

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
A paper of 8 pages, published every
Wednesday and Saturday at 3.00 a year, in
advance, by THE TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING
COMPANY of Saint John, a company incor-
porated by act of the legislature of New
Brunswick. THOMAS HUNTER, Business
Manager. JAMES HANNA, Editor.

ADVERTISING RATES.
Ordinary commercial advertisements
making the run of the paper—Each in-
sertion 50 cents. Longer notices, 75 cents.
Advertisements of 10 lines or less,
notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths
50 cents for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Owing to the considerable number of com-
plaints as to the misarrangement of letters
sent to certain money remitters to this office,
we have decided to request our subscribers and
agents when sending money for the TELEGRAPH
to do so by post office order or registered letter,
in which case the remittance will be at our
expense.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
In remitting by check or post office order
our patrons will please make them payable
to THE TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING COMPANY.
All letters for the business office of this
paper should be addressed to THE TELE-
GRAPH PUBLISHING COMPANY, and all letters
for the editorial department should be
addressed to the Editor of THE
SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, St. John.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception names of no new sub-
scribers will be entered until the money is
received.
Subscribers will be required to pay for
their paper in advance, whether they take it
from the office or not, and all arrears must
be paid. There is no legal subscription
contract in force until the money is paid.
It is a well settled principle of law that a
man must pay for what he has. Hence, who-
ever takes a paper from the post office,
whether directed to him or somebody else,
must pay for it.

NOTES FOR CORRESPONDENTS.
Write plainly and take special pains with
your facts.
Attach your name and address to your
communications as an evidence of their truth.
Write nothing for which you are not pre-
pared to be held personally responsible.

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that the Portia hung on to the reef for a
time after she struck, instead of going
down immediately, as she might have
done. The place where the Portia
struck is called Big Fish shoal
and it lies about half a mile to the west
of Samba Island. The Portia was then
moving towards the land, but she was at
least three miles to the westward of her
proper course for entering Halifax har-
bor, which was her destination.

The Portia made the same mistake
that was made by the ill-fated Atlantic
in 1873, but the latter was further to the
westward and struck on Mars Head,
thereby drowning nearly six hundred
people.

The immediate cause of the loss of the
Portia was the dense fog which pre-
vailed, shutting the whole coast from
view. Halifax is greatly afflicted with
fog, so much so that mail steamships are
frequently detained off it from that
cause, yet the Halifax people, when dis-
cussing the fog question, speak as if the
only place in North America where fog
is to be found is in the Bay of Fundy.

THE TRANSVAAL SITUATION.
Although it is thought that the differ-
ences with the Transvaal will be settled
without resorting to arms, the British
government intends to be prepared for all
eventualities. Military men of ex-
perience are being sent to South Africa
to assist in the organization of the local
forces and additional troops are being
hurried to the Cape and Natal. In
addition to a large force of gar-
rison artillery now in South
Africa, five batteries of field ar-
tillery, numbering 5,000 men, and
thirty guns are now on order for
South Africa. The services of these
men will probably not be needed, but it
is well that they should be on hand in
the event of the present negotiations
failing. A good deal of indignation has
been aroused by a speech made by the
premier of Cape Colony, Hon. W. P.
Schreiner, who said that the Transvaal
reform proposals are quite adequate and
should insure a peaceful settlement of
the question. In England this
intolerance is looked upon as likely
to encourage President Kruger in
rejecting British authority and
some of the London papers are hysteri-
cally demanding that the governor of
Cape Colony shall dissolve parliament
and appeal to the people. Sir Alfred
Milner is not likely to do anything so
foolish as this, nor is he likely to receive
any advice of that nature from Lord
Salisbury. Mr. Schreiner is of Dutch
descent, in fact an Afrikaner, but he
will not sacrifice his future by giving
encouragement to Kruger. What he
said about the terms offered was
probably for the purpose of keep-
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fellow countrymen on whose support he
must mainly rely when he again appeals
to the people. Sir John Gordon Sprigg,
who was formerly prime minister and
who is now in opposition, is quite as em-
phatic in his declarations with regard to
the terms offered by President Kruger
as is Mr. Schreiner. He looks upon them
as totally inadequate to meet the just
claims of the Uitlanders. No doubt he
would be glad to make a political issue of
this matter in the event of another elec-
tion, but it is hardly likely that he
will have his wishes gratified. The
policy of the British government will be
to avoid war if possible, while making
every preparation for it. It is some-
what significant that two British warships
have just made their appearance at
Delagoa Bay, so that if President Kruger
contemplates obtaining supplies from
Germany or elsewhere he will find his
little game blocked. This is a wise pre-
caution, but it makes it the more certain
that there will be no war.

THE YUKON CHARGES.
It is only natural that as much as
possible should be made by the Conser-
vative press out of the fact that three
Liberals, Messrs. Richardson, Oliver and
McIntosh, voted in favor of Sir Charles
Hibbert Tupper's Yukon resolution. It
is quite true that these gentlemen are
Liberals; but this is not the first occasion
on which they have voted against the
government, and those who know them
will seldom be surprised by any caprice in
which they may indulge. Between at
least one of them and Mr. Stifton there
has been a long standing feud, and it is
probable that personal considerations
played a larger part in deciding which
way they should vote than did the
merits of the case made out by Sir
Hibbert. This applies particularly to Mr.
Richardson. Mr. McIntosh has rather
posed as an independent Liberal, and
for reasons which he could best explain
he has frequently cast his vote with the
Conservative. The same thing is true of
Mr. Oliver. He has been somewhat of a
Liberal government, and represents that
type of western freedom which believes
in showing independence for the mere
sake of doing so. That these men come
from the West does not in any respect
enhance their judgment on the question
of administration of affairs in the Yukon
country. They have no advantages in
forming a sound opinion which are not
enjoyed by any other member of parlia-
ment.

Few people seem to realize the diffi-
culty which have beset the minister of
the interior in carrying out his policy
with respect to the Yukon. In the days
when these complaints originated every-
thing was in a tentative state. There

were no established means of communi-
cation. It took months for a letter to
reach Ottawa, and an equally long
period for the reply to be received at
Dawson. The reports reaching the in-
terior were often conflicting and the in-
formation could only be made after the lapse
of many weeks time. The minister
did the best that was possible under the
circumstances. He chose the best men
that were available for the conduct of
official business at the distant diggings,
and necessarily he had to rely very
much upon their discretion and judg-
ment. The marvel is that greater in-
formation did not arise. Very much
had to be undertaken that was
experimental, and in the state
of feeling at Dawson, arising al-
most wholly from the imposition
of the royalty, credence was readily
given to what was afterwards shown to
be mere rumor. Mr. Ogilvie's report
of this kind of thing, no one can say that
there was undue delay in despatching
either Judge Dugas or Mr. Ogilvie to the
Yukon, each being vested with wide
judicial functions, when the minister
learned that wrong-doing was charged
against minor officials.

So far as the miners at Dawson are
concerned, it is quite easy to see that
they joined in the outcry against the
officials in the hope that the royalty
might be removed. Few people seem to
be being faced with a good grace, al-
though it will be conceded that taxes
are unavoidable. This was particularly
true at Dawson. The royalty was the
chief source of revenue out of which
the government proposed to maintain
law and order. The miners re-
sented the exceeding importance of
military protection; but they did not take
kindly to the tax which paid the cost
for South Africa. The services of these
men will probably not be needed, but it
is well that they should be on hand in
the event of the present negotiations
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been aroused by a speech made by the
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CANADA'S ATTITUDE.
The following, which appears in a
Washington report to the New York
Times, is probably as true a piece of jour-
nalistic impartiality as ever was evolved
from the ready brain of a newspaper
correspondent:
Meanwhile, however, the Laurier gov-
ernment obtains some partisan advan-
tage from keeping up the appearance of
calm. The minister has been through
his extreme zeal for the protection of
Canadian rights. It is the same old
story of the Laurier government's policy
towards the United States. This country
repeatedly when an adminis-
tration has wanted to keep itself in
power by pretending to have an unbi-
ased international quarrel on its hands.
As long as it goes no farther than the
circulation of ferocious reports for home
consumption in England, or the making
of a great deal of noise, it is all right.

It is hardly necessary to tell Canadian
readers that all the Laurier government
has done has been to contradict the lying
stories that have been wired from Wash-
ington with regard to the attitude of Can-
ada towards the United States. So far
from pretending that it has a quarrel
with the latter country and keeping up
an appearance of friction the efforts of
the Laurier government have all been
directed to minimizing the causes of dis-
ference between the two countries.

THE SENATE AND THE GOVERNMENT.
The leading Conservatives in the
senate are evidently beginning to realize
that they would be pursuing a suicidal
course for their party if they voted in
favor of the bill. The policy of the gov-
ernment with respect to the Intercolonial
Railway. The constitution of Canada
may be altogether wrong and it may be
that it would be much better for the
country if the entire control of its affairs
were to be handed over to the senate, but
as the affairs of Canada were intended
by the constitution of Canada to be regu-
lated by the men whom the voters
have elected to represent them in parlia-
ment the people would be very likely to
view with extreme disfavor any attempt
to deprive them of their just rights as
the judges to whom the government
should appeal for support. In the sen-
ate on Wednesday, the second reading
of the Drummond County railway bill
and the bill with reference to the use
of a part of the Grand Trunk by Inter-
colonial 17. The minority embraced the irre-
concilable element of the Conservative
party which is composed mainly of dull
men like Senator Ferley, who have not
will enough to discern the consequences
of their own stult. Only one senator
from New Brunswick voted against the
bill. This was Senator Wood, who will
probably have reason to regret his
course. All the other senators from this

province, except Senator Lewis, who
was absent, voted for the bill. Evidently
Senator Tupper, Blair, and
Folger, who are quite as good Conser-
vatives as Senator Wood, have no notion
of committing themselves or their party
to the doctrine that the policy of the
government should be controlled by the
senate.

THE QUEENSLAND OFFER.
The colony of Queensland to
send a contingent of 250 men to South
Africa in the event of war with the
Transvaal, was brought up in the house
of commons last evening by Col. Hughes
who wished Canada to do likewise. As
the British government in acknowledging
the offer of the Queensland offer, had ex-
pressed the hope that the occasion would
not arise for the use of troops in the Trans-
vaal, the premier was entirely in the
right in using this statement as an
argument why no offer of troops need
be made by Canada at present. Such
an offer at a time when everything is
tending in the direction of peace would
look too much like an effort to obtain a
little cheap glory. Every person knows
that Canada stands at all times ready to
assist the mother country in any war-
like enterprise in which she seems to
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