

JAP GUNS NOW SHELLING TOWN Port Arthur Heavily Damaged and Arsenal Afire.

SPLENDORS MARK THE INSTALLATION The New Governor-General Creates Fine Impression.

TREATY SIGNED The Arbitration Agreement Between Britain and U. S. Closed.

NOT YET READY No Announcement as to Elections Likely for Several Days.

SASONEFF TELLS OF ASSASSINATION Von Plehve's Slayers Reveal Story of Conspiracy.

FIRE, EXPLOSIONS, FROST Tenement Dwellers in New York Have Unpleasant Experience.

WHERE DID THE MONEY COME FROM? Who Furnished Funds for the Purchase of La Presse?

A BOUT IN THE TRENCHES Russian Cruiser of the Baltic Squadron Sighted Off Ushant, Headed for Home.

His Excellency, in Reply to Welcome, Says He Looks Forward to Five Years of Happiness.

ST. MARK'S COLLAPSING Engineers Advise General Restoration of the Famous Basilica.

ADMIRAL OF THE NAVY King Edward Has Approved Appointment of Seymour.

A SCANDAL BROUGHT TO VIEW Overthrow of the Russian Autocracy Was the Object of Social Revolutionaries.

DAISY LEITER TO WED Her Engagement to Earl of Suffolk Announced at Chicago.

HOW MONTREAL GANG PLOTTED Conservative Leader Hugh Graham's Part in the Conspiracy—Was the Agreement Immoral?

Tokio, Dec. 12, 4 p.m. — The commander of the Japanese naval land battery reporting today, says: "Four Russian battleships, two cruisers, one gunboat, and one torpedo stowship lying in Port Arthur harbor are completely disabled. There is no further necessity for bombarding the Russian naval force."

Hull, Dec. 12. — The installation of Earl Grey yesterday was an event marked by much pomp and circumstance, and at the close of the ceremony his excellency had created a distinctly favorable impression. The weather was cold and blustery when at 11 o'clock he and the Countess Grey and their two daughters landed at the Ordnance wharf, but a large crowd was present to see them get foot on Canadian soil. The landing took place on imperial property, and hence the populace were not there, but great crowds saw his excellency pass through the streets, and there was some cheering. At the Ordnance wharf the first greet was Earl Grey was Gov. Jones, and he was then received by Gen. Sir Charles Parsons, followed by Mayor Crosby. There was no delay at this point. It was, for one thing, too cold to wait, and at once his excellency and family, escorted by a brilliant cavalcade, including Gov. Jones, Gen. Parsons, a retinue of officers, Mayor Crosby, and city aldermen, proceeded on their way. The route to the Legislative Council chamber, where the oath of office was administered to Earl Grey, was lined with troops, standing with bayonets fixed, and also from there to the Government House. As his excellency emerged from the Ordnance wharf to the street the ladies of the household, which was repeated with more or less intensity along the route.

Venice, Dec. 12. — Engineers Manfredo and Marangoni, who have been intrusted with the care of the Basilica of St. Mark since the fall of the Campanile have presented their official report. It sets forth that the condition of the Basilica is also alarming. The whole building shows weakness. The foundations are bending and cracking, the walls are sinking and the ceilings of two of the vaults threaten to give way. If they fall it may cause most of the Basilica to give way. The engineers recommend the immediate erection of scaffolding and the construction of a thorough restoration of the whole building, including the reparation of the foundations.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—Premier Ross, when asked this morning whether he was prepared to make any announcement in reply to the negative. The Government has until Thursday to take action, but he does not expect that any announcement will be made until then.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12. — Sasoneff, the assassin of Minister Von Plehve, and his accomplice, Sikorskiy, reveal the details of their conspiracy and crime in their confession, which was made public in the indictment. Their trial is set for Dec. 13. The indictment states that both Sasoneff and Sikorskiy belonged to a fighting organization of social revolutionaries, the central committee of which was organized abroad in 1902, and the organ of which was Revolutionary Russia. The object of the organization was to overthrow the autocracy and replace it with a republican socialist regime.

New York, Dec. 12. — Several firemen were overcome by smoke in the tenement houses were driven in their night clothes to the cold streets and over \$75,000 damage was done by a fire that started on today in a five-story building occupied by Hoppel & Andreotti, importers of shellac and dyes, almost directly under the Manhattan approach of the Brooklyn bridge. The dense smoke from the burning building filled the nearby tenement houses, and scores of scantily-clad men, women and children were driven to the streets. Fear of explosions and the stifling smoke kept the firemen on the outside of the building, but even then many were overcome. The blaze was finally checked after it had burned for nearly four hours.

Montreal, Dec. 10.—The Globe has the following: "Everything is not known about the Montreal conspiracy, but enough is known to stamp it as a highly respectable and corrupt plot to beat the Government, hatched by men whose aims in the main were not political, but personal and selfish in the worst meanings of these words. In this class of practical politicians the Government's railway policy could not fail to be distasteful. When the Government was confronted with the necessity for extending public aid towards the construction of a second transcontinental railway, an uppermost thought in the mind of Sir Wilfrid Laurier was very evidently how it could best be carried out in a creditable and advantageous manner. The story of such public works has been checked over. Canada's first transcontinental railway has become historic. It was quite apparently Sir Wilfrid Laurier's ambition that this second one should be carried out in a creditable and advantageous manner. This gave birth to a public man, the quality of his ideas as a public man, and his character as a man of affairs, should be carried out in a creditable and advantageous manner. From their view Sir Wilfrid Laurier's plans were most objectionable. Mr. Epperson's programme was far more promising. It is true that Mr. Borden talked of constructing through a commission. But a commission is a Government-made thing, a partisan thing, it is not like a higher standing, it is not like a greater guarantee of probity and efficiency than those who create it. Certainly the Government could not be so complete a defense against the proper influences as a commission plus private interest. In the interest of every person or person of high ulterior designs in relation to the enterprise which Canada was undertaking to enter into, the Government, together with its railway-building policy, which promised so few succulent tit-bits for eminent personages. In earlier years, however, the story which follows it must be borne in mind that the Conservative campaign of the last three elections has been largely managed by the party. In 1896 Mr. Hugh Graham, of the Montreal Star, enrolled himself under Sir Charles Tupper's banner. The Star had made some reputation for independence, but in the 1896 election such pretenses were thrown to the winds, and it has figured undisturbedly as one of the most important newspapers in Canada. That Mr. Graham has no genius for sound journalism is demonstrated by the fact that he has taken part in such of the most sensational and sensational Conservative journals have raised a considerable amount of the 'Montreal gang.' However, this may be, it is evident that the Conservative party is not yet ready for the realization of its programme in which two former general elections they had signally failed. This is seen in the fact that the story of the sale of La Presse. La Presse is the leading French-Canadian newspaper of this continent. It claims the largest circulation of any paper in Canada. In politics it is independent, with a strong leaning towards Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It has a reputation for its character, abilities and journalistic methods were generous and unflinching. It was for that reason a powerful force for Liberalism. It is Sir Wilfrid Laurier's opponents realized this as keenly as anybody, and it is not surprising that one of the first steps in the programme of the last few years was to take for his defeat would be to secure possession of the journalistic organ of Quebec. His ally, the conservative, The Little Journal, which sought to encompass the defeat of the Government, agreed that the first part of this programme must be to take for this purpose it would be necessary to secure control of the paper. It was at once that the honest purchase of a newspaper and the avowed reversal of its policy would be a perfectly legitimate force for Liberalism. It has been seen as our story advances that those who purchased La Presse were of crooked and devious ways, and that it cannot be regarded as a legitimate transaction. The negotiations for the sale of La Presse took place in the home of Mr. J. N. Greenfield, the well-known lawyer. There were present besides Mr. Greenfield, who was Sir Russell's lawyer and associate, Mr. Berthiaume, Mr. Beaudin, Mr. Berthiaume's legal adviser, Mr. Dausereau, Mr. David Russell, and Mr. A. J. Brown, another lawyer of large practice in the city of Montreal. The negotiations began on the night of Oct. 11, and continued until the evening of the 12th. Mr. Berthiaume would have been indisposed to sell the paper, notwithstanding the splendid terms offered, if he had not seen the new proprietors would turn it against Sir Wilfrid Laurier, but Mr. Dausereau got over this objection, and it would be all right. The price agreed upon for the paper was \$700,000, and the new proprietors agreed to assume a mortgage of \$250,000 on the \$200,000 of the building and \$125,000 of indebtedness. The day the contract was signed \$250,000 was paid over as part of the purchase money. The negotiations thus assumed were \$1,025,000—not a small transaction by any means. The price was not included in a clause by which Mr. Berthiaume bound himself, if need be, to publicly deny in La Presse that he had ceased to control the paper. This was necessary to the plans of the schemers, for if it had become known that the chief French-Canadian newspaper had passed into the hands of persons of whom David Russell

Washington, Dec. 12.—The Japanese legation has received the following cablegram from Tokio: "The Port Arthur army reports that its bombardment has inflicted considerable damage upon Golden Hill and also set the Port Arthur arsenal on fire."

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 11.—The installation of Earl Grey yesterday was an event marked by much pomp and circumstance, and at the close of the ceremony his excellency had created a distinctly favorable impression. The weather was cold and blustery when at 11 o'clock he and the Countess Grey and their two daughters landed at the Ordnance wharf, but a large crowd was present to see them get foot on Canadian soil. The landing took place on imperial property, and hence the populace were not there, but great crowds saw his excellency pass through the streets, and there was some cheering. At the Ordnance wharf the first greet was Earl Grey was Gov. Jones, and he was then received by Gen. Sir Charles Parsons, followed by Mayor Crosby. There was no delay at this point. It was, for one thing, too cold to wait, and at once his excellency and family, escorted by a brilliant cavalcade, including Gov. Jones, Gen. Parsons, a retinue of officers, Mayor Crosby, and city aldermen, proceeded on their way. The route to the Legislative Council chamber, where the oath of office was administered to Earl Grey, was lined with troops, standing with bayonets fixed, and also from there to the Government House. As his excellency emerged from the Ordnance wharf to the street the ladies of the household, which was repeated with more or less intensity along the route.

London, Dec. 12. — A dispatch to the Japanese legation from Tokio today says the bombardment of Port Arthur Sunday considerably damaged the wireless telegraph station at the foot of Golden Hill, and set fire to the arsenal.

London, Dec. 12.—King Edward has approved the appointment of A.C.B.E., Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, K.C.B.E., to be admiral of the fleet, on the retirement of Admiral Salmon, in February. Vice-Admiral Sir Lewis Anthony Beaumont will succeed Admiral Seymour in the Devonport command, Prince Louis of Battenburg will become commander of the second cruiser squadron.

Chicago, Dec. 12. — The engagement of Miss Daisy Leiter, sister of Lady Curzon, to the Earl of Suffolk, was announced last night by Mr. Leiter from the family residence in this city. The date of the wedding has not been decided, but as yet, but will be in the near future. Miss Daisy Leiter is the youngest daughter of the late Levi Z. Leiter and is the only daughter of her father who has married an Englishman. Mrs. Mary, the eldest of the daughters, is the wife of Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, Viscount of India, and her second daughter, was married, two weeks ago to Major Colin Campbell.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—The criticism passed upon President Roosevelt by Andrew D. White, former United States ambassador to England, in an address before the League for Political Education, namely that the President "secured" commutation of the sentence of Edward Joseph, a colored Baptist minister, of Essex county, Ontario, is not justified by the facts as ascertained at the justice department. It is true that the signature by the President and asking the executive to take into consideration the petition for clemency, signed by many residents of Essex county, was laid before the Minister of Justice by United States Consul-General Foster. But it is not true that he saved from the gallows by the report of Judge Teetzel, who had sentenced him upon the finding of the jury.

London, Dec. 12. — Spencer Carrington, the oldest member of the House of Commons, died at his residence in the Tower Hamlets in the Conservative interest for nearly twenty years. He was born in 1818. At the close of the last session he distinguished himself by sitting through two all-night debates, when he thought the Government position was threatened, a feat of endurance which his colleagues recognized by presenting him with a commemorative silver cup.

London, Dec. 12.—Early today bail had not been secured for the release of Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick from the Tombs Prison, nor had she given notice of any intention to waive examination in this city and go to Cleveland for a hearing. Apparently reconciled temporarily to prison restraints and fare, and satisfied that should she attempt to provide the bail now required the amount would be immediately so increased as to become prohibitive, it was believed today that Mrs. Chadwick had concluded to act upon the advice of her counsel and await an examination in New York next Saturday.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12. — Captain Clado, who was arrested Dec. 9 for criticizing the high admiral, Grand Duke Alexis, and the Emperor, demands a trial by court martial, declaring that his arrest on the ground of distorted facts is a stain on his honor. Lieut. Delivriou, who participated in Captain Clado's campaign against the admiralty officials, is under arrest.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12.—Proclamations have been issued calling for the students assembled today in front of the residence of Professor Timiriazoff and cheered him. The professor, "Academic Freedom," recently published by the professor. The latter, who is an invalid, came to his window and bowed his acknowledgments to the students then marched in procession through the principal streets singing the "Marseillaise." The police did not interfere.

Hamilton, Dec. 12.—W. H. Larkin, 50 years of age, an employe in the Bank of Montreal, killed himself at the insane asylum here Friday night. He visited Dr. Beemer, at the asylum, and while walking along the corridor on the second floor suddenly dived through a window. His body was terribly mangled, and death was instantaneous. Coroner Griffin has opened an inquest into the cause of his rash action. Larkin was 30 years old, and his home was in Simcoe. He was well connected in Montreal.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12.—The Emperor, who is recovering from his illness, has been seen at the Winter Palace today. He is surrounded by a large number of courtiers and officials. The Emperor's health is reported to be improving.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12.—A cross-petition was filed this morning at Osgood Hall on behalf of E. D. Smith, the Conservative candidate in the west against the Dominion elections, against W. O. Sealey, who has protested the return of Smith. The petition charges a number of charges of bribery, perjury, and undue influence against the Liberal candidate and his agents.

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THE WEATHER. Tomorrow—Colder. Sun rises, 7:12 a.m. Moon rises, 1:29 a.m. Sun sets, 4:41 p.m. Moon sets, 10:24 p.m. Light snowfalls have occurred today in Western Ontario, with higher temperatures, while from Eastern Ontario to the Maritime Provinces it has remained decidedly cold. Another pronounced cold wave is sweeping over Manitoba, Ontario and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 46-50; Kamloops, 22-33; Calgary, 14-20; Quebec, 16-23; Winnipeg, 16 below-2; Port Arthur, zero-10; Park Sound, 6 below-12; Toronto, 2-25; Ottawa, 16 below-12; Montreal, 16 below-8; Quebec, 8 below-4; Halifax, 12-22. FORECASTS. Monday, Dec. 12—8 a.m. Today—Northerly winds, light snowfalls and becoming colder. Tuesday—Northerly winds and very cold. TEMPERATURES. Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather. Winnipeg, 22-24 Clear. Port Arthur, 16-14 Show. Ottawa, 4-10 Cloudy. Montreal, 16-10 Cloudy. Quebec, 8-4 Clear. Father Point, 8-8 Cloudy. LOCAL TEMPERATURES. Decidedly cold weather prevails from Manitoba to the Maritime Provinces, with temperatures below zero in Northern Ontario and Quebec. The outlook is very wintry, with indications that zero temperatures will become more general.