

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 9 1908

FOUR

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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 9, 1908.

IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

At the present season when the Conservative opposition is wasting the time of the federal parliament, when a new government is feeling its way in New Brunswick, when Ontario and Quebec elections are announced and when a federal campaign is in the air, little attention is being given to Newfoundland. Yet in the ancient colony a political struggle is in progress which contains features of a rather unusual nature. Politics in Newfoundland have always been of an unsettled type, owing to the changing complexion of the various parties, and while in the coming contest two well defined policies will be placed before the people, they are in principle almost identical, and the men supporting them do so not because of Liberal vs. Conservative beliefs, but merely because in the turmoil of past years they have been tossed about from one side to the other and are endeavoring now to find a firm foothold. Politics are in the transition state, and party lines do not separate the opposing forces. In 1885 Sir Robert Thorburn was in power, leader of the Merchants party. He was defeated in 1889 by Hon. Wm. V. Whiteway at the head of the so-called Whelpies. In this latter government Robert Bond and Edward Morris were members. These two are the opposing leaders in the present parties. During the reign of the Whiteway government, Newfoundland flourished, but a period of serious depression brought about, in 1897, the downfall of the party. Sir James Winger assumed office and it was in his time that the Reid railway contract was introduced. The scandal following the passage of this bill was responsible for many defeats in the Winter party. In this parliament, Bond, who became leader of the opposition after Whiteway's defeat, was deserted by Morris and several other supporters who however remained in opposition, though not in the front rank of the cabinet. In the agitation which developed from the Reid exposures, an effort was made to depose Winger in favor of A. B. Morris. The chief result was that through the connivance of Morris a split was produced in the government ranks, and Bond at a special session called to deal with the Anglo-French media vivendi, defeated the government on a vote of confidence motion.

Then Mr. Reid entered political life, joining with Mr. Morris in the leadership of the reorganized Conservative party. Bond and Morris also made up their differences, and the support of numbers of Conservatives and easily carried the country in 1900, Bond becoming premier and Morris leader of the opposition. The latter did not hold the confidence of his party and was displaced in favor of Goodridge who had been premier for a few months in 1894. Then some of the old Conservatives, organized under Whiteway and Judge Morrison, joined forces with Goodridge, Winger and Morris, and put up in the following general election a creditable but wholly unsuccessful fight. Mr. Morris remained as leader of the opposition until 1906 when, on resigning, he was succeeded by Charles Dwyer, recently deceased. Since the elections of 1904 there have been dissensions in the Bond ministry. Morris, the ablest politician in Newfoundland, resigned on a labor question after having witnessed attacks from his own colleagues on the Reid railway deal. On the resignation of Capt. Dwyer, Sir Edward Morris was requested to leave the Bond party and become leader of the opposition, now known as the People's party. He has done so. The coming fight will be between Bond and Morris. These two leaders are supported by men of both political tendencies, and in fact there are just as many Conservatives on one side as on the other. Morris is an advanced Liberal, a strong imperialist. Bond is only nominally a Liberal. Both have the same policy. Each one denounces the confederation tendency of the other and repudiates any such inclination on his own part. Bond points to the past seven or eight years of progress as a reason for his future support; Morris adopts the Whiteway policy which prevailed during the former period of prosperity. The outcome is doubtful, the result will not make any material difference in the government of the island.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The board of trade is to be warmly congratulated on the success which has attended the first week of its boom movement, but surprise is caused when it is seen by the list of new members that many prominent business men have for so long refrained from joining the board. This organization should be a power in the city, and its success will come only when the majority of merchants and professional men take personal interest in the work. Strength is found in united effort.

fort, and St. John needs such a body as the board of trade now promises to become.

THE HOME FOR INCURABLES.

Judge Ritchie is credited with the statement that Terence McLaughlin, suffering from consumption, should have been admitted to the home for incurables, that this institution under the terms of Mr. Turnbull's will was intended to be free to all, and should be so. His words while not making any direct assertion that the home is not managed along this line, contain an inference to this effect. As a matter of fact those persons who are absolutely unable to pay for their support are always given the preference in the home. If two applications for admission are received, one from a paying patient, the other from a man or woman unable to pay, the latter is always given first consideration. At the present time, however, the Home for Incurables is full to the doors and there are at least several or eight applicants on the waiting list. As vacancies occur the applications are dealt with and the most unfortunate persons are first received.

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S MODEL MARE.

(From the Plymouth Record.) The following verses are in regard to Mr. Adin Philbrick's faithful horse that died recently:

We are sorry Adin has lost his horse, No wonder he was surprised. Over eight years she was on the route, Every other day, at least.

With her he was always safe, Of autos she was not afraid, She was at work for Uncle Sam A more faithful one was never made.

Her task she had completed All right the day before, No wonder he was surprised When he opened the stable door.

She could see no end of work, Though enough that she had done, So she quietly laid down and died Before the morning's sun.

"I think we ought to go in for the town beautiful. Any improvement that you could recommend?"

"I would suggest that you remove the dark pants which have filled the broken pane in your parlor window all winter and substitute a discarded shirt waist or something dicker."

Natica—Grace used to be passionately fond of her flowers before she married Moneybags, but she doesn't care for them now.

Dwelyn—She doesn't? Natica—No; she now has an unsatisfied longing for weeds.

"I see," said the old lady, "that's a lot of talk 'bout women's rights" in the paper now. What does it all mean?"

"Hi! means, Maria," said the old man, "that women air a-takin' the places what men occupied. You'll find the plough right where I left it, and when you sharpen the ax you kin sell into a dozen cords of wood; and I'll have supper a-billin' when you git home."

"The honest man has nothing to fear."

"That's because the honest man is always poor and has nothing to lose."

"What business is Miss Gaddie in?"

"Oh, she's in everybody's business."

"Whole sale, eh?"

"Yes, except when it comes to a bit of scandal; she retails that."

A fine robust soldier, an Irishman, after serving Uncle Sam for some time, became greatly reduced in weight owing to exposure and scanty rations, until he was so weak he could hardly stand. Consequently he got leave of absence to go home and recuperate.

He arrived at his home station looking very much of a wreck. Just as he stepped off the train one of his old friends rushed up to him and said:

"Well, well, Pat, I am glad to see you're back from the front."

"Begorra, I know I was getting thin, but I never thought you could see that much," said Pat.

Kirk Brown presented the comedy drama "By Right of Sword" to a packed house last night in the Opera House. With the scene laid in Russia and the plot involved with Nicholas the Czar, the play gives rise to many dramatic situations which were presented in a striking and thrilling manner by the company.

Kirk Brown in the role of Richard Hamilton, an American, who for a time takes the place of a Russian count, entirely fulfilled the expectations of the audience. There is a broad vein of comedy in the play and in interpreting this Mr. Brown shows himself as able an artist as in the more heroic roles in which he has established his greatest popularity.

The part of the charming Russian heroine was ably sustained by Margaret Fields. Frank H. Fay did very good work as Bennett, Hamilton's valet. Margaret Dow, as Countess Turek, Henry Crosby, as Major Deverski and Theodore Bud as the American Consul also had heavy roles to which they did full justice.

As usual with Mr. Brown's plays the stage settings and the costumes were an attractive feature of the presentation.

The play will be repeated tonight. At the matinee this afternoon The Christian will be played.

"Silver Plats that Wear" Silver For All Occasions No better gift can be suggested than a daily plate of silver marked "1847 ROGERS BROS."

Knives, forks, spoons, etc., so marked have a reputation for artistic charm and enduring quality. SOLD BY LEADING DEALERS DIXIE, DOW, AS, CROSBY, etc. Should be marked MERIDEN BRITS CO.

SATURDAY SERMONETTE

HARD DAYS.

I suppose they come to every person Job thought the east wind was responsible for them. But I have had them when the wind came from the south. And you have had them when the wind blew from the north and the children have had them when it came from the west. So I think the wind brings them.

Homer must have had them or he would not have nodded. Our minister had one last Sunday for the sermon was dry.

The editor had one, yes, several, for his leader was weak and his paper fat, and I know he will have another hard day when he reads—if he does—the editorial he wrote yesterday.

There are days when the bread—like a lazy man don't care to rise, and the biscuits are heavy and the cake, like our country, is fat.

There are days when trade is dull in the store, and when everything goes wrong in the factory.

There are days when there are duns, and duns, and duns.

Days when we are nervous and days when we are blue.

Days when we are cross, days when we talk too much and days when we don't (not many) talk enough.

There are days when company comes and we don't know what to get for dinner.

There are days when we want our friends to come in and they don't come and there are days when we don't want them and they come.

There are days when we look our worst when we want to look our best, and when we wear our dress and our hat blows off and our hair tumbles down and just then "HIE!" comes around the corner.

There are days when the editor wants to write his best and can't. There are days when the preacher wants to preach his best and preaches his worst.

There are days when we are called on to "make a few remarks" and think after you go home of a many brilliant things you might have said.

Consume yourself my friend with the thought that if you have any hard days, so has every person that lives, has lived, will live.

Thaddeus

SLEEPING DRAUGHTS AND SOOTHING MIXTURES

A wise mother will never give her little one a sleeping draught, soothing mixture or opiate of any kind except upon the advice of a skillful doctor, who has seen the child. All these things contain deadly poison. When you give your baby or child Baby's Own Tablets you have the guarantee of a government analyst that this medicine does not contain one particle of opiate or narcotic, and therefore cannot possibly do harm—but always do good. Mrs. Geo. M. Kempf, Carleton Place, Ont. "I have given Baby's Own Tablets to my baby since he was two weeks old. He is a very small thin baby, but thanks to the Tablets he is now a big, fat, healthy boy." Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

BAPTIST.

On Sunday evening, May 10, in the Leicester street Baptist church the pastor will preach a sermon to the young people. A few young people are invited to attend.

H. J. LOGAN GOING SOUTH

OTTAWA, May 8.—H. J. Logan, member for Cumberland, is leaving Ottawa today for the south. He has been slightly indisposed for a few days and is going to recuperate.

Premier Asquith of the House of Commons, London, yesterday presented a Budget, which showed Great Britain's surplus for the year 1907-8 to be \$23,620,000. The new budget reduces the duty on sugar from 4s 2d (\$1.04) to 1s 10d (45 cents) per hundredweight. The April statement of the board of trade shows decreases of \$48,414,000 in imports and \$18,657,500 in exports. The principal decrease in imports is found in raw materials, of which wool shows \$10,000,000 and cotton from America \$17,600,000. With regard to exports, manufactured metals show a decrease of \$5,000,000 and textiles a decrease of \$7,500,000.

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MEN'S BALMORALS, Prices \$1.50 to \$3.50

We have made preparations for handling a larger share of Boots and shoes these prices, and we have now a wonderfully complete stock of Dongola Kid, Box Calf, Box Kip, Bull and Split Leather Balmorals.

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MEN'S PATENT BLUCHER BALS, \$3.50.

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PERCY J. STEEL, FOOT FURNISHER, 519-521 Main St. SUCCESSOR TO WM. YOUNG.

DR. ELLIS REPORTS

ON THE LANDSLIDE AT LA SALETTE

A Scientific Explanation of Disaster—No Prevention Possible.

OTTAWA, May 8.—Dr. H. W. Ellis, of the Geological Survey, who went to Notre Dame de la Salette the day after the landslide there, has made a report on the occurrence. The report deals also with similar occurrences which have been recorded from time to time in the Province of Quebec.

Dr. Ellis' report in part is as follows: "The recent landslide at Salette on the Lievre, occurred at 4:30 Sunday morning, April 26. As compared with other landslides in the Province of Quebec the land damage was quite small involving not more than six acres, but in the attendant loss of life it was the most disastrous hitherto recorded in Eastern Canada.

"The length of the slide along the river Lievre from north to south was about 1,500 feet, with a maximum breadth of 350 to 400 feet. The height of the clay bank affected was about 60 feet above the present level of the river.

"The clay areas in which the landslides occur are bounded on both sides by hills of Laurentian rock, granite and gneiss mostly and the original clay deposits rest upon these rocks, which often show smoother or glaciated surfaces, which have been caused by the action of the glacier ice. The known slides, however, do not move along the rock surfaces, but along partings in the clay deposits.

"When these deposits are undisturbed the clay is usually the blue, tough and plastic variety, known as Leda clay. These are in places covered by sands deposits known as Saxicava sands. The clay often lies in thick beds, rarely horizontal, or with a gentle slope towards the river, and the layers are generally separated by thin beds of arenaceous silt. This silt when saturated with water rapidly passes into a condition of fluidity and under the pressure of the overlying clay body tends to destroy the equilibrium of the soil mass as when the heaving of the upper portion through the weight of the absorbed moisture causes a slide in the direction of 'less resistance,' which is usually furnished by some river valley.

"The direct cause of the slide or slip at this place was evidently the formation of a creek or fissure a short distance back from the front of the river bank. By this fissure the water from the surface which was in a saturated condition from recent snow or from rain fall, percolated downward to an inclined bed of clay which is exposed in the basal portion of the slip, dipping in the direction of 'less resistance,' which is usually furnished by some river valley.

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Dr. John G. Leonard, Dentist

15 Charlotte Street, ST. JOHN, N. B.

the ice, which was a foot or more in thickness, was lifted and carried upward and over the low slope on which the village was placed, which had an elevation of about 10 to 15 feet above the river level.

It was without doubt the sudden and rapid movement of the ice which destroyed, not only the greater part of the village, but a large portion of the people as well. Since the slide it has been in bed, and the action was so sudden to admit of escape in many cases. The attendant wave of water from the river washed the debris of the ruined buildings, along with a number of bodies, to the slope of the hill in the rear, where much of it was deposited at an elevation of about 50 feet above the stream. The receding wave swept away the greater part of the ice and the ruined buildings, with a number of the imprisoned bodies and carried them down the river toward Baddeck. The whole catastrophe could have taken but a few minutes. The channel of the stream was blocked by the sliding clay and silt, and the water was dammed back to a height of 8 to 10 feet, which caused minor injuries in the north end of the village. This slide was therefore due to the breaking down of the front of an old landslide. After reviewing previous landslides in the district Dr. Ellis says:

"The causes of these St. Lawrence and Ottawa landslides may be briefly summed up thus:

"1. The silt and arenaceous nature of the Leda clays, rendering them capable of absorbing and retaining a large amount of water; and

"2. The increased precipitation during the seasons when these landslides occurred, which saturated the deposits and gave them greater weight than usual. These conditions combined produced an unstable equilibrium of the beds, resulting in displacement and a flow of the semi-liquid portion, the more coherent clays breaking down as described, and mixing with the soft material produced a tumultuous mass of mud, clay and sand which descended into the nearest valley.

"It does not appear possible to adopt any special precautions to prevent these occurrences and the simplest means to prevent loss of life is to place buildings at a suitable distance from the front of clay bluffs or shores where these sometimes unstable clay deposits are specially liable to be affected by the conditions already indicated. The loss of life at Salette is attributable in large part to conditions of ice which are not likely to be repeated, if proper precautions are taken as regards the locations of residences.

MOUNT ETNA ACTIVE.

Earthquakes Believed to be Harbinger of Extensive Eruption.