

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 10, 1900.

### Members Want the Dominion Government to Stay the Hand of Governor McInnes in British Columbia.

awa, March 6.—(Special).—In the House today Mr. Costigan introduced a bill to incorporate the Quebec and New Brunswick Railway Company.

Mr. Costigan presented a petition to the House from the Dominion Commercial Cable Company, asking that the company be incorporated, and to increase their capital to \$100,000.

Mr. Costigan introduced a bill to incorporate the Kettle River Railway Company.

Prior to the introduction of the bill, Mr. Costigan desired to call attention to the extraordinary state of affairs existing in British Columbia.

He read a letter from a Victoria paper describing the state of affairs in the province.

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people. He would not now express an opinion in regard to the wisdom of the government's course and the parliament of Canada could not do so until the people themselves had spoken.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved the House into committee on the bill to amend the Dominion Lands Act, so that the children of an alien who dies before he completes his entry and becomes naturalized can obtain a patent for the lands he occupied.

This and other amendments were discussed by the western members for some time and progress was reported.

The House went into committee on the redistribution bill. The debate was continued by Mr. Clarke Wallace who argued that the redistribution should be postponed until the next session is taken.

Some of the Conservatives objected to the bill on the ground that the constitution of the House of Commons is not a subject for the House of Commons to deal with.

Mr. McMillen showed that there were far greater differences in the constituencies by the gerrymandering bill of 1882 and that it had not been rectified by the bill of 1892.

Hon. Mr. Patterson enlarged on this point and spoke with great force and effect. He pointed out the fact that the House of Commons is not a subject for the House of Commons to deal with.

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The English government, being compelled to take action by the petition of the Uitlanders, demanded that the provisions of the convention of 1884, should be respected. Mr. Villars says:

"It has been said that the present war is the work of capitalists, that it marks the paroxysm of the mercantile politics of Rhodes and Chamberlain, and it is this belief which has turned against the English public opinion throughout the great continent of Europe. This view of the situation, however, appears less correct as the war progresses."

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"In this case she is simply defending the prestige of her great power. . . . She is not willing to let herself be depicted as a possessor of the gold mines of the Transvaal, as has been supposed, for she has shown, as in Australia, for example, that she has allowed her policy to be dictated by the desire to secure the profits from such sources and has not taken account of the fact that because of the market, which is open to her commerce, and of the importance of the Cape as a storehouse for her navy."

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### War Horse Discusses Various Problems for the Benefit of American Readers.

Sir Charles Tupper was interviewed by a representative of the Boston Globe on his arrival to attend a banquet given by British and Canadian residents of that city.

In reply to a question as to what extent the part now being played by the Canadian troops in the South African war would affect the relations between Canada and Great Britain, he said:

"Nobility in Canada has for an instant considered what effect the sending of Canadian troops to Africa would have, and nobody, either in or out of parliament, has given it a moment's serious thought."

"Their prompt action can only be attributed to the Canadians' great love of country, and to the fact that at the same time they are a component part of the British Empire."

Effect of the War.  
"How will the war, and Canada's contribution to it, act upon public spirit in the Dominion, in a general way?"

"The unanimity of the people of Canada is best shown by the vote taken on the appropriation of the sum of \$2,000,000 when parliament, with a total vote of 214 members, only recorded three votes against the measure."

"To my mind this shows an overwhelming sentiment in favor of aiding the home government at a critical time, which proves that in the self-governed colonies there exists the strongest sentiment in favor of the Empire and therefore cannot react but in a beneficial way."

But an Affair of Students.  
"What importance do you attach to the recent demonstration against the British on the part of certain of the French-speaking people of Montreal?"

"I don't attach any importance to the French demonstration, which is nothing more than the escape of a few college students, which will be properly disposed of by the authorities of both colleges, who are acting with a perfect understanding in the premises."

"There are always a certain amount of rabble, which stir up trouble, but which is soon settled down sound, so that it is not a serious problem of Canada's future."

"No, I do not, for I know of no serious disaffection except in the students' demonstration, to which I previously referred, and that cannot have any bearing on the future of Canada."

"Do the Canadians regard the attitude of the people of the United States as pro-British or pro-Boer?"

"I have not been here long enough to form an intelligent opinion, and you ought to know more about that than I do."

Alaskan Boundary.  
"What are the prospects of a satisfactory settlement of the Alaskan boundary and other disputed questions between Canada and the United States?"

"You had better ask the United States government, for they are in a position to give more definite information than I can."

"Great Britain and Canada have asked the United States government to consent to a settlement of the differences according to the Russian treaty of 1825 and we have asked your government to refer the whole matter to international arbitration to decide where the boundary line lies."

"Canada asks nothing. I suppose it is the same old story of the Maine-Canada boundary line as was adjusted and the same as that in British Columbia when we got the worst of it, but it was the only way to solve the question."

Trade Relations.  
"What is your opinion of the policy of the United States government with respect to trade relations between this country and Canada?"

"I don't think the people of the United States realize the trade concessions made by Canada. The policy of all governments is to look to a policy that will favor their own people, and the United States government is no exception to the rule."

The Next Election.  
"What effect, if any, will the present war have on the next general election here? When is the next election likely to be held?"

"It would be quite impossible at this time to say, but judging from the unanimity of the feeling in parliament, which takes in both parties, I cannot see as it will have any material effect."

"I can't say whether the next election will take place before June, 1901, but at that time it must take place. The dissolution of parliament is in the hands of the government of the day."

In conclusion, he said:

"I anticipate a pleasant visit to Boston, and have met many friends during the short time I have been here."

Imperial Federation, with representatives of the colonies in the imperial parliament, he did not care to discuss, and as to trade relations between Canada and England and the proposed fast Atlantic steamship service he was also silent.

Having considered reports showing a decrease of church membership and a falling off in attendance, the bishops have issued to all American Methodist churches, pastors and members the word over a laborer appointing a week of penitence and prayer beginning on March 25, and announcements thereof will be made from the pulpits in Methodist churches from time to time before the penitential period begins.

Bishops W. X. Niede, C. H. Fowler and I. W. Joyce were the men chosen to prepare this letter. The causes which, unless checked, portend the decay of American Methodism are thus enumerated by the bishops:

Labor troubles and the church standing aloof from a solution of them.

Neglect of the submerged tenth.

Speculations and vagaries of Christian science.

### WAR NEWS.

London, March 7.—4.10 a.m.—Lord Roberts still pauses in the neighborhood of Odonted while stores, remounts and fresh troops stream toward him from the Cape. The British position also continues to improve in the minor spheres of the campaign. Natal is clear of Boers and Cape Colony is nearly so.

The Boers seemingly are pursuing the course commended by strategists and are concentrating to resist the British main army. Various messages from correspondents with Lord Roberts, report that the enemy are increasing continually on his front, extending, as one correspondent says, eight miles, and, as another says, 18 miles. The lowest estimate of their numbers gives the Boers from 8,000 to 10,000 men, with smaller bodies moving north and south of the British lines.

Boer Concentration Wanted.  
Each army is on both sides of the Modder River. Although the Boers have mounted eight guns on the tops of kopjes and appear to be too far away for inspection, the British scouts report that they are diligently using pick and shovel. Military opinion is that their present position is deeper in the region. None of the military experts endeavor to fathom Lord Roberts' plans; but it is suggested that he is quite willing to give the Boers time to assemble all their men in order to deliver a smashing blow more effectively.

Cape Dutch to Rise.  
The Transvaal agency at Brussels threatens a rising of the Cape Dutch in the event of the Dutch from neighboring districts should rise rather than now is not explained.

Mr. A. G. Hales, the Daily News correspondent, on Feb. 9, was released at Bloemfontein and put through the lines near Sterksburg. He telegraphs that the Boers are demoralized by the British wounded splendor.

Dutch in Rebellion.  
Cape Town, March 6.—Nearly the whole of the Dutch population of the Prieska and Kenhardt districts are in rebellion. Many of the Dutch from neighboring districts are reported to have joined them, notably Piet Molman, who will lead the rebels.

Jobert on the Scene.  
London, March 7.—A despatch to the Standard from Odonted, dated Sunday, March 4, says:

"Gen. Jobert is reported to be in command of the Boer forces here."

British Moving Forward.  
Cape Town, March 6.—The British advanced camp is now at Oorlogspoort river, several miles beyond Achtbart.

Australians to Do Police Work.  
London, March 6.—Much interest and speculation is excited by the disclosure of confidential telegrams from Mr. Chamberlain to the premier of New South Wales, suggesting further colonial troops for South Africa in the event of British regulars being needed elsewhere. It is presumed a similar confidential letter has been sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

It is believed the idea is that the colonies should police themselves so as to free the South Africa forces there for the immediate policing of the Transvaal and Free State during the interregnum after the war and before a government has been created. The war office has reason to believe a large number of Australians will welcome the opportunity to serve in the colonial governments co-operate and that details as to pay, etc., can be satisfactorily arranged.

Three Thousand Under Arms.  
Cape Town, March 6.—Who will lead the rebels to Handlides? Lucas Steinkamp, commanding the Boers, is reported marching on Camarvon. It is believed that Gordon and Victoria will rise. It is thought that the total number of men in arms will exceed 3,000. The general opinion of loyalists is that a strong force of British will be required as a reverse would spread the rebellion.

The Canadian Wounded.  
Ottawa, March 6.—A despatch received at the militia department today divides the wounded as follows:

Dangerously wounded—Private Julius Sievert, Private O. Matheson, (Newcastle, N. B.); Private M. Quinn, (Halifax); Private W. Donohue.

Severely wounded—Sergeant W. Peppico, Pte. H. Proulx, Pte. J. Vickers, Corp. F. W. Coombs, (St. John); Pte. H. Leavitt, (St. John); Pte. A. Bagot.

Slightly wounded—Major Pelletier, Lt. C. Armstrong, Corp. R. McDonald, Pte. F. C. Holland, Pte. A. L. Lathford, Pte. F. W. Sprague, (St. John); Pte. H. Durval, Pte. A. Simpson, (St. John); Corp. T. Baugh, Pte. A. Pelky, (St. John); Pte. J. McConnell, (St. John); Pte. H. Forhan, Bugler Holland, (St. John); Pte. R. Kidner and Pte. A. Parker.

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Strathcona Horse Funds.  
Montreal, March 6.—The Star's special cable from London says the official Gazette tonight publishes a list of the commissions in Strathcona's Horse. The commissions in this corps are from the Queen.

Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne took an active part in today's meeting at Lord Strathcona's house of the committee for a fund to provide comforts for the Canadian contingents. Lord Strathcona announced that £700 had been received and also donations of comforts. An appeal is being made for further funds and articles.

To Raise a Tidy Little Loan.  
London, March 6, 8.15 p.m.—The House of Commons in committee of the whole this evening adopted a resolution to authorize a loan of £250,000,000. The vote stood 161 to 28.

Canadians Resting.  
Montreal, March 6.—(Special).—The Star correspondent with the first Canadian contingent cables as follows:

"Odonted, March 5.—Private J. Sievert of the 8th Bn., Cumberland Battalion, who joined H. Company at Halifax and was afterwards transferred to F Company at Quebec, has died from wounds he received in the engagement at Paardeburg. The Canadians are now resting after the hard work of recent fighting. Congratulations to the Canadians are contained in the orders of the commanding officers. The health of the boys is good."

### the Guest of the Canadian Club He Compliments the American Diplomatic Department.

March 6.—The Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., was entertained at a banquet by the Canadian Club of Boston today.