At 2.20 this afternoon the water gauge on Fifth St. bridge registered 17 feet above low water mark.

James McCormick, of Harwich, was

in the city to-day. He reports that

the ravages of the flood in Harwich

have been great and that bridges and

culverts have been swept away. The

Continued on Page Four.

MAN DROWNED

Flood Situation in London

is Growing Very

Alarming

with Boats From House

to House

(Special to The Planet.)

The River Thames rose during this

morning to a point eleven feet above

THE QUEEN'S SIGNATURE Mrs. Thomas Smythe, Wellington

street, has in her possession an au-tograph signature of the Queen of England. When the Boer war broke

out, "The Soldiers' and Sailors' Fam-ilies' 'Association' was formed by the

ladies of England for the purpose of taking care of the flamilies

pleted their duties a short time ago and Queen Alexandra, President of the Society sent each lady who had been an active member a little note thanking them for their kind services. Mrs. Charles Haggard, of Leeds, sister of Mrs. Smythe, was a member of the society, and she received the letter from the Queen, which Mrs. Smythe now has. The penmanship is distinctively womanly and has a pleasing style about it. The signature is brief, being only "Alexandra R., president,"

London, Ont., March 26, 2,35 p. n

For To-night and Monday we offer a last chance on our stock of Men's Shirts, Collars, Ties and Gloves. The reductions are equal to One-Half and more, and the qualities are the best.

Men's Shirts.

Men's fine white shirts, open front and open back, short and long bosoms, best standard makes, sizes 14, 14½, 15,16, 16½ and 17, regular price \$1.00, on sale to-night and Monday for 63c

Men's Gloves.

Men's fine unlined kid gloves. Fowne's make," in excellent Spring Tan Shades, some pairs very slightly damaged, guaranteed ues, regalar price \$1.00 a pair, on the for 48c.

Men's Ties.

Men's four-in-hand silk and satin ties, wide and narrow styles, dark, medium and light colors, new effects, regular price 25c. and 5oc. each, on sale at - 2 for 25c

Men's Collars.

Men's pure linen collars, best makes, variety of styles, but not every style in every size, all sizes, 14 in. to 17 inclusive, regular price 15c. and 20c. each, on sale at 4 for 25c

Sale of Cotton Laces for 5c. Yard

25 pieces Cotton Torchon Laces, 3 in , 4 in., 5 in. and in wide, in good designs and lacy effects, suitable for trimming pillow shams, ladies' white skirts, etc., worth up to 15c. a yd, on sale for 5c.

New Wash Goods.

Just cleared through the customs another two cases of swell wash goods personally selected by our buyer from the manufacturers in Manchester and Glasgow. It will be a pleasure for you to look at them and a pleasure for us to show them.

Thos. Stone & Son, IMPORTERS.

IT'S GOING TO BE A GOOD SUGAR YEAR.

Sap Buckets

Handmade, Largest Size,

These are not cheap factory made We have some beautiful heavy handmade tinware

GEO. STEPHENS & CO.

Leaders in quality and price.



Not a penny down, simply drop me a postal with your name, and I will forward you at once, one of my latest Improved High Grade Electric Belts Free. You can use is three months, then pay me if cured, and the price will be only one ha f what others ask. If not cured, you return the Belt to me at my expense and Your Word Will Decide. I am willing to truss you entirely, knowing that I have the best and most perfect Belt ever invented, and nine men in ten always pay when cured.

a person writing me one cepy of my beautiful illustrated Medical which should be read by all men and women. Drop me a postal and I ad it to you FREE in scaled wrapper. If you are week in any way, o longer, but write to day, enclosing this advt., for my splendid book to free. Write to-day. DR.J.M.MACDONALD, 2362 St.Catherine St., Montreal, Que.

There is a man walking the streets ago could not move a limb, so great a sufferer was he from inflammatory rheumatism. This man's name is Richard Maloney, of Bothwell. Mr. Maloney attributes his marvelous cure to the Chatham Mineral Baths, and rightly so. He firmly believes that had it not been for the Chatham Mineral Water he would not be alive to-day. This seems reasonable time ago, before he came to Chatham was almost at the point of death

he was almost at the point of death and gradually growing weaker.

Mr. Maloney had without doubt the most severe case that has ever been treated at the Sanitar-um. The doctors gave him up, and the trying of the minsral baths was the last resort. When he first came to Chatham, he could not sleep and could not move a limb without the greatest uf pain. He has now had sixteen or seventeen baths, and to-day he is taking a walk out doors. It was said by dors that if the mineral baths could cure this case they could cure rany case of rheumatism and it is now quite evident that he (s getting better. It is hoped that before he completes this, his first course of baths that he will be perfectly wall again. This is only one of the many marvellous cures effected through the local mineral baths. Chatham people do not realize what they have right at their very doors.

EDUCATION BOARD

Important Changes Proposed in the New Government Bill Repecting School and Library Boards

oting is not favored by the Minister of Education in his bill respecting boards of education. Mr. Harcourt's new bill gives cities of more than 15,-000 and less than 10,000 twelve members, to be elected by general vote, and two to be appointed by the separate school board. Places having less than 15,000 are entitled to nine memthan 15,000 are entitled to nine members and appoint one to the separate school board. In towns seven members are to be elected, and one member appointed. Each qualified voter is entitled to as many votes as there are members to be elected, but may not give more than one vote to any one candidate. This act extends from Toronto to all places who wish to adopt the primotiple of combining the several school boards and the library board.

COAL CONTRACT

City Water Commissioners Close with the Pere Marquette for the Year's Supply of Fuel

A special meeting of the water com ners was held last evening with all the members of the board present Chairman Dr. Bray was in the chair. Commissioner W. D. Sheldon, Mayor McKeough, Supt. E.B. Jones, and Sec retary-Treas. J. C. Weir, surrounded

The business of the evening—the opening of the coal tenders—was began at once (and resulted as follows:

H. T. Wilson, Detroit, \$2.95 and \$3.05 in bond.

W. C. Clark, Detroit, \$2.95 and \$3.05 in bond.

TRIBUTE TO CHATHAM RISING WATERS DO DAMAGE THROUGHOUT WHOLE DISTRICT

Serious Flood Threatens Residents of Low Lying Lands-Bridges Swept Away in Harwich-St. Mary's Dam Reported Gone

The water in the river started to rise last night and has been rising ever since. A telephone message was received from Loudon, last night, that the river there was higher than it had been in years. The King St. merchants at once got busy removing their goods from their cellars. The Canada Flour Mills Co. ran till 12.30 o'clock last night, when the rising water forced them to shot down. They could have run a little longer, but they had to shut down in order to get the belts off and put away before the water got too high. This morning there was about a foot of of water in the engine room. John Walker, master miller, was examining the mark on the wall, which shows where the high water in 1898 reached to. The river has to rise about four feet yet before it touches that mark. This was the year about four feet yet before it touches that mark. 'This was the year when Dover St. was under water and N. H. Stevens had a row boat fastened to the tie post in front of his

This morning the water was over Thames St. at Mir. Lafferty's resilence and also at the corner of Thames and St. Clair streets. At this corner the sidewalk was floating and six lads were having a great time. They had about 40 feet of walk and were using it for a raft. The river at 10 o'clock was 153-4

culverts have been swept away. The Creek Road is impassable to-day and mearly all the bridges are under water. The wooden bridge over Ind'an Creek, just back of the cemetery has been carried away. The wooden bridge over McGregor's Creek, at Snobelin's farm is gone. The current and ice d'd the deed. There is a very heavy current. The two steel bridges at McGarvin's were lifted by the ice eight inches and elevated above the sylinders. They have, however, rettled back and it is possible to forost them. Five bridges and culverts are washed out on the Creek Road, and that road is impassable to-day. Two eet above low water mark, according to the gauge put in by City Engineer Jones at the Fift St. bridge at the time of the exceedingly low water in 1902. This low water was caused by an ice jam in the River St. Clair.

an ice jam in the River St. Clair.

It was reported in the city last night that there was a jam down the river near the old McCrae farm and that the water was nine feet higher above than below it. There was six inches of water in the cellar of the Police Station this morning, but the water had not reached the furnace. There wasn't much to spare.

Miliam Tucker saved 1,000 feet of lumber, supposed to belong to J. L. Scott's lumber yard. Ex-Ald. William Potter, the Queen St. grocer, says that the highest flood known in this vicinity in years flood known in this vicinity in years occurred in 1898, March 15th and 16th In that year the water was higher than it had been in 30 years. The city was in darkness, the water causing the Chatham Gas Co. to shutdown their electric light and gas plant, and the city electric plant was also forced to shut down. Coal oil larges and candless were in use. lamps and candles were in use.

SEEN FROM THE TRAIN. Trainmen coming into the city from the west stated this morning that the Raleigh plains seem to be one sheet of water with houses dotted here and there and people moving round on raits. The water is over the Grand Trunk rails and is rush-

W. C. Clark, Detroit, \$2.95 and \$3.05 in bond.

W. J. Hamilton Co., Toledo \$2.85 in bond.

Ohio and Michigam Coal Co., Detroit, in bond, \$2.95.
Weaver Coal Co., Toledo, \$2.90 in bond.

Commercial Coal Co., Detroit, \$2.90, in bond.

New Pittsburg Coal Co., Columbus, Ohio, \$2.95 in bond.

Lake Eric Coal Co., \$3.58, duty paid.
Lake Eric Coal Co., Candimati, \$3.83 duty paid.

Lake Eric Coal Co., Candimati, \$3.83 duty paid.

Mr. Chambers of the Fremount Coal Co., was present, and stated that Youghioughany coal, supplied by the Lake Eric Coal Co. was the best tendered. He also said that the Board ovuld do best by accepting the Lake Eric Coa' tender on account of the railroad facilities.

Dr. Bray—American companies cannot be depended on because you can't get a grip jou them in case they fail to carry out contracts.

Commissioner Sheldon—Which is better, Mr. Jones, the Pittsburg or Youghioughany coals?

Supt. Jones—I have made ta 48 hour test and find the latter 13 1-2 per cent superior.

Mayor McKeough—Have the Lake Erie people always treated as fairly? Chairman Bray—The best possible. Mr. Leslie, of the Company, was in town yesterday and said the supply rushed in recently would go on at the new contract price if his tender was accepted. They supplied the coal last year at \$4.15, duty paid. The duty on coal is 530 per ton.

Mr. Sheldon moved that the Lake Brie Coal Co.'s tender at \$3.38 be accepted. The Mayor seconded the motion, which curried.

The milk wagons of Cameron and Huff were about the order to do so had to stand on the seats. There is a boat there wish a carries foot pas engers across.

On the commons, back of Mahler's experience is one great big lake, in some places five and sir feet deep.

ST. MARY'S DAM GONE.

(Special to The Planet.)

London, March 26, 12.10 p. m.—The St. Mary's dam has broken, causing a great rush of water. The river has risen to within three feet of the coup of the bridges and is still rising rapidly. The water has overiflowed in the ware load of the couple of the couple of the coupl

BOY USED KNIFE

Ottawa, March 25.-Clyde Morris, a waif from Scotland, placed with Henry Meredith, of North Gower, was arrested to-day on a charge of wounding his school teacher, Geo. Gbson, principal of Rideau Front school, North Gower. Mr. Gbson was inflicting corporal punishment, when Morris, who apparently had an opened pocket knife in his hand, made a lunge at the principal's throat and succeeded in scratching his neck. The teacher taught the boy by the hand and the young rascal stabbed him in the wrist, making several nasty gashes. He then escaped and was caught tramping into Ottawa. was arrested to-day on a charge of

YALU RIVER SEPARATES 'EM

Japanese and Russians Forces Face to Face with Latter in Larger Nnmber

Dowager Empress Vetoes Proposal for Open alliance Between China and Japan

London, Saturday, March 26 .- The Daily Telegraph prints a despatch from Shanghai which says that the Empress Dowager has negatived a proposal made by General Yuan-Shi-Kai and General (Ma that China con-clude an open aliance with Japan in view of Russia's repeated violation of Chinese territory,

ARMIES FACE ONE ANOTHER. New York, March 255 .- A despatch to London from Ping Yang says re-turns to the Japanese intelligence de-partment shows that 4,500 Cossacks crossed the Yalu River from An Tung during the last few days. Beturns also state that 500 members of the also state that 500 members of the Russian Infantry and Cossacks proceeded southward and now occupy Chun Ju. The Russians are reported to be holding the north bank and the Japanese the south bank of the Anju River, where the latter have thrown up entrenchments. The hostile forces are thus face to face, and desultory shots already have been exchanged. Hitherto there have been but few casualties.

Scoul, March 24, 1 p. m.—A Corean coused of being a Russian spy, has seen executed at Fing Yang by the

LUNCHED BY MR. JORDON. Marquis Ito was the guest of honor at a luncheon given to-day by the British Minister resident, J. N. Jor-don, and the British colony.

BUSSIANS PILLAGING RUSSIANS PILLIAGING.

Two detachments of Russian troop one estimated to humber 500 and thother 200 men are reported to be pillaging the country around Anju. The natives, in fear, are fleeing south. Anju is forty miles north of Ping-Yang, and about sixty miles south of the Yalu River.

FISHERIES CONCESSIONS EXTENDED.

In order to provide for the require-Police and Firemen are Working

In order to provide for the requirements of the army of occupation, the Japanese authorities have decided to extend the fishery concessions in the Corean provinces of Hwang Hai, Chyung and Ping Yang.

normal height and, as a result, all the low lying districts of the city are under wafer. Two medical students, Duncan McMartin and Fred Adams, ventured out in a cance on the north branch this morning and were upset near Black Friars Dam. McMartin, although a good swimmer, was unable to reach the shore and was swept over the dam and drowned. The police and firemen of the city are almost all engaged in the work of taking the people of West London in boats from their flooded homes. The water has entered the gas and electric light works and the city may be in darkness to-night.

SITUATION AT NEW CHWANG.

New York, March 25.—Despatches from New Chwang say heavy nain is prevailing and the ice in the river is rapidly shifting. Boats are now crossing the river. (The first mail is teamer is expected to arrive Saturday. A civilan whong rived from Liao Yang and Hai Chong, says the nervousness caused by the constant influx of strange natives, who are supposed to be brigands. Householders are arming their servants. The local branch of the Ried Cross Society is making energetic preparations to aid wounded and refugees. It is appealing for funds and Yuan Ship Kai, viceroy of Chili, and other officials have promised financial and maderal amissionaries will give their services.

FOR CHINESE RIVERS.

New York, March 24,—A despatch from the Birmingham Post says the British Admiralty are arranging for the construction of flat-bottomed gunboats for service in Chinese rivers. The action is being taken in consequence of representations by the British mixter at Pokin, who states it is necessary that greater protection be given British trade.

A Paris report says it is reported that M. Bompard, French ambassador at St. Petersburg, has not given satisfaction, and that his recall is imminent.

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In fact, anything required for mural decoration is now on hand. Come and see the new things. WE HAVE ROOM

MOULDINGS TO MATCH ALL OUR

PAPERS AT REASONABLE

PRICES

Sulman's Beehive

The Wall Paper Emporium of Canad _____

Spring,1904.



The New Styles

Are assembling and each arriva is a thing of beauty. We are well within the bounds of truth when we say these New Spr 1904 styles have reached a point in beauty, of construction and shape combined with the highest degree of excellence beyond which it seems impossible to go.

We Want Every Woman in Town to Call and See the New Spring Shoe Beauties.

We'll talk about some of the dif-ferent styles and prices later. This is simply an invitation extended to the ladies, asking them to come to see our Spring Shoe Show.

The Shoe Man.