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THE NEWS.

ST. JOHN, N. B., DEC 21, 1906.

LORDS AND COMMONS.

The people of Great Britain are now flatly confronted with the question whether they desire to be ruled by the hereditary Lords or the Commons, their own elected representatives. The action of the lower house in rejecting all the Lords' amendments to the Edication Bill by an overwhelming majority makes a conflict upon this point inevitable. Whether the government will appeal to the people now or will introduce another bill and go to the country on that at a later date is apparently undecided as yet, but that the educational question directly and the fate of the House of Lords indirectly will be the one great issue of the next general election is beyond a doubt.

The fact that the Irish members voted Wednesday night with the majority would seem to indicate delay, pending a compromise between the gov-With the bill as introduced by Mr. Birrell the Catholics dissented almost as vigorously as the Anglicans; but they also disagreed with the Lords' amendments; and their action in unanimously supporting the government's rejection of these, favors the theory sonable cost. with the government and that when the lines of battle are drawn the be found in the Church of England. If this be true, the situation is considerably clarified and the task

Radicals such as W T Stead unhesitatingly predict the overthrow of the upper house if it persists in its defiance of the people's will as represented in the Commons. But the English are a peculiar people. They dearly love a lord and it takes much to move them to revolution. The result of an educational question alone would undoubtedly be a verdict for the govern ment, but if they knew that in so voting they were destroying the House of Lords as at present constituted it is doubtful if even their desire for educational freedom would overcome their inbred conservatism

In 1892 Gladstone asked for a mandate to concede Home Rule to Ireland. He got it by a majority of 40 and passed his bill through the Commons. The Lords defled the Commons and the popular will by throwing out the measure and the mu. bla electorate the very next year reversed their decision, defeated the government and endorsed the Lords. This memory is still green enough to create doubt as to the action of the people in this emergency and to cause the government to hesitate before compelling the country definitely to choose which they shall

TO SETTLE INDUSTRIAL DIS-PUTES.

Mr. R. L. Borden's resolution, of which he has given notice, setting forth that better legislative provision should be made for the prevention and settlement of disputes between employers and workmen, that strikes and lockouts with their consequences may be averted, and asking that a select committee of nine be appointed to inquire into this question, and after taking evidence to report what enactments may be made, will undoubtedly when it is brought formally before the House. With the generalities upon which it is based there must be universal agreement. Anything that can

be done to prevent or settle industrial disputes without injustice to either of the contending parties will certainly be in the general interests, but in finding a way to accomplish this end, the committee which Mr. Borden recommends has a difficult task

Compulsory arbitration as the ideal nethod of maintaining peace between labor and capital has lost favor lately with both sides. The unions especially have developed strong opposition to this policy. As one instance of their eeling in the matter a motion favoring ompulsory arbitration was defeated by a large majority at the last meeting of the Trades Union Congress at Liverpool, England. The opponents of the policy argued that to adopt compulsory arbitration would be to take leap in the dark and that a certain result would be to weaken trades unionism as a combative agency on the workers' behalf. In the voting the principle of compulsory arbitration was affirmed by the representatives f 541,000 trades unionists and remoted by the representatives of 937,000 unionists. A few years ago compulsory arbitration was advocated by trades unionists in Canada, and was formally adopted by the Labor Congress as one of the chief planks of its platform, but at its more recent meetings a different opinion has prevailed. and here, as in Great Britain trades unionists now oppose the settlement of trade disputes by legal compulsion.

What other suggestion Mr. Border has in mind will be heard with interest and undoubtedly the inquiry he recommends will be ordered; for the any offorts in the direction of indusful or not, will certainly not be wast-

SAVE THE COAL LANDS.

The Toronto Giobe takes the same

stand as The Sun with reference to the action of parliament in voting down a resolution discountenancing the further alienation of coal bearing lands. The example of President Roosevelt, it says, should be followed without unnecessary delay, for every year will lessen the area of coal land in the hands of the government and increase the area impaired by private ownership and control. While society rights of private owners and has no the interest of the public whose serregard for the earlier vested rights of the people as a whole, it is necessary to ward off complications by retaining the title to all remaining coal measures. If we allow this coal to pass unreservedly into private hands it may at any time become as inaccessible as if it were at the north pole. Title deeds may become greater obstacles than oceans of ice. Ontario took wise precaution in reserving gold, silver, and white pine for the benefit of the public. Safeguards in the public interest have also been placed around the "white coal" of Niagara ernment and its Catholic supporters. Falls. The reservation of coal lands in the hands of the Dominion is a matter of still greater moment, for the future standard of comfort among the people and the development of industry are largely dependent in the West on a permanent supply of fuel at rea-

business, says the Globe. No such opposition to the Liberal questionable departure need be feared. policy of educational reform will Ownership will give the government a control that will insure a continuous supply at fair prices by the operating companies. This is all the public desire, and it is what they have a right of the government made much easier. to demand. Such a result will be beset with sufficient difficulties, even if the government should act promptly and reserve all the coal deposits not already alienated. It would be a serious mistake to create more obstacles by allowing the remaining coal measures to drift into the hands of private individuals and corporations.

> ----ST. JOHN AND THE MAILS.

The postmaster general in answer to a leading question put with obvious motives by one of the members for Halifax yesterday, made a statement which on its face seems injurious to St. John and to the claims of the C. P. R. that this port is the natural mail as well as freight terminus. Its purport was that the Empress of Britain on her last trip, proceeding to St. John after landing mails at Halifax, did not reach dock here arrived at Montreal, being delayed by lack of water and by thick fog.

It is true that the entrance channel passage at extreme low water to vessels as large as the Empresses, and for both. that the federal government is confronted by few more pressing duties pany's hospitality, there was a tendthan the task of dredging and ency in all the speeches to place St. straightening this channel. It is also John, with respect to the C. P. R. as true that Saturday morning the temas a grateful beneficiary, rather than as a partner and co-worker. There was perature being far below zero, there much talk of what the city and the was a heavy mist lying close to the provincial government and the federal water and making navigation difficult. But had there been any occasion for haste in landing mails or passengers and for this port. from the Empress of Britain, neither an hour's delay. The boat carried no mails and all of her passengers were ized. But for that railway our procity until the evening, so the officials took their time. Had she been landing mails here she would have been met by a tender, as she is in Halifax.

as if the steamer had come up to her

wharf. And if she had been all to come direct to St. John the would have reached Montreal at as quickly as by the Halifax route and the country would have been saved the considerable amount money represented in the difference saved the cons weet the cost of rall haul from John and from Halifax.

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION IN CANADA.

Another notable advance in the di rection of public control of public utilities was announced by the Minister of Labor in the House of Commons yesterday. Following the establishment of the Labor Bureau, the passing of the Conciliation Act, the creation of the Railway Commission and the steady extending of its authority over railways and telephone systems. comes this Compulsory Arbitration bill, similarly inspired and pregnant with similar results another evidence of the government's watchful protection of the public interests against the oppressions of class combines, whether of capital or labor.

While there may be ground for obtection against state interference in all disputes between employers and employes-though this has worked well in New Zealand-there can be none against the government's present proposal to prevent or bring to a speedy end all disputes in which the general interests are directly involved, as they are in strikes or lockouts in coal mines, lighting plants, water supply systems or on railways. Indeed the only apparent fault the opposition has to find with the bill is that it does not go far enough and compel the acceptance of the arbitration's results, by force of arms, if necessary. But it is characteristic of the government that while it is liberal and progressive in its ideas it is cautious and conservative in their application, preferring to make haste slowly than to embark rashly on a line of procedure from which it might be compelled later to turn back.

Beyond a doubt this Compulsory Arbitration measure will meet hearty approval from the general public and will be understood, not as an end in itself, but as another step in a movement the end of which will be such governmenta control of all great public utilities as shows infinite care for the vest 1, all ensure their operation always in vice is the reason for their existence not in the interest merely of their nominal owners or of the men who may be directly employ of therein.

FOREST PRESERVATION. The provincial representatives who have just returned from Washington would have more than justified their visit had they brought back nothing but the news that they had been able to induce Mr. Gifford Pinchot, chief of the United States forest survey, to visit New Brunswick and attend the forestry convention at Fredericton during the coming session. Mr. Pinchot is the most eminent forestry expert on the continent, and it is due to his efforts more than to anything else that the United States government is now entering upon a comprehensive scheme of forest preservation under his direcion. A mar better fitted to advis New Brunswick in the framing of a policy for the protection of her rapidly diminishing timber limits against the

could not have been found anywhere. In addition to securing Mr. Pinchot's services, the attorney general and the surveyor general have had the advantage of conference with other American experts and of examining at first hand the plans now in process of execution for the perpetuation of that country's lumber supply both by methous of preservation and reforestation. As a result they will be better fitted to grapple intelligently and capably with this problem, the proper so lution of which is so important to the future wealth and welfare of the province. From the information obtained in Washington and elsewhere and from the discussion during the proposed convention there may be expected to develop a provincial forestr policy which, coming none too soon will guarantee the permanence of Nev Brunswick's greatest asset.

THE CITY AND THE C. P. R.

The delightful opportunity afforded at the luncheon on board that magnifi until several hours after the mails had cent steamship the Empress of Britain yesterday for the citizens of St. John and the officials of the Canadian Paoutside of St. John harbor from 1.45 cific to fraternize and compare opina. m. until 4.30 p. m. on December 8th ions was as profitable as it was pleas ant to both the guests and the hosts The interests of this city and this to St. John harbor does not afford safe gether and the nearer the acquaintance of each with the other the better

But as was natural yesterday, citizens being partakers of the comgovernment should do for the accomwhat the C. P. R. should do for itself

That St. John has obtained much of these conditions would have caused from the C. P. R. is undeniable. But have much to learn. The old age of for that railway our winter dreams might never have been realwest bound and could not leave the spects for the future would not be more. Mankind is still in the making. nearly so bright. But it is also true that the C. P. R. has benefited play their childish tricks and account wise it would not stay here. Unless still foolishly fight like there were profits for the company in good things of life and account each

terday, that this port was and would remain the C. P. R. terminus and that the business now done here was as nothing to what would be done. The C. P. R. is probably the greatest

and most decently conducted trans pomation company on earth. Fortun-ately indeed for Canada, the vast power and wealth of this company has hitherto been wielded by men who had in them the elements of statesman-ship as well as business ability. But still it is a private company whose chief and legitimate aim is to make profits for its owners. It does not sow where it cannot foresee a harvest and, like all corporations, it is open to the charge that, whenever oppo is given, it will gather where it has not strawed.

While St. John is in a great m dependent on the C. P. R., that coma lesser extent, indebted to St. John. And this dual benefit should not be ignored in discussion regarding the development of this port. It may be considered certain that when the time comes that the federal government practically recognize tional importance of our harbor making its proper equipment maintenance a national instead of a local burden, it will not ignore

CHEAP LABOR.

The imputation that Earl Grey is influenced by capitalistic or other class interests is unworthy of the Torcensure of the Governor General is reported elsewhere, and will do their cause no good Farl Grey may and we believe he is, mistaken in his opinion that cheap labor should be imported for the construction of Canadian railroads, but that his opinion is honest and its expression inspired only by a desire for Canadian progress, not be doubted in view of his high

character and his proven patriotism. By birth and training Earl Grey has been placed out of close touch with the working classes and his position in Canada naturally brings him in nearer contact with the money interests, so i is possible that his information may have been colored. But the very fac that a man of his mental and official eminence has been moved to a public deliverance upon this question is tain indication that there are two sides to it, that it is possible that something more than corporation greed may be back of the existing demand for labor that will enable the rapid construction of the great railroad out burdening those roads, and conse quently the people who must use them with unnecessarily large expenses.

This labor question is one that mus not be decided by the prejudice of any class or locality, nor yet by the repre private economy. The ground of de movement would have upon the social and economic prosperity of the entire

THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The statement of the year's business resented at the annual meeting o the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal, held yesterday, was, in its nature, not one to provoke criticism of the management, the profits showing an improvement of \$160,000, or more than one per cent. as compared with the previous year. In prese this most satisfactory report to the shareholders, both Sir George Drummond, the president and Mr. Clouston the vice-president and general manager, took occasion to repeat the warn ing of a year ago that times of pros perity may not be expected to remai with us always, but should be utilized in making preparation for the lear years which are sure to come. Most teresting of all, however, in the re marks of the President, was his protest against the growing prevalence of the idea that capital and corporations of all kinds were antagonistic to ravages of fire and reckless lumbermen | the general welfare. Canada is mere ly in the infancy of the developmen stage. The greater portion of that done must be done with capital secured from abroad. The difficulty of securing it under the most favorable circumstances will be great to induce its owners to invest it in a country in which there is a predomin ant disposition to regard the capital ist as a modern brigand, will be an in possible. The present era of prosperity has been in no small measure due to our industrial expansion, and vet all that has happened appears merely an indication of what may be expected provided that the men who own the apital which we require are not made timid by the exploitation-in Parliament and out of it- of the doctrine o the right of the state to confiscate, or. failing that, of undue regulation by means of a state-controlled and finance ed competition. It is well that heed should be paid to the warning. THE WISDOM OF SANTA CLAUS

Boys and girls, youths and maiden fathers and mothers, gay old grandfathers and fond old grandmothers. cheery old bachelors and jolly old maids with one consent proclaim Christmas the happiest holiday of the year. Cranky old bachelors, sour old spinsters and a few other worldlywise folk may growl and squeak their dissent, but their pessimism is due to their ignorance and they deserve pity

rather than reproach. The supremacy of Christmas is mere accident of the weather. Christmas is Christmas, because Christmas means Santa Claus. For three hunthe gay old fellow chuckles knowingly when the world passes him by as an old-fashioned, impractical fogey. Well he knows that however much men may affect to despise him in the strenuous work life, they will seek him for joy and gladness and happiness, as m have sought him these many centuries. For one gay day in the year they make him ruler supreme, and on that day

jovial behests. This intermittent worship in no wise worries his cheery old soul. The world is yet young and foolish and men port earth and the wisdom of men is but the self-consciousness of the over-serious freshman or the pompous sophe-The children of this world must still that the real business of life. Men and the mails transferred as swiftly coming to St. John, Mr. Plers would personal victory a mark of success. never had made the statement which The genial old fellow knows this child-

hat this ferocity is the embarrassing emnant of a remote ancestry. He is in no way discouraged because men learn so slowly. He patiently waits his time and once each year gives mankind a lesson in life. Once each year everybody obeys Santa Claus, and the world has a jolly good time. to live that after each happy day, with a mighty display of seriousness and wisdom, fley rise hastily and some-what shamefacedly from the foolish-

ness of Christmas and proceed to get

plunging desperately again into the

But though the world learns slowly

down to the real business of life

struggle for personal gain.

there are always a few simple folk who believe in the wisdom of Santa Claus They would make him the constant tion of men instead of an annual guest, The worldly-wise esteem him very good clown when the world goes -holidaving, but these simple folk see in him the world's great captain of inhe can turn the play of a day into happiness, he could in like manner convert the work of a year into joy. As a practical man of affairs he might not grow very rich, perhaps he would fail was mostly water; but there are foolish folk who question the reality of of Santa Claus, the business of a man of affairs is not to fill a private pocket, but to minister to social happiness Wealth is not the bone of human con tention: it is the practical bond of brotherhood. Industry is not the v

world at work for social good. After all, is Santa Claus a wise man or fool? Is he merely a clown for the orld's holiday? Or, beneath all the bluster and bluff of his boisterous manner is there the keen searching wisdom of life's best philosophy? Is he an oldfashioned dreamer of a life that can never be; or is he the clear-eyedprophet of a day that is yet to come, wh the selfish ferocity of the beast and the peevish fretfulness of the child shall have given place to the life of peace and good-will among men?

at work for private gain: it is the

If he be fool, there are those that fol low the fool. There are men in the world today, as there have ever been who believe in the wisdom of Santa Claus. Wealth is worth to them what it will buy of happiness, and happines can be bought only by brotherly kind

Is he wise man or fool? Is he prophet or clown?

Both political parties unite in strong censure of those Prince Edward Island rovernment officials who, rather than him. break any of their departmental red tape, permitted men to drown for lack of a lifeboat which was easily available. The censure is just and should o' Hem for it either." man who would not dare to accept responsibility in such an emergency is unfit to hold his position.

Every meeting of the joint commit tee of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational denominations brings church union appreciably nearer. The day when the boundaries between these great sections of the church universal shall be swept aside cannot be definite ly fixed, but that it is coming is unmis takable. And the sooner it comes the better for Christianity.

A LONG NIGHTS WALK.

(Boston Traveller.) A Chicago hotel man tells of a night vatchman in his employ a few years ago who did not take very kindly to a system, adopted at that time, whereby he was required to go through the so much mismanaged. But all these hotel at certain hours and touch a set things, so seemingly evil and intolerelectric buttons, thus indicat whereabouts at a given time.

After a while the night watchman would report at certain hours. Soon the button device got so out of order meter was moreover given to him. which would register every step he

All went well for a time. One morning, however, the watchman was miss-ing. On search being made, he was found asleep in the engine room. the pedometer so attached to the piston rod of the engine that with every stroke it registered a step. It had been travelling all night, and when taken off it registered two hundred and

THE WINTER PORT.

(Fredericton Gleaner.)

The development of St. John as the great winter port of Canada is going on anace and yet its facilities are not quite equal to the requirements. It now behooves the city, the federal and provincial governments, and the transportation companies, to work together for the one end. Past achievements should be but the precursor of better things. The next few years should see the port advance in usefulness by leaps and bounds. As Messrs. Hazen, Maxwell and Thorne pointed out in their address at the banquet on the C. P. R. Empress of Britain, the marvellous influence of the Canadian Pacific has made itself especially felt at St. John and the dream of the optimist had become a reality. It was shown that the city had incurred very large liabilities to provide the present facilities and that the city could with reason now look to the federal and provincial governments to properly equip the port for the large business that looms up head. We should never be satisfied until every pound of Canadian freight came through Canadian ports. While the expansion of the export business will peculiarly benefit St. John, the whole province will receive an impetus from its prosperity and Canada at large have the advantage of knowing that the resources of the country are not being wasted, but that in building up the port and preparing for the great trade which Canada may expect to do with other countries in the years upon us, they are keeping within their wn confines the strength which in former years was allowed to go to the building up of rival ports across the border. The citizens of St. John, who nave gone ahead and performed woniers through their faith in the future carry the work much further without opinion that the government should

nationalize the port. This is a matter

people of the country generally may and improved methods of bookkeeping know where they stand and what fur and management introduced, with the action is required.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH ON CAN-ADIAN DEFENSES.

(Weekly Sun.)

armaments about the passionate devotion of all Canadians to England. Barely half the people of Canada are now of British origin, while the French, though perfectly contented under British rule are a nationality apart, and fly the tricolor, for which some of them wish to substitute the dustry. They stoutly maintain that if ada wants to do what is right. But let it be known before we enter into an arrangement what the terms of the arrangement are to be. If Capada contributes to imperial armaments, will the Empire undertake the defense of to pay large dividends on stock that | Canada, with her land frontier, mostly open, of at least four thousand miles and her sea frontier facing Japan? such success. According to the wisdom | England still fondly dreams, or half dreams, that she has the advantage of an insular position. She has on this continent alone a military frontier longer probably than the military frontier of any other nation in the world.

FOR PRINCIPLE TO THE HILT.

(T. P.'s Weekly.) An English excursionist who was up near Balmoral on a certain occasion went into a cottage to get a drink of

"So the Queen is a neighbor of yours?" he said to the housewife, while she was serving him. 'Yes.'

"And she is quite neighborly ten't she, and comes to visit you in your cottage?"

"She's weel eneuch."

satisfied with Her Majesty. May I ask "Weel, I'll tell ye if ye wish. The fact is we don't leik the gangin's on at

the castle. We don't leik the way they keep or don't keep the Sawbath -goin' out in boats on the Sawbath day.' The excursionist tried to appease her and said: "Oh, well, after all, ma'am, you know there is a precedent for that.

You remember our Lord, too, went ou on the Sabbath-" She interrupted You canna tell me aught about Hem

that I dinna ken a'ready. An' I can teel ye this: We don't think any moon

WHAT P. E. I. WANTS.

(Charlottetown Guardian.)

The terrible experience of the winter of 1905 will never be forgotten. We rejoiced in the more favorable condition of last winter, and yet the temporary boon will be dearly paid for if it should delay, as there is reason to fear it has delayed, the one only adequate remedy for our wrongs. Three winters in sucession like that of 1905 would have forced the construction of the Tunne or driven our province into se and either result would be worth even such enormous cost. As it is, no province in the Dominion

pays so dearly for her share in the compact. No province is so shut out from the advantages which come to the other provinces from the With no other province has the Dominion so broken faith. In no other province have the services with which the federal government is charged beer useful ends. It may be best for us in the long run that these things have been rigged up an automatic arrangement and are as they are. We will not deseveral of the buttons, so that they spair, When things come to their worst they are often about to mend. So far the stronger provinces have been eatthat the management were "onto" the ing up our substance. It may yet be little scheme, and admonished the cul-prit that a repetition of the offense of the eater shall come forth meat." We must have the Tunnel!

> PUBLICITY THE REMEDY. (New York Sun)

Publicity is one of the most popula emedies for all abuses and grievances the state. Nor can it be to public matters. Private affairs. misunderstandings and scandals are all submitted to its limelight. Practically, privacy has ceased to exist. The world is a village, adequately supplied with reporters; and it is a happiness of the present age that it does not have to confine itself to the history of the past. There is too much past; there are too many accumulations and arrears of history for anybody to read it. Too often, hitherto, posterity has enjoyed the meat and marrow of the political and personal story of the preceding generation or two. Too many vital and interesting documents were

unpublished. Only an official view

things and persons was generally at-

tainable. History was served cold and Now the only history men really care about, that of their own times, is spread before the world. It is piping not. It comes from the actors and the talkers in it. It is live matter for living men. Every reader has the documents and can make up his own mind as to the facts. This is the method of some judicious historians in dealing

with events more remote. Considerations of etiquette, itself perhaps a development of savagery and the taboo, are futile. The public enjoys publicity. It will not have its great men enwrapped in seclusion condemned to silence. Curiosity is the root of knowledge. It is a universa instinct, to the satisfaction of which prudent statesmen will not fail to at-

REGENERATING THE L.C. R.

(Springfield, Mass., Republican.) It is not in these circumstances matter of surprise that the Intercolonial did not pay its way. There was a chronic deficit, and the case of the Intercolonial was always cited in refutation of any argument in favor of government ownership. But to this the reply invariably was that results on the Intercolonial were not a fair test of government ownership, and that of their city, cannot be expected to even there the deficits were due to loose and partisan political management of aid. There appears to be unanimity of the road. Some were for selling the

principles be injected into the managewhich will not permit of delay. If St. John is to reap the natural reward of position as the gateway of the Doion, the government must define pay its way. A large measure of sucposition at once, so that the citicess has attended his efforts. Leaks as of St. John, the C. P. R. and the have been stopped, passes abolished result that instead of the usual deficit of a million dollars, there was last year a small surplus, with promise of much larger one next year. Meanwhile the efficiency of the road has been kept to a high standard. Mr. Emmerson confesses that a great deal of back-Pretty strong things have been said bone is necessary to resist the de-in discussion touching contribution to rands, not of politicians, but of Boards Trade and manufacturers for a reduction in rates, which are already lower than those prevailing elsewhere in Canada. The new minister is thus setting a standard by which all future management of the road will be judged He has not achieved this success by stinting the employes, who are the best paid in Canada; and it is certain that the people served by the line would vigorously oppose a proposal to sell the road to a private company. Mr. Emmerson claims that with all its deficits the Intercolonial has more than paid its way. It has kept the Maritime Provinces to the rest of Canada. and secured for Canadians a larger trade which, without the favorable conditions existing on a governmentowned road, would have gone to the New England states. Mr. Emmerson does not propose to make the Intercol-onial a dividend-paying concern for the reason that it would be unfair to the Maritime Provinces to exact dividends on the 80 millions capital cost of the Intercolonial while the government derives no revenue from 100 millions inrested in toll-free canals in Ontario and Quebec, and the 175 millions voted in subsidies to private-owned rail-

> And now Canadians are beginning to realize that the Intercolonial is a very valuable national asset. If it has cost a lot of money, it belongs to the country, while there is nothing to show for the 175 millions voted in subsidies to private-owned roads. This feeling will doubtless give a new impetus to the movement for the nationalization of Canadian railways.

ways in the remainder of the Domin-

TO THEM WHO WAIT

Bill made a call upon his Jane, Paw sat in the next room. A very sad transement this, They had no transe to spoon.

Papa came in to take a look He thought they were too still, But Jane was sitting over there-While over here-was Bill.

had gone papa

Bill asked her for a kiss. she turned the light down very low And they sat close-likethis!

SECRETS. Away and away from the busy town, Soft on the sea the stars shine down; And nobody knows of the stars and the

But Mine and Me.

way and away the wind breathes low The branches are waving to and fro; And nobody knows of the wind in the

Rut Mine and Me.

way and away in a far somewhere The roses are red and sweet and fair! And nebody knows of a rose that may

But Mine and Me. THANK THEODOR. (Providence Journal.)

(From a Little Dipper in the Oshun of Nollige.) O Theodor I never sor So gud a spelling rool For ow mi par as well as mar

h t both go back tu skool; Win I can spel just as I plees, And spel it rite with perfect ees,

O Theodor, I never sor A man so one-drus wise; One planely sees in spelling beez Each child wil win a prize, And edukashun will be pla, No one will want a holada.

O Theoder, I never sor A man so ful of gle, And wen yu've nuthing els tu du Plees change the rool of thre, And you wil giv the greatest joy Tu evry gurl and evry boy.

A SONG FOR CHRISTMAS.

Chant me a rhyme for Christmas-Sing me a jovial song,— And though it be filled with laughter, Let it be pure and strong,

Sing of the hearts brimmed over With the story of the day-Of the echo of childish voices That will not die away. Of the blare of the tasseled bugle

And the tireless clatter and beat Of the drums that throb to muster Squadrons of scampering feet. But, O, let your voice fall fainter.

Till, blent with a miner You temper your song with the beauty Of the pity Christ hath shown And sing one voice for the voiceless

And yet, ere the song be done, verse for the ears that hear no And a verse for the sightless one For though it be a time for singing

A merry Christmas glee, Let a low sweet voice of patho Run through the melody. -James Whitcomb Riley, in The Read-

HIS UMBRELLA. United States Congressman Perkins was in the office of a friend, a justice of the peace, when a couple came in to be married. After the ceremony the justice accepted a modest fee and handed the bride an umbrella as sh went out. Mr. Perkins looked on gravely, and

asked, "Do you always do that, Char-"Do what? Marry them? Oh, yes."

"No; I mean bestow a present upon "A present? Why, wasn't that her umbrella?" gasped the justice. "No; it was mine," replied the Conroad, others insisted that business

gressman, sadly.-Epworth Herald.

CHRISTMAS TIM An Old Rothesay Lady

It Was Spent in Kin

Christmes Spirit the Same.

servance Olfferent-How

Were Pleased (Special Correspondence ROTHESAY, Dec. 14.-"I ber Christmas for sevent ters, said an old Rothesa

terday. No doubt she is right, f seen more than four score her memory when young ca from her present retentive would have been quite safe we or three years to the she has been acquainted great festival season.

She has grandsons and now and might claim more if early marriages were as p as then, but the Santa Cl day has passed when she day has passed when the stockings on Christmas Eve up the pleasant fiction so Christmas was different

years ago, to judge from this story. The spirit of Christ the same—perhaps it was m than in many sections of t today, but the opportunitie serving and celebrating the lacking as compared with t Those were the days when,

went out, the flint and steel came into play to provoke Perhaps the old horse pis come down from the rack powder on the pan in the he owner make a surer start fo fire than anything else. "Ms morning," said the old lady seen a neighbor come to get brand to light his fire. We h ous fire place and the black always there with glowing embers in the ashes. Father c the old country and the custo native place were dear to his always made sure of the turkey and the plum put Christmas day. "We children had cakes sweeties. The sweet elepha dogs, etc., we see children play

every Christmas now were then, and candy was expens the women had the knack of boys and girls and horses in cathese delighted the little one family on Christmas morning. "The spirit of Christmas giv observed in a different way. were seldom ornamental but aseful. A young man, whom gave me shawl once, then a and a pair of gloves. New h the boys, new flannel dresses -perhaps a pair of warm mitt a fancy pattern for the head house—these will give you so
of the comfortable and sensib people had then about Chris Everybody wanted plenty The feast was one of the main First church, then the dinner the afternoon and evening th **john** of West Indies rum for folk and the neighbors. I ne any one tipsy. It was just a and I don't believe they wou thought it a real Christmas

Everybody did not have There were poor people then now but they were poor indeed did not have potatoes and but What would you think of sittle to a dinner of potatoes which poured from the pot inside of placed upon the Nothing else except the but Yet I have seen the children neighbor close by doing that d day and there were no healthier boys and girls in the We enjoyed our life; we he pleasures dancing, frolics, skat seemed to be as happy as th folk today. It is true we kn

the city from my sisters' ha mine and now, just to think, pair of stockings knit with a machine the other day! We went to church when and I remember when I could following father two miles to and back. As I said before t of Christmas was with us

now-the only difference is the

WOODSTOCK, Dec. 16 .- W

by no means a cosmopolita

yet it has its little colony of A

the time the yarn was spun was gone and many a hundred

warm socks and mittens have

as well as a fair sprinkling of ored element. The former are main good citizens, and the colo tion of our population in man are fully the equal of the whi there are occasional lapses from general rule. This was demor in the police court yesterday i when some Scott Act business for consideration. One Jam drews, an Assyrian, who runs a Erocery store with a junk dep in connection, was charged w Densing the ardent and keep same for sale. Inspector Colpi Constable Woolverton gave evid what they saw on the occasion cent raid on the premises. The a supply of beer and also an er case, and the bottles, minus tents, lying around. One Samu lin, a colored youth, was the s ness. He told of a visit he in the andrews emporium some tin in the month of October, when serted the proprietor had sold bottle of whisky. Upon cross ation by Mr. Hartley he adm was something of a drinker, not altogether distinterested in secution from the fact that he the inspector had promised hi thing it a conviction were se his evidence. He also averred had approached the officer of and volunteered to furnish the ation that would lead to Andr doing. As the defense was n to proceed the case was adjou

inother term. The town