voice before starting out on the delicate task of taking Cuba under its wing.

We have no need of the Chinese in this country. It is difficult enough to find employment for our own people. The Chinese are spreading rapidly all over Canada. They should be denied entrance to the country except on payment of a heavy tax. The Chinese should not be allowed to make further neadway in the dominion.

(London Free Press.) (London Free Press.)

A Pittsburg patent medicine manufacturer claims that he has unearthed a conspiracy, the object of which was to rob him of \$600,000. There may be a helpful hint in this item for young men who are undecided as to what course to pursue in life.

MOODY AND CARLYLE.

Bro. Moody's latest inquiry, as to how Christ would be received if he should re-appear in the modern world, recalls the answer given by the late Thomas Carlyle to the question when it was put to him.

"Oh," said the profane Sage of Chelsea, "I suppose Lord Houghton would give him a breaktast."

UNREASONABLE AND SILLY.

(Hamilton Times, Liberal.)
The Yankees vociferously insult all peaceable peoples, snarl and threaten and brag, while ten thousand murders a year blacken their own page; law is travestled; justice is mocked by their legislation; individual liberty is disregarded; race war threatens to following lynching as an incident of the troubles of a badly-governed people; banks go down one after another, and industry is paralyzed. And all this time Canadians go on minding their own business, tilling a fertile lang, digging up sold and sliver and other minerals, and living on the fat of the earth.

VAIN EXCUSES.

(Hamilton Spectator, Con.)
Conservatives should be ashamed to
take up the old grit baby cry of
"bribery and corruption" to account
for defeat at the polls. So soon as the
conservative platform suits the people better than the grit platform the
conservatives will win.

AN EXAMPLE TO ST JOHN

N. Y. Mail and Express.)

There is nothing slow in Boston's municipal financiering. For instance, she is building a great subway to cost 17,000,000, for which she has issued bonds bearing 3 1-2 per cent interest, and has already leased the system at a rental that will pay 4 7-8 per cent on the investment. If there are any flaws in that sort of financial management they certainly don't show on

(Liverpool Advance.)
At present too many people in Neva
Scotia look to the government to
maintain the highways.

(Moncton Times.)

Now the information comes from Ottawa that traffic on the Intercolonial railway has fallen off within the last few weeks.

(Cleveland Leader.) (Cleveland Leader.)
The secretary of the navy says that
the battleship Texas is all right. Still
let us hope that she will not be put in
commission as an excursion boat unless some scheme whereby she can be
run on skids is invented.

WHEN PRESSED FOR MONEY.

can be counted at any time upon the fingers of one hand in any single port, including that one which is always most crowded with vessels sailing to and from far countries.

LAURIER AND CLEVELAND.

this country have to solve. A revenue of \$40,000,000 must be provided. The liberal party, now in power, is strongly inclined toward free trade, and yet, as Mr. Laurier acknowledges, modern politics have not yet devised an easier mode of tax collecting than the tariff and the custom the tariff and the custom houses. He also says that a protective system, strengthened by the practice of eighteen years, could not be swept away by one stroke. He does not, therefore, propose to lead a party of revolutionists, but one of reformers. That is exactly what Mr. Cleveland attempted to do, and this country has repudiated his policy, which proved disastrous.

WHO AND WHAT.
(Mail and Empire.)
Here is a little list of the men who worked in Cornwall on the government side during the election:
Mr. Laurier.

Mr. A. G. Y. Macdonald, Glengarry.

WHY LOVELY WOMAN STOOPS
TO, ETC.
(Lendon Free Press.)
It is noted that nine-tenths of the shoplifters arrested during the holiday season, and in fact at all times, are women. Yet it is improbable that women are more dishonest in principle than men. The reason is that the display of nick-nacks has more temptation for the one sex than the other.

AMBRICANS AND INDIANS.

(Boston Herald.)

One of the recent suggestions of scientific writers is that physically the Americans are slowly developing likenesses to the Indians. The tendency of reversion to the type indigenous to the soil is matter of discussion among the learned, and American anthropologists have been slow to concede that we are growing like the red men. Parislan savants, however, taking unprejudiced views, are more favorable to the theory, and assume to have found anthropological statistics that support it. It is matter of common observation that American descendants of natives of other continents who come here are modified physically as well as intellectually by their environment, but the changes from various intermarriages and from differences of food and manner of life are so rapid, compared with the gradual changes that come from soil and elimate, that these latter are apt to be overlooked. Let us watch the southern negroes. They intermarry among themselves nowadays, and are not so much affected as they used to be by admixtures of white blood. If in the course of a few centuries they show a tendency to grow copper colored and straight-haired, it will be an argument in the new theory's favor, and we may look to our own cheekbones and noses.

THE SENATE BAR MUST GO.

THE SENATE BAR MUST GO.

(P. E. I. Guardian.'

One more prohibitory law has been enacted in a high place. The Washington house of representatives, by a vote of 104 to 7, has resolved that no more intoxicants shall be sold in the capitol—their parliament building. We hope to see the Candian senate to time at its next session and abolish its bar. The sale of intoxicants there is a base example, and it detracts from the respect which the sober minded and orderly people of Canada might otherwise feel for the upper house of parliament.

## ADMIRAL SKERRETT DEAD

Washington, Jan. 1.—Rear Admiral Joseph S. Skerrett died here today. His death, while sudden, was not wholly unexpected, as he had been in had health since his retirement from active service in July, 1894. The admiral was in his 64th year, and is survived by a widow, three daughters and two sons. The funeral will take place Sunday afternoon, and the interment will be at Arlington.

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