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The Toronto World.

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28 King St. West (Manning Arcade).

EIGHTEENTH YEAR EIGHT PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING DECEMBER 24 1897—EIGHT PAGES ONE CENT

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RAILWAY TO JAMES BAY

The Project Discussed at a Meeting at the City Hall.

HOW TORONTO WOULD BE BENEFITED BY IT

Men Who Know the Resources of the Immense Country Tell of Its Vast Wealth.

The Meeting Was Only a Preliminary One, But It Served to Show the Value of the Project—The Timber and Fishery Wealth of the Vast Country to the North—The Question of Government Aid and Ownership—The Length of the Railway and Its Probable Cost—A Committee Appointed to Draft a Definite Proposal to be Submitted to Another Meeting to be Held in the Near Future.

Direct railway communication between Toronto and James' Bay and the rich region about Hudson Bay has become an issue in Ontario, and more particularly in Toronto politics. In response to the Mayor's proclamation a disappointingly small meeting, but one representative of the commercial and financial interests of the city, was held in the City Hall last night.

There were two points unanimously agreed upon. First, that something had to be done, and done immediately, to stay the trend of traffic from the north and west to Montreal; and, secondly, that the country north to James' Bay, beyond the C.P.R., was rich enough in timber and minerals, and was fertile enough for profitable agricultural development to justify the expenditure necessary to build a road.

Such other considerations as to whether the railroad should be built and owned by the Government or by private capitalists and as to the most feasible route to be selected were left to a large committee, who will report at a future and larger meeting.

Ald. Preston's Resolution.

After Mayor Shaw, who had briefly outlined the reasons for calling the meeting, and had assured the co-operation of the council in whatever might be proved to be in Toronto's interests, Ald. Preston rose and moved the following resolution, seconded by Mr. James R. Roaf: Resolved, That in the opinion of the meeting it is an important factor in the future development of Ontario that railway communication be opened up as soon as possible to connect the city of Toronto and the province generally with the waters of Hudson Bay, and, further, that the Governments of Canada and Ontario should aid that route which can be built in the shortest time on the most feasible line and with best prospects of promoting commerce with the districts tributary to those waters.

Ald. Preston emphasized that the Ontario Government should be made to understand that such a road would benefit not Toronto alone, but the whole province, and if such were done, he felt assured they would do something towards constructing it.

Hudson Bay Fisheries.

Mr. Roaf, as seconder of the resolution, had no doubt that the road would benefit the whole province. In the first place Ontario would profit by the Hudson Bay fisheries, which were as rich as those on the whole Atlantic seaboard. [Hear, hear.] And yet at present they were never heard of. Then again Hudson Bay was the best whaling ground in the world. From one-quarter to one-half million dollars could be realized annually out of this trade alone. If the proposed road were built, steamers could lay up on James' Bay, near the terminus, and would thereby be on the grounds a week ahead of any competitors. Near Prince of Wales Land was the best salmon fishing in the world. The fish could be much easier shipped via Toronto to the old country than it could be at present from British Columbia. If 200,000 settlers could be induced to locate in the Hudson Bay territory it would result in a tremendous expansion of the trade of this part of the province. The Dominion Government would lose nothing by giving aid, for the railroad would open up a tremendous tract of uncut timber. He agreed that it would be to the interest of the two Governments to help along the enterprise.

Government Assistance.

Mr. R. C. Steele was equally conversant with the fact that the proposed James' Bay Railroad would open up an immense country with great resources in timber, minerals and fisheries lying dormant and practically of no value to the province. Railways were the colonizers of the day. He believed that the promoters of the projected road might fairly apply to the Dominion Government for assistance so soon as they had decided upon the most feasible route. The new trend of western traffic seemed to lie north of old Ontario, whereas Ontario should be the New England of Canada, the trading and distributing centre of the country.

"As for Toronto," he resumed, "if we are not up and doing we shall be left behind in the race for commercial supremacy. You have only to go along Front-street, between Yonge and York-streets, and elsewhere in the wholesale district, and look at the vacant wholesale stores to see that we must look after the trade which ought to centre at Toronto."

Continuing, he re-echoed the sentiment of the people against railway bonusing. The people had to be assured that their money was going towards building a road and not into the hands of scheming speculators. If Toronto should take the lead in investing in railway bonds, he felt sure the Ontario and Dominion Governments would help. The feeling had got abroad that the state should control the railways. The Government would probably insist upon having some share in the control of the proposed line before they would feel disposed to take up the question of its assistance.

What Mr. Scully Thinks.

John Scully believed the scheme in hand to be the most important ever brought before the people of Toronto. The Parry Sound Railway had been almost competed before Toronto had awakened to the fact that trade was being cut off from her. Objectors to the new road might say, like General Manager Hays of the Grand Trunk, "What's the use of building a railway where there are no people?" He strongly advocated the building of roads, not necessarily where there were people, but in new districts, rich enough to invite settlement. He knew the James Bay country and he knew of its timber resources. He knew that the Parry Sound Railway had been the means of bringing large lumber mills into operation in the country traversed. As instanced those of the Gilmour Lumber Company. What would result from the opening up of the finest timber lands in the world? Mr. Scully would go so far as to vote a bonus to build the road at least as far as North Bay. He proposed that the aldermen and merchants take up the scheme and he was prepared to be taxed to promote the James Bay Railway.

Government Ownership.

Ald. Spence spoke strongly in favor of Government ownership. If the Province of Ontario could not afford with its immense resources and unlimited credit to open up the country, then no private individuals could afford it. Government ownership had been found by long experience to be the only guarantee of Government control. [Hear! Hear!] The Ontario Government should utilize the capital of developed Ontario to open up what was undeveloped.

Must Look to the North.

Mr. W. F. Maclean, M.P., said he had not lost faith in Toronto. He believed the Province was entering upon an era of great development. He pointed out the significant fact that transcontinental lines were moving further north. The Parry Sound Railway was to the north and there would be lines still further north again. But it should not be forgotten that railways running north and south were as useful and profitable as those running east and west. Toronto's future depended on these. She must look to the north for new traffic. The new country from which she would derive traffic was one in which were the finest fisheries in the world. There were also immense quantities of pine, spruce and hemlock. It was a fine agricultural country and speaking of its minerals he told how he had heard at Ottawa of three Indians coming down to Wahnapitae with gold ore which proved to be worth $3000. And there were other minerals up there as well. The country was the more desirable in that it was rich in water power, which in future might be transmitted as far as Toronto. To develop this a railway was an essential and it only required that citizens of Toronto should get to work. He believed that a road from Toronto to Hudson Bay, running via Sudbury, should be built by the Ontario Government, and subsidized by that of the Dominion. The proper Government policy would be to extend its own road the Intercolonial to Parry Sound. The

Continued on page 6.

C.P.R. TELEGRAPHERS.

The Conference at Montreal With Mr. Shaughnessy Has Been Satisfactory to the Operators.

Montreal, Dec. 23.—The C. P. Telegraphers' Committee were in close conference with Mr. Shaughnessy most of this morning. The committee decline to give definite information regarding the result of this conference, but it is learned that the conference with Mr. Shaughnessy was of a most satisfactory nature for the telegraphers, and that the Vice-President reversed the decision of Mr. Tait and granted the committee the particular point which had been obstructing negotiations. The committee will now carry on their discussion with Mr. Tait, and where it will be impossible to come to an agreement, lay the case before Mr. Shaughnessy.

Pember's Vapor, Russian and Turkish Baths, 127 and 129 Yonge.

Fur Gala Days at Dineens'.

To-day the climax of Christmas fur selling will be reached at Dineens, 140 Yonge-street, cor. Temperance. The first holiday season in the new store has been inaugurated with a tremendous fur trade, and Messrs. Dineen announce that they can well afford to sell many a piece of fashionable fur wear to-day at less than its cost of production. Dineens' Christmas Eve offers in fine fur garments, and men's hats, are good until 10 o'clock to-night, and every article purchased up till that hour may be delivered to the homes of patrons before Santa Claus makes his alleged rounds at midnight. Special Christmas Eve illumination of every section of the great store to-night.

Have you tasted "Salada" Ceylon Tea?

Grand & Toy's Xmas Snaps.

It is a positive fact that the Eureka is the best of all makes of typewriter ribbons, absolutely non-type filling, sharp writing, strong indelible copies. It will outlast any other. What more do you want? Try one. If it does not prove better have your money refunded. If it's a good thing we have it. Grand & Toy, Stationers and Printers, Wellington and Jordan-streets, Toronto.

Smoke the old reliable "Tonka Mixture," cool, lasting and sweet

Extended Insurance.

The provision for extended insurance contained in the unconditional policies issued by the Confederation Life Association guarantees that, in the event of your failure to pay the third or any subsequent premium, you will be held covered for the full amount of the policy for a term of years which is definitely stated therein. By the operation of this extended insurance, it is absolutely impossible for you to be suddenly left without insurance, on account of your failure to pay the premium. The Confederation Life Association publish a set of pamphlets, giving full particulars as to the different plans of insurance operated by them, which they will be glad to send on application to the head office, Toronto, or to any of the association's agents.

Gibbons' Toothache Gum sold by all druggists from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. Price 10c.

Select Your Hour Early.

Say just at what minute you wish your gift-box of cigars to reach your friend. It will be there—if you buy at Muller's. Keeping one's word with the public is one of the cardinal principles of his successful business. "Meet me at Muller's," and try a sample of those Manilas he has just imported from the Philippines. They are just $2.25 for a box of 50 cigars.

Cook's Turkish Baths, 204 King W. Open all night. Bath and bed $1.

HIS CHRISTMAS TURKEY.

DEACON LAURIER: Dar may be considable split in de plank, but it hasn't prevented me gittin' across and snatchin' dis yer bird.

FEARFUL FIRE IN CLEVELAND.

The Power Block Damaged to the Extent of Half a Million Dollars Yesterday.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 23.—Fire broke out in the business centre of the city to-day and, fanned by the big nhorthwest wind, destroyed property worth more than half a million dollars. The Power Block, on Frankfort-street, owned by J. B. Perkins, six storeys high, made of brick, was consumed above the second storey, and the rear of the brick Wilshire Block, six storeys high, owned also by Mr. Perkins, and fronting on Superior-street, was burned. The fire started by the explosion of a large can of benzine in the lithographing establishment of Johns & Co., in the Power Block. Windows were blown out and several employes escaped with difficulty by the fire escapes and a bridge leading to the Wilshire Block. The loss of Johns & Co. is $50,000, covered by insurance. The other occupants of the building were small manufacturing concerns. The block was worth about $200,000. The roof of the power house of the new Century building was demolished by a falling wall. The J. L. Hudson clothing store and the offices in the Wilshire building were damaged somewhat by fire and to a greater extent by water. The Wilshire is damaged to the extent of about $20,000. A large part of the stock of J. L. Hudson, valued at $250,000, is damaged, but amply insured.

MASSEY WILL CASE.

The Plaintiffs' Claims Involve Some Very Startling Allegations—The Injunction Continued.

There is another law suit over the estate of the late Hart A. Massey. The plaintiffs are John H. Horsey, A. L. Massey, Winona G. Massey and Bessie I. Massey, and defendants are the executors of the estate.

The suit is instituted to void the sale of 106 shares of Massey Stock, made by the company to Hart A. Massey in January, 1885; also to void the sale of 42 shares made by Hart A. Massey "to himself" in March, 1886, and to have the plaintiffs declared owners of 50 shares which are referred to in a letter written to the official guardian, Mr. Jean Hoskin, Q.C., by the late Hart Massey.

Chancellor Boyd was asked yesterday morning to continue an injunction restraining the defendants from dealing with these disputed shares and for an order for an account of the dealings between the company and Hart. A. Massey. The continuation of the injunction was allowed, and the other motion was adjourned until the counsel for the defence have time to examine certain affidavits filed by the plaintiffs. A further hearing of the case will be held on Jan. 13.

Arthur L. Lyman, in his affidavit, says that he has for a long time believed that, after his father's death, the other shareholders of the Massey Company were unfairly treated by his grandfather. He declares "that the company, through its officers, has altered its books to facilitate the plans of the said Hart. A. Massey in acquiring the shares of my father's estate, and of the other shareholders, by writing off large sums from the accounts, which, after such writing off had served its purpose, were restored, and again treated as assets of the company."

He is also of the opinion that the production of these books will prove that the assets of the company were four or five times greater than represented.

Something new—Lucky Strike Chewing Tobacco. High grade, popular price. Try it.

Here for Christmas.

At the last moment three cases direct from makers—one case pure Irish linen handkerchiefs, plain and hemstitched, all prices and sizes; one case Reindeer and Mocha gloves, seamless and fur-lined; one case English umbrellas, some no larger than your thumb—all at special cut fine prices. Sword, 55 King-street east and 472 Spadina-avenue. Two stores—one price.

Lunch at Headquarters to-day. All the delicacies of the season.

Analysts vouch for the purity of Salada."

Final Notice.

Having published a warning in the daily papers for a month informing the pubic that we have the sole right of selling and renting incandescent gas lights in Toronto and all cities and towns in Central Ontario, we now give notice that legal proceedings will be taken for damages and royalties against all persons hereafter renting, purchasing or selling any other incandescent gas light.

The Toronto Auer Light Company, Limited, 38 Toronto-street. 135

THE BRITISH FLEET AT SEA

Chinese Government in a State of Helplessness.

Britain Pursuing a Watching Policy—Will Not at Present Occupy Any Chinese Territory, But Will Give Moral Support to Japan—Everybody Interested as to What the United States Will Do—General News by Cable.

London, Dec. 24.—A despatch to The Daily Chronicle from Rome says it is rumored there that, owing to her obligations to Germany, Italy has declined England's proposal for common action in the Far East, including a joint occupation of Chusan. According to the same despatch it is asserted that England has proposed to Russia a conference on the Chinese question, with a view of avoiding dangerous rivalries.

The Shanghai correspondent of The Daily Mail says: "The Chinese Government is helpless. It is mobilizing a few troops under the least incapable generals who conducted the campaign against Japan. The British fleeet is at present at sea."

The Daily Chronicle says this morning it has good reason eo believe that the Government has decided upon a watching policy, and will refrain from occupying any Chinese territory for the present, but it will give ts moral support to Japan and distinct warnings to China concerning England's action in certain contingencies. It is understood says The Daily Chronicle, that Japan will protest in the strongest manner against Germany's action; whilee diplomatic circles ridicule the idea of a Russo-German entente concerning China.

German Press Deeply Interested.

Berlin, Dec. 23.—The press is evidentl ydeeply interested as to the attitude Great Britain and the United States are likely to adopt in the Chinese affair. Every attempt is being made to create ill-feeling against England and to represent her as isolated.

The official newspapers pretend that Japan ha sacquiesced in the German and Russian moves and will take no aggressive action. Everything indicates the anxiety that hinges upon the ultimate grouping of the powers. Japan's action in withdrawing her protest in reference to the course of the United States at Hawaii is interpreted as showing a desire to be unencumbered and to have her hands free to deal with the Chinese question.

The Berliner Tageblatt ridicules the idea of an Anglo-Japanese-American alliance, yet seems to fear it. The Kolnische Zeitung thinks America will side with Russia, leaving England in splendid isolation.

The National Zeitung says: "It is easy to believe that England would welcome active steps on the part of the United States, but hard to believe that the United States would adopt a policy of friendship toward England and of hostility toward Russia, contrary to all traditions, for the sake either of England or China."

SERIOUS BLUNDERS IN INDIA.

An Allahabad Newspaper Severely Criticizes the British Officers.

Allahabad, Dec. 23.—The Pioneer publishes a scathing criticism of the recent fighting on the Indian frontier, and says the operations have ruined more than one reputation. The Pioneer asserts that the officers have disappointed expectations, and calls upon the commander-in-chief to weed out those who have signally failed to prove their fitness to command or perform staff duties. The paper asserts that the instances when the troops were well handled were few, while serious blunders were numerous and happy-go-lucky arrangements were the rule, resulting in a few hundred British troops and Sepoys forming the rear guard having again and again to fight most desperately to save their skins while, within two or three miles, thousands of their comrades were doing absolutely nothing.

In conclusion, The Pioneer remarks: "The whole campaign shows carelessness and indifference for the safety of the rear guard and bad disposal of the fighting strength. While the fortified enclosures and homesteads of the Afridis have been destroyed, the latter have had their revenge in the actual conflicts. If the Afridis are to be coerced more skill is required and the staff must be weeded forthwith, irrespective of personal feelings."

Death of Lady Millais.

London, Dec. 23.—Lady Millais, widow of Sir John Millais, the late President of the Royal Academy, is dead. Lady Millais had been suffering for some time past from cancer of the throat, the same disease which caused the death of her husband on Aug. 13, 1896. She was the divorced wife of John Ruskin, the latter having voluntarily given her up when it was evident that she loved Millais. Ruskin stood by in the church while, in 1855, she was married to the celebrated painter. Her maiden name was Euphemia Chalmers Gray.

French Were Not Massacred.

Paris, Dec. 23.—Gil Blas to-day publishes a letter from Major Marchand, the French officer, whose expedition was recently erroneously reported, from Brussels, to have been massacred. The letter, which is dated from Semio on June 17, says the work accomplished is enormous. He adds that the French hold Domzibeg, strongly occupied Meshraerrek, and that by Aug. 14 France would thus be firmly established on the Nile, without firing a shot. Commenting on this communication Gil Blas says the rivals of France can no longer prevent her from being mistress of the Nile.

Duty on Sugar Abolished.

The Hague, Dec. 23.—The Second Chamber has adopted a bill abolishing the export duty on Java sugar.

Reverse to the British.

Victoria, Labuan, Dec. 23.—The Sikh police force, which has been attacking the stronghold of the insurgent Matsalleh, has been forced to retire. Adjutant Jones and six Sikhs were killed. Victoria is the capital of the Island of Labuan, six miles from the northwest coast of Borneo. The area of the island is 45 square miles.

Useful Xmas gifts—Neckwear, Mufflers, Fur-lined Gloves at Varcoe's, Rossin Block

Something New on King-street.

At 75 King-street west there is a handsome conservatory, filled with beautiful palms, ferns and flowering plants, suitable for Xmas presents. Drop in and see our stock, the finest in Toronto. Tidy, the Florist, 47 King-street west. Conservatory 75 King-street west. ed

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., patent solicitors and experts, Bank Commerce Building, Toronto.

Drawing Crowds

The magnetic influences that draw the cream of Toronto to King-street west these fine winter days are the sterling attractions at the Princess and the peerless holiday show of neckwear at Quinn's. Those in quest of gifts that combine utility with beauty, the useful with the ornamental, will instinctively turn their footsteps towards No. 115. The new English checks have taken the town by storm. Other gift suggestions are a dress protector, a box of evening bows or some English pique shirts for evening wear.

Cook's Turkish Baths, 204 King West. Ladies 75c; gents day 75c, evening 50c.

The tendency of some people at Xmastime is towards "hot stuff," but this may be readily overlooked when one wants a good fire, and users of E. B. Eddy's matches will find that Eddy's while burning possess the quality referred to. 135

Pember's Turkish Baths 75c. Evening 50c, Bath and Bed $1. 127 Yonge.

VICE-REGAL MOVEMENTS.

Yesterday afternoon the Governor-General, attended by Captain Wyatt, A.D.C., paid a visit to the St. Lawrence Market, where His Excellency was received by Ald. Hallam. His Excellency made a full inspection of the various shops, etc., and expressed much pleasure at the fine display which was presented.

Subsequently the Governor-General was present at the opening meeting of the Victoria Skating Club, at the Victoria Rink.

In the morning the Countess of Aberdeen visited the Haven and Prison Gate Mission.

In the afternoon Her Excellency, attended by Captain Tharp, A.D.C., visited the House of Industry, and afterwards the Old Folks' Home in Elm-street.

To-day Their Excellencies have promised to be present, if possible, for a short time at St. George's Hall between 11.30 and noon, to witness the distribution of provisions under the auspices of the St. George's Society.

At 12 o'clock Their Excellencies will visit the College of Music.

It is expected that Her Excellency will visit the Western Hospital at 4 o'clock p.m.

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE.

The following resolution was passed at a meeting of the Council of University College and the Arts Professoriate of the University of Toronto, held Wednesday afternoon:

The Council of University College and the Professoriate in Arts of the University of Toronto, understanding that the Government proposes to give effect by legislation to the demand of representatives of Victoria University for an extension of the time during which the arts graduates of Victoria University shall vote separately for five members of the senate of the University of Toronto, submit:

1. That it is of supreme importance that the basis of federation, in respect to representation on the senate, which was agreed upon, after long and careful deliberation of all the bodies concerned should not be departed from;
2. That the fusion contemplated by the authors of the federation scheme should come into effect at the time specified in the act; and
3. That anything which tends towards the perpetuation of separate or conflicting interests in the senate of the university is to be deprecated and avoided.

Further, they are firmly convinced that the fears expressed as to diminished representation of Victoria University on the senate under the method of voting prescribed by the Federation Act are groundless.

THE COPPER FAMINE.

Owing to delay at the mint in filling an order for cents from Canada, there has been a copper famine throughout the province. The Lake Huron has arrived at Halifax with supplies from the mint, and by to-morrow or next day at the latest, the siege will be raised.

MASSACRE OF PORTUGUESE.

An Officer and a Dozen Men Put to Death in South Africa.

Lisbon, Dec. 23.—An official despatch from St. Paul de Loanda, Portuguese Lower Guiana, says that the natives of the Humbe Plateau, in the Portuguese colony of Angola, have massacred a Portuguese officer, a sergeant and 12 men. Reinforcements have been sent from St. Paul de Loanda.

Angola is south of the Congo Free State. The colony has been held by the Portuguese since 1486, and they have a number of forts and commercial establishments at different places in some instances several hundred miles in the interior. It long possessed an infamous notoriety for the extent of its slave trade, but this traffic has been greatly abridged by the Portuguese since 1887, when the colony was enlarged by a treaty with the Congo Free State.

Demolition of Paris Fortifications.

Paris, Dec. 23.—The initial step has been taken in the long projected demolition of the fortifications of the city. General Billot, Minister of War, has introduced into the Chamber of Deputies a bill providing for the razing of part of the forts on the west side of the city and for selling the sites. It is estimated that the land will realize 150,000,000 francs, 4,000,000 francs of which will be devoted to the construction of a short rampart further out. The remainder of the proceeds will be expended on artillery.

Sixteen Persons Killed.

Dortmund, Prussia, Dec. 23.—Sixteen persons were killed as a result of the fire damp explosion yesterday in the Kaiserstuhl II. pit here.

Metropolitan Railway cars leave C. P. R. Crossing, Yonge-street, for Richmond Hill at 7.20, 8.30 and 9.40 a.m.; 2.40, 5.40, 7.00 and 9.00 p.m. Leave Richmond Hill for C. P. R. Crossing, Toronto, at 8.30, 9.45 and 11.00 a.m.; 4.00, 7.00, 8.30 and 10.30 p.m.

Recherche lunch at Headquarters opening to-day.

You Want an Idea.

For Xmas presents Geo. S. McConkey's justly celebrated bon bons, chocolates, large variety of fancy boxes and baskets, 27 and 29 King-street west. Candies sent everywhere by mail or express.

Headquarters Cafe, Appetizing menu to-day.

North End Art Gallery.

Select your Xmas picture gift at A. H. Young's, 498 Yonge-street. Large, new line of engravings and etchings, colored and plain.

See Varcoe's 50c Xmas Neckwear, also Mufflers, Gloves, etc. 131 King w.

A Treat for the Children.

By sending your name and address, plainly written, to Adams & Sons' Co., 11 and 13 Jarvis-street, Toronto, Ont., and one wrapper from the 5-cent Tutti Frutti gum, you will receive two beautiful paper dolls with movable heads and shoulders free.

Monsoon Tea is pure and clean.

DEATHS

PEARSON—At his residence, 12 Homewood-avenue, on the 22nd inst., Marmaduke Pearson, in his 82nd year.

Funeral private. No flowers.

BROWN—On Thursday morning, 23rd inst., at her late residence, 450 Sumach-street, Elizabeth Hunter, relict of the late William Brown, jr., of Eglinton, in her 32nd year.

Funeral Friday, Dec. 24, at 3 p.m., from 450 Sumach-street, to Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

THERE'S NOTHING NEW

But the Chapleau-Tarte Letter May be Published.

MR. TARTE MAY FALL DOWN

Ald. Prefontaine Says He Will Get the Three Signatures in Five Minutes.

Something About the New Model Locomotive Which is to be Purchased for the Intercolonial—Death of Mr. Alexander Ewing—Atlantic and Lake Superior Railway's Purchase — News From Montreal.

Montreal, Dec. 23.—(Special.)—There is nothing new in the political situation except that the Chapleau-Tarte letter is expected in a few days. Hon. Mr. Tarte having replied to the round-robin rumor that three members from this province could not be found to sign it, Alderman Prefontaine, M. P., replies that he will get three M. P.'s to sign it in five minutes.

The New Model Locomotive.

The famous new model locomotive which Consulting Engineer Davis purchased for the Intercolonial will go out on the road next week, although the fast "through" runs from Halifax to Montreal will not be made before spring. It is said Hon. Mr. Blair believes the giant locomotive will work a revolution in the affairs of the I. C. R. Several engines of the same model are to be made in Kingston, as Mr. Davis believes just as good work can be done in Canada. He adds that the new engine is so constructed as to permit continuous running for 60 days, and instead of changing engines at every divisional point, as at present on the Intercolonial, the new model will be able to make the through trip from Halifax to Montreal. It now takes 20 engines to handle the passenger trains on the I. C. R., but Mr. Davis states that eight like the new one will do the work.

Death of Mr. Alex. Ewing.

The death is announced of Mr. Alexander Ewing, which took place to-day, after a long illness. Mr. Ewing was 65 years of age, of Scottish birth. He commenced his commercial career in a large business house in Aberdeen, Scotland, where he remained for 12 years. He then decided to come to Canada, and arrived in Montreal in the spring of 1864. He commenced his Canadian career as salesman in the firm of William Stephen & Co., the head of the firm at the time being Mr. George Stephen, now Lord Mountstephen, after which he entered into business on his own account.

A Railway Purchase.

The Atlantic and Lake Superior Railway Company has purchased from the Canadian Pacific that section of the Southeastern from Sorel to Yamaska, which will form part of their new line between Montreal and Levis.

NEW RAILWAY PROJECT.

Hon. R. R. Dobell and Others Want a Grant of Land for It.

Quebec, Dec. 23.—A deputation consisting of Hon. R. R. Dobell, J. G. Scott and others waited on the Local Government this afternoon asking a charter to build a railway from Roberval to St. James' Bay, a distance of 300 miles, through a very rich country of the Lake St. John district. The only assistance they ask is a grant of land. In support of their request they pointed out that the railway will run through a country having over 60,000,000 acres of land, enormously rich in mineral resources and fisheries. The Government promised to give the matter their earnest consideration.

Closed for Holidays.

The British-American Business College, Confederation Life Building, closed for the Christmas holidays yesterday afternoon and will re-open on Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1898. The attendance during the past term has been the largest in the history of the college for the time of year, which can doubtless be attributed to the high standard of work done in its class rooms. The position which this institution holds in the estimation of the business community may be judged from the names of its directors and shareholders, who comprise Messrs. Frederick Wyld, Edward Trout, E. R. C. Clarkson, William McCabe and S. F. McKinnon. It likewise has the honor of being the only commercial college in Toronto affiliated with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, and at the recent intermediate examination held by that body nearly all of the successful candidates were prepared by Mr. David Hoskins, C.A., principal of the college. The British-American makes a specialty of first-class accountancy teaching.

Wintry Weather Continues.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Esquimalt, 38—40; Calgary, 28—34; Qu'Appelle, 6—14; Winnipeg, 28 below—zero; Port Arthur, 18 below—6 below; Toronto, 16—22; Ottawa, 10—16; Montreal, 10—14; Quebec, 6—14; Halifax, 14—30.

PROBS.—Fair and decidedly cold, with westerly and northerly winds, and local snow flurries to-day; continued fair and cold on Saturday, with somewhat higher temperature by night.

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Steamship Movements.

	At	From
Dec. 23.		
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Rotterdam	New York	Rotterdam
Nomadic	New York	Liverpool
Manitoba	New York	London
Andalusia	New York	Hamburg
Mobile	London	New York
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Trave	Bremen	New York
Werkendam	Amsterdam	New York
Spaarndam	Rotterdam	New York

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