

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 25, 1899.

DOUKHOBORS ARRIVE.

TWENTY-THREE HUNDRED IMMIGRANTS FOR THE PRAIRIE LANDS OF CANADA - THEIR RECEPTION AT HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, Jan 20.-Sale into port at three o'clock this afternoon came the steamship Lake Huron, Capt. Evans, with her company of nearly 2,300 Doukhobors, the largest number of immigrants who ever crossed the Atlantic at one time to an American port.

For many days Deputy Minister Smart had been anxiously awaiting the coming of this curious people, who were carrying their food to the tree and fertile lands of the Canadian domain, and when the Beaver line flag was hoisted at the wharf at 10 this afternoon, there was rejoicing on all hands.

During the passage there was one birth and two deaths, the latter from ordinary diseases, old and young. The bodies were all buried at sea with impressive ceremonies.

Their Peculiar Dress. They are all dressed in sheepskins with the fleece next the body, black fur caps, and the females wear bright colored shirts. They were all landed at the quarantine station at Lawler's Island during this evening with their baggage. They will be thoroughly fumigated and made ready for their journey. They will be detained there until Monday morning. The steamship is being cleaned and fumigated also. They will then if on no account develop among them go to board the Huron again and proceed for St. John, N. B., Prince Edward Island, and other points.

All Vegetarians. They are also vegetarians though the custom is not required by their religion. Many Doukhobors are from the Ukraine, and a lady doctor was also on board. The officers of the ship stated that the Doukhobors stood the passage well. After the officials had on board, Elder Eklinton of the Society of Friends gathered the people about him and offered up a solemn invocation to the Almighty for their safe journey.

They Were Persecuted. They have suffered much for religion's sake. Their faith and doctrines resemble more nearly than anything else those of the Quakers. In many respects their tenets are different. There is, however, some possibility that their religion was derived from Quaker teachings, though that is an open question. English Quakers have suffered persecution in Russia, but it is impossible to trace the beginning of the Doukhobors religion to their teachings, and it is likewise difficult to determine when it really had its beginning. The few who dissent in the first instance were promptly suppressed by the government, and it is only in secret departmental documents that the early history of the Doukhobors religion is written. It was only when the movement became more widespread in the century and the expression of its adherents consequently more difficult that it came within the scope of reliable history.

Warriors of the Spirit. Their Bishop Eugene, of Kladarionau, invented the name Doukhobors from two Russian words, meaning in combination "Warriors of the Spirit." At the first of the century the sect became very troublesome to the government, not because they were rebellious or anything like that, but simply because they would not go to the Greek church. So it became necessary in the opinion of the government to send them away to exile. Siberia is the place where people are exiled for political offences, and the Canadian country where they are sent for religious offences. But Alexander J. being

deceived simply that the Doukhobors should be where their assistance would not be greatly felt ordered the persecutions to cease and sent them to the shores of the Sea of Azov, where they were at last gathered from all parts of Russia. There they dwelt for some time in a comparatively unpopulated country, near the Sea of Azov and along the river flowing into it, which bears a Russian name equivalent to milk river, so called on account of the color of its water. But their peace was shortly disturbed by the interference of priests of the Greek church who were not satisfied. Accordingly the persecutions were recommenced in 1855 under Nicholas I. It was inconvenient to put to death an entire community of 10,000, but the governor of the Caucasian provinces suggested that they be sent along there and up into the mountain districts, where it would be impossible for them to thrive and where they must surely die out. But they did not die out. A few returned near the sea of Azov on condition of accepting the Russian faith. Others who formed a majority were sent away to the Rains mountains to the government of Tiflis. The climate was very ungenial and the land where they were placed was unfit for profitable cultivation. But nevertheless the numbers until they occupied seven villages: Gorelo, Efromove, Spaske, Orlovsk, Redanastka, Troyskoye and Bogdanivka.

Looking for New Fields. Ultimately they were so numerous that they had to find pastures new, and some were allowed to go to the government of Ekaterinopol, where they founded another village, which they called Slaviansk. They also founded three other villages, which they named after the Russian saints: St. Nicholas, St. George and St. John. After the war of 1877 Russia was reorganized and this was the first time that a village called Patience, as well as some others.

Again Disturbed. In the Caucasian country their life was variously disturbed. The land where they lived belonged to all in common and was directly administered by an elected leader. When he died the government took possession of the land and gave it to his widow. When she died it was given by the government to her brothers. Then there came trouble among the Doukhobors themselves. Some adhered to one brother, the remainder did not. Then there came an edict compelling them to bear arms. Some were unwilling to do so, the result being that they were persecuted and some were killed.

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Advertisement for BEECHAM'S PILLS, featuring a portrait of a man and text describing the medicine's benefits for various ailments.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY.

CONTINUATION OF THE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS - SCOTT ACT INSPECTOR RETAINED IN OFFICE.

St. Andrews, Jan 20.-The county council has made remarkable progress with its work this year, and will be able to complete the work of the session early through the finance committee, through whose hands the heaviest task in the proceedings of the council has to pass.

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NEW STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Long Expected Issue of Stock Now Being Made.

Montreal, Jan 20.-The Star's special cable from London says: The long expected issue of stock of the Canadian Steamship Company is now being made in connection with the inauguration of the Millard Haven Pasphebian service. Ordinary shares amounting to 250,000, each debenture, amounting to 250,000 and 210,000 six per cent preferred stock is being offered. Atlantic and Lake Superior Railway Company guarantees the principal and interest and undertake to provide half dozen steamers between Millard, Liverpool and Pasphebian.

Senator Wood and Others Ask for Incorporation.

Ottawa, Jan 20.-Joseph Wood, Westmorland, senator; Herbert Mariner Wood, Sackville, clerk; Thos Brown Calhoun, Calhoun Mills, lumberman; John Caldwell Calhoun, Albert, lumberman; Mariner George Teed, Dorchester, barrister-at-law, are applying for incorporation as "The Calhoun Lumber Company," with chief place of business at Calhoun. The Real Estate Boom Committee is applying for incorporation.

St. Louis, Mo, Jan 20.-Jas. M. Marti Burgos, senator; J. Luna, representative of Aguinaldo, passed through St. Louis today on their way to Washington. Their mission is to persuade Uncle Sam to relinquish the Philippine Islands.

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Will Save Caribou. Bangor Sportsmen in Favor of Law for the Protection of Caribou.

Bangor, Jan. 20.-Bangor sportsmen, as are hunters all over the state, are interested in the plan which has been proposed for the purpose of protecting the few caribou which still remain in Maine; caribou are rapidly being exterminated in this state, but it is thought that if a six years' close is ordered, as stated in the proposition, it may be possible to preserve the few remaining animals and to allow an increase.

St. Martins Politics. The following notice has been issued at St. Martins in the form of a printed poster:-

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE ELECTORS OF THE PARISH OF SAINT MARTIN, KNOWING THAT according to the lapse of time the provincial general elections will take place some time during the present year, and believing that in justice to this parish we are entitled to the representation for the eastern portion of the county, we have decided to call a meeting of the electors for the purpose of naming a Liberal and Conservative candidate to be nominated at the county conventions of the respective parties.

George Thorne Will Be Released From Custody. CHARLOTTE TOWN, P. E. I., Jan 20.-The evidence in the case of George Thorne indicted for manslaughter was concluded yesterday. The jury after being out half an hour returned a verdict of "not guilty," and Thorne was set free.

Advertisement for horse raising, featuring an illustration of a horse and rider, and text: "Are You Raising Horses for Sale? It will enrich the blood, loosen the hide, gloss the coat, raise amazingly the spirit and put on flesh and muscle. One package is worth dozen of so-called condition powders. 50 Cents a Package. Trial Size, 25 Cents. DICK & CO., Proprietors."

INCREASE OF TRADE. CUSTOMS RETURNS OF CANADA MAKE A GOOD SHOWING.

Ottawa, Jan. 20.-Trade figures for the first half of the current year, which ended on 31st December last, have been prepared by the customs department. Large as last year's trade was the present year is going to surpass it. For six months the aggregate trade of the dominion exceeded last year's figures by \$14,500,000.

Table showing Customs Returns of Canada for 1897 and 1898, including categories like Dutiable, Free, and Coin and Bullion.

TENDERS ASKED For the Carrying of Spaniards from Manila to Spain.

WASHINGTON, Jan 20.-The war department has issued an invitation for bids from responsible shipping concerns of all nations for transportation for the Spanish prisoners in the Philippines from Manila to Spain.

South American Strike. COLOR, Columbia, Jan. 22.-The strike of dock laborers is fast assuming a serious aspect. A batch of 30 Panama dockmen arrived last night and stone and revolver were fired at the train as it neared Colon.

Advertisement for INSOMNIA, featuring an illustration of a person and text: "SOUTH AMERICAN NERVE RESTORES REST AND HEALTH. If the digestive organs refuse to do their work, indigestion and dyspepsia follow like lightning a flash-the nerves are shattered and then insomnia ensues."