The Evening Mercury.

THURSDAY EVE'G., JANUARY 2.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Opening of the Sixth Session--Speech from the Throne.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 2.--This day at 3 p. m. His Excellency the Governor-General opened the sixth session of the seventh Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, with the following speech:

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In accordance with the announcement made during the last session, Parliament has been summoned somewhat in advance of the usual period.

The bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed is a cause for the deepest thankfulness to the Giver of all good. I congratulate you upon the evidence of increased activity in the various branches of commerce and industry. Several such indications have come under my personal observation during a tour made recently in the Northwest Territories an dBritish Columbia. In particular I notice the extension of mining enterprises and British Columbia. In particvast mineral resources are in certain localities being now developed and utilized upon something like an adequate scale.

A special feature of the same tour consisted in the opportunities obtained for visiting a number of the Indian reservations and about the Indian industrial schools. On the former I was received with hearty demonstrations of loyalty and goodwill, while in connection with the latter the proofs of proficiency and intelligence on the part of the children were highly encouraging as to the work of the Indian department as a whole. The manner in which it is directed and administered appears to be very satisfactory.

A reference to these topics would be incomplete without an allusion to the valuable services of the Northwest Mounted Police, which may justly be regarded by Canada generally as indispensable, under present conditions, to the well-being of those extensive and promising portions of the Dominion in which they are stationed.

Immediately after the prorogation of Parliament, my Government communicates through the Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba with the Government of the Province in order to ascertain upon what lines the local authorities of Manitoba would be prepared to promote amendments to the Acts respecting education in schools in that Province, and whether any arrangement was possible with the Manitoba Government which would render action by the Federal Parliament in connection unnecessary. I regret to say that the advisors of the Lieut.-Governor have declined to entertain favorably these suggestions, thereby rendering it necessary for my Government, in pursuance of its declared policy, to introduce legislation in regard to this subject. The papers will be laid before you.

I am happy to inform you that the representations of my Government and the suggestions of the Ottawa Conference, respecting steamship communication, have resulted in an announcement by the Imperial authorities of their willingness to grant a substantial subvention towards the Atlantic portion of the scheme. This will, I trust, ensure the successful establishment of a line of steamers between the United Kingdom and Canada which, in point of speed and equipment, shall fully meet all requirements.

My Government has also learned with satisfaction that it is the intention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies [illegible] a committee to consider a [illegible] Pacific cable to connect Canada [illegible]alia.

[illegible]m sure, share the grati- [illegible] my advisors welcome [illegible]ents, as affording fur- [illegible] the desire of Her Ma- [illegible]nt to draw closer to [illegible] mother land the out- [illegible] the Queen's dominions. [illegible] on these subjects will also [illegible]ted to you.

Your [illegible]endance will be asked to measures intended to provide for the better arming of our militia and the strengthening of Canadian defences.

The growth of population in the Northwest Territory, as disclosed by the last enumeration, calls for additional representation in Parliament. A bill for this purpose will be laid before you.

I am happy to be able to inform you that the Commissioners appointed by Great Britain and the United States for the purpose of delimiting the boundary between Alaska and Canada have concluded their labors, and have signed a [illegible]t report for the representatives of [illegible] respective Governments. This report will be laid before Parliament in [illegible]

[illegible] of the Right Hon. the [illegible] for the Colonies, a [illegible]ernment visited England [illegible] confer with the Im- [illegible] the question of [illegible]ill be laid be- [illegible] that this sub- [illegible] your earnest at- [illegible]

[illegible]ked to consider [illegible]sion and develop- [illegible]gricultural pro- [illegible]rgdom and other [illegible]

[illegible] Commons:

[illegible]nd the esti- [illegible] will be laid [illegible]e been framed [illegible]omy, consist- [illegible]ments of the public [illegible]e pleased to learn that [illegible]he country show a grad- [illegible]uous increase, and that [illegible] equilibrium between income [illegible]ture on consolidated fund ac- [illegible] the current year bids fair to be realized.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I commend these subjects and others which may come before you to your earnest consideration, relying upon your wisdom and prudence, under the Divine guidance, to discharge with dignity and effect the high trust committed to your care.

APPOINTMENTS MADE.

Mr. R. S. White Gets the Montreal Collectorship.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.--The Cabinet got a move on to-day. Three new Senators were appointed. The writ for Charlevoix was ordered to be issued, the election being fixed for 27th January, and a New Year's gift was tendered to to "Bob" White, in the shape of the Collectorship of Customs for the Port of Montreal.

The three new Senators are Mayor Villeneuve of Montreal, for de Salaberry division, formerly represented by the late Joseph Tasse; William Owens of Montreal, for the Inkerman division, in succession to the late Sir John Abbott; and James O'Brien, of Montreal, for the district formerly represented by the late Edward Murphy.

Montreal, Dec. 31.--(World's special.)--It has been a long time since political excitement has been so high among[illegible] the people as it was to-day and a g[illegible] deal more comment is indulged in [illegible] the Government defeat in Jacques [illegible]tier than over Mr. McShane's [illegible] in Montreal Centre. There is, in a wor[illegible] but one opinion here, and it is that noth[illegible]ing short of an entire reconstruction can save the Liberal-Conservative party from utter disaster. The opinion is that Sir Mackenzie Bowell should give place to some other man, and it must be said that to-day the name of the Canadian High Commissioner is heard on every side. It is believed in Montreal that Sir Charles Tupper could so reconstruct the Cabinet as to ensure a complete victory for the Conservative party at the approaching general elections.

It is now openly declared by every politician in the city, and conceded on all hands by the French press, that not ten votes in the whole province will be won over to the Conservative ranks by remedial legislation. When the French [illegible]nisters, Hon. Mr. Angers amongst the [illegible], decided to test the feeling of their [illegible]atriots in Vercheres over the school [illegible]ion, they were told time and again that apart from the politicians and the clergy, no interest whatever was taken in the Manitoba matter by the masses in French Canada, and this warning has been repeated time and again, but all to no purpose.

More can be said. If Sir Mackenzie Bowell will come to Montreal and visit the mercantile, professional, and, in fact, the solid French-Canadian people, irrespective of party, he will find that not only will they laugh his remedial legislation to scorn, but would rejoice if separate schools could be abolished in the province of Quebec.

Ottawa, Jan. 1.--Sir Wm. Hingston, defeated in Montreal Centre, has been called to the Senate.

Shortis' Sentence Commuted.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.--The Shortis case absorbs a large share of public attention in Ottawa and Quebec Province. The Government are as usual earning discredit by the delay in coming to a decision. It has been before the Council exactly a week, when these cases are usually disposed of in an hour or two by the adoption of the report of the Minister of Justice. In the first place it is significant that one-half of the Council voted no confidence in the Minister of Justice and rejected his conclusions, but the bald fact that the whole Cabinet should be unable to agree on a simple question whether there was any reason to interfere with the regular course of justice has caused no end of talk. The case is made worse by the report heard in several well-informed quarters that Mr. J. H. Bergeron wrote to the Premier or one of his colleagues stating that if the sentence of death was commuted it would be no use for him to again offer as a candidate in Beauharnois. The explanation of this heartless action is that there is a strong feeling against the convict in Beauharnois where Shortis was tried. The Progres de Valleyfield commenting on what it terms the disgusting spectacle presented by the politicians, says: "Valleyfield and the whole Province of Quebec are anxiously awaiting the decision of the Federal Cabinet. People ask themselves with uneasiness whether money or justice will triumph."

Today was the fifth day the Cabinet have had the matter under consideration. The Governor General is taking an unusual interest in the case,and has talked it over with nearly all the Ministers individually at Rideau Hall. Mrs. Shortis, the mother, had an interview with Lady Aberdeen two weeks ago. At today's meeting of the Cabinet an order was passed recommending clemency, and the Governor General's approval was given immediately. Shortis is to be imprisoned for life as a criminal lunatic. The vote in the Council is as yet a secret, but during the first days of the case Council was about evenly divided.

Lord Aberdeen Responsible.

Ottawa, Jan. 1--It is understood that after a number of meetings of Council at which the case of the prisoner Shortis was discussed, the Cabinet, not having recommended any interference with the sentence of the court. His Excellency, the Governor-General, made representations to the Home Government by cable, stating the facts and received a reply to the effect that in such a case his duty would be to exercise his own judgment, and His Excellency has decided that, under the circumstances, the sentence should be commuted to imprisonment for life. The necessary steps have, therefore, been taken to carry out the decision of His Excellency. There can be no doubt that a lunatic asylum will be his future place of confinement.

Montreal Centre.

(Witness, Dec. 28).

There is not much danger of the significance of yesterday's election in the Centre division of Montreal being underestimated by anybody or any party. The fact that stands broadly forth in full view is that the government has lost the confidence of the very heart of the city of Montreal, and indeed of the Dominion of Canada. The Liberals are to-day in possession of the very citadel of protection in Canada. A constituency which includes within its bounds the headquarters and chief mills and works of the greatest manufacturing interests of the country, the centre of all the great shipping interests, both ocean and inland, of the country; the all but greatest railway headquarters, and the greater part of the wholesale trade of the Dominion, whose industrial population are more liable than those of any other to be under pressure from protected interests, which have always been without conscience in the use of such pressure, and which have ever been lavish in expenditure on far less critical contests than this one, has, after a campaign in which the chief members of the government and the chief leaders of the Opposition have discussed at great length the opposing fiscal policies of the two parties, rejected the Conservative Protectionist candidate and elected the Tariff Reform Liberal candidate. There can be no doubt whatever that had protectionism had as strong a hold upon the masses of the people of Canada as it has had in former times the government candidate would have been triumphantly elected in spite of all adverse influences and of the most affectionate caresses of a pet. The Conservatives have refused to believe that the workingmen's associations of this district, which have been passing tariff reform resolutions during the last three or four years, were in earnest. They must surely be convinced of it now when a majority of twelve hundred for a protectionist candidate of five years ago is today turned into a tariff reform majority of over three hundred.

The result was attained in the face of the greatest efforts on the part of the protectionist manufacturers, who knew well its importance as an effective influence upon the approaching general elections, which cannot much longer be postponed by a hopelessly discouraged government. The very greatest protectionist manufacturers and millers of the Dominion have led in the campaign, and they have been utterly defeated on their own ground, and that in a by-election in which the whole influence and power of the government was concentrated. It is not easy to say how far Manitoba school question helped the Liberals; possibly it reduced their vote as much as it added to it. Every effort was made by circulars distributed at the church doors and otherwise to show that Sir William Hingston represented the policy of the Church, and this must have influenced many. Probably more were influenced pro and con by attempts made by Mr. McShane's supporters to prejudice Sir William Hingston in the minds of the French by recalling his policy as mayor in enforcing order on the day of the Guibord funeral and in the minds of the Irish by connecting him with the side of law and order in the Hackett row. These were powerful influences against him in the quarters in which they were used, and at least equally powerful influences in his favor in places for which they were not intended. Straight promises were made to the Orangemen that the goverment, in spite of its strong assertions to the contrary, would put forward no remedial legislation. It is, of course, impossible to say how far they were influenced by such promises to follow their habitual course. There was no occasion for any one on either side to be led astray by underhand talk. The Liberal policy on the school question, that of having an investigation and acting upon its showing, looking first amicably to Manitoba to do so, was loudly proclaimed. The electors knew and understood that party's stand on all issues.

It will be said that the personal influence of Mr. McShane had considerable effect, and this is true, but it does not, as the Conservative organs confess, explain the result, for Mr. McShane has been defeated [illegible]en he was as popular as he is to-day [illegible] Conservatives, too, had an [illegible]pular and strong candidate [illegible]ersonal weakness. He is [illegible] strongest candidate they [illegible]ht out in that division, a [illegible] esteem of Irish, French [illegible] Protestants and Catho- [illegible] government candidate [illegible] contend against a feel- [illegible] the part of many Con- [illegible] are disgusted with the [illegible]nd vacillation of the govern- [illegible] Mackenzie Bowell has made [illegible]dges to the Montreal Board of [illegible]ch he never kept, especially in [illegible] customs reforms, and the ty- [illegible] the government in its adminis- [illegible]as created much ill-feeling The [illegible] the government in trading so [illegible]pon appointments to office, and putting the whole country to inconvenience, while dangling these prizes before the eyes of members and political hacks in order to stimulate their partisan zeal, has disgusted the plain people. In fact, the people demand a change of government--even the people of the constituency in which the Curran bridge steal took place.

William Smith, a nurse, was found dead in a fence corner near Chatham, frozen stiff as the result of intoxication.

Mr. R. W. Knight has been elected Mayor of Woodstock by acclamation.

ROCKWOOD.

Nomination was held in the hall at Centre Inn, and attracted a large crowd of electors. The following were nominated:

Reeve--John Rea, Joseph Fletcher, David Rea.

Deputy Reeve--Daniel Talbot, Robert Scott.

Councillors--Wm. Argo, D. McGregor, Chas. McNab, Geo. Armstrong.

The two Reas nominated for Reeve are cousins, and if both run it will be a kind of family quarrel. For Deputy Reeve the two gladiators, Talbot and Scott will enter the arena. They are both capable men, but only one of them can get in. Mr. Armstrong, who was nominated for the Council was not present at the nomination, and it is not known whether he will consent to be a candidate. With the exception of Mr. Armstrong, all the candidates made short addresses, the burden of which was "I wish you all a happy New Year." Messrs. H. Hortop, John Dickieson, Jr., James Fletcher and James Black were nominated for the Council, but resigned. Mr. A. S. D. Hill made a very sensible suggestion to the members of the new Council concerning cows running at large. He said it was a piece of nonsense to pay farmers a certain amount for planting trees, and paying an inspector $2 a day to find out whether they are alive or dead, then allow cattle of all kinds to run on the road and eat down the trees. He advocated prohibiting cattle from running at large.

At the regular meeting of the Rock- Lodge, A. O. U. W. last Friday one candidate was initiated into the Junior Degree, and the following officers were elected for the coming year:

P. M. W.--S. Loree.
M. W.--J. J. Aldous.
Foreman--J. Jago.
Overseer--J. Gibbons.
Recorder--T. Lundy.
Financier--J. W. Knowles.
Receiver--Jos. Croft.
Guide--M. Loree.
Inner Watch--P. Orme,
Outer Watch--R. Nickell.
Representative to Grand Lodge--S. Loree. Alternate--T. Lundy.

The following officers were elected by Court Victoria, A. O. F., to serve for 1896:--

P. C. R.--E. Tindall.
C. R.--C. Hill.
S. C. R.--C. Strange.
Treasurer--R. Moore.
Secretary--W. Croft.
S. W.--W. Jago.
J. W.--Geo. Bolton.
S. B.--S. Pevoy.
J. B.--P. Kennedy.
Auditors--J. Strachan, W. Hortop, J. W. Stinson.

December 31st.

The Hamilton Iron and Steel Company's blast furnace for the smelting of iron was lighted for the first time Monday, in the presence of several hundred spectators.

A meeting of the Montreal creditors of Samson, Kennedy & Co., of Toronto, was held Monday, when a statement was presented, showing a total deficiency of $219,486. It is expected that the estate will pay about thirty cents on the dollar.

All the brewing companies doing business in Chicago have perfected an agreement by which the price of beer will be advanced in January one dollar a barrel. It is estimated that this will result in the closing of some two thousand small saloons.

Dr. D. E. Brooke was found dead in a room adjoining his office in the Bell Block, Ouellette avenue, Windsor. The cause of death is supposed to be a rupture of a blood vessel. He practised for ten years in New Hamburg.

Mr. Paul Campbell for more than eight years a partner in the wholesale dry goods firm of John Macdonald & Co., will retire owing to ill-health. Two brothers join, the firm now being composed of the four brothers: John Kidston, James, Fraser, Duncan M. and Arthur N. Macdonald.

E. R. Bollert & Co's
MIDWINTER
Clearing Sale.
12 Days Price Cutting.

Commencing on Friday, January 3rd, and ending on Thursday evening, January 16th.

"SHORT, I SHARP, I DECISIVE."

In some departments we are overstocked, in others we have picked up extraordinary Bargains, where wholesalers or manufacturer's were overstocked, and in every department we show a most complete and varied stock, with this one fault sticking out prominently from every shelf and counter,

Too much of It.

We have decided on a two weeks' sacrifice sale, to clear out many thousands of dollars of superabundant stock. We limit the time, make it short, and it will be all the more lively. Like a big stream compressed into a narrow channel, the rush becomes intense. This Midwinter Sale will be a panacea for the "hard times," as a dollar will go further than you have ever seen it go before.

Every department has the prices reduced. We have no room for details in today's advt.

Black Dress Goods,
Fancy Dress Goods,
Black and Colored Silks,
Staple Cottons,
Staple Woolens,
Staple Linens,
Wool Hosiery,
Underclothing,
Kid Gloves
Fur Gauntlets,
Dress Trimmings,
Men's Clothing,
Boy's Clothing,
Tweeds and Cloths.
Shirts and Drawers,
Collars and Ties,
Millinery and Mantles,
Fur Capes,
Fur Jackets,
All Fur Coats,
Carpets
Oil Cloths,
Curtains,
Window Shades.

Remember the opening day of our Sale

Friday, Jan. 3rd, '96

E. R. Bollert & Co.,
25 and 27 Wyndham St., Guelph

We Seriously Challenge

Comparison of our Boys' Suits with others at higher prices as below given---being several large clearing lines (mostly in better class goods) bought, we mustn't say how low, but you are getting the benefit. Desirable Goods below value never lack appreciation. The low prices will be manifest to any inspecting customer

Compare ours at	$2 00	worth	elsewhere	at	$2 50
do	do	3 00	do	do	4 00
do	do	3 25	do	do	4 50
do	do	3 50	do	do	4 75
do	do	3 60	do	do	4 90
do	do	4 00	do	do	5 50
do	do	4 25	do	do	5 60
do	do	4 50	do	do	5 80
do	do	4 75	do	do	6 00

We do as we say.

JAN. 2, 1896. G. B. RYAN & Co.

Boots and Shoes.

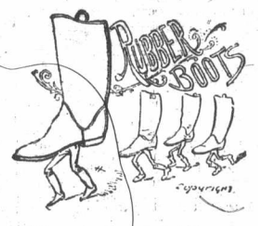
20 Per Cent Discount
Off all our
Fancy Slippers
For New Year's.
Panels given away with Shoes.

The Leading Shoe Store.
W. McLAREN & CO.

W. G. SMITH
20 WYNDHAM STREET.
SEE OUR
GENUINE BARGAINS
to clear out the remainder of our Stock.

$1.00 Games now 50c.
50c. Games now 25c.
25c. Games now 13c.
$1.00 Toys now 50c.
50c. Toys now 25c.
25c Toys now 13c.

China Cups and Saucers at Reduced Prices.
Dolls at half Price.
Boys' Own, Girls' Own, a very few left, to be sold at a reduction.
Came and get some of the Bargains while they last.



They Stand First

During or after a heavy rain, when the water is ankle or knee deep. Ordinary shoes fail entirely, there is no other way It's Rubber Boots or wet feet. We keep them in Child's, Misses, Boy's and Men's,

100 One Hundred Pairs

Of Gents' Stylish Lace Shoes for skating, walking, for church, or anything you please, for $1.25, regular price $1:75 and $2. Look for them in our window.

NEILL,
The Shoe Man.

Special Holiday Sale.

SHOE SALE
all this week and until New Year's. Save
20 per cent off
All Leather and Felt Goods.
All goods marked in Plain Figures.
Coffee's Block, opposite G. B. Ryan & Co's. W. C. Goetz

Grand Holiday Sale
—OF—
Furs.
SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR CHRISTMAS
Your choice of over
1,000 Useful Articles
New and Handsome
AT
Ketcher & Hendley's
M. M. Tailors.

JAMES I. HILL,
VOICE SPECIALIST, DIRECTOR
[illegible]ners Church Choir. Concert engage- [illegible] Voices tested without charge. [illegible] 5 p. m. Recep- [illegible] room 8,

RED FLAG

Knitted Woolen Shawls
Grey, Pink, Cream, &c. "Samples," at wholesale price.

Cloth Shawls
Single and Double, "Samples," at wholesale price.

Pink, Cream, Cardinal, Navy, Light Blue, all wool Serges, 25c.

All Shades Surah Silks 35c. a yard, regular 50c.
Fur Capes $30 kind for $22.
Fur Capes $28 kind for $21.
Fur Capes $25 kind for $18 50.

D. E. Macdonald & Bro.

THE WORLD'S BLEND
Ceylon Teas

I have a full assortment of these celebrated TEAS--noted for their strength and fine flavour.

A large and well assorted stock of Choice Staple and Fancy Groceries, Ham, Pork, Sausages, &c.

JAS. H. SIMPSON, Water[illegible] No[illegible]

JOHN MITCHELL,
UNDERTAKER
Office--Douglas Street, near the [illegible] Office.
TELEPHONE CON[illegible]

We return our many thanks
To all our Patrons
For their Liberal Patronage during the past year.

WE WISH
ONE AND ALL
a
Happy NEW YEAR

Jos. Pequegnat.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY.
FOR
Christmas and New Year's Holidays
WILL MAKE
Special Rates for all Single First Class Fare

Going Dec. 24th and 25th, returning Dec. 26th, 1895.
Going Dec. 31st and Jan. 1st, returning Jan. 2nd, 1896.

Single First class Fare and one Third

Going Dec. 21st to 25th, } Returning until
Going Dec. 28th to Jan 1st, } Jan 7th, 1896.

Special Rates for Students and Teachers
Single first class Fare and One-Third,

Going Dec 13th to 24th, returning until Jan. 13th, 1896.

Special Rates for Commercial Travellers
Single First-Class Fare

Going Dec. 20th to 25th, returning until Jan. 7th, 1896.

J. HEFFERNAN, Agent,
Corner Wyndham and Macdonnell streets.

How is that?

Flour is down, but wheat is not. Why the great demand for

Conestoga White Lily Flour

Is doing it. For the Christmas Holidays I am selling Conestoga White Lily Flour at $1.70 per cwt., 50lbs for 85c, and 25lbs for 45cts.
Horton's Roller Flour at $1.65 per cwt.
Give them a trial.

Also, ROLLER OATMEAL AND BREAKFAST CEREALS of all kinds at lowest cash prices.

The Mammoth Flour, Feed and Seed Store,
JAMES HEWER,
dc 45 Macdonnell-st. East.

Grossmith,
Roger & Gallet,
Lubin,
Atkinson,
Pinaud,
Bartro,
Milot,
Seeley,
Taylor,

They make Perfume
We sell it
in bulk and in fancy cut glass bottles suitable for Xmas gifts.

Herod & Co.,
Druggists and Perfumers,
Corner Wyndham and Cork Streets.
Telephone 46. dw

Junction Hotel, and Wheel Inn,
JOSEPH D. HEFFERNAN. Prop.

THIS WELL KNOWN HOTEL ON THE Fergus and Guelph Road, has been rented by me and it is being fitted up so as to give better accommodation to the travelling public. The bar is supplied with the best liquors and cigars, and the dining and sleeping departments will receive special attention. Good stabling in connection. A call solicited.
mayldw JOS. D. HEFFERNAN.

X SECURE THE SHADOW Mas
Before the substance fades, by going to
BURGESS & SON
and sitting for some of their
LIFE LIKE PHOTOS.
to send your friends for a Xmas box.
Established 1859. dw