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1864. 246

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA

Evidently Trying to Secure a Better Understanding.

THE BEAR'S PAW PLACED

But Bruin Does Not Want the Lion to Have Similar Privilege.

John Bull Has Been Holding Out the Olive Branch, While the Russian Has Been Trying to Dodge the Issue—Germany Wants to Be Friendly With England, But is Afraid of Offending the Czar, Whose Empty Treasury is All That Prevents War.

New York, Dec. 17.—Mr. Henry Norman, cabling to The Times from London to-day, has this to say regarding the apparent desire of Russia for a better understanding with Great Britain:

"It is gradually leaking out in diplomatic circles that negotiations of some kind are proceeding between Great Britain and Russia with a view of discovering whether the present unmistakable drift towards a rupture cannot be stopped. Count Muravieff has recently lost much influence with the Czar. Indeed, one of his subordinates is now practically the Russian Foreign Minister, but he made certain representations to the British Ambassador in St. Petersburg which resulted in a kind of unofficial mission for the Grand Duke Sergius, who, with the Grand Duchess, is visiting the Queen at Windsor. The next step was a visit of Baron De Staal, the Russian Ambassador here, to Lord Salisbury at Hatfield. Next comes the remarkable speech of M. Tatischeff, the Russian Financial Councillor, at a meeting of the Anglo-Caucasian Oil Company here, in which he gave a strongly-worded invitation to English capital to come to Russia, assuring a hearty welcome, and adding an eloquent plea for mutual political understanding. All this has been supported by representations from the German Emperor and inspired utterances in the German press, Germany desiring to extend her political understanding with England, but being held back by fear of affronting Russia, whose vast army on her frontier is the only thing she fears.

"My information is that the Anglo-Russian understanding is not making such progress as was to be hoped, despite every effort on the part of the British Government. The difficulty is a simple one. Russia has already secured everything in the far east that she wishes for years, and now desires to set the seal of accomplished fact upon it, and this without agreeing to allow England similarly to consolidate her own position in China.

"It becomes, however, more and more evident that Russia must, by hook or crook, insure herself against external complications. Her treasury is drained dry by demands for the army, the navy and the Trans-Siberian Railway. She is spending money like water at Port Arthur. She has discovered that the Siberian Railway will disappoint the hopes of commercial development, and is unfitted at present for military purposes on a large scale. She must have 120,000,000 rubles in order to provide the army with quick-firing artillery, before she can fight on land. Macedonia is seething, and an explosion may come at any time, when she would have to move an army. Famine is devastating whole territories, leprosy is spreading, and has 5000 victims, many recruits being rejected for this disease. An external loan is absolutely essential to her, and hitherto she has failed to raise it on favorable terms in Berlin, in Paris or in London. Therefore, though nobody understands the loftiness of the Czar's personal convictions, his advisers' love of peace is making a virtue of necessity. So far as England is concerned, however, Russia can lay the foundation of peace when she will."

ANGLO-FRENCH QUESTIONS.

The French Shore of Newfoundland is Likely to Furnish Trouble Rather Than Africa.

New York, Dec. 18.—A London despatch to The Evening Post says:

"News which has reached official quarters during the last few weeks indicates that it will be the Anglo-French contact in North America, rather than in Africa, over which French and British statesmen will be most concerned when Easter comes. I refer to Newfoundland. For well nigh 50 years the French shore dispute there has only been kept from an acute stage by personal influence brought to bear by successive British Ministries upon successive Newfoundland Ministers. At any moment Newfoundland, as a self-governing colony, could, by a determined assertion of her sovereignty on the French shore, have precipitated a crisis, but strong personal appeals from Downing-street to St. John's never yet have failed to keep things quiet, for great are the favors to which Newfoundland Ministers may look at the hands of British statesmen.

"But the Reid Railway compact has changed all this. The controlling voice is no longer that of the Ministry at St. John's, but of a powerful capitalist who is determined that his vast enterprise shall not be wrecked to save the peace of mind of British statesmen. This is no mere alarmist newspaper conjecture. It is this situation which causes grave disquietude in official circles, for at last this century-old dispute, touching the right of a self-governing British colony and the historic pride of every Frenchman, assumes such a shape that it can no longer be passed over. The situation has been the subject of urgent official reports of late from special British commissioners and Captain Bourke, lately in charge of the British warships in Newfoundland waters, and is now in close conference with officials here. This is the threatening cloud on the new year's horizon.

THE CZAR'S PROPOSAL.

Big Meeting of Religious People in London Endorsed It.

London, Dec. 18.—The Venerable William Macdonald Sinclair, Archdeacon of London and Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, presided at a public conference at St. James' Hall to-day, convened by the heads of the various religious denominations, in favor of an international demonstration, on behalf of the Czar's disarmament proposals.

A telegram expressing sympathy with the effort was received from Lord Rosebery. Among the letters read by the chairman from prominent people was one sent by Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, who wrote advocating "an Anglo-Russian understanding, of which the Czar's rescript ought to be the foundation."

A resolution in accordance with the objects of the conveners of the conference was adopted unanimously.

THE YO... ...W

He Gets After the Unworthy Officials Who Have Ill-Treated Siberian Exiles.

Moscow, Russia, Dec. 18.—A despatch has just been received from Gen. Liapounoff, the new military governor of the Island of Sakhalin, Siberia, announcing his arrival at his post. Gen. Liapounoff goes under direct commission from the Czar to introduce reforms in the administration of the penal settlements of that portion of Siberia. Thirty thousand convicts are now colonized on the island, and their condition is said to be frightful. Gen. Liapounoff telegraphs that he has already promulgated the Czar's manifesto promising justice and mercy to the prisoners, and drastic punishment of official servants who shall prove to have been unworthy. The Czar has been determined since intelligence of the fraud and misrule and cruelty practiced came to his ears to reform the administration of the colony.

A SAMPLE SIBERIAN ATROCITY.

How Discipline is Maintained Among Political Convicts—Officer Should Be Hanged.

Vienna, Dec. 17.—The Neue Freie Presse gives particulars of a Siberian atrocity committed at Scherdowka, near Irkutsk. A gang of political prisoners had reached there on their way to Saghalien, when one of them begged Col. Bassarba, who commanded the escort, for permission to buy food to supplement the scanty rations allowed the convicts. Col. Bassarba at once ordered his men to shoot the prisoner. Another prisoner intervened to beg for his friend's life, and he, too, was shot dead on the spot. A third prisoner, who murmured at these cruelties, was also shot. Three other prisoners who seemed dissatisfied with the fate of their comrades were singled out by the bloodthirsty colonel and shot, while 20 others were wounded by a volley which the escort directed at the gang. Col. Bassarba was commended for zeal in maintaining discipline.

MR. McDONALD'S MUNIFICENCE.

The Montreal Millionaire Has Placed Widow of Historian Kingsford Beyond Want.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—It appears that Mr. W. C. McDonald, McGill's great benefactor, does not confine his generous gifts to the University alone. It is learned that besides founding the Kingsford Chair at McGill, Mr. McDonald has settled a life annuity upon the widow of the late eminent historian of the Dominion. This information comes from the most reliable sources, and the tidings that Mrs. Kingsford is placed in a comfortable position for the remainder of her days will be received with great satisfaction all over Canada.

FEARS FOR THE KAISER'S LIFE.

There is Considerable Anxiety From the Belief That Anarchists Are After William.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—Those responsible for the Emperor's safety feel more anxiety these days than they care to admit. His Majesty's journey to Palestine, with all the incident pomp and exposure of his person, seems to have started into activity the Anarchists in Germany, at the same time that it has turned the minds of foreign Anarchists toward the ruler of this empire. It is only a fortnight since the Italian Anarchist Zanardi was arrested while trying to cross the Italian frontier on his way to Southern Germany, whither he had been sent to murder the Emperor. Yesterday in Voelksen, near Epringe, where the Kaiser is boar hunting, an Anarchist was observed in suspicious actions and was taken into custody.

NARROW ESCAPE OF THE PAVILION.

Watchman McCracken Discovered the Blaze in the Nick of Time—A Still Alarm Sent in.

While James McCracken of 6 Rose-avenue, a private watchman in the down-town business districts, was going home about half-past 5 yesterday morning, he noticed a small blaze in the southeast corner of the Pavilion verandah, in the Horticultural Gardens. He ran quickly to the home of Gardener A. J. M. Watkins, Gerrard-street east, and awoke him from his slumbers. Mr. Watkins sent in a still alarm by telephone, and the Wilton-avenue section put the fire out before it had gained much headway. The blaze is thought to have started from an electric light wire which enters the building at this point. The damage, about $50, is covered by insurance.

SUSPECTED MURDERER ARRESTED

The Stuartburn Tragedy in Manitoba May Yet Be Traced.

Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—A Dominion City despatch to The Free Press says Simeon Czuby was arrester there to-night charged with the murder of Wasul Boechko and his five children six weeks ago at Stuartburn, Galician settlement. The prisoner will be brought to Winnipeg to-morrow.

The tragedy was a particularly horrible one. At first the wife and mother was suspected to have taken a hand in it. The man and his children were killed with an ax, and the home presented a bloody spectacle when the crime was discovered.

THE ASHES OF BUDDHA.

Sacred Remains to Be Given to the King of Siam.

Calcutta, Dec. 17.—The ashes of Gautama Siddartha, the Sakyi Muni, generally termed Buddha, the founder of the Buddhist religion, which have been discovered near Peprehwa, have been offered to the King of Siam, who is the only existing Buddhist monarch.

The offer has been accepted and a royal commission has been assigned to proceed from Bangkok to India to receive the sacred gift.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

French Expedition Moving Up the Yang-Tse-Kiang River.

London, Dec. 19.—According to a despatch to The Morning Post, from Hankow, on the Yang-Tse-Kiang, about 700 miles from the sea, a French expedition has been despatched up the river to Kwei-Chau, and one gunboat is already above Nanking, the southern capital of China, about 90 miles from the river's mouth.

Pember's Turkish Baths, 129 Yonge-street

The Fondest Christmas Expectations are most generously fulfilled, with some article of fur-wear, and Dineens' fur display abounds with everything that is fashioned in furs, for ladies, children and men. Dineens' remains open evenings all this week.

Unexcelled—Taylor's "Valley Violet."

NO ABSOLUTE ULTIMATUM

Was Served on General Manager Hays—Recognition of the Union or Strike is the Situation.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A high Canadian Pacific official stated to-day that the Grand Trunk was in good shape to fight a strike if one should be ordered.

Mr. Powell was seen to-day, and while careful to insist upon the point that no absolute ultimatum had been served on the general manager, he announced that the meeting which was to have taken place yesterday afternoon had been adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Hayes will then be called upon to answer definitely whether the Telegraphers' Union will be recognized or not. If it is recognized the men are prepared to discuss their grievances in a temperate and conciliatory manner. If the union be not recognized, they are equally prepared to resort to labor's last resource—a strike.

NICHOLAS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

Unveiled a Monument to Dead Russian Soldiers and Offended Turkish Newspapers.

Constantinople, Dec. 18.—The Russian Grand Duke Nicholas, who arrived here on Friday on board a Russian steamer, unveiled to-day at Galatana, near San Stefano, where on March 3, 1878, was signed the treaty of peace that terminated the Russo-Turkish war, a monument to the Russian soldiers who fell in that conflict. The unveiling was accompanied with much ceremony and a military parade, at which representatives of all the Balkan states were present. Earlier in the day a requiem was held at the Russian chapel there in memory of the dead. The Turkish newspapers are excessively irritated at these ceremonies, which recall great disasters to the Turkish arms. At the reception at the palace yesterday the Grand Duke handed the Sultan the Czar's autograph letter and informed His Majesty that Emperor Nicholas had delegated him (the Grand Duke) to draw closer the ties of friendship binding the two countries. Decorations and presents were exchanged.

RELIGIOUS QUESTION CREEPS IN.

Kitchener's Gordon College to Be Non-Christian, at Which the Late General's Sister Protests.

London, Dec. 18.—It is said that Gen. Lord Kitchener's Gordon memorial college scheme will not be put through without a protest, which, however, will be utterly in vain, as the money has already been subscribed. As is well known, Gen. Kitchener absolutely refused all entreaties to make the college a Christian institution, saying that if the college was to be of any practical value it must be not only non-Christian, but actually Mussulman in its constitution and teaching.

Gordon's sister, it is reported, is about to make public a protest against any institution from which the Bible is excluded, purporting to perpetuate the memory of her illustrious brother, who, above all things, was an ardent Christian. She may be dissuaded from making such a futile protest, but there is indubitably a considerable number of persons who are unable to see the absolute necessity of Gen. Kitchener's resolve.

When The Guardian, the best known and most weighty church organ, expressed its agreement with Kitchener, even advocating the teaching of the Moslem religion, it raised a considerable storm among a part of its readers.

ROSSLAND SPECIAL.

Work Begun on White Bear Shaft at the 250-Foot Level—Iron Mask Force Increased.

Rossland, B.C., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The timbering and equipment of the White Bear shaft at the 250-foot level has been completed. Work on the vein found at that depth has begun. It is supposed to be a new vein. Arrangements are being made to ship early in January.

The number of men working on the Iron Mask has been increased to thirty-six. There is good ore in the workings.

The long cross-cut in Sunset No. 2 will cut the Discovery ledge at a depth of 450 feet before Christmas. From the surface showings a big ore chute is expected at that depth.

A record for rapid sinking is being made on Silver Bell. The shaft is now down to the hundred-foot level. The bottom is in calcite and slides. A good showing is looked for when the ledge is cross cut.

Shipments last week: Le Roi, 1050; War Eagle, 765; Iron Mask, 18 tons.

A. R. M.

HIS WIFE A HELPMEET.

"Bill" Ferguson and His Spouse Working a Mining Claim Together.

Vancouver, Dec. 18.—At the Tall Hold property on Springer Creek, one of the remarkable sights of the Slocan may be seen. The property is owned by Bill Ferguson, and he and his wife are sharing the toil of its development. Mrs. Ferguson is 60 years of age, but is vigorous and healthy. She pushes the wheelbarrow or holds the drill as ably as any miner in the Slocan. The snow must be six or eight feet deep up there, and it will be twelve feet before spring, but they have complete supplies for the winter stored in their cabin, and expect by the time spring comes that they will have a property well worth the hardships it has cost.

Ty Wilson's Hygienic Brown Bread. 739 Yonge street. Phone 3610.

A Busy Store.

Forty-nine King-street west was a scene of bustling activity Saturday. All day long throngs of people crowded the store of Messrs. A. Clubb & Sons, the popular King-street tobacconists. Cigars, Pipes, smokers' sundries, etc., were there in profusion, and the unanimous verdict expressed was that they had the largest and finest assortment of smokers' goods ever shown in Canada.

Edwards and Hart-Smith, Chartered Accountants, Bank of Commerce Building. Geo. Edwards, F.C.A. A. Hart-Smith.

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., Patent Solicitors and experts, Bank Commerce Building, Toronto.

The attention of users is invited to the merits of E. B. Eddy's indurated fibre ware tubs, pails, etc., which are for sale at all first-class grocery stores. Housekeepers readily recognize their superiority over the ordinary wooden tubs, etc. 135

John H. Young, chartered accountan and auditor, 90 Yonge st. Phone 1231.

Gambling Dive Raided.

At 2 o'clock this morning Constables Crowe and Lilburn paid a visit to an alleged gambling resort in the Romaine Building, 83-93 King-street west. They secured a gambling outfit for a crap game and about $5 in money. The names of 20 men were taken and summonses will be issued.

Smoke Union Blue Label Cigars.

A FOOL BEAVER.

THE BEAVER (after deep reflection): Say, Wilf, Wilf—What?
THE BEAVER: I think I'm just about the most chuckle-headed animal that ever wet a foot. Here I go usin' up my teeth chawin' down logs for a lot of blame Yankee lumber and pulp pirates to tow over to their mills in the U. S.

WANT HIM FOR FIFTH-AVENUE

New York Tribune Thinks That is Why Rev. Mr. Connell Would Not Come to Toronto.

CALLED TO DR. JOHN HALL'S CHURCH,

But Felt Bound to Fulfil His Obligation to the East for the English Foreign Mission Board.

New York, Dec. 18.—Commenting on the refusal of the call to the pastorate of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, by the Rev. Alexander Connell, The Tribune says:

"Mr. Connell's refusal of this call would seem to corroborate in some degree the statement published upon several occasions in these columns that Mr. Connell is destined to succeed the late Dr. John Hall in the pastorate of the Fifth-avenue Presbyterian Church. Before Mr. Connell left New York for China several weeks ago, what was tantamount to a call to the church was telegraphed to him to Vancouver. Mr. Connell, however, considered that he was under a moral obligation to carry out his mission in the east on behalf of the English Board of Foreign Missions, and refused to defer his journey. The majority of the Church Committee of the Whole, to which the congregation has virtually committed the selection of a new pastor, is anxious to secure Mr. Connell, and advocates postponing any definite action in filling the vacant pulpit until his return in April next.

MOORE FOUND GUILTY.

Charged With "Badgering" a New York Hotel Man.

New York, Dec. 17.—William A. E. Moore, charged with "badgering" Martin Mahon, proprietor of the New Amsterdam Hotel, has been found guilty of robbery in the first degree. He will be sentenced on Monday. The maximum sentence is 20 years in prison. His wife, Fayne Moore, charged with the same offence, will be tried on Monday.

Pember's Turkish and Vapor Baths, 127 and 129 Yonge. Bath and bed $1.00.

A COLLAPSE IN PARIS.

Four Persons Killed and Many Others Seriously Wounded.

Paris, Dec. 18.—Four persons were killed and many others seriously injured to-day by the collapse of a house in course of construction on the Rue Des Appenins. It is feared that five bodies still remain buried in the debris.

Armeda Tea has the Flavor.

Just One Cent

Invested in a postal card and sent with your address to Dunlop's will bring by return mail a descriptive price list from which to make your selection of Xmas roses.

Smoke Union Blue Label Cigars.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25 cents. ed

QUEBEC CONTROLS CANADA

That is the Exultant Remark of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Quebec Organ.

AND SO MATTERS WILL REMAIN

Until the Great West is Filled Up by Strangers, According to the Same Authority.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—After jubilating to the extent of half a column over the Liberal victory in Bagot, Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Quebec organ throws off the mask and says: "It is the Province of Quebec that controls to-day the Government of the Dominion, and it will always be the case until millions of strangers, who take possession of the great West, can, thanks to their numbers, dispute with us the preponderance we now enjoy. We owe this preponderance," says Le Soleil, "to three causes:

"1. The great personality of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which our Province has given to the people of the Dominion.

"2. His new and progressive policy, beneficial to all.

"3. The cohesion of the Province of Quebec, and all this fascinates the electorate of the country."

A Big Snap for Smokers.

Drop into McConnell's new wholesale corner Colborne-street and Leader-lane, before buying your Christmas presents, and see our stock of the choicest imported and domestic cigars. We sell by the box at strictly wholesale prices, and you thereby save the retailer's profit. Choice boxes from $1.50 up. You are always welcome. M. McConnell & Co.

Cook's Turkish and Russian Baths. Open all night, 202 and 204 King St. W.

If there are any girls in the family, you will find a special interest in Dineens' Christmas display of children's furs—fur sets for girls and for ladies, and fur caps for boys and girls. Dineens' remains open every evening this week.

Cook's Turkish and Russian Baths. Bath and Bed $1.00. 204 King St. W.

MONUMENTS.

Call and inspect our stock and get our prices before purchasing elsewhere. The McIntosh Granite & Marble Company, Limited, 524 Yonge-street. Phone 4240.

The odor of real violets—Taylor's "Valley Violet."

MARRIAGES.

FRASER—TAYLOR—By the Rev. R. S. MacClements, M.A., on Saturday, Dec. 17, 1898, Alicia J. Taylor, daughter of Wm. Taylor to J. H. Fraser, clerk G.T.R., both of Toronto.

LAW—LUMSDEN—Mr. George D. Law of East Toronto to Miss May Lumsden of Aberdeen, Scotland, on Thursday evening, Dec. 14, at 36 Pembroke-street, Toronto, by Rev. William Patterson.

DEATHS.

MORRISON—At her late residence, 106 St. David-street, Mrs. Jane Morrison, in her 79th year, a resident of St. David-street for 60 years.

Funeral on Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 3 p.m., to St. James' Cemetery.

THE GASPESIA HAS ARRIVED

First Vessel of the New Canadian Line Made the Trip Over in Ten Days.

ENCOUNTERED STORMY WEATHER.

Brought 110 Passengers, Nearly All for New York — Cargo for Montreal and Quebec.

New Carlisle, Que., Dec. 18.—The Canadian steamship Gaspesia, Captain McKinnon, which left Milford Haven on Thursday, the 8th inst., arrived at New Carlisle on Sunday, the 18th inst., at 9 a.m. The captain reports a stormy passage, with heavy westerly gales and heavy head sea, until reaching the gulf, when they encountered fine weather. She had on board 57 intermediate and 53 steerage passengers, all principally for New York. They are Russian and German, Polish, Jews. They were all in a healthy condition. The passengers were landed by the SS. Hiawatha, in charge of Captain Yates, on the New Carlisle wharf, and transferred on board an A. & L. S. train, which was ready to receive them, and proceeded at once for their destination.

About 30 tons of the cargo of the Gaspesia to be landed here consists of fruit, tinware and glycerine for Montreal and Quebec. The captain says the Gaspesia is a splendid, seaworthy ship. He sails for Charlottetown some time to-morrow.

The Gaspesia is a magnificent screw steamship. Her dimensions are as follows: Length, 383 feet; breadth, 43 feet; depth of hold, 33 feet; gross tonnage, 2835; register do., 2408; nominal horse-power, 600, with a speed of 13 knots. She carries a crew of 71, and is possessed of all the finest accommodation necessary for first and second-class passengers, and every comfort is available.

To the Ladies.

Do not buy smokers' presents until you have examined our large stock of handsome case pipes, cigar cases, cigaret cases, pouches, and choice cigars by the box, put up in 10's, 25's, 50's and 100's, a box of fifty Guinea Gold cigars will make a very fine present. We also call your attention to our stock of Hookah pipes, which are the finest in Canada. Prices ranging from $1.50 to $10. Regal Cigar Store, 17 King-street west. 'Phone 8016.

The Size of It.

A prominent member of the Reform party in Ontario said yesterday: "No treaty is better than any treaty our friends can get at Washington."

Clarke Wallace Back.

Hon. N. C. Wallace returned from Washington Sunday morning and left for home at Woodbridge. He is of opinion that some kind of a treaty will be made, but that it will not include a reciprocity clause.

A Showy, Pleasing Comfort-Giving Christmas Gift—something in furs. In Dineens' Christmas fur display your choice extends from $2.50 to $250, and there are thousands of articles to select from.

Did you ever try the Top Barrel?

Taylor's "Wild Rose" has an excellent aroma.

Par excellence—Taylor's "Valley Violet."

AN AMENDED OFFER,

Which Possibly Sir Wilfrid Laurier Can Accept.

PROBABLY CANADIAN HAY

Will Be Allowed to Go Into "Our Natural Market" Free.

Concessions Are Also Expected in the Matter of Lead Ores, Coal and Nickel — Speculation From Washington, But Only Speculation—Newfoundland Proposes to Have a Little Treaty of Her Own.

Montreal, Dec. 17.—(Special.)—The Star publishes the following from its special correspondent in Washington: "The amended offer which the American commissioners have promised to submit to the Joint High Commission to-day, or Monday, it is believed, will be one which the Canadians will accept. There is no likelihood that the reciprocity schedule embodied in this offer will be wide in its application, but from what the Canadian Commissioners are saying now, it would appear that they have been assured of concessions which will provide them with a good excuse for signing their names to an Anglo-American treaty. It is declared that the American Commissioners have not yet caused to be understood that free lumber is an impossibility. After one of the most vigorous lobbies ever conducted in the Senate, we are told that but six or eight votes are lacking to pledge that body to the support of free lumber. Some fairly important concessions are expected in agricultural products, it being practically certain that Canadian hay will receive entrance to the American market free of duty. Concessions also in the matter of lead ores, coal and nickel are believed to have been practically promised by the American Commissioners.

Sir James Winter will not return to Washington. If the treaty is signed in Quebec, however, he will go there to affix his name. It was understood that Newfoundland would not share with Canada the benefits of any reciprocity treaty to Newfoundland. It is therefore said on the best authority that Newfoundland has secured the consent of the Imperial Government to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with the United States, independent of Canada.

THE TWO STUMBLING BLOCKS

In the Way of Reciprocity Are Said to Be Lumber and Agricultural Implements.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The meeting of the Canadian Joint Commission on Monday next will be the last before Jan. 5, when the commissioners will reassemble in Washington to conclude whatever treaty they are able to agree upon for presentation to their respective Governments. It is definitely stated that a treaty covering practically all the points under consideration, except that of reciprocity, will be signed. It is almost equally sure that some matters of reciprocal trade relations will be adjusted, and that there will be fewer in number than the Canadian commissioners had hoped in opening negotiations. Any more definite statement than this, it is said upon authority, would be speculative. Both sides of the commission adhere to their policy of silence, on chances of ratifying whatever features of the treaty have been agreed upon.

It may be said, however, that lumber and agricultural products are the two stumbling blocks to full reciprocity. The Canadian commissioners have presented a very full statement covering the lumber trade, the gist of which is that forest products are so large a percentage of Canada's exports, and yet are relatively so small compared with the United States' total forest products, that liberal concessions on this point are essential to satisfy public sentiment in Canada, and could be made without serious detriment to the United States. Practically the same statement has been presented concerning agricultural products. The Canadian commission has urged that Canada is a larger consumer per capita of American manufactures than the whole western hemisphere south of the United States. Further, it is urged that last year Canada gave the United States a $40,000,000 free list, and in view of these facts, some essential concessions must be made to the Canadian farmers, if being represented that agrarian sentiment is fully as important to the Dominion Government as it is to the United States.

A Promise of Slush.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, Dec. 18.—(11 p.m.)—An important low area is forming over Texas, and is likely to move to the lake district, bringing snow or rain. At the same time, a high area is forming over Northern Ontario and Quebec, and is giving lower temperatures in the Ottawa and Lower St. Lawrence Valleys. In the Northwest the pressure is low and the weather mild.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 36—48; Kamloops, 26—38; Calgary, 18—34; Battleford, 12—26; Qu'Appelle, 20—32; Winnipeg, 4—32; Port Arthur, 8—18; Parry Sound, 34—42; Toronto, 32—40; Ottawa, 32—38; Montreal, 32—36; Quebec, 32—36; Halifax, 36—46.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes—Increasing easterly winds, with a fall of snow or sleet, turning to rain in many places.

Georgian Bay—Increasing easterly winds; fair, followed by a fall of snow or sleet.

Ottawa Valley—Fair at first, followed tonight by increasing easterly winds and a fall of snow or sleet.

Upper St. Lawrence—Fair at first followed to-night by increasing easterly winds and a fall of snow or sleet.

Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Fine and cold; some snow on Tuesday.

Maritime—West to north winds; fine and colder.

Lake Superior—Fair, with higher temperature; some snow to-night.

Manitoba—Fair and comparatively mild.

The woollens that Oak Hall clothes are made from appeal at once to people of taste as being stylish and good-looking. They are carefully selected, and there is a character about them that makes a man look well-dressed. There is an ever-changing variety of patterns at Oak Hall, 115 King-street east.

Steamship Movements.

Dec. 18.	At.	From.
Tongariro	Liverpool	St. John, N.B
Gaspesia	Faspehiac	Milford Haven
La Bretagne	New York	Havre
Statendam	New York	Rotterdam
Mesaba	New York	London
Agapanthus	New York	Halifax
Burgundia	New York	Marseilles
La Gascogne	Havre	New York
Russia	Philadelph'a	Liverpool
Parisian	Liverpool	Halifax