

THE HERALD
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JAMES McISAAC,
Editor & Proprietor.

The Year Just Closed.
BEFORE this issue of the HERALD reaches many of our readers, the year 1895 shall have passed away for ever, and the events of the twelve months shall have found their way into the chronicles of the year, whence, in due time they shall, according to their importance, pass into history. The year just closed, like its predecessor, has had its remarkable events; its disasters by sea and land; its losses of human life and destruction of property; its wars and rumors of war, more numerous perhaps than actual warfare. To these we cannot, here, refer at any length; but must content ourselves with a brief reference to a few of the year's most important events.

A year ago, we had occasion to refer to the shocking Armenian massacres, and the outrageous and inhuman conduct of the "unspeakable Turk" in regard to them. Sad to relate, these massacres have since continued at greater or less intervals. Nor, according to appearances, has the end yet come. It is deplorable, and a serious reflection on civilization, that such a condition of affairs has been permitted to continue all this time. A year ago, we felt justified in anticipating for France, under the Presidency of Casimir Perrier, a fairly stable and conservative outlook; but 1895 had scarcely been ushered in when we were completely disillusioned. Not only did the Ministry of the day resign, but the President himself precipitated a crisis by insisting on withdrawing from office. Under President Faure, a man of mediocrity, public matters managed to go on without much serious trouble, until quite recently when his first Ministry resigned. The present Cabinet would appear to be composed of rather inferior material, and it is extremely doubtful if they actually have the confidence of a majority of the deputies. It is not at all impossible that another change of Ministry may soon be looked for.

England, too, has had some political changes during the year. The Rosebery Ministry, succeeding that of Gladstone, was not of long duration and an appeal to the electorate has resulted, as we all know, in a change of political rulers. The Conservative party, under the leadership of Lord Salisbury has been placed in power, backed by a very large majority. The Salisbury Ministry is one of the strongest that England has had during the century, and should be capable of instituting many reforms. No fair criterion of its actions has yet been afforded, as Parliament has not been in session for any great length of time, since the Government's advent to power, and but little legislative business has been transacted. It can scarcely be denied, however, that the eastern and western questions, at present looming up, would appear to afford scope for executive ability and activity.

The latest attempt at an international tangle is the attitude assumed by President Cleveland and backed up by the United States Congress, regarding the Venezuela affair. Only last week, we laid before our readers the particulars in connection with this latest manifestation of United States political pomposity. Since then there have hardly been any further developments in the matter; consequently our people are virtually in possession of all the important facts in connection with it. It is true that opinions touching the case have accumulated from different sources, and almost all of them regard the President's course as untenable, from the point of view of international law and statesmanship. What the final outcome of the matter shall be it would be rash to conjecture; but there seems to be a prevailing idea that we shall be reversed. That is a consummation devoutly to be wished, as the great demerit would express it.

So far as our Dominion of Canada is concerned, the year just closed has not been, in any marked degree, eventful. Business, all things considered, has been good. The harvest, especially in the western sections, has been abundant. It is true that the prices of farm produce has not perhaps been as high as on some former occasions; still, in consequence of the abundant yield, the position of the seller is possibly better than in good seasons when higher prices ruled. The political questions attracting the most attention during the year has

been that of the Manitoba Schools. This question came into the political arena early in the year 1895, when the decision of the Imperial Privy Council was published. The Federal Government had expressed their determination to carry out the constitution by restoring to the minority of Manitoba the rights of which they had been deprived by the Government of that Province. The latter had declared that they will not restore to the minority their rights; consequently the matter now rests with the Dominion Government. This is not a matter of party politics, and should not be made use of by the Opposition to hamper the Government. It is a question which came to the Government without any action of theirs; a question for whose origin they are in no way responsible. That being so, it might be expected the Opposition would join with them in elevating it above party, and settling it without unnecessary friction. It is much to be regretted that the Opposition, through their leader, has thought proper to conspire with the Government of Manitoba to render the settlement of the question as difficult and disagreeable as possible to the Government, in the hope of thereby attaining to power. Such tactics are contemptible, and indicate a low ideal of statesmanship.

So far as our Island Province is concerned, everything has passed along smoothly during the year. The crops have been fairly good, but prices have been rather low. Still our people are as happy, we feel pretty sure, as those of any other part of equal size. A very important and encouraging feature of our agricultural system is the great progress made during the year in the winter butter-making industry. This is a marked advance in our dairying industry, compared with what it was a few years ago. Indeed, the progress is so remarkable, that it has surpassed the hopes of the most sanguine. No very remarkable event, social, political or otherwise, had taken place in our midst during the year. There are indications that the Provincial Government, already on record as the originator of several tax-acts, will equally distinguish itself in the matter of increasing the Province's public debt. That the year upon which we are just entering may be one of peace and prosperity; that it may be fraught with every blessing to our people; is what we desire, and as an earnest of this desire we wish our readers

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

The Dominion Parliament meets tomorrow; but the business of the session will not be commenced until next week. It is announced that after the formal opening of tomorrow both houses will adjourn until Tuesday next, the 7th inst.

HON. DR. MONTAGUE has been transferred from the Department of State to the Ministry of Agriculture. It is understood that he will pursue a vigorous policy in his new department, giving special attention to such matters as will redound to the advantage of the farmers of the Dominion.

The election for the House of Commons in Montreal Centre, on Friday last, resulted in the return of McShane, Liberal, by a majority of 383 votes. The vote stood: McShane, 3,063; McShane, 3,396. Comparing the two men it is difficult for us at this distance to understand how any constituency could decide to have for its representative Mr. James McShane in preference to Sir Wm. Hingston. But our Grit friends were bound to elect him, and Mr. Laurier, desirous of having "clean men" in his entourage appealed to the electors of Montreal Centre to strengthen his hands by giving him McShane. It appears that during the campaign Mr. Laurier hesitated to speak of McShane's record, but simply said "the people of Montreal know him." Whereupon the Montreal Gazette remarked: "Mr. Laurier was right. Montreal knows Mr. McShane. As Mr. McShane has himself remarked, his record is before us. It is written in the journals of Parliament and the legislature, and the archives of the election courts. It shows, among other things the following:—That Mr. McKenzie, Liberal M. P. for Montreal West, was unelected for bribery and corruption practices by Mr. McShane and others, that Mr. McShane was reported to the speaker of the House of Commons by Judge Terrance as a briber, and his name appears in the journals of parliament as that of a corrupt person. The Mr. Devlin, Liberal M. P. for Montreal Centre, was unelected for corruption practices in his behalf by Mr. McShane and others; that Mr. McShane was reported to the speaker of the House of Commons by Judge Mackay as a briber, and his name appears for a second time on the journals of Parliament as that of a corrupt person. That in the election, to the Legis-

lature in Lepario in 1887, Mr. McShane was guilty of bribing and intimidating voters that the election was annulled because of his illegal actions, that he was reported to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly as a corrupt person, and that for his repeated offenses he had sentences of civil disability passed upon him by the Court of Review. The record shows that Mr. McShane, while a member of the legislature or the government, received from J. P. Whelan, contractor for the Quebec Court House, sums aggregating over \$7,000, which he used to pay political and personal expenses, among the latter being \$500 for the cost of a dinner he gave at Quebec in honor of St. Patrick's Day. As Mr. Laurier says, Montrealers know Mr. McShane. They know that in public life he has been a man without principle and without scruple, a briber, a bull-dozer of poor voters, a profligate by boodle transactions as rank as any that ever disgraced even this province, and an incapable administrator of a provincial department. They know that his election to parliament would be a disgrace to the constituency to the city of Montreal, and to Canada's public life." It must be confessed that this is rather an astounding record and we can only say that our Grit friends are highly elated over this acquisition to their ranks in parliament, they are welcome to all the glory this "clean man" will reflect upon them.

During the past week the papers have been full of expressions of opinion regarding the Venezuelan affairs. Were we to reproduce even a fraction of these we would have room for nothing else. We will therefore give in as few words as possible what appears to be the conclusions arrived at regarding the matter by the best minds. In the United States most of the leading papers have shown Cleveland's position to be untenable. Log a tie's expressive of this opinion has appeared in the New York Post, the New York World, the New York Herald, the Boston Herald, the Springfield Republican and many others of the leading dailies. In addition to these, several of the foremost professors in the Universities have shown that the President's view cannot be supported by argument. In Europe the consensus of opinion is against the contention of the United States. Washington advice indicate that the belief has obtained even there that the President's action has been hasty and ill-considered. It is felt that the matter will be settled without any serious friction between England and the United States seen to be gaining ground at Washington. As a pointer in the direction of a sensible adjustment comes the intelligence that the object of the commission authorized by Congress, has been so far to simply ascertain all the facts regarding the disputed territory. This, in a nutshell, is about how the matter stands at present. Evidently the sober second thought of the people of the United States has been awakened.

The electoral contest in Cardwell, Ont., on the 28th, resulted in the election of Mr. Stubbs, Democrat. The vote stood: Stubbs, Conservative, 1,170; Willoughby, Conservative, 1,170; Hingston, 544. It will be seen that while the Government candidate was defeated, the Grit standard bearer was fairly wiped out, losing his deposit. McCarthy made a desperate effort on behalf of his candidate, who had formerly been a Conservative. Even in the face of this, it is possible the Government candidate would have been elected, had it not been for influences brought to bear, during the last two or three days of the campaign. It appears that a certain Mr. Nesbitt, a Toronto lawyer, had some time ago been a candidate for the Conservative nomination in Cardwell, and a draft of an agreement was made between himself and Willoughby, which set forth certain financial conditions, in consideration of which the latter was to retire from the field. This draft, which was not signed, fell into the hands of a man who had it photographed and during the campaign handed it over to McCarthy. Who flooded the district with copies of the same a day or two before the election. It is believed this was the effect of turning hundreds of votes away from Willoughby, the Conservative candidate. Willoughby says that the agreement was written by him at the dictation of Nesbitt, and was only a joke so far as he was concerned. Whether it was a joke or not, it is altogether likely he owes his defeat to it. The fact of his having anything to do with it, is an agreement was calculated to cast suspicion upon him, and if he were in earnest in the matter, defeat is what he deserved. Our Grit friends here, pretend to be pleased with the result; but surely can afford them but little comfort to find their candidate so utterly wiped out. They feign to be satisfied since the Government candidate was defeated. The Montreal Herald (Grit) is not satisfied with the result. Admitting the Government has failed it adds: "This is all the comfort liberals may draw from the result."

They have assisted at the humiliation of the government, but they have come out at the foot of the poll. That a man of such unenviable political reputation as Mr. Stubbs should have come out at the head of it; and that the second in the race should have been a man whose blackened past has been so blackened as Mr. Willoughby's has been by the revelation of his willingness to traffic his position in the constituency for hard cash and a judgeship, is one of the things which is inexplicable in Quebec, which is in the habit of making occasional demands for something like purity in public life.

A Word to Our Subscribers.
We publish in this issue another batch of names of subscribers who have paid. Our readers will be glad to see quite a large number paid, within the past two months. That is quite true, and all of those who have so paid, have our sincere thanks. But when we come to examine the subscription lists we find the number very small in comparison with those who have not paid. It is quite possible these latter might not wish to have their names published, together with the amounts they owe. We find the number very small in comparison with those who have not paid. It is quite possible these latter might not wish to have their names published, together with the amounts they owe. We find the number very small in comparison with those who have not paid. It is quite possible these latter might not wish to have their names published, together with the amounts they owe.

Different excuses are made by different persons for not paying. Some of these excuses are perhaps fairly good; some are very indifferent, and some are no excuses at all. In two or three cases, persons who had taken the HERALD for a number of years and had paid nothing for the last year or two, were asked if they would not pay one cent. Likely they would take the paper for ever on the same conditions. We would advise them, however, not to be too sure about the matter of non-payment. But it is altogether likely that persons capable of making such a declaration of morality certain that not "one cent" can be collected from them. Such persons as these are of no advantage to any community. Fortunately there are but few of them.

There is another class of subscribers that would appear to take advantage of their situation to the detriment of the amounts due by them. These are among our friends in the United States. Perhaps, now that there is war in the air, they will consider themselves justified in repudiating these debts. Our experience of many of them is that a declaration of war was not apparently necessary to encourage them to make such a repudiation. We should be most happy to disavow the opinions we have just expressed concerning these subscribers in Mr. Nesbitt's opinion, if they will only furnish the evidence, by paying up their subscriptions, that they bear no ill-will to the land of their birth. Until this is done our original statement must stand.

It is not by any means a pleasing duty for us to call attention so pointedly to this matter, but it is not the less a duty and an imperative duty. It is not encouraging to find that a large number of subscribers, in different places, have not sent us the amounts due by them, when they could very well do so, and are furnished with every facility for so doing. The year has come to a close, and the light obligation remains, in different degrees, discharged. Let us hope that one of the good resolutions formed at the beginning of the new year will be a determination to pay without further delay. This is the season for extending friendly greetings, but in this as in other matters, there should be some measure of reciprocity. While we, with all our heart, extend to our readers our best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year, we sincerely trust those who may be in arrears for subscriptions will reciprocate in such manner as will increase our happiness, viz., by sending in whatever amounts they may owe.

THE end of the year Weeks & Co. are clearing out at big reductions the balance of Ladies' Cloak, Jackets and Caps. All far goods—Ladies' Jackets; Fur Caps, Fur Mitts, Fur Collars. Balance fur big discount till end of the year. Call early.

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Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes names like James Conway, James Kennedy, Daniel W. Fenner, etc.

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(Since last publication of names.)
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James Kennedy, do. 1.00
Daniel W. Fenner, South Lake, 1.00
Bernard Cressmer, North Lake, 2.00
Paul McPherson, Lanching Place, 2.00
Angus Morrison, do. do. 1.00
Donald McMillan, St. Margaret's, 1.00
Patrick Lynch, Cardigan Road, 1.00
Patrick McNeely, West St., 1.00
James Brian, New Harmony, 2.00
Alex. McDonald, Lot 66, 1.00
Chas. McDonald, do. 1.00
Donald McDonald, do. 1.00
Jan. V. McDonald, do. 1.00
Roa. McCormack, do. 1.00
Wm. Steele, Sturgeon, 1.00
Patrick McTavish, St. Georges, 1.00
Roa. H. McCormack, do. 1.00
Donald McLellan, do. 1.00
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Jos. Steele, do. 1.00
John McLachlan, New Fort, 1.00
Michael McCormack, do. 1.00
Capt. Hugh McPhie, Georgetown, 1.00
J. L. McKinnon, Monticello, 1.00
Cornelius O'Donnell, do. do. 1.00
John McLean, do. do. 1.00
Andrew O'Reilly, do. do. 1.00
Benjamin B. McEwen, do. do. 1.00
M. F. O'Rourke, do. do. 2.00
Mrs. E. McTavish, do. do. 1.00
John Kichham, Sooris West, 1.00
Michael Gibson, River, 1.00
Angus McDonald, do. 1.00
John O'Hara, Clear Spring, 1.00
J. McDonald, do. 1.00
John A. McCormack, Armadale, 1.00
Gabriel McLinnis, do. 1.00
Thos. McTavish, do. 1.00
Alex. McMillan, East Point, 1.00
Eduard D. Stumm, Mossil River, 1.00
Frederick Deane, Bellefay, 1.00
Matilda McDonald, Priest Point, 1.00
John Campbell, River River, 1.00
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James McDonald, Westley River, 1.00
John Goodwin, Lincoln, 1.00
James Fendergrass, Hope River, 1.00
William Hogan, do. do. 1.00
John Campbell, do. do. 1.00
Peter McGrath, Hunter River, 2.00
James McTavish, do. do. 1.00
James Flood, Kelly's Cross, 1.00
Michael Byrnes, North River, 1.00
John Morley, Cherry Valley, 1.00
A. J. McDonald, do. 1.00
Michael O'Rourke, New Haven, 1.00
William Whelan, do. do. 1.00
Edward Fraser, Vernon B. Bridge, 3.00
W. McDonald, do. do. 1.00
Joseph McAnally, Tracadie Cross, 2.00
William Clarkin, Annapolis, 1.00
John Murray, do. 1.00
John Callaghan, do. 1.00
John Driscoll, Lot 48, 1.00
Patrick O'Rourke, Hampton, 1.00
James Hogan, Rocky Point, 1.00
James Griffin, do. do. 1.00
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Francis Pranght, Southport, 1.00
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Richard Davis, Sea Cow Pond, 1.00
John H. Smith, Indian River, 1.00
Alex. Hickey, do. do. 1.00
Peter Doyle, Lot 4, 1.00
James Butler, do. do. 1.00
John Keele, Skinger's Pond, 1.00
Wm. Walsh, Elmadale, 1.00
Rev. John J. McDonald, Kinross, 1.00
Patrick Rooney, Bloomfield, 1.00
Patrick Owen, Shamrock, 1.00
Patrick Hughes, do. do. 1.00
Joe O. Arsenault, Abrams Village, 1.00
Rev. J. A. McDonald, Miscouche, 2.00
John A. Stewart, West Point, 1.00
John T. Ready, do. do. 1.00
Joseph McNeill, Clarendon, 1.00
A. J. Stewart, West Point, 1.00
Mrs. Adam Glover, Baltic, Lot 18, 1.00
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James McLean, do. do. 1.00
Capt. J. McCreedy, do. do. 1.00
Edward J. O'Brien, do. do. 1.00
Felix Gaudin, do. do. 1.00
John L. Kibbida, Lot 11, 1.00
James Kibbida, do. do. 1.00
Daniel McLinnis, Melbougalle's 1.00
John H. Pranght, do. do. 1.00
Patrick McTavish, Emerald, 1.00
John R. Murphy, do. do. 1.00
Cory Lett.
William McLean, City, \$1.00
R. F. Deblais, do. 1.00
John McEwan, do. 1.00
Miss M. A. Wyse, do. 1.00
Foreign List.
Mrs. Mark Carney, Dothan, Mass. \$1.00
R. F. Chuillean, St. Cassin's, Que. 1.00
Patrick Dennis, Dover, N. H. 1.00
The Manitoba election takes place on Jan. 15th; nominations on the 10th.

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