

## THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JAN. 5, 1906.  
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JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President.  
A. M. BELDING, Editor.

## DECYRING ST JOHN

Mr. Hugh A. Allan has made another attack upon the port of St. John. Referring to the decision of the company not to bring their turbine steamers Victorian and Virginian to St. John this season, he has said to the Montreal Herald:

"The decision is a matter of necessity in the case of these two turbine steamships as a result of our experiences when they made their maiden voyage to the port last April. Then the Virginian was drawing 20 ft. and at low water there was only 21 feet of water alongside the wharf forward and 30 feet aft, the depths varying along her 540 feet of length. Soundings taken recently show that though the conditions are not the same as they were last April, and may be next April, it would be out of the question to run the risk of subjecting vessels of so large a draught and so great a length to the strain likely to be placed upon them. Their own weight is nearly 12,000 tons, quite apart from coal and cargo, and the reports of the captains of both vessels would not justify us in sending them to St. John until the accommodation of the port is made far more suitable and less risky."

Mr. Allan, in this statement, betrays a remarkable, if not wilful ignorance of the conditions at Sand Point. The lowest depth of water under the heel at the Allan berth is 28 feet—not 21 feet, as he says. It is 30 to 31 feet, at dead low spring tides. This was shown by soundings taken by the harbor master on New Year's day.

There was less water there last spring, it is true, but this was almost wholly due to the fact that the steamers threw rubbish and ashes overboard for the city to dredge out. It was dredged out last summer, and there is ample water to float the turbines at dead low spring tides. If Mr. Allan is not aware of this fact he does not keep himself well informed regarding a port to which his steamers come to earn a government subsidy.

But why does Mr. Allan want his steamers to stop at Halifax and not come to St. John? Even if there were not water enough at Sand Point there would still be the I. C. R. wharf and elevator, which could afford him all the accommodation he can get at Halifax, with a shorter rail haul. The I. C. R. berth was dredged to a depth of 30 feet at low spring tides. Presumably it is still of that depth. It would accommodate the Victorian or Virginian.

"No amount of sophistry or misrepresentation can cover up the facts. The port of St. John is safer and has more water than the St. Lawrence route. Any steamship line as a matter of safety would rather send its vessels to this port than to Montreal. The Allan has never lost a steamer or had an injured vessel sent to St. John. They cannot say as much regarding Halifax or the St. Lawrence."

The St. John city council and board of trade should lose no time in following up the untrue statement by Mr. Allan, which is above quoted, about the depth of water at Sand Point berth, by an emphatic and authoritative contradiction. It might be a good thing for St. John in the end if the Allan took themselves off to Portland, but being here they must be permitted to slander the port. It may suit them to enter to Nova Scotia, but they must be fair to the port of St. John.

## COMMERCIAL REVIVAL?

There is great activity in the British ship-building trade.

"Barely, it may be said, a correspondent of the London Times, 'have our shipbuilding yards, as a whole, been so busy as they are just now, owing to the mass of recent orders; and although some are more actively employed than others, and some districts are only moderately employed, while others are under high pressure, there seems to be little doubt that the amount of new merchant tonnage put into British waters this year and early next year will exceed all previous records. In round numbers three-fourths of that new merchant tonnage will be under the British flag, and the British register will be largely increased. What we build for foreigners is not all that which is added to the foreign registers, and the total additions to the world's tonnage this year will be enormously in excess of the normal wage; and it is to be remembered that there is now none of the abnormal wastage that attended the earlier stages of the Russo-Japanese war."

On the surface there does not seem to be an easy explanation of this activity, but the correspondent of the London Times finds it in causes arising from the termination and the result of the Russo-Japanese war. He says that in the first place "the conditions under which the Russo-Japanese war terminated indicated the probability—which some accept as a certainty—that there will be no other great war in the world for a long time to come."

The argument is that "the crippling of Russia and the alliance between Great Britain and Japan, with other international circumstances, sufficient to ensure the world for a long time from the shock of another encounter between two great powers."

In the second place, if there is to be a long period of peace, capital will seek investment and industries will flourish. We quote:

"Capital will be attracted from gilt-edged securities and withdrawn from the national 'stocking' for investment in commerce, in mines, in industries, wherever and wherever there is any prospect of remunerative return—and perhaps even where the prospect is purely speculative or imaginary. Now, the far-sighted shipowner foresees the result of this anti-

ipated revival in the world's industry. He sees in the construction of railways, the making of roads and bridges, the erection of townships, the opening up of mines, and so forth, the carriage of an immense amount of material in the coming months and years—an actual addition to the world's normal sum of sea-carriage. When the construction of railways, roads and bridges and telegraphs means an impulse to the several industries and the additional carrying to and fro of coal and iron, of iron ore and timber. Together with these developments the mind's eye of the shipowner foresees the extension, under peace conditions, of the world's pasture lands and of the world's crops of food for both humanity and factories. In short, with the termination of the war in the East, heralding, it is believed, a long term of international peace, an infinite vista of industrial and commercial development all over the world is opened up to the vision, and the development implies an incalculable amount of sea-carriage in the coming years."

"Last year was not considered a good time to contract for the building of cargo steamers, because the war in the Far East was being waged, with its infinite possibilities. This year is, or at all events has been, considered a good time for building, because the war is over and a term of international peace is expected, with its infinite possibilities. That is the sum of the whole matter, and the rest of it is that the British shipowner is, as he always has been, the man of the future. Just now he is preparing for what he believes to be one of the world's great bursts of commercial revival, and perhaps he may be right."

## OUTLOOK FOR 1906

The New York Evening Post has reviews of the financial outlook from more than twenty trained observers in various parts of the world. In its comment on them the Post says:

"The statements made cover a wide territory and touch nearly every topic of financial importance having to do with this country's prosperity and that of the great markets of Europe. Perhaps the most striking impression made on the reader of these summaries is the different tone of prediction, in Europe and in the eastern communities of the United States, from that of our own west and south."

"European markets are cautious and more or less reserved in their forecasts for 1906; all lay stress on the Russian complication and the money stringency. The letters from our own interior markets ignore both considerations, and have fixed their attention solely on the immense prosperity and profits of the trade in progress in this country. To an extent, this situation resembles that presented by the same correspondents at the end of 1902, when Europe declared the American markets to be a danger point, and interior America declared that there was no danger in the outlook anywhere. Events of the ensuing year may be said to have proved that both were right and both wrong. It will be interesting, in the coming year, to recall this divergent prophecy."

"So far as this country is concerned, the testimony to optimism is very strong, basing itself on the great industrial revival and on expected continuance of good times. The influence of the eastern war in strengthening the export trade of the Pacific coast, the prosperity of the south, and the growing independence of the cotton planter and development in the west in the wealth contributed by the great crops, are noticed in the subjoined correspondence."

It is stated that the present contract for dredging on the West Side only provides for a berth 450 feet long. A berth of this length would not accommodate some of the steamers now coming here. It is necessary to take steps to have a berth that would, if necessary, accommodate one of the big new C. P. R. steamships, which it is hoped to have at St. John next season. It is not enough merely to relieve the congestion at the other berths by making room for a small steamer. While the thing is being done it should be done thoroughly."

The Allan says there was an insufficient depth of water at the head of their berth at Sand Point last spring. The city officials admit that they did have to remove a great many scow loads of ashes dumped into the slip from the steamers. But there is plenty of water now, and it may be hoped that a sharp eye is kept on the seabed."

## PLUNDERING THE POOR

(Toronto News.)

The poor seem to be plundered on both sides. If they borrow, it is at such exorbitant rates that the loan, instead of relieving them, plunges them deeper and deeper into debt and difficulty. If they have a few cents left over at the end of the week, they are likely to become the prey of some scheme for getting rich on the installment plan. It is a difficult thing to help the chronically impecunious man, but something might be done to encourage small savings. An effective savings system should provide for taking deposits every week, the moment the wages are received; therefore, there should be no limit to the size of the deposit; a dollar is a good deal more than many wage-earners can put away; and there should be numerous agencies, especially in the neighborhood of factories. An extension of the government savings bank system is a measure that the new postmaster-general might consider.

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1906.

## Alteration Sale Still On.

There never was a better chance to buy Suits and Overcoats than there is just now at this store.

**Men's Overcoats, regular \$5 to \$15, for \$3.95, 5.40, \$7.50 and \$11.75.**  
**Men's Suits, regular \$6 to \$12, for \$3.95, \$5.00 and \$6.98.**  
**Boys' Sailor Suits, regular \$2.25 to \$3.25, for \$1.49, \$1.98 and \$2.49.**

**J. N. HARVEY, Men's and Boys' Clothier, 199 to 207 Union Street.**

## FOR WINTER WEAR: Shoe Pacs

or Larrigans, as the boys call them, are more useful than anything else in Footwear. They are oil-tanned, and will resist snow water. Are warmer in cold weather. Can be used with snow shoes, and are just the thing for coasting.

**MEN'S, - - \$1.45.**  
**BOYS', - - 1.25.**  
**YOUTHS', - 1.10.**

**FOOT LITTERS McRobbie 94 KING STREET**  
We are selling now a special line of Men's Heavy Box Calf Leather Lined **BOOTS, Goodyear** **Welded, thoroughly waterproof, for \$4.00**  
Get a pair at once before they are all sold.  
**J. W. SMITH, - - - 37 Waterloo Street.**

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We have a few Secretaries and Combination Desks, which we will sell at a small margin above COST in order to clear. These desks are made of Quartered Oak and real Mahogany. Call and take advantage of this great offer. Remember, all other lines are being offered at a Big Discount.

**BUSTIN & WITHERS, 99 Germain Street.**  
**GILBERT LANE DYE WORKS.**  
LACE CURTAINS cleaned and done up **EQUAL TO NEW.**  
Carpet cleaned and beaten. Dyeing and scouring.

**MACAULAY BROS. & CO., City Agents**

## Clocks and Watches.

**Nickel Alarm Clocks from 60 cents up to \$2.00**  
**Nickel Stem Winding Watches at \$1.25 each.**

**JAMES A. TUFTS & SON, Corner Germain and Church Str. eets.**

## A Good Electric Reading Lamp . . .

Is at once an Ornament and a Convenience. Almost a Necessity.

**We Are Showing Some Excellent New Designs**

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**VERY MODEST PRICES.**

**The R. E. T. PRINGLE CO., L'td.**  
**105 Prince Wm. Street.**

## THE TARIFF COMMISSION

Met in Fredericton Yesterday and Heard View of Merchants on Tariff Changes.

FREDERICTON, Jan. 5.—The tariff commissioners met here yesterday afternoon and heard the views of a number of citizens on the adjustment of the tariff. William Lemont, of Lemont & Sons, crockery merchants, asked that the customs regulations be amended so that the allowance for leakage of crockery be for all over ten per cent. He also asked that the duty of one quarter of the cost of the crates be removed. He said present conditions affected the crockery business as dry goods men, shoe men, etc. were not asked to pay duty on their crates, and had no leakage to meet.

J. A. Reid, of the Hart Boot and Shoe Co., asked that the duty on fine shoes imported from the United States be increased from 25 per cent., as at present, to 35 per cent.

He was aware, he said, that the shoe people had previously made representations along these lines. Mr. Reid also protested against what he termed free advertising the Americans were getting in Canadian magazines.

He claimed in most cases the American shoe manufacturers sold lower in Canada than they did on their own side. It was no use making the higher grades of shoes at all as the preference seems to be for the American article.

He claimed that the Canadian manufactured high grade shoes were just as good as the American, but a year ago the public thought that there was nothing at all like the American shoe. While this notion was being done away with they had to contend with a system of advertising that was carried on by their American competitors, through all classes of magazines and that flood of American advertising.

He went on to say that the American shoe was sold for \$2.50 as against \$3 for the same article in Canada. He would say, however, that everything being equal the Canadian consumers preferred the American shoe.

Mr. Fielding—"How do you advertise in Canada?"  
Mr. Reid—"Through Canadian journals."

Hon. Mr. Fielding—"But this is not free advertising, they pay for it."  
Mr. Reid—"I don't agree with you there."

Hon. Mr. Fielding told Mr. Reid that on January 1st he had published a letter in which he stated that the duty was high enough as it was.

"You chief complaint of the duty of several articles used in educational work."

Mr. Reid also complained of the practice of smuggling shoes from Oshawa to St. Stephen, saying that it greatly hampered the sale of high grade Canadian shoes in St. Stephen.

Mr. J. R. Inch, superintendent of education, next addressed the commissioners on the advisability of taking the duty off of several articles used in educational work.

Clarence Goodspeed, of Pennington, then asked for an increased duty on American potatoes from 15 cents a bushel, the present rate, to 25 cents.

Henry Chestnut, of Chestnut & Sons, hardware merchants, asked that the duty on American canoes be increased to 20 per cent.

J. S. Neil asked a reduction of the duty on steel used in the manufacture of canoes and peevies.

The commission then adjourned.

## A TRIP TO RUSSIA

D Russell Jack's Lecture in Trinity Church Last Night.

A large crowd gathered in the Trinity church school room last night to listen to a lecture on Russia by D. R. Jack.

The first place that the lecturer directed the attention of his audience was St. Petersburg. The Petroff iron works, the great strike begun, were shown. Mr. Jack also showed pictures of the strikers in some of their meetings, and soldiers being hurried to the scene.

From St. Petersburg Mr. Jack took his hearers to Moscow, perhaps the most interesting city in Russia. Beautiful pictures of the Kremlin and the Czar's palace in Moscow were shown.

Sebastopol, one of the strongest forts in Russia, was also shown on the canvas. He was warned while in that city not to photograph the fortifications, and it was only after promising to leave the next day that he secured a permit to take any pictures.

Mr. Jack also visited Odessa while on his trip. The lecture will be repeated in St. Andrew's church on the 15th inst.

## SHEFFIELD

SHEFFIELD, Jan. 3.—The Maugerville and Sheffield Baptist Sewing Circle have decided to meet every fortnight instead of every week. The next meeting will be held at Mrs. D. C. Dykeman's on Wednesday afternoon, January 10.

Alfred Randall, who has been visiting his brother, Samuel Randall, for the last two weeks, has returned to his home in Maine.

P. K. Barker was in Fredericton Tuesday. Thomas A. Bridges and Percy Bailey have returned from Gagetown.

## AT THE OPERA HOUSE

Despite the inclement weather of last evening the Waite company drew a good sized audience at the Opera House to witness "The Man of Mystery." Tonight the company will be seen in "Too Good to Frisco." At the matinee Saturday afternoon, "Too Rich to Marry," will be the bill. In the evening "The Winning Hand," a new play, will be produced.

Next week will be the last week of the engagement of this organization here and a repertoire of plays commencing with "Other People's Money," Monday night and "The Gilded Fool," Tuesday night, with a new play to follow every night during the week will be given.

Advocates of the present style of football will find that the president is great at interference.—Chicago News.

## Curling Coats

—FOR—  
**Xmas Gifts.**

Last year we were headquarters for Curling Coats. This year we have many new and handsome patterns. Curling Coats make very acceptable Xmas Gifts. Please call and inspect. Orders should be given early.

**A. R. Campbell & Son, High Class Tailoring, 26 Germain St.**

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We make a specialty of repairing load, platform and counter scales, also weighing beams, and conform with inspectors' requirements.

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## FERGUSON &amp; PAGE.

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**Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware, Cut Glass, Etc., call upon us at 41 King Street.**

**JAMES V. RUSSELL, 677-679 Main Street. Branches 8 1-2 Brussels - - - 397 Main Street.**

The Best Factories in Canada are represented in the New Stock of **Boots and Shoes** for Fall and Winter, which I have just received. You will find what you want at right prices. Call today.

**"A Happy New Year to All."**

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**Santa Claus is at Parson's West End.**

With lots of toys for his little friends. Automobiles, Trolley Cars, Iron Toys, Steam Engines, Magic Lanterns, Toy Picture Books, Dolls and hundreds of pretty things to make every one of his friends happy. **E. O. PARSONS, West End.**

**HAIR CUTTING**  
Your hair should be cut in the style most becoming to your features. If you call here you will be exactly suited. Try your next shave and hair cut at "The basement barber shop."

**R. C. McAFEE, - Head of King Street.**

**Fresh Pies.**  
All kinds of delicious pies and cakes. Our products are just like home-made.  
**York Bakery. Phone 1457. 250 Brussels street. 545 Main street.**

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**G. D. PERKINS, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER, 11 Prince Wm. St. St. John, N. B. Phone 96.**

**FRESH FISH DAILY.** You can get fresh fish here every day. Salt and smoked fish too; all kinds. Fresh vegetables in abundance.  
**COLLINS BROS., 17 Winslow St. ST. JOHN WEST.**

**PHOTOS PHOTOS PHOTOS!**  
Photos of the Scholars of Victoria and Alexandria Schools can be seen at my studio. Also views of the Launching of the Ludlow. Amateur finishing a specialty.  
**GEO. C. M. FARREN, - - - 74 Germain Street.**

**Astrachan Jackets.**  
Nice Bright Curls, first quality of Skins, 24, 28 and 34 inches long, from **\$25.00 to \$45.00.**

**F. S. THOMAS, - 539 Main Street, Nor'**