

For Your Guests
Christmas Dinner
Hilton's
Hart Porter.
London
Best beverage
market.
The first
on the
BREWERY.
KENT

BORN.
December 29, to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Porter, a son, weighing 10 lbs. 10 oz. Ingersoll papers please.

DIED.
The family residence, lot 3, London Township, Robert Morris, 86th year.
Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at 1 o'clock, after a long illness, Robert Morris, 86th year, at his residence, 1011 Dundas St. W., London, Ontario.

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Quick Shopping

That's what it is this week—the last week of the old year. But we are bent on clearing out the winter goods and all seasonable lines at greatly reduced prices—Trunks and Valises included. After the hurry-burry of Xmas trade,

Get Ready for New Year's Day, when the friendships of old are renewed through the happy custom of New Year's gifts.

Pocock Bros.
141 Dundas St.

AGENTS WANTED.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

WANTED—GOOD MEN ONLY. To sell our well-known line of specialties, we guarantee free from San Jose Scale; all stock recommended by Government certificate; outfit free; good money and exclusive territory to workers. Write for particulars—Pelham Nursery Co., Toronto. H27-m.w.s.

WANTED—ONE CITY CANNASER to collect large orders from private families, either for cash or on credit; must be first-class salesman; no others need apply.—258 Dundas street, City. H27-m.w.s.

SITUATIONS WANTED.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

WANTED—BY EXPERIENCED LADY book-keeper, set of books to post in the evening. Address: 131v

TO LET.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

TO LET—REAR OF STORE, 133 DUNDAS street, for storage, offices, etc.; well lighted and heated. Apply at store, 133v

TO LET—GOOD BRICK AND FRAME stable, Enquire A. N. Udy, over C. P. R. ticket office, Phone 735.

TO RENT—HOUSE, WITH STABLE, ON William street, North of C. P. R. ticket office, 850 Dundas street, apply to J. W. G. Winnett, Barrister, 429 Talbot street.

TO RENT—HOUSE LATELY OCCUPIED by Mrs. Archdeacon Marsh; new furniture, also house, No. 307 Blandford, Apply to Gibbons, Mulken & Harper. 1161v

RECEPTION TO THE Mayor and installation of Officers of the City of London, 1900, at the City Hall, 1011 Dundas street, on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, at 10 o'clock, evening session, in the presence of the several sharp, who will be installed by the District Council, and Master, W. G. White, Deputy Mayor, who will receive and banquet the Mayor and his party.

ENTIRE SUNDAY SCHOOL will welcome for young men, the New Year by attending young men's classes. Service begins 2:45.

MEMBERSHIP TICKETS \$1.00.
J. M. LOGAN, President.

HELP WANTED.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

WANTED—A GIRL FOR LIGHT housework, 228 Oxford street, 133v

WANTED—WANTED; GOOD servant, 181v

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Scotch Whisky For New Year's.

ALL BRANDS, FINEST QUALITY.
Our special, particularly recommended.

Wines and Liquors.
The very best always to be had at

SHEA'S.
Order your supplies early. Closed Saturday night, 7 o'clock, and remain closed till Tuesday morning—Monday being election day.

RICHMOND ST., NEXT CITY HALL.
Telephone 140.

FOR SALE.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

TWO PLACES IN LONDON EAST you can get the following prices. Besides, for the remainder of this week, you get a pound of candy with every 15c purchase. Chocolate Boards, 52c. Chocolate, 52c. Quindrops, 42c. Grand Kettles, 52c. Nipples, 42c. and 36c. Pie Plates, 2 for 52c. 3-pound bar Soap, 2 for 52c. 100c. Fry Pans, 25c. at Person's Fair and Hardware, Bartlett Block, and our Branch Store, 636 Dundas St.

TURKEYS! TURKEYS! TURKEYS!—Every one must buy before we close up tonight. We have a large stock on hand, and are determined to clear them all out today, even if we have to sell at cost or below. Geese, from 8c to 7c. P. and Chickens, 5c. B. F. Fowl's Provision Store, 8 Market Lane.

GET YOUR COFFEE FOR BREAKFAST and Baltimore Oysters for tea at J. H. Harding's. They cannot be beat in the city.—440 Dufferin avenue, Phone 1,333, mth

TWO PAIRS HEAVY BOBS and two pairs light bobs and one cutter; lumber taken in, exchange, Smith's Carriage Works, Fullarton street.

A GOOD NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION—You have proved the excellence of our Cakes and Pastry, resolve to use the products of our ovens only.—George Peters, the Richmond Pastry Baker, 210 Fullarton street.

UPHOLSTERING, UPHOLSTERING, OR Repairing, repairing—Stylish and cheap.—Wm. A. Gaze, 412 Pall Mall street.

DECORATE! DECORATE!—XMAS IS here, and so is McInnis' Holly—383 Talbot street.

STENBERG'S FOR COFFEE.
515 Richmond, Phone 1024.

A PAIR OF SUIT AND PANTS 52c. at 720 Richmond street, including and upholstering.—C. W. Young.

SLEIGHTS LEFT—A FEW SETS, HEAVY and light, cheap, at Scott's Shop, opposite Military School, Oxford street, 12th

A LINE OF CHOICE GROCERIES and Butters, Eggs, 12c. at W. G. Groom, 432 and 434 Blandford street, Phone 1177.

ORDER YOUR WINTER SUPPLY of Coal and Wood at the lowest prices, at Dundas street. Use Bartlett & Parson's phone 1134.

RYE VIOLETS—ND WOOD AT THE North End.—J. C. Dignan, Maitland and C. P. K.

SKATES FOR SALE: SKATES SHARP. 52c. and 50c. at 100 Dundas street, D. McKenzie & Co., 374 Blandford street.

NICE BERRIED HOLLY, AT WINNIE'S Seed Store, for Christmas decorating.—383 Talbot street.

AT SMITH'S CONFECTIONERY, SOUTH LONDON—Bonbons, creams and chocolate drops, butterscotch, candies, oranges and nuts.

SEE OUR LINE OF NICELY FRAMED pictures, at 100 Dundas street, 12th

ALL KINDS OF SKATES HOLLOW Ground, 10c. old skates for sale and exchanged.—239 Wellington street.

Christmas Oranges, 2 dozen for 25c. AT HARTLEY'S GROCERY, Phone 605, 487 Richmond street.

CORN—AMERICAN CORN FOR SALE at Store's Storage and Transfer House, 225 York street.

FOR SALE—CHEAP STOVES AND ranges, at Keene's Furniture Store, Masonic Temple, Market Square.

NO, 296 DUNDAS STREET—CHEAPEST place in the city for Groceries.—C. M. Newman & Co.

FOR SALE.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

FOR SALE—ROUND CEDAR PILING posts or poles taken out to order during the winter. For prices, write J. E. Murphy, Heworth Station.

THE LONDON EAST BOOK STORE FOR latest books in Stationery and Envelopes.—Sanderson, 450 Dundas street.

FOR A STYLISH SUIT, TRY W. Slater, merchant tailor, 551 Richmond street.

FOR SALE—ONE BASTERBURNER and one with oven; also two parlor cook stoves; all in the order; cheap.—263 Burwell street—Marcel Hoch.

LADIES' AND GENTS' Purses, CARD Cases, Letter Cases and Bill Books; the latest New York styles. See our goods and prices before buying.—Tackaberry & Co., 356 Richmond street.

DON'T LET YOUR WHEEL RUST; HAVE it cleaned and wrapped up for the winter.—Rad's Repair Shop, 520 Richmond.

GET IN YOUR WINTER SUPPLY of Coal and Wood at 35c. per ton, 308 William street. Phone 1221.

LONDON SHOW CASE WORKS. Under management of H. G. Gies, 673 Bathurst street. All description of cases at short notice.

M. F. O'MARA'S MEAT AND POULTRY Market, 3 Market Square. We give Trade Stamps. Phone 524.

REAL ESTATE.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

TO LET—COTTAGE, COLBORNE street; modern house, Talbot street; English cottage, Wellington; large cottage, Horton; semi-detached house, Oxford; modern house, Wellington; nice home, George street; brick house, Mill street; cottage, Dundas street; desirable home, Hope street.—Ferguson & Co.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.
Advertisements under this heading 1 cent a word each insertion, or 2 cents a word for 3 insertions. In answering advertisement please refer to Free Press.

CANADIAN STAMPS WANTED—JULI-ETTE, assorted, 25c. per 100; present is 10c. per 100. Write to J. E. Wick, 419 South street, London.

WANTED—300 GOOD SECOND-HAND overcoats; highest prices paid. Salisbury, 90 King street. Mail orders attended to.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.
ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, KINGSTON, IN RUINS.

The Interior Completely Gone—A Presbyterian Church at Kingston, Ont., also Landed.

Kingston, Ont., Jan. 1.—St. George's Cathedral was burned down this morning. The fire was discovered about five o'clock, and in a few hours the fine building was a mass of ruins. The interior being completely gutted. The fire is supposed to have started from an explosion of gas in the furnace room. Half an hour before the alarm was given, the Rev. Canon Burns, the minister, had been visiting the church, fixed the fire and left for his quarters. Firemen, policemen, soldiers and citizens worked hard in weather 12 degrees below zero, and all were soon coated with ice. When the roof and dome fell in the shower of flying pieces spread fire along King street, doing special damage to the residences of Very Rev. Dean Smith and George H. Allen. Both houses were gutted before the fire in the rooms were stayed. The cathedral was built in 1825, and remodelled in 1840 and 1892. It is probable that \$1,000,000 has been expended upon it. The authorities carried a loss of \$30,000. The insurance company, \$25,000 on building and contents, carried by the Sun, Lancashire, Northern Alliance and Gore Mutual Companies. Little was saved. Dean and Mrs. Smith secured a portion of the records and vestments from the west tower. The many fine windows, memorial tablets and brasses were destroyed. The church will be restored.

John Sands, fireman, had his head laid open by a falling stone. Bowen Burns, fireman, was rendered unconscious by being struck by a falling brick.

Mrs. Margaret Arnold, 243 King St., opposite the church, dropped dead at noon as the result of the explosion. She was about 75 years of age.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 1.—The third United Presbyterian Church, on Diamond street, was almost completely destroyed by fire last night. Loss about \$60,000; well covered by insurance.

CANADA IN ENGLAND.
Admiralty Invites Tenders for Supplies From Canadian Packers—Demand for the New Stamps.

London, Dec. 31.—The Colonial Office has transmitted to the High Commissioner a letter from the Admiralty stating that it will be pleased to consider tenders for contracts for navy supplies from any Canadian firms of packers who may apply and prove their ability to carry out their contracts.

Mr. Chamberlain also writes to the Commissioner that the British South Africa Company desire to arrange an exchange of mining publications with the Dominion Government.

Hon. Mr. Dobbie sailed for home on Wednesday by the Majestic. He said that negotiations were not sufficiently advanced to enable him to make a public statement.

The supply of the new Canadian Imperial postage stamps obtained by the High Commissioner for sale in England was exhausted on the first day they were offered for sale.

It is learned that the difficulties regarding space at the Paris Exhibition in 1900 have been practically settled. Canada obtains a larger allotment than was at first expected, but not as much as was applied for.

AN IMPERIAL EDICT

Declares China is Passing Through a Severe Crisis.

REBEL FORCES DEFEATED.
Wei-Hai-Wei the Strongest Naval Base in the East.

MAD KING OTTO DYING.
Continued Storms in the English Channel—A Commission to Examine Question That Threatens Spain's Very Existence—An Italian Squadron Now En Route to Colombia—General Cable News.

WILL EXPLODE BOMBHELLS.
Vienna, Dec. 31.—Szecepanik, the Polish schoolmaster who invented the Fenscher, which enables one to see an object in its natural colors at any distance, no matter how great, claims to have invented an apparatus operated by a beam of light, which he has applied to exploding bombshells.

A COMMISSION TO EXAMINE DREYFUS.
Paris, Dec. 31.—The Court of Cassation has decided that it is not necessary as yet to bring Dreyfus to Paris. The court has offered a commission to go to Cayenne immediately and interrogate the prisoner upon the evidence collected by the present revision court. The report of the commission will depend future action.

THE BEAVER LINE.
London, Dec. 31.—The Liverpool correspondent of the Central News says that the Melvins are disputing with Elder, Dempster & Co. the right to use the title "Beaver Line." Each firm declares its intention to use the title and fly the Beaver flag on its steamers. The Melvins contend that the title passed to them with the purchase of the vessels named after the Canadian lakes. Elder, Dempster & Co. ignore this assertion.

OF EXTRAORDINARY GRAVITY.
London, Dec. 31.—A despatch to the Standard from Madrid says that much comment has been caused in political and diplomatic circles by an interview printed in the Liberal with the Spanish Minister. The Minister declares that above all problems of interior policies there is a question of extraordinary gravity, affecting the very existence of Spain, which preoccupies so deeply all Spanish statesmen that it should suffice to unite them in order to avert a catastrophe. He adds oracularly: "It is impossible to speak more clearly. I will only say that the pre-occupation includes fears of apprehended events that might some day give a pretext for the thing England is pursuing with effrontery."

ROUGH WEATHER AT SEA.
Queenstown, Dec. 31.—Incoming Atlantic vessels report having experienced terrible weather. The Lucania and the Germanic, which have arrived from New York, describe the storm they passed through as the fiercest they have encountered for years. Their decks were swept by the waves, and a great deal of water found its way into the saloons of both ships.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.
Vienna, Dec. 31.—An imperial autograph letter is published in the Court Gazette to-day, directing that the contributions of Austria and Hungary towards the joint expenditure of the Empire remain unchanged, and that the customs and commercial union and arrangements of the Austro-Hungarian bank be extended to Dec. 31, 1901. This is the day on which the provisional Ausgleich, or agreement between Austria and Hungary on the subject of the finances and government of the Empire expires, and the present decree extends the existing state of affairs for a year.

THE GLENAVON DISASTER.
Hong Kong, Dec. 31.—Two missing boats of the wrecked British steamer Glenavon have been found. The missing persons now are Chief Mate Nixon, Second Steward Wilson and two Chinese. Quartermaster Smith died of exhaustion after swimming to Lin-Ting Island.

THE U.S. AND SWITZERLAND.
Bern, Switzerland, Dec. 31.—After protracted negotiations, the United States Government has agreed to the unrestricted application of the most-favored-nation clause to Switzerland, even as effected by the new special reciprocity agreement between the United States and France. The Washington Government proposes to negotiate a special commercial treaty with Switzerland.

VESUVIUS IN ERUPTION.
Naples, Dec. 31.—An eruption of Mount Vesuvius has occurred from the crater formed in 1875. Two streams of lava, each twenty metres broad, have already reached the slopes of Monte Zommo, which flanks Mount Vesuvius on the north.

AN OPEN DOOR WANTED.
Berlin, Dec. 31.—The Hamburg Chamber of Commerce in its annual report expresses the hope that Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands will be opened to the commerce of the world on equal conditions, like the German and British colonies. In view of the report from Porto Rico to the effect that a number of plantations have been destroyed since the Spaniards retired, the Chamber requested the Imperial Government to ask the Government at Washington to take steps to afford effective protection to

German property, which is considerably there.

ITALY IN EARNEST.
London, Jan. 1.—A special despatch from Rome says an Italian squadron is now en route to Cartagena, Colombia, to enforce President Cleveland's award of indemnity to the Ceruti creditors. Admiral di Brocchietti, who commands the squadron, has been instructed to insist upon satisfaction for the insults to Italy which occurred during the debates in the Colombian Chamber.

ENGLAND'S STRONG NAVAL BASE.
London, Jan. 1.—An official report, made to the War Department on the survey of Wei-Hai-Wei, states it can meet the strongest naval base in the East, being even better than Port Arthur. The harbor requires little dredging to accommodate the largest warships, and the port has two entrances, making it accessible in any wind. The land has positions which, if fortified, render the port impregnable.

TO BRING HOME TROOPS.
Madrid, Dec. 31.—Fourteen steamers are now on their way to Havana to repatriate the Spanish troops remaining in Cuba. The report of the meeting of a dozen Spanish generals, the purpose of which has been divulged, has been confirmed by a member of the Cabinet, who does not deny the importance of the occurrence.

BRITISH REVENUE.
London, Dec. 31.—The revenue of the United Kingdom for the quarter ending Dec. 31 was £28,632,334, an increase of £383,837 over the corresponding quarter of 1897, making for the nine months a total of £278,340,468, an increase of £294,348.

STORMS CONTINUE.
London, Jan. 1.—Violent storms prevail all along the English Channel, and all cross-channel service is suspended.

MAD KING OTTO DYING.
Berlin, Dec. 31.—Despatches from Munich regarding the mad King Otto of Bavaria have reached here which indicate that he is dying. The physicians are issuing bulletins from the old castle Fuerstenried, where the ruler is, which would lead the public to think that there is no immediate danger. Berlin friends of the royal family have received private information that the King is in the last stages of delirium. King Otto Wilhelm Luitpold of Bavaria was born Maximilian II. and Princess Marie of Russia. Twelve years ago he succeeded his brother, Ludwig II., on the throne of Bavaria. The latter died a madman, and when the reins of state were also clouded, and during all these years he has believed himself actively in command, not realizing that his uncle, Prince Luitpold, is reigning in his stead.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.
Peking, Jan. 1.—An imperial edict, issued last Friday, remarks that China is "passing through a severe crisis in her history." It reminds viceroys and governors of the numerous edicts that have been issued lately ordering administrative reforms; not been observed, and commands the immediate institution of the reforms in the method of training troops, in agriculture, in manufacture and in everything likely to conduce to the prosperity of the Empire. It directs the viceroys and governors to memorialize the throne within a month that these reforms have been inaugurated. This edict is highly significant, as showing that the position of the future lies solely in reforms. A deadlock has resulted from a demand by the Russian authorities for the surrender of the British property, which the Chinese, which have awarded as part of the Russian concession at Han Kau. The British refuse to surrender the property.

BIG BATTLE IN CHINA.
Shanghai, Dec. 31.—The Chung King correspondent of the North China Daily Telegraph under date of Dec. 30 that a great battle has taken place at Schistobang. The engagement is said to have taken place on Dec. 27, and imperial troops are said to have been victorious. Schistobang is located on the rapids, but the Chinese, from whom the news comes, is situated in the Szechuan province, part of which has been in a state of rebellion for a long time past and which is overrun with marauders. The latest advices from there said 3,000 rebels were marching on Chun King and that 300 imperial Chinese troops had gone to meet them. It was said that the militia is being mobilized. A British missionary, Mr. Fleming, who has been in the province of Szechuan, adjoining it, is not at all foreign.

COAL TRIMMERS VS. SEAMEN.
Southampton, Dec. 31.—A shooting affray occurred on board the American line steamer St. Paul, which arrived here yesterday. Five members of the crew were shot and one was stabbed. They are now in the hospital on board the ship. Their injuries are not serious. The shooting was the outcome of an attempt upon the part of the coal trimmers to settle a grudge which they had against the seamen. The latter were in their bunk when the trimmers came on board drunk and broke in the fore-cabin door. A sailor, T. Cummings, of New Jersey, opened fire and shot five of the coal trimmers in the legs. He also accidentally hit a seaman named Walsh. Cummings was arrested, but the trimmers refused to prosecute him. It is expected that Cummings will be released by Monday, as the shooting was in self-defence. Cummings, in the police court here this afternoon, was remanded.

SAILED FOR VANCOUVER.
Yokohama, Dec. 31.—The steamer Empress of Japan sailed for Vancouver yesterday afternoon.

SAR
(74°, 76°, 88°, 90° GRAVITY.)
GASOLINE
Good as the Best American for Mechanical Uses and Gas Lighting Machines.
LONDON BRANCH—PHONE 1242
THE QUEEN CITY OIL CO. LIMITED
SAML. ROGERS PRES. TORONTO

ENGLAND AND FRANCE

Negotiations for Settlement of Disputes.

LORD SALISBURY'S TERMS

Not Likely to be Satisfactory to M. Delcasse.

SOME OF THE PROPOSALS.

Cession of Gambia for Surrender of all French Possessions on Newfoundland Shores Except St. Pierre, Which Must Not be Fortified—Claim to a British Sphere of Influence in Central Africa—Disputes in the Far East—The Anglo-German Agreement for Division of Portuguese Territory.

London, Jan. 1.—For the last week there has been almost continuous diplomatic negotiations in progress at the Foreign Office between Lord Salisbury and Ambassador Cambon of France. These two shrewd diplomats have been endeavoring to effect a settlement of the long-standing colonial disputes between England and France that have time and again almost precipitated war. Ambassador Cambon left London to-day to return to France and to report to Foreign Minister Delcasse the results of his negotiations he has been carrying on with the British Premier.

According to information obtained at the British Foreign Office, Lord Salisbury has proposed a general settlement of the disputes, but his terms are such that it is not believed France can accept the proposals for a general entente, because Great Britain demands too much and concedes too little.

Lord Salisbury's proposals include the cession of Gambia, a part of Sierra Leone, in Africa, in exchange for the surrender of all French possessions on the shores of Newfoundland, except St. Pierre, which will be retained by France, but must not be fortified. France will not be asked to vacate the Island of Obock at the entrance of the Red Sea.

Lord Salisbury lays claim to a British sphere of influence in Central Africa, extending to the shore of Lake Tchad, and in return for this France will be granted a trading concession at White Nile.

While these African disputes are being settled, the dispute between the two countries in the Siam and China, is also being considered.

The Premier has also proposed an agreement concerning the Portuguese East African, which will be ignored. The negotiations for the division of Portuguese territory in this division of African territory, as agreed between England and Germany, the latter is also to get some rich possessions in the region of Delagoa Bay. Germany is to have the territory extending from the northern bank of the Quilmane River as far as Cape Delgado.

It is believed that the entente arranged between Great Britain and Portugal includes a guarantee of assistance from the British fleet and forces in the event of Portugal becoming involved in any war.

The belief is expressed in diplomatic circles that any settlement between England and France on the basis of this division of African territory, especially after M. Delcasse's protest to Lisbon, will be likely to increase France's hostility to a general settlement.

Always Your Money's Worth
ALWAYS YOUR MONEY'S WORTH
—AT—
Deeks & Co.
THE CLOTHIERS.
393 Richmond Street
ALWAYS YOUR MONEY'S WORTH
ALWAYS YOUR MONEY'S WORTH