

THE WEEKLY SUN.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 12, 1894.

A HAPPY DELIVERANCE.

(From the Daily Sun, 5th.)

Confirmation of the statement exclusively made in the Telegraph on Tuesday, in regard to the imposition of maximum rates of duty on United States goods going into Cuba and Porto Rico, was received here yesterday, in a letter addressed to a merchant of this city from a leading house in Havana, Cuba. The letter, which is dated Aug. 28th, is as follows: The United States senate bill, which imposes a duty on Cuban sugars, having gone into effect at one minute past midnight yesterday, the home government at Madrid has notified all custom houses in Cuba and Porto Rico that from today the highest tariff of duties shall be collected on all goods imported from the United States, the same being an act of retaliation, because a heavy duty is to be levied on Cuban sugars imported into the United States. In a word, this means the putting back on American goods of heavy import duties, and Nova Scotia is thus put on equal or better footing than the United States.

Our market for potatoes is very excited, some buyers asking \$4.75 per barrel for American, others asking \$4.50, and others will sell at even \$4, but as soon as the smoke clears away we expect the market to settle down to a figure which will leave good margin for Nova Scotia tubers, and we advise shippers as soon as stock is well enough matured to stand up. We hope to hear from you as the season advances.

This letter succinctly explains the situation in Cuba and Porto Rico, and shows what a fine field is now open for the products of Canada in that market.

The above, which we take from the Telegraph, contains a valuable moral. Not very long ago the leaders of the party then and now seeking power in Canada were doing their best to throw Canadians into a panic about these same Cuba, Porto Rico and North American markets. Mr. Blaine had held a continental congress, from which, as Mr. Ellis at the time reminded us, all Canada was shut out. The McKinley bill had been enacted. We were told that the United States had excluded us from our natural market in that country and that the Blaine reciprocity treaties would shut us out of the West Indies and South America. Every imaginable inducement was held out to the people of Canada to throw in their lot with the liberal party, so called, whose policy was to form close relations with the United States, and thus save our market.

The appeal made to the fears of the people had the effect of throwing a few into a panic and of winning some converts. But we had wiser, more far-seeing and more patriotic men in this country, who did not lose their heads. They advised Canadians to keep their courage up and hold on to their birthright. The mess of pottage might or might not prove valuable, but there were some things worth too much to sell for it. In two general elections the grip was taken squarely with those who urged the sacrifice of national honor and integrity for a prospective gain, which, after all, was likely to be deceptive. This journal, for one, maintained that the United States treaties with the states to the south would not ruin Canada, and might not do it much harm; that the treaties had no guarantee of permanency; that the McKinley act was not worse for Canada than for the United States, and would, perhaps, net last five years, and that in any case it was folly, as well as criminal, for Canadians to surrender their independence to any foreign land.

The advice of Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright, of Mr. Weldon, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Jones and Mr. Fielding, Mr. Longley and Mr. Dawes, was not taken. Canada went on its way and was not ruined. It is better off than the United States. It is in an infinitely sounder position than if the opposition policy had been adopted in 1887 or 1891.

The McKinley act, for the repeal of which as to Canada we were asked to sell our country, is repealed. The Blaine commercial treaties are smashed to pieces. Today the chief grit organ rejoices because we stand in a much better position to get the Cuba market than the United States.

Had the government been defeated in 1887 or 1891, the country would today have been in a miserable hole. It was a blessing for Canada that the surrender party was beaten the last time and the time before. It will give the country the assurance of four or five more years of safety when the party is beaten again next year.

CANADIAN FINANCES.

Revenue \$32,236,722
Expenditure \$32,832,232
Deficit \$595,510
This is a bald summary of the dominion balance sheet for the year which ended with June 1894. It refers to what is called current revenue and expenditure, and does not include revenue for extraordinary services, nor expenditure on capital account, such as the construction of government railways and canals. It ought also to be explained that the current expenditure includes a couple of millions which goes into the sinking fund for the repayment of debt. This is properly considered one of the regular services of the country, but the result of the contribution is that, though the capital expenditure of the year was over five millions and the acknowledged deficit over one million, the increase of debt is less than four millions. To be exact \$5,078,568 was spent on capital account, and the increase of debt was \$3,831,876. The revenue of the year just ended

did not reach that of recent years. This will be better understood if the figures are given:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Revenue. 1889: \$38,752,470; 1890: \$39,579,225; 1891: \$38,979,211; 1892: \$36,921,872; 1893: \$35,152,819; 1894: \$36,236,722

The decline from the figures of 1890 is not so much due to a decreased importation as to remission of duties. There was a falling off last year in the value of imports compared with the year before, as might be expected in the nature of trade, but the trade remained still larger than it was a few years ago.

Since 1891 the government has lost its most prolific source of customs revenue. In that year the finance minister swept away three million dollars of income by the repeal of the sugar duty. Mr. Foster explained at the time that the step was a bold one, and that there was some doubt whether a reduction instead of the abolition of sugar duties was not all that the treasury could afford. The government had, however, concluded to try the experiment and abolish at a stroke the whole revenue tariff from sugar.

If the duty had been maintained the government would have collected on the importation of last year between four and five million of dollars, or if the importation had been no higher than before the duty was removed, the receipts would have been sufficient to wipe out the deficit and given the finance minister a surplus of one and a half millions.

But as the previous five years have given surpluses amounting in all to over eight millions there remains an average surplus of over a million a year for the six years. So on the whole the remission of the sugar duties has not yet wrought any disastrous results. In case it should be necessary to restore any one-third of the duty, or half a cent per pound on the average, instead of one and a half cents, the people will have had three years of free sugar and will still have it almost free.

But there is reason to believe that last year's trade is not a fair test of the situation. The prices were low beyond precedent, which of course reduced the revenue from ad valorem duties. Buying was slow and cautious, and the stock of foreign goods has probably been allowed to run lower than usual. Altogether it is fair to conclude that notwithstanding the reductions made in the tariff at the last session it will not be necessary to restore any part of the sugar duties in order to equalize revenue and expenditure. A slight revival in trade will do the business, and there are signs that the revival has already set in.

The expenditure during the year just ended was \$37,636,373, which is \$379,350 more than the previous year, taking the official returns for 1893. But as the expenditure has kept about level since 1889 in which year it was \$38,000,000 in excess of the expenditure for 1892, it cannot be said that there is any sign of danger in this direction. The extraordinary expenses in connection with the Behring sea dispute are probably the chief cause of last year's excess. We may look for a return in the present year to the expenditure of 1893.

On the whole the state of the finances furnishes sufficient reason why the government should hesitate about incurring any new obligations and expenditure which are not necessary or are not unquestionably advantageous. These are times when citizens and governments must be conservative about spending money. But the federal balance sheet, taken with those which have gone before, is not a bad showing, and is not calculated to damage the credit of Canada.

The death of the Count of Paris cannot have much effect in impairing the position of any of the royalist parties or factions in France. His son is as much the heir to the throne as the late count was, and is likely to be more energetic than his father in pursuit of his claims if ever opportunity should arise. The late count was not much in the way of a pretender. He devoted himself to many other interests since the republic became fairly established, and seemed to give his tacit consent to the existing order in France.

The late Sir John Macdonald declined to give Hon. Peter Mitchell a contract to insure all the public buildings in Canada. But this did not drive Mr. Mitchell out of business. He is prepared to insure his own election in Northumberland and that of his comrade Colonel Domville in Kings.

APOLOGIZES FOR SLANDERING SENATOR BURNS.

(Chatham World.) Judge Tuck opened the Gloucester circuit court at Bathurst on Tuesday, Sept. 4th. The first case for trial was the suit of Hon. K. F. Burns against Jos. M. Hachey for slander in having charged the senator with having cheated him out of \$500. The defendant made a public apology, and withdrew the cross suit, and the case was withdrawn. R. A. Lawlor for the plaintiff and N. A. Landry for the defendant.

The travel to the Toronto Industrial Exhibition from the maritime provinces is heavy and the C. P. R. trains every night are loaded with excursionists.

SIX FRUITFUL YEARS.

Biggest Clothing House in the Lower Provinces.

And Unsurpassed in Some Important Respects in All Canada.

Proud Record of the Young and Enterprising Men Who Own Oak Hall.

We present to our readers this week a cut of Oak Hall, the big St. John clothing house, corner of King and Germain street, whose bright and breezy advertisements have been an interesting feature of this journal for more than five years past.

There also appears a group portrait of the members of the firm of Scovill, Fraser & Co., proprietors of Oak Hall, whose weekly talks to our readers must have made them appear by this time like old friends. Oak Hall has lately added another story to its height, and otherwise enlarged its premises; and it is now the largest and handsomest clothing house in the maritime provinces. It has no less than 10,000 square feet of floor space.

In some important respects, as for instance the beautiful and airy work-room or factory on the top floor, it has no superior, even in Montreal or Toronto.

During the years that our readers have been familiar with the name of Oak Hall, the clothing house of King and Germain street, some changes have taken place. There have been some failures, some names have disappeared from the business, some houses have joggled along in the old way; but Oak Hall has been steadily going ahead. Here, in brief, is the story of its wonderful growth:

A STORY OF GROWTH.

In February, 1889, the firm of Scovill, Fraser & Co., began business on Market square.

In May of the same year they saw an opportunity to secure a better location by removing to their present stand, which they promptly did. The store they then entered was 20x50 feet in dimensions, quite ambitious enough, no doubt, for a firm that had just commenced business.

But after three years they needed more room to accommodate their growing business. The premises were therefore remodelled and two small adjoining stores taken in, the result being one store 42x50 feet and three stores eight feet wide.

Then another step became necessary. The appearance of the front of the store must be brought up to date. Accordingly the old windows were taken out, the space enlarged and a magnificent plate glass front was put in, affording more light and an opportunity for window display that is not surpassed by any store in the city.

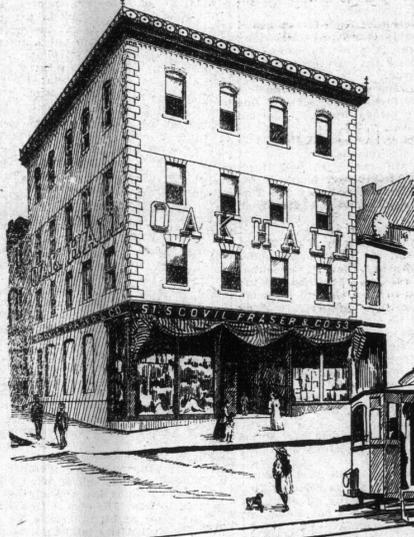
Still the trade grew, as they certainly deserved. And now another great step forward has been taken. They have added another story to their

The building is also fitted with electric bells and speaking tubes, and there is an elevator for hoisting heavy bales of goods. A passenger elevator will be the next step in advance by the men of Oak Hall.

Starting on the ground floor, after having admired the magnificent window display from the outside the visitor finds himself in a large, lofty, brilliantly lighted room. On this floor is displayed the large stock of youths, boys and children's clothing, a complete assortment of gent's furnishings, such as shirts, collars, cuffs, ties, braces, umbrellas, and all the mysteries of male apparel, as well as a large stock of hand bags and valises. Here

est, best lighted and healthiest factories in Canada. Its elevation ensures pure air, for it is away above the dust of the streets. The ceiling is lofty and there are windows on three sides. At the north end are the press room, a large room for hanging finished garments, and a handsomely fitted toilet room. All of these are well lighted also, for there are windows on that side as well as on the other three.

In their manufacturing department this season the firm are showing some exceptionally handsome goods, of splendid value, notably a long, double breasted blue beaver cloth overcoat made up in elegant style for fourteen dollars.



Corner of King & Germain Sts. St. John, N. B.

also, on one side, are shown a full line of cloths for custom tailoring, which is an important branch of the business.

The office is in this room, though not on the floor level. It is at the rear end, elevated half a dozen steps above the main floor, which it overlooks. It is not shut off by wall or window from the rest, the higher level affording ample seclusion, and at the same time giving the firm a complete oversight of the store.

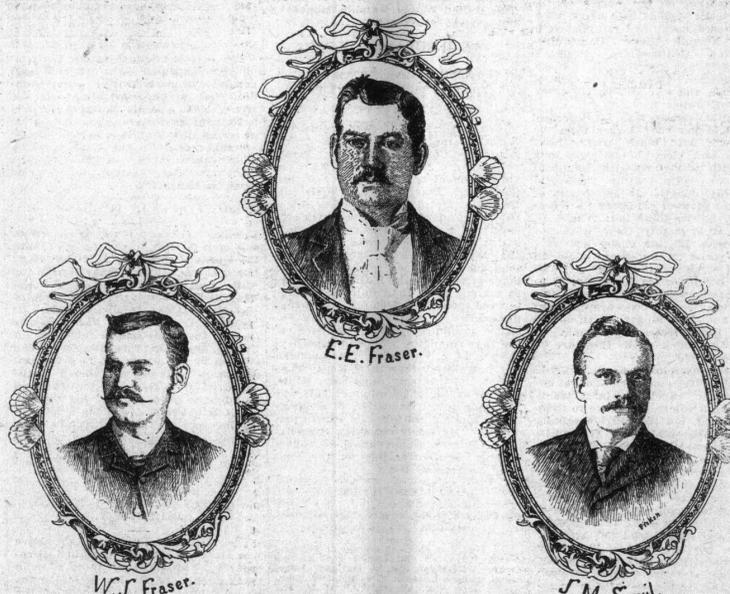
A patent cash system runs from office to counters. A broad, winding stairway leads from the ground floor to the upper floor.

On the second floor the firm carry their stock of men's clothing, including overcoats, ulsters and suits, pants, overalls and jumpers. The stock is

Their great specialty in winter goods is in Irish frieze ulsters, made long, with a huge storm collar. These ulsters are lined with all wool flannel, and defy the keenest frost or wind or driving storm. They are made up in the most workmanlike fashion, and cost but eleven dollars.

A fact on which the firm especially and justly pride themselves is their ability to fit any customer, tall or short, stout or slender. They carry a range of overcoats, ulsters and suits from the smallest size to one large enough for a man of fifty inches chest measurement.

THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRM. Having gone so far, a word may as well be said in conclusion with reference to the individual members of the firm.



building, remembering the Dutchman's remark that land was cheaper up there, and they also extended the third floor back into the adjoining building, running clear through from King to Market street, so that today they have, as already stated, no less than 10,000 square feet of floor space.

A GLANCE THROUGH THE BUILDING.

The whole interior of the building is finished in gloss white, with oak trimmings, and the front is painted in oak, in conformity with the name of the store. The rooms on every floor are of spotless, glistening white on wall and ceiling, and this, with the lofty ceilings, and the large window space makes Oak Hall the cleanest, brightest, airiest place one could imagine; and everybody knows the value of a good light in making an examination of goods with a view to purchasing. But the Oak Hall people are not afraid to let the light shine upon their goods, which are displayed in the most convenient and attractive manner for the inspection of customers.

The building is lighted throughout by electricity, on the 24 hour system, so that the light can be turned on at any moment of night or day. There are eight big arc lights, and fifty incandescent lamps, distributed in the most effective manner.

E. E. Fraser, senior member of the firm, and a practical tailor and cutter, is a native of Colchester Co., N. B., but came to St. John with his parents when only seven years old. His father carried on the custom tailoring business for years on the very spot at present occupied by Oak Hall. The young man was first a grocery clerk in St. John, then entered the clothing business in New Glasgow; was station agent on the L. C. R., Pictou branch, for several years; was with Daniel & Boyd for five years, and held the important position of cutter with a leading firm here till 1889, when Oak Hall was born.

THE MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT.

On the last or top floor is the factory, where a large number of hands are employed all the year round making up clothing, for the firm carry a large manufacturing business. A glance around this room shows at once the kindly interest of the firm in the health and welfare of their employees. It is beyond question one of the bright-

est, best lighted and healthiest factories in Canada. Its elevation ensures pure air, for it is away above the dust of the streets. The ceiling is lofty and there are windows on three sides. At the north end are the press room, a large room for hanging finished garments, and a handsomely fitted toilet room. All of these are well lighted also, for there are windows on that side as well as on the other three.

In their manufacturing department this season the firm are showing some exceptionally handsome goods, of splendid value, notably a long, double breasted blue beaver cloth overcoat made up in elegant style for fourteen dollars.

J. M. Scovill was born at Springfield, Kings Co., N. B. When fourteen years old he went into the dry goods store of Smith & Murray, St. Stephen, remaining there for ten years. Then he and his brother opened a general store at Collina Corner, Kings Co., under the firm name of Scovill Bros. They were very successful, but at the end of three years J. M. was induced by the great wholesale clothing firm of E. A. Small & Co. of Montreal to go on the road for them. He went, and still represents that firm in New Brunswick. Mr. Scovill, however, is not wholly given over to trade, for he is also a farmer, having an interest with his brother in a farm at Springfield. W. J. Fraser is a brother of E. E.

Fraser, and was born in this province. He has been in the clothing business all his life, and started out in it for himself, in 1888, on King street, where he carried on a very successful business up to the time he amalgamated the Royal with the Oak Hall three years ago, having previously been with one of the largest clothing houses in St. John, with the exception of a short period in the business in New Glasgow. To him is largely due the fact that ready made clothing is now made to fit and have the stylish appearance custom work. When he went into business himself he insisted on having clothing made to fit men. And others in the business had to follow his lead.

In the recesses of these three young men can be discerned the secret of their success of Oak Hall. They know their business through and through. They are up to date. They aim to please and are satisfied and hold their customers. They are genial and open hearted gentlemen, who know how to treat a customer. And they give him his money back if he is not satisfied. What more could anyone ask?

CHARLOTTE CO.

St. Andrews, Sept. 8.—A fair number of guests, some of them hay fever victims, still linger at the Algonquin, reluctant to tear themselves away from the shelter of its friendly roof. A Raymond excursion party is booked to arrive today by the C. P. R. The chances are that the doors of the house will remain open until the end of the month.

A large number of swallows were here the first of the week; whether composed of flocks migrating from further north, or of birds that here last month and have been driven back by the smoke of the forest fires, is a mooted question.

The announcement is made of the engagement of Miss Cressie Stevenson, only daughter of the late Hon. B. R. Stevenson, of St. Andrews, to Dug. Wetmore, son of the late Col. Wetmore of St. George, now a resident of Truro, N. S. The wedding is to take place during the second week of next month. St. Andrews will then lose one of its fairest and most amiable young ladies.

The engagement of a popular dominion official in St. Andrews to a young and fascinating young lady of Deer Island is stated.

St. Andrews, Sept. 11.—The wife of M. N. Cockburn, judge of probates, met with a bad accident on Saturday afternoon last in the rural cemetery. She had just taken her seat in the carriage, and as the boy who was driving was stepping in, the horse moved forward causing the boy to fall. This led to the horse running down hill. Fearing the carriage would come in contact with the granite posts of the gates, Mrs. C. jumped out and was thrown with some force on a wooden crossing. She sustained a severe gash across her forehead, and one shoulder cut, and was badly shaken up and bruised. The boy came to town for assistance. William Burton drove out post haste. Dr. Orr, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a guest at the Algonquin, hearing an accident had taken place, went out and did what he could to aid the wounded lady, who was bleeding profusely. She is stated, however, to be in a fair way to recover. It is necessary to put eleven stitches in the wound across her forehead. Yesterday Mrs. C. was resting as comfortably as could reasonably be expected considering the shock and the painful nature of the wounds and bruises she had sustained. The horse came safely home without either a scratch on himself or the carriage. Mrs. Albert Elliott of Campbellton has entered a complaint before Luke Byron, J. P., of Welchpool, against James Calder, who keeps a grocery near Dunn's beach, whom she alleges assaulted and threw her bodily out of the store because she charged him with giving short weight in butter. She lay on the wharf where Calder threw her for about an hour, being so bruised and hurt that she was unable to get up. Finally a neighbor brought his horse and wagon and hauled her to her home. Calder will be retained by Lawyer MacMonagle of St. Stephen to defend him at the investigation, which is to be held at Welchpool during the present week.

Friday evening some members of the crew of the dominion cruiser Curlew were going over the old steamboat wharf recently damaged by fire, three of them broke through and fell to the beach below, the chief carpenter, received a bad cut on the back of his head. He was brought to Rooney's barber shop, where Dr. J. A. Wade put in some stitches, after which Andrew went off on board the steamer with his mates.

Robertson & Co. hired the lower Ross store on the Market wharf temporarily and shipped a lot of fish the day after the fire. Their claim for insurance was satisfactorily adjusted by C. E. L. Jarvis on Wednesday. The firm have leased the unoccupied piece at the lower end of the northern side of the Market wharf and will commence the erection of smoke houses and fish curing stores.

Several milk have been around the water front recently. On Saturday one was discovered at the Market wharf. Boys gave chase, and the milk ran into the house of Doon, the shoemaker, where it was captured alive in a rubber boot.

BEE STINGS CURE DEAFNESS.

(From the St. Paul Pioneer Press.) Sioux Falls, S. D., Aug. 26.—W. L. Jones, a farmer living a few miles from town, has just recovered his hearing in a most remarkable manner. Five years ago he became very deaf, and since then, though he has tried various kinds of treatment, his hearing has been practically gone. The other day he was working with a swarm of bees and many of them, getting under the net which covered his face, stung him severely on the ears. The next day his deafness left him and now he can not only hear with his old power, but his hearing is much more acute than formerly.

The huge sums of modern navies can be fired only about 75 times before they are worn out.

CITY

The Chief

Together

NOTICE

When ordered WEEKLY SUN the NAME of which the party that of the it sent. Remember Office must ensure prompt request.

Dalton McC Potts that he to address a Resident Sun to state live at Prince

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