POOR DOCUMENT

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. FJOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 13, 1499.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph.

47. JOHN, M. B., DECEMBER 13, 1899.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA,

in that vicinity a force that some authorities estimate as high as 20,000 men. It is force has been caused by the need of more cavalry and artillery for the army is now pretty well supplied with these services.

would feel that there is no need for haste. Perhaps this quietude may be broken some fine morning by the appearance of a British army on Boer right flank, and a general advance of the force south of Colenso to the Tugela River. There is little reason to doubt that this river can be forded in many places and a flank attack from the westward would so disconcert

that of Brandywine, in the American revbadly defeated by just such a flank march combined with a front attack. It would, however, differ from Brandywine in this escape; they would be caught between two fires and kalf of them compelled to

lay down their arms. Word was received vesterday from Pretoria that fighting was going on near Modder River on the 6th. A despatch from General Methuen of the 5th, described the Boers as active and as passing between Spytfontein and Jacobsdal. Spytfontein is about fifteen miles north of Modder River and Jacobsdal is closed to the Modder River and some fifteen miles to the eastward of the place where the railway from Orange River to Kimberley crosses that stream. This Boer which came last evening that a culvert near Graspan had been blown up and the telegraph line cut. That is the kind of work a small raiding party might be espected to do, for no general in his sense; would divide his army in the presence of the large British force at Modder River. Such interruptions of communication are the news of reverse suffered by General anneying but they do not count for much Gatacre, who with two thousand men,

te stand their ground.

Our Canadian regiment is now at able men could desire. Even at Orange fair. River there will be a chance for a brush with the Boers who may be disposed te them are excellent marksmen and their eral. Gatacre made quite a name for himintelligence and ability to adapt themselves to circumstances will serve them dicted that the Canadian regiment would quality in a soldier, but it does not follow Africa can now see what a mistake they made, and how absurd it would have been to act on such an untenable hypo-

Thursday which knock in the head all the tales of woe which the St. John Sun treated its readers to yesterday. We were told by that truthful journal that the reports from Ladysmith were couched in the gloomiest language and that the situation was becoming graver every day. All this garbage which the Sun daily dumps on its readers comes from the office of the New York Sun, the most anti-British paper in America. Now that we have the facts it will be seen that The Telegraph's oft repeated statement that Ladysmith was never in any danger was absolutely correct. The total number of casualties suffered by the British in Ladysmith as the result of all the Boer attacks and nbardments, and all the sorties against the enemy amounts to just 179, of which 21 were killed, 145 wounded and three nissing. Such is the official statement, and it concludes with the words 'The Boer force is still around us in large numbers; but all within the town are well

events in South Africa may be accepted great structure and the vast sum that it as certain, for the British forces both in Africa have now reached a stage when we may expect stirring news at any moment.

Natal and Cape Colony have been reinforced and equipped so that they are in the whole cost of the Victoria bridge was eral Buller is at Frere, the headquart- a position to move against the enemy. \$2,000,000, although any schoolboy could Colony forces are at least equal in likely to be opposed to them. One imkept inactive for lack of numbers, for portant feature of their equipment has If the old Victoria bridge could be argued there is no Boer force in Natal fit to now been supplied to both armies; we meet it in the open field, even if we took no account of General White's army in Ladysmith which is still a powerful body as the Boers will discover when the order sent out earlier, if they had been many the past forty years are standing there valuable lives would have been saved. A still, and on them is resting what the that the delay in the movement of this good deal has been said in regard to the Sun calls the "new Victoria bridge," use of iyddite in this campaign, and the which, if constructed according to newspapers of continental Europe have the Sun's ideas would be built abused Great Britain for employing lyd- on air and not on mighty blocks of although a larger number of both would dite against the Boers. But a British officer who had in his charge the shipment ly that the Victoria bridge, as it stands be very welcome. The delay in the adof lyddite to South Africa, and who was today, cost the Grand Trunk Company vance, if there has really been any delay, ons, and a willingness to allow the Boers vestment of Ladysmith, expressed his charge to that company on account of the ons, and a winingness to anow the Boers to amuse themselves about Ladysmith, doubt whether any lyddite bad been used bridge is \$280,000. We showed also that at all up to that time in the South Afri- for an equal use of the bridge the governwhere. The British commander is now can campaign. At all events if lyddite ment is paying only \$49,000 a year, so nightly communication with was used it was only in ordinary guns, In highery communication with so that its effects would be far less than Trunk Company is more than five times lights, as General Methuen is with Kim- when fired from a howitzers. If howitzers had been available at Glencoe, Elands position of affairs in these places. The laagte, Belmont, Graspan or Modder has been able to think of is the followassurance that Ladysmith is safe and is River the Boers would not have been ing, which appeared in the Saturday is not suffering from the bombardments of the enemy would tend to make General as they did, and their losses would have The Telegraph is me Clery move in a leisurely fashion, for he been far more severe. Howevers will be employed in any future attacks on Boer position and their advantages will soon be apparent.

Boer guns on Lombard's Kop on Saturday morning was one of the most bril liant exploits of the war. Today we publish both the Bcer and the British official accounts of the affair and they subthe Boers that they would be forced to stantially agree as to what was done. It withdraw from the river so that is gratifying to know that this deed of the British could cross it witharms was accomplished by colonists, Natal out a contest. Such a battle volunteers and the Imperial Light Horse would resemble in its general features which is a colonial corps. Lombard's Kop is four miles to the northeast of Ladyolutionary war, where Washington was smith. It is the hill on which the Boors mounted their first big gun. Long Toni, and it was to capture this gun that General White fought the battle on the 30th that the Boers would have no means of October in which the Gloucester regiment and the Irish Fusiliers fell into an ambush and were compelled to surrender. Long Tom was silenced on that occasio but a few days later he was tiring away as briskly as ever. Recently, however, lucky shot destroyed Long Tom, damaging him beyond repair, but his place was supplied by a heavier guil, a 6-inch monster carrying a 100 pound shell. It was to capture this gun that Lombard's Kop was attacked on Saturday morning and the enterprise was crowned with suc cess. The big gun was destroyed with dynamite as was a large howitzer on the same hill, and a Maxim was captured by the British and brought into camp. All movement may account for the news this was effected with the loss of only two men, one killed and an officer wounded. This proves that the Ladysmith garrison is in first rate fighting condition, and that the Natal volunteers are worthy associates of the British regulars.

The capture and destruction of the

As an offset to this success we have

they have lost confidence in sheir ability pregnable. Apparently General Gatacre's in all that time, until after the change force was too weak for the work it had in the dominion government, it always

to do, much weaker than that of the had a majority of Conservatives in the enemy, who had also the advantage of house of commons. Orange River, and in active service. Their being entrenched. The Boers have been next move may be to join General Me fortifying themselves at Stormberz for 1887 Manitoba elected to that house four thuen's force, in which case they will be more than a month, so that not much likely to get all the fighting that reason. significance need be attached to this at-

The disaster suffered by General Gat- Hon. Mr. Sifton was elected in his place attack the British line of communication, acre's force has been the subject of severe two of the Conservatives were unseated and we expect our loys to distinguish criticism in Great Britain and is likely to themselves in such service. Many of ruin the military reputation of that genself in the Soudan by his great activity and the severe manner in which he work well in the campaign. Those who pre- ed his men. Energy is no doubt a good have nothing to do when it got to South that a very energetic general is fit for high Winnipeg has always sent Conservative command. Some very indolent men have to the house of commons until the bybeen great generals, such an one was Messena, while some very energetic and from the unseating of Mr. Macdonald. active commanders have been unfortunate The fact that it elected two Conservain the field and among these may be reckoned General Gatacre. Still it would not be well to make too much of what is after all merely an incident of war. He who hopes to make war without ever suffering a reverse is doomed to disappoint ment. At the same time it is clear enough that General Gatacre acted with but little prudence in trusting to Dutch guides. Sometimes it is necessary to use a possible enemy as a guide, but in such a case the man is placed in front and between two soldiers who have orders to shoot him if he leads the troops into an ambash. General Gatacre apparently did not take this precaution and he suffered severely in consequence of his neglect.

> THE VICTORIA BRIDGE AGAIN. The editor of the Sun is beginning

rue the day when he took up the Victoria that the government was paying an ex cessive price for the use of the bridge, he That we are on the eve of stirring was wholly ignorant of the history of that cost the Grand Trunk Railway company of the government has fallen into a pit, and, what is worse, he cannot get out. out of existence by some process of reasoning peculiar to the Sun all would be well but those massive piers that have withstood the current of the St. Lawrence for stone. On Friday we showed conclusive interviewed on the subject after the in- \$8,000,000 net, and that the net annual that the proportion paid by the Grand as great as that paid by the government The only answer the editor of the Sun

The Telegraph is making commendable progress toward accuracy. It has reduced its estimate of the cost of the new Victoria bridge to \$700,000. Nine more steps in this direction and The Telegraph will not be far from the truth. Unfortunately The Telegraph has not yet learned that the new construction incl work on the sub-structure, which shows that it is not now qualified to discuss the of the Grand Trunk's bargain

The meaning of the above is not ver apparent, but it may be accepted as a signal of distress, a sign of surrender. As for the Sun's statement that the new construction included work on the substructure what difference does that make? If work had to be done on the subto make room for the double track, road- pointing out its advantages. way and footways. The old piers built forty years ago are the base on which ? everything connected with the billion rests, and they are as sound and strong as the day they were completed. Whatever new work has been done on the Victoria bridge, whether in the way of sub structure or superstructure, the govern ment gets the benefit of, and yet for an equal use of this noble bridge it pays less than one-fifth of the annual charge.

THE RESULT IN MANITOBA. The Conservatives are in a state of great delight over the result of the Manitoba election for it is the first bit of comfort they have had since that memorable day in June, 1896, when the country bade them begone and give place to better men Since that date there have been provincial general elections in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Manitoba and the last named is the only ing to make the most of their victory

such tactics would seem to show that The Boer position was found to be im- a Liberal for almost twelve years, yet

At the dominion general election of Conservatives and one Liberal. In 1891 four Conservatives and one Liberal; in 1896 four Conservatives, two Liberals and one Independent. The latter resigned and and replaced by Liberals and the representation of Manitoba then stood five Liberals and two Conservatives. The resignation of Mr. Jameson, the Liberal member for Winnipeg, leaves the present representation four Liberals and two Conservatives, Winnipeg being still vacant. election in April, 1897, which resulted tives and one Liberal to the legislature on Thursday therefore need not surprise any one. The net Conservative majority in Winnipeg was 164 or about the same us Mr. Macdonald's majority at the general dominion election in 1896. Any claims that the Conservatives may make with respect to gains in Manitoba, as respects federal issues, may therefore be rejected. If the Conservatives are determined to claim the Manitoba election as a revolt against the government of Sir Wilfrid principle the crushing defeat that they suffered at the recent elections in this province. At the general election of 1896 the Conservatives won nine seats in New Brunswick and the Liberals only five, but if we accept the provincial general election as a test of their strength they would not now be able to carry a single constit-uency at a dominion election. Yet not one Conservative in New Brunswick could be got to admit this, indeed within the past month their leaders have been lust-ily shouting that New Brunswick is with and against the government.

THE PROPOSED COLLEGE OF AGRI-CULTURE AND MECHAN-ICAL ARTS.

We publish elsewhere in this issue letter from Mr. R. S. Eaton, of Cornwalin the County of Kings, Nova Scotia. Mr. Eaton describes in glowing terms the advantages which that county possesses and its excellent record both as a farming and fruit-growing region. There is no ter done, and no county in the maritime provinces that is to be compared to it in the matter of fruit growing. These reasons, however, might with some plausibility be urged against it as a site for the college, and it might be argued that a locality in which farming is less advanced would be a better place in which to illustrate the benefits of scientific agriculture. It is very evident that the location of this | yield at least 2,000 gallons or 16,000 lbs. college will be a matter of some difficulty. for there will be many claimants for the onor and benefit of possessing it. Already, we observe that other places in Nova Scotia are agitating for the possession of this college and it is quite likely that several places in New Brunswick will he heard from before the matter is decided. Our own county of Kings might be ter, when a boy, ever take 380 lbs. of putting forward claims similar to those so eloquently stated by Mr. Eaton, and how much could he dispose of now that there are many who would be disposed to favor them in view of its central position and the excellence of its soil. The of him? His capacity for swallowing is uncounty of Westmorland might also claim | doubtedly prodigious; but there are a lot the college on similar grounds. In a mat- of matter of fact people down here by the ter like the one in question it is not likely that the governments interseted will decide hastily. The locality should be central, that is to say convenient to the great lines of travel, and easily reached from all the provinces. The convenience of the people of Prince Edward Island will have to be taken into account, and this may restrict the choice to one of the counties bordering on the straits of Northunderland, such as Picton, Cumberland, Scotia before proceeding to discuss the Westmorland or Ken's. We shall not pre- | project of a Maritime Agricultural College tend to decide which locality should be chosen, but we are glad to be able to give structure it was merely in the way of a resident of Kings county, N. S., an opstructure it was merely in the way of a resident of Kings county, N. S., an op such conditions; the question of site is an widening the piers at the summit, so as portunity of advocating its claims and open one and will not be determined until all the other preliminaries are ar-

A QUIET CHARITY.

An account of an excellent charity is given in the New York Post. More than twenty years ago a Mrs. Osborne, hurryterly cold day, saw two girls huddling for shelter in a doorway. Speaking to then she found that they were sisters who had come from a Connecticut town to New York, had sought employment in vain, and were destitute. Mrs. Osborne took them home and procured work for them. She then resolved to make the befriending of women the work of her life. The home started with thres cots in two small cooms over a stable. The three beds were had to be turned from the door. The furniture was scanty, there were subs without handles and knives and forks the worse for wear. But the work grew. In seventeen hundred dollars a year and for camp use and pins I us faith to it now the charity owns its own horsested. province that has given the Conservatives now the charity owns its own homestead; the quickest reliever for a majority. For that reason they are try.

Last year 12,103 women were sheltered; and surest circe for catara. and fed without enquiry even as to their in actual warfare. Any person can blow two infantry battalicns and two batter up a culvert or cut a telegraph line, and ies of artillery attempted to carry the some hours may be lost before they can be repaired. The resort of the Poers to after being persisted in for three hours. The mistress of the home fact it kills a cough. At a cough a

capacity for earning money to get through with what she has and come to the verge of desperation; the other, that a sensitively constituted woman would almost rather starve that run the gauntlet of questions as to what brought her to thic pass. Poverty is a deadly sting to delicately organized people. Once they give their name and declare their identity as paupers, they feel that a brand is upon them. Hundreds of women have stayed in our home whose names I do not know, course of studies on the Life, Letters whose reticence I respect. They stayed and Poetry of Robert Browning on Thursthere and picked up the courage and day evening, the 7th inst. The society thysical strength to start on again. I expects to do even better work than it shysical strength to start on again, asked them nothing. Sometimes, months did last vear. It begins this season asked them nothing.

help had not fallen on stony ground. Other persons interested in charity Other persons interested in charity might take a hint from these methods. It is too often considered that when human beings are obliged to accept some little aid from their fellows, they forfeit all right to privacy, respect or independence. With the dollar or the bundle of old clothes there goes a long lecture on the necessity for frugality and industry, or a long Christmas. the dollar or the bundle of old clothes there goes a long lecture on the necessity for frugality and industry, or a long cross-examination on the habits of the distressed family. These enquiries are sometimes necessary to prevent impos-ture. But a little quiet observation will ndiscriminately.

MR. FOSTER'S SAP' STORY.

counts for a great deal of last sweetnes in Mr. Foster's early make up, the effect of which is still painfully apparent, ther is the further fact that it throws a lurid light on his conceptions of accuracy. A very simple calculation knocks the west, and rather gives Sir Wilfrid's would have his hearers believe they poss essed. For example, the dictionary de fines a puncheon as containing from 72 to the average of these two figures, it will of sap. Now, sap contains from three to seven per cent. of sugar; so that, even at the lower figure, the twenty puncheons would produce 380 lbs. of nice, sweet, crystalline maple sugar. This hard mathe matical analysis of the sap illustration, the boiling of it down, as it were, suggests one maple sugar at one mouthful? If he did, he has got to be a great big man?

A "platform giant" as his friends speak sea who would not be disposed to think him capable of getting away with a hunk half that weight. Then again there are others probably experienced sugar makers who, after reading the story as a thing of actual experience, that at first hand, might think the gentle George had drawn on his immagination for the whole yarn.

The statement which was made in the Sun yesterday that the premier of Nova with Mr. Emmerson made it a preliminary condition that it should be located in that province is not correct. There is no

ITCHING, BURNING, CREEPING,

Skin Diseases relieved in a few minute by Agnew's Ointment. Dr. Agnew's Oint ment relieves instantly and cures Tetter, Sait Rheum, Scald Head, Eczema, Ulcers, Blotches, and all eruptions of the Skin It is soothing and quieting and acts like magic in all Baby Humors, Irritation of the Scalp and Rashes during teethin Sold by E. C. Brown.

NO SUFFERING IN CAMP From Dread Catarrh-Dr. Agnew's

tarrhal Powa 'er Kills the Disease Germs and Cures to 'the Distressed Parts—Relieves in Ten & 'tinutes. Alf. Leblanc, of St. Jerome, Quebec, Agnew's Catarrhal says he used Dr. case of catarrh in case of catarrh in him. He has 125 camps, and what it has done for him

WOODSTOCK NEWS.

Literary Scelety Launched-A Fine Ice Rink will be Opened on Christmas and Four Hockey Teams Have Been Organized-L. O. L. Officers.

WCODSTOCK, Dac. 11.-The literary society of St. Panl's church began ite asked them nothing. Sometimes, months after, when they were working and removed from want, they have sent me some remembrance, maybe a little sum of money for the home, or only a letter of gratitude, giving me assurance that the help had not fallen on stony ground.

All last veat. It begins this season with a large and talented memberative, and the best Browning literature. During the winter a number of papers will be read by members, while the shorter poems and a few of the dramas will be interpreted by Rev. G. It leads to be the state of papers will be read by members.

Mr. A. D. Holyoke le having erec

A number of voung men met in the office of A. D. Helyoke last week and sometimes necessary to prevent imposture. But a little quiet observation will often do the work as well as the churlish questions too often addressed to recipients of relief. This quiet observation is more easily effected when the practice is adopted of relieving one or more families living within easy reach of the benefactors rather than of scattering little doles indiscriminately. teresting games may be looked for.

At the antual election of officers of Royal Grange Lodge No. 38, Woodstock, MR. FOSTER'S SAP' STORY.

Mr. Foster has ben telling the people of Ontario, a sweet little story of his boyhood. He must have thought it a very palatable story, for he told it without variation at a score of meetings. It was as follows:—

"When I was a boy I used to tap maple trees and try and make candy and sugar, and when I could see a dozen or twenty puncheons of sap I would revel in the idea that there would be enough sugar or candy to keep the whole settlement for a year. But the moment it got into the kettle it would evaporate and there would'nt be more than a mouthful of sugar. It is a good deal like that with Sir Wilfrid's speeches."

At the stat with six left of the told in the following were elected and installed by the grand masset of the follow

Wier Privileges-Personal Items -Hotel Improvements.

SPECIAL TO TELEGRAPH.

St. Andrews, Dac. 11-The schr. Republic, Cap . Wm. Carson, is dischargng a cargo of corn at Chamcook for Mr. J. D. Grimmer's mill.

A crew of mechanics have recent been engaged at Kennedy's hotel, and have just complited for the proprietor of the house a large sized and modernly appointed refrigerator. The new struc-ture is situated in the rear of the hotel. a convenient distance from the hotel, a convenient distance from the kitchen, and is probably one of the largest and best equipped refrigerators in the county.

Mr.Thomas McCracken has purchased Mr.Thomas ucCracken has purchased the building on Water street, formerly occupied as a tablor shop by Mr. James McKinney. Mr. McGracken intends opening a paint shop in his newly acquired property. Mr. James McDowell has purchased the building on Water street known as the Healy proderty, which he will put in repair this winter, and in the spring will open his tonsorial rooms there.

Mr. Howard Richy has opened as

Mr. Howard Rigby has opened a grocery store in his building on water street, just above the custom house, and will hereafter be an aspirant for public patronege along that lice of trace.

The season for bandling sardine berrings having closed, all weir fisherman along this shore have stripped their weirs for the winter. The fisherman great rush for new weir privileges and new weir licenses. The indications now are that every available privilege will be taken up and built upon next season all-along the fishing districts of Charlotte-county.

PLUNGED TO HIS DEATH.

Insidious Disease Lurks Everywhere.

A bright young man in Grey county,
Ont., thoughtlessly plunged into the lake
at a summer resort when the blood was
above the normal hent. The shock stopped the kidneys' work. Poisons which
should have been carried off were circulated through the system. Dropsy was
the result, and one bright autumn the
mourning badge was on the door, and a the result, and one brown and a mourning badge was on the door, and a promising young life was snuffed out. He trusted himself to skilled physicians, but they failed to do what South American Kidney Cure would have done. It clears, heals and puts and keeps the kidneys in perfect action. A specific for all kidney ailments.
Sold by E. C. Brown.

Lobster Fishing in the Bay of Fundy.

a notification from the deputy minister of marine and fisheries that the minis, ter has finally decided lobster fishing commences January 15th and ends June 20th along the Rev of Variety above in 30th along the Bay of Fundy shore inside a line from the division line of Charlotte and St. John counties to division line of Digby and Yarmouth counties, details mailed.

The Sackville barque Lumberga is now on the passage from Manila for Boston with 15,300 bales homp.

