

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1886.

CHRISTMAS.

Once more we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity. Christmas! What holy, happy memories the word brings to the old, what joyous anticipations it conveys to the young.

Who does not recollect the Christmas Eve of his early childhood? The arrival of mysterious-looking parcels hurriedly stowed out of sight, the confusing conglomeration of tempting odours from oven and store-room, the fire in the guest-chamber brightly blazing in honor of some expected relative, and then, (if it were a Catholic home) at bed-time the silent visit to a darkened room where a little lamp of olive oil burns softly before a miniature altar, in which we knew the morning dawn would disclose to us the Babe of Bethlehem.

At the rate the Grigs increased the public debt, if they had left in office since 1878, it would be at least twenty millions more than it is now. There would be no great public works to represent their outlay, and the credit of the Dominion would be in a deplorable condition.

THE total expenditure of the United States Government for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1886, amounted to \$342,243,128, being \$17,788,797 less than the preceding year, and leaving a surplus of \$93,956,588 in the Treasury.

LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE CONVENTIONS. A CONVENTION of Liberal-Conservative members of Queen's County was held yesterday in this city to nominate candidates to represent the County at the next Dominion election.

After all Christmas is not a festival of the Muses; it is a festival of the birth of the Man-God in a stable. His foster-father, St. Joseph, was not a man of culture; he was a carpenter, and in his humble home the Son of God grew up to manhood, obedient to her who was in the eyes of their world a carpenter's wife.

CHILDREN TO THE CHRIST.

W. W. Sullivan telegraphed from Ottawa declining nomination, and now Samuel Proven, being present at the meeting, also stated that he did not desire his name to be used after speeches by the candidates.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

EVERY Catholic Priest is entitled to say three Masses on Christmas Day. The first Mass is said at midnight to celebrate the everlasting birth of the Son of God in the bosom of His Father; the second at dawn, to celebrate His birth in the world of the Blessed Virgin Mary; the third in the morning, to celebrate His spiritual birth in our souls by faith and charity.

WASHINGTON society is seriously disturbed over a question of precedence. The President and Mrs. Grant refuse to make the first call upon the wives of Cabinet Ministers while the latter are equally inexecutable in their determination not to be the first to call upon the President.

Reminiscences of Rocky Point. Last Dominion Day was so fine that I happened on my grand-uncle keeping his promise of going over to Rocky Point with me. He was a very old man, but his eyes were as bright as a boy's.

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LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

A SLACK man interrupted Mr. Samuel Gay, of Pownal, on Monday. Both man and bear escaped. We are in receipt from two valued correspondents, reports of the King's County Liberal-Conservative Convention, and regret that they did not reach us in time for insertion this issue.

The Highland Light, purchased last week by the Dominion Government for a fishery curlew, will in future be known as the Vigilant. She sailed from Georgetown for St. John last Sunday in charge of Captain Hughes.

His many friends will be pleased to learn that Mr. Fred. H. Sawyer, for many years the popular purser of the steamer Hesperus, plying between this port and Boston, has been appointed to the Merrimack on the route between Boston and Savannah.

It is our sad duty today to announce the death, after a lengthy and painful illness, of the wife of Thomas W. Dodd, Esquire, Member of the Legislative Council for this city. The deceased, who was a daughter of the late Hon. Henry A. Johnson, was a most estimable woman in all the relations of life—ready to assist in every good work, a food mother and a devoted wife.

Terrible Steamboat Disaster and Loss of Life. The steamer J. M. White, running between Charlottetown and New Orleans, was turned last week near Bay St. Lawrence, I. L. She was on her way to the West Indies, and was carrying a large number of passengers.

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LOCAL AND OTHER NEWS.

Best Tea this year we have ever had, and it is now on hand at J. & J. Macdonald & Co., Montreal. A Russian proverb—before you go to bed, before you take a nap, pray twice. Cheapest Dry Goods House in Town. J. & J. Macdonald & Co.

General News. In the divorce case of Lady Campbell and Lord Colin Campbell, the jury disagreed. Hon. Hugh O'Brien, a native of New Brunswick, was last week re-elected Mayor of Boston, Mass.

Best Goods are Put in Smallest Parcels. The old proverb is certainly true in the case of the goods of J. & J. Macdonald & Co. Their goods are put in small parcels, and are of the highest quality.

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