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SAINT JOHN, SATURDAY MORNING, JAN, 1st, 1909

THE PAST YEAR.

of human activity among civilized peoples, in making money and losing it, carrying on industrial or scientific

of development. The coal fields of the Grand Lake district are likely to be worked more vigorously than they ever have been. Development of the iron deposits of the North Shore is going forward rapidly. Whatever resources of oil or gas there may be in Westmonland and Abert are now in a fair way to be brought to aght. The policy of preventing the export of pullywood from Crown lands will sooner or later be followed by large manufacturing enterprises in this province. Under the vigorous policy of the Hazen administration, the farmers are awakening to possibilities of agriculture and fruit growing that they had not realized. A beginning has been made in a provincial immigration and colonization movement.

THE BUCCANEERS.

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re waskening to possibilities of agriculture and fruit growing that they had not realized. A beginning has been made in a provincial immigration and colonization movement.

THE BUCCANEERS.

This journal does not expect or desire to be forgiven by Mr. Pugsley and his organs for breaking the machine newspaper monopoly which existed in St. John before the appearance of The Standard. For some months in 1968 and 1969 the Minister of Public Works was able by help of public subsidies to control the sources of knayledges open to morning newspaper readers. This use of, public patronage was contrary to public interligence, against public morals, and amounted to what Str Richard Cartwright used to call "poisoning, the wells." Facts and records which were suppressed or faislied during the monopoly period have now presented to the people. This seems to be pixing great annoyance to that circle whom the Sun discribes as "buccancers," "parasites," "mercenaries," and "brigands." It disturbs the holiday satisfaction, mitigates the rejoicing over 'au unusually large year's gains from the llon's share of the public patronage, and casts a shadow over the prospect of a still fatter yield for 1910.

Thus it comes about that on the bax day of the year the organ of Mr. Pugsley, Mr. McAvity and Mr. Moore gives out sizes of wrath. The Telestraph charges that The Standard is unfriendly to Mr. Pugsley because the minister retured to be thack-mailed into buying a dredge. It refers with almost pathetic bitterness to the affidavit of Mr. Mayes concerning the \$85,923 which had to pay to Mr. George MeAvity, As Mr. George MeAvity, As Mr. George MeAvity and Mr. Moore gives out sizes of wrath. The Clettraph charges that The Standard is unfriendly to Mr. Pugsley because the minister retured to be thack-mailed into buying a dredge. It refers with almost pathetic bitterness to the affidavit of Mr. Mayes concerning the \$85,923 which had to pay to Mr. George MeAvity, As Mr. George MeAvity and Mr. Moore gives out sizes of wrath. The Telestraph charges t

Pugsley which are exposed in that sworn and uncontroverted statement. It was not to be supposed that the rehearsal of dredging history, or Central Railway bistory, from time to time, would please the organ of Mr. Pugsley of which Mr. George McAvity and Mr. John E. Moore, dredging contractor, are the owners. Had it been considered that the public interest could be best served by condoning the conduct of the Minister of Public Works, and leaving his beneficiaries to the enjoyment of undisclosed and illgotten gains, there would have been less need of disturbing the minister's newspaper monopoly. But there is a public interest greater than their, and this is a good time in the year to let it be known that these matters are still live questions and will neither be dropped by the press or forgotten by the people. Money obtained from dredging contracts and dredging rake-off may be used to circulate attacks and slanders on the Attorney General and other public men who have interfered with certain schemes, but the time is past, and will not come again, when it can be used to keep from the public eye such transactions as The Standard is called upon to expose.

The Standard has no more interest than any other journal in the matter of the affidavit of Mr. Mayes to which the Telegraph refers with suspicious signs of emotion. But this journal takes the opportunity to say that it believes all the charges in that affidavit to be true. If they were not true, the man who made them and swore to them could be prosecuted for perjury. If they were slanders, Mr. Pugsley and Mr. George McAvity have an action for libel against the author, who is financially and personally responsible. If there was a case of blackmail that is a criminal offence, and may be prosecuted. Those concerned have been repeatedly invited to seek their remedy. Neither of them has done so. Neither of them will do so. They know the facts too well and they know that the court will only bring them more clearly and forcibly to public attention.

It is a friendly New Y

THE PAST YEAR.

Probably the year 1999 will be most notable in history for the discovery of the North Pole and the development of the airship. It is always possible that some invention, discovery or achievement, not yet recognized or not appraised at its full value, will be found more significant than either of these events. Commander Peary's achievement has been somewhat obscured by an unfortunate controversy, but future generations will see things in their true perspective, and the discoverer will get his due.

The greatest political events in the history of the year are the introduction of representative institutions into Turkey, similar experiments in Persia, and the political awakening of the great empire of China. It has been a period of vast commercial and industrial activity, of heavy financial speculation, of great consolidations and combinations, and of large engineering enterprises. Yet in the face of these activities, the attention of serious people has been directed in a more than usual degree to matters of social welfare. On this continent, much thought has been given to the protection and improvement of the public resources for the benefit of the whole population. In Europe and America vast resources have been placed at the disposal of those who are seeking to know the cause, nature and cure of diseases. Medical research has the lead of all other kinds of investigation in the encouragement it receives from men of wealth and from the nations. The prolongation and preservation of life by conquering prevalent diseases is becoming almost a scientific mania. The past year was also a period of unusual religious effort. In most departments of human activity among civilized peoples, in making money and losing it, carrying on industrial or scientific explexitions, world and again and again and then the described as interesting the same product of the whole population. In Europe and America vast resources have a second to the production and preservation of their relatives and friends attribe from the habit Conservatives are not the severest critics in this

of human activity among civilized peoples, in making money and losing it, carrying on industrial or scientific enterprises, moral and social reform, propagating new doctrines, inventing new machines, seeking political rights or privileges, in fashionable dissipation, athletics, exploration and scientific research, it appears that the year 1909 set a swift and strenuous pace.

Within the British Empire the union of South Africa has been practically completed, though the system has not yet gone into effect. The imperial defence conferance will, perhaps, be regarded in future as the starting point in the organization of what may yet become a true Imperial navy. In 1909, for the first time since the abolition of the corn laws, a tariff issue has been raised in the abolition of the corn laws, a tariff issue has been raised have expenditure. The harvest has been unusually good, with high prices, and revenue, immigration almost equal to that preceding the recent decrease, and vast public expenditure. The harvest has been unusually good, with high prices, and free close of the year finds business men cheerful over the prospects of 1910.

New Brunswick seems to have entered upon a period of the North Shore is going forward rapidly. Whatever of the North Shore is going forward rapidly. Whatever

R .P. & W. F. Starr,





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Cozy Warmth nakes a pleasant home. Is here anything the matter with rour heating? Ring up 1986-11. G. W. Williams,

THE COURTS ADMIRALTY COURT.

rison.

Mr. W. A. Ewing, K. C., appeared for the owners of the Lord Wolseley and Mr. J. S. Gregory and Mr. S. A. M. Skinner for Mr. Kerrison.

SUPREME COURT CHAMBERS.

SUPREME COURT CHAMBERS.

Smith vs. City of St. John.

Before Mr. Justice McKeown in supreme court chambers yesterday morning the claim of Peter Smith, of Simonds street against the city of St. John was presented in the form of a petition. Mr. Smith asks for substantial damages for alleged injury done his land by reason of the city placing their pipe line through it during the construction of the Loch Lomond water works. A day will be fixed to hear the claim. Mr. W. B. Wallace, K. C., and Mr. J. A. Sinclair appeared for Mr. Smith.

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