

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 12, 1901

ST. JOHN, N. B., January 12, 1901.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH is an eight-page paper and is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year in advance, by the Telegraph Publishing Company, of St. John, a company incorporated by act of the legislature of New Brunswick.

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Owing to the considerable number of complaints as to the misdirection of letters addressed to the office of the Telegraph Publishing Company, it is requested that all letters to the office be addressed to the Telegraph Publishing Company, St. John, and all correspondence for the editor be addressed to the editor, in which case the remittance will be at our risk.  
In remitting by check or post office order our patrons will please make them payable to the Telegraph Publishing Company.  
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Without exception, notice of a new subscriber will be entered until the money is received.  
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Write plainly and take special pains with names.  
Write on one side of your paper only.  
Attach your name and address to your communication as an evidence of good faith.  
Write nothing for which you are not prepared to be held personally responsible.

**THIS PAPER HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.**

#### AUTHORIZED AGENTS.

The following Agents are authorized to canvass and collect for the Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz.:  
Allison Wishart.  
W. A. Ferris.  
Wm. Somerville.

**MR. ALLISON WISHART, Traveling Agent for the Daily and Weekly Telegraph is now going through Nova Scotia.**

Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 12, 1901.

#### TRANSPORTATION CHARGES.

Notwithstanding the development in our export trade in agricultural and industrial products the Canadian farmer and manufacturer is still hampered by the excessive and discriminatory transportation charges. This was prominently brought to the public notice at the recent meeting in Brantford of the Fruit Growers' Association. The committee on transportation pointed out very strongly a gross injustice which is being done our farmers. We will give a few of the very numerous examples given by a member of the committee as they will suffice to make clear the case in point. A basket of grapes which would sell at Brantford for eleven cents could not be sold in Brantford for less than fifty cents, and this was almost entirely due to the excessive freight charges. The freight on a carload of grapes from Ontario to Winnipeg is about \$100, while the freight on a carload of produce from Winnipeg to points in Ontario is but \$30, although in many instances the railways have to take back to Winnipeg empty cars.

Again, the peach growers of Michigan can ship their produce to eastern canneries in Canada and obtain lower freight rates than can the Canadian grower of Essex county. The discrimination in favor of the American grower is of such a nature that the fruit, notwithstanding the duty on it, can be delivered to the Canadian consumer as cheaply as his native material because the tariff duty is more than equalized by the heavier tariff levied upon the Canadian grower in the form of discriminatory freight charges.

Another example of the same committee is in the exportation of Canadian apples to Great Britain. The Canadian railways charge such a high rate that it costs for carriage from Ontario to Liverpool about eighty-five cents to \$1.25 per barrel, whereas the apples from more distant points in the United States, even as far west as the Mississippi, can be delivered at the same port for from fifty-five to eighty cents. Very similar charges were made at the recent meeting in Guelph of the stock raisers. These complaints do not exist in Ontario alone, but are to be found in this province, and we have frequent communications from the farmers of Charlton county of the excessive charges on small shipments of produce which compel them, in place of being in a position to deal direct with commission merchants in St. John, to have recourse to the middlemen and thus the proceeds for their produce is not so high as it might be if the freight charges were reasonable. In country storekeeper is almost compelled to sell his produce at a loss, and the blame is at their door.

nation with power to regulate the freight and passenger rates upon some satisfactory basis. It is certainly an injustice to our farmers that the produce of the United States should be carried over the heavily subsidized railways of the country at a lower rate than that of our own farmer, and that the agriculturalist of Ontario who is nearer the seaboard should be discriminated against by the railway corporations by lower rates and secret rebates. This discriminatory freight rate is a second charge upon the farmer, for they must assist in paying the debt, which has been incurred by us in subsidizing these railways, in the form of taxes levied by the government. If the discrimination were in favor of the Canadian farmer, then the effect of the charge for subsidization would be reduced and this to the ordinary mind would suggest itself at once as the proper course. The government in its agreement with the C. P. R. on the building of the Crow's Nest Railway did obtain concessions for the farmer of the Northwest which was a step in the right direction, but still there is much ground for complaint and we believe that with the development of our great natural agricultural and industrial resources some means must be found to overcome the present state of affairs. The appointment of an absolutely impartial railway commission with the power of regulating the freight and passenger rates and the investigation of secret discriminatory freight rates would do much to overcome the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs.

#### GOLD PRODUCTION OF CANADA.

In yesterday's issue our Ottawa correspondent gives the returns of the principal gold producing countries for the year 1900.

The estimated gold yield as compiled by the Engineering and Mining Journal shows that Canada, during the past year, has only been exceeded in the production of the noble metal by the United States and Australia, and we have risen from the fifth to the third position.

It is estimated that the Canadian gold fields yielded 1,257,802 fine ounces of gold valued at \$38,000,000. Compared with the preceding year, 1899, this is an increase in ounces of about a quarter million and in value of \$5,000,000.

This is exceedingly satisfactory, and we have no doubt but that the coming year will show an equally good increase as we are daily developing new mines in the different parts of Canada.

We have now passed Russia, which formerly held fourth place and temporarily South Africa which has fallen behind owing to the war.

#### PARKS' COTTON MILLS.

The news of the closing down of the Parks cotton mills on Wednesday, while not unexpected, was the general subject of conversation yesterday, and considerable sympathy was expressed by all at the suspension in the operation of one of St. John's most important industries. Even should it prove only temporary, as is generally believed, the closing of these mills, giving employment to so many people, will be seriously felt in the city this winter.

It had been very commonly rumored that the deaths of Mr. Wallace Turnbull and Mr. George A. Schofield would necessitate changes likely to prove embarrassing to the Parks Company. The former gentleman was known to have advanced a considerable sum of money to relieve the company at the time of its celebrated legal trouble with the Bank of Montreal some few years ago, and the late Mr. Schofield had up to the time of his death acted as financial supervisor of the concern. However, it was hoped that some mutually satisfactory arrangement could be arrived at which would enable the cotton mills to continue operations.

The stiff rise in the price of raw cotton, and the inability to obtain satisfactory advances to permit of advantage being taken of the state of the market in purchasing the raw material, are given out as the reasons for the closing down of the mills. An effort is being made to arrive at a solution of the difficulty in regard to advances so as to permit of the mills continuing operations. The general business outlook seems too bright for such a valuable property to be permitted to lie dormant for any length of time. The good showing made by the Parks Cotton Mills Company in the past few years in the marked reduction of their liabilities seems to be a guarantee of the paying nature of the business under proper business conditions. The Telegraph joins in the very general wish that so important an industry may speedily reopen its doors for business.

#### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The business barometer is rising. Khaki owned the city yesterday.

The St. John ice factory is working over time now.

The announcement is made that tobacco is "going up." In smoke?

One hundred and fifty thousand New Yorkers are in the clutches of the g.r.p.

De Wet, in South Africa, is often accompanied by a shower of bullets.

Prolongation of human life seems to be the essential twentieth century problem.

Toronto has begun the twentieth century well by the decision to acquire and control its own gas plant.

Halifax is considered slow, but it is

ahead of St. John on the steel shipbuilding business.

President Shaughnessy, of the C. P. R., doesn't appear to be a howling success as a diplomat. Perhaps he is too fond of interviews.

The prize ring in King square may be utilized by the aldermen to settle their differences over the appointment of Mr. McRobbie's successor.

It's a happy thing for the British Columbia mine owners that the government played a limit on the price of coal for smelting purposes.

Tammany Hall has begun making affidavits to its purity. It reminds us of H. A. Powell's sermon on bribery in elections.

Lynching is still one of the national pastimes in the United States. During 1900 there were 115 human barbecues and open-air hangings.

The Westmorland type of smallpox may not be fatal in its consequences, but we in St. John have no desire to test the truth of the assertion.

The proposal to have a public commemoration of the 110th birthday of the St. Martin's centennial, James Ross, is a grateful tribute to respected old age.

Woodstock should not have as much difficulty to remember "Bobs" advice to keep the returned soldiers from liquid temptation as the "free, open" towns.

Word comes from California that the grape crop is a failure. This must be gratifying to the inmates of boarding houses.

Much history has been made since we bade farewell to the men whom we are proud to welcome safely back again. A fair share of it has been written by them.

In the place of those ventilating appliances to the sewers recommended by Inspector McCarthy, how would it do to remove the cause of the trouble?

It's not often that a newspaper receives such a handsome piece of advertising as the firm of Macaulay Bros. & Co. published in their regular advertisement.

A struggle for social supremacy is going on in Washington, while a contest of purity vs. vice is raging in New York. Uncle Sam must be unhappy these days.

Alderman Seston wants it understood that he is not responsible for the roped arena in King square. It will now be in order for the chairman of the water and sewerage board to explain his attitude towards the prize ring.

The Conservative press is very jubilant over the election of Conservative mayor in Toronto and Ottawa. We had hitherto believed they didn't believe in party lines in civic politics.

The complaint of the superintendent of the Boys' Industrial Home of the bad character of the late arrivals leads us to infer that there was good reason for them being sent there.

The two men who died on the S. S. Roslyn Castle on the passage from Cape Town to Halifax are no less heroes than those who had down their lives on the South African battle fields.

The cheerful Harvard professor who advocates that burning at the stake is fitting punishment for some crimes, evidently has not been reading the accounts of the human barbecues in the land of the dollar during the past year.

Monoton is getting a bad reputation for thievery. How would it do to leave the I. C. R. detective lying loose around the station and have him carried away with the mail bags. He might in that way get a clue.

The people who are being poisoned with sewer gas are probably expected to be satisfied with the story of that defective gas house sewer for another century. It has been defective so long that it is time it was repaired.

Now that our soldiers are back with us the people should not forget, they cannot live on the remembrances of their own heroism. Practical patriotism is the kind that gives these men an opportunity to earn their living.

The death of R. T. Babbitt, Esq., of Gagetown, Queens county, removes one of the best known figures in New Brunswick. Mr. Babbitt was a Christian gentleman of stalwart purpose who enjoyed the esteem and respect of even those who disagreed with his views. To the Liberal party in Queens his death will be felt as a distinct loss. We join with his large circle of friends in heartfelt condolence to his widow and family.

Announcements in Connection With the Meeting at Hampton.

It is announced that the attorney general and George G. Scovill, M. P., are to be at Hampton tomorrow and will be in the morning to meeting their friends from the different parishes and consulting regarding the public requirements as to roads, bridges and other matters necessary to be attended to during the coming session of the legislative assembly. They will meet all who may find it convenient to attend. The convention will open at 2 p.m. It is expected that the premier and Hon. Mr. McKeown will also be present to address the electors after the business of the convention is concluded.

High-heeled boots are known to cause spinal trouble.

#### EXHIBITION ASSOCIATION.

Annual Meeting on Held Tuesday Afternoon.

#### INTERESTING REPORTS

Tell of the Fair of 1899--There Was a Deficit, and Assistance Is Asked from Citizens, City and Province to Assure an Annual Fair.

At the annual meeting yesterday of the St. John Exhibition Association, the report of the directors stated among other things that it is the desire of the board to continue annual exhibitions and that to meet this some means should be adopted to secure funds which will cover all expenses. As the object of the association is to carry on exhibitions solely in the public interests, the report says that it would seem as if those of our citizens who are particularly or otherwise benefited should financially assist the association from year to year and the city authorities should give liberal grants. The exhibition of our association, the report states, have enabled farmers, dairymen and stock breeders to bring together the best product of their industry, and present an object lesson which must be of great value to the commonwealth. The province and city have materially aided us in paying the prices, yet experience proves that the sums granted have not enabled us to meet the deficiencies arising from our general receipts.

The secretary's report showed the receipts and expenditures up to Dec. 21 to be:

On capital account	\$ 1,500 00
Exhibition income	14,514 54
City grant	3,000 00
Total receipts	\$19,014 54
Expenditures.	
Unpaid accounts of 1899	\$ 1,208 07
Liabilities of 1900	24,495 11
Total expenditures	\$25,803 18

Since the audit of the report the provincial grant of \$4,000 was received. Another amount on ticket account is expected in a few days from the C. P. R. Included in the expenditures are the purchase of an engine and boiler, the platform and seating of the drill hall, the outfit of the Natural History department. Other special expenditures were made for supplies in the dairy and other departments. These purchases, used for future exhibitions, very largely account for the inability of the income to meet the outlay. The deficiency amounts to \$3,823.65.

The report stated that during the year the association received payment for and issued certificates for 312 shares of capital stock. These extend to the balance of 4,000 shares. The whole issue has been 1,733 shares. The value of the property owned by the association is far beyond the revenue from the sale of shares of capital stock, but is not easily made available for the payment of its deficiencies. The estimate of the value of the exhibition property, made last year, was:

Grounds and buildings	\$14,000
Movable property	2,000
Total	\$16,000
Making allowance for all depreciations, new plant and property	2,000
valued at	\$18,000

Both reports were adopted, and the following directors elected: W. H. Thorne, E. A. Dykeman, R. M. Davis, R. B. Emerson, J. H. McAvity, A. Macaulay, James Reynolds, Dr. G. A. Hetherington, C. A. Everett, D. J. McLaughlin, R. C. S. Hall, W. H. Hubbard, E. L. Belling, A. O. Skinner, H. A. Doherty, A. Markham, O. H. Warwick, H. Gallagher, S. L. Peters and Thomas Walker.

#### MUST BE IMPERIAL OFFICER

For Head of Kingston College--Minister Has So Decided.

Ottawa, Jan. 9.—(Special).—The minister of militia has decided that the head of the Royal Military College, Kingston, must be an imperial officer. Col. W. D. Oker, whose name had been mentioned for when the opportunity presents itself, Col. Oker has waived all claims that he may have had for the position.

The appointment has yet to be made by the council, but the war office some time since submitted the name of an officer, Major Reade. The gentleman is about 39 years of age and belongs to the infantry wing of the regular army. He possesses, however, a special knowledge of the other branches—cavalry, artillery, engineering work and the rest, and he would hardly have been chosen. No doubt Major Reade will be accepted by the Canadian government, seeing he has been named by the war office.

The mention of Col. Oker's name for the position had induced hostile criticism from some of the men who had served under him in South Africa, but it is not on this ground that he is not chosen. It is because the Royal Military College has been recognized as a training school for commissions in the imperial army and because the minister of militia would not like the Royal Military College to be a school for training men to interfere with the standing which its certificate commands in the imperial force.

The selection by the war office of the commander has been a guarantee in London that the college was under efficient control, and it is because it might not be in the interests of the institution, as the imperial authorities see it, that the proposal to banish the imperial and introduce the Canadian officer to its direction has not seemed good policy. The general public would have liked to have seen Col. Oker or some Canadian selected, but it would appear that the best positions in the militia for Canadians are growing beautifully less.

## Reduction Sale Fine Clothing.

Reduction of stock—reduction of price! Our first important move on the Twentieth Century business chess-board! A move that'll put cash into the pockets of hundreds who know our clothing is the finest hereabouts.

#### Overcoats.

It's very trying to knock off the profit. When the original prices were the lowest in Saint John—but to be sure of having enough it's necessary to have too many, and the mild weather in the earlier part of the season held men back who should have come.

We've been selling Overcoats faster at regular prices than any other store—but that's neither here nor there; the fact is, we have too many. And now we must get Two men to buy for every ONE that would have bought at the original prices.

We've taken a sure plan—mark them down.

#### Suits-to-Measure Under Price.

Here is a bit of interesting news. We have over 50 suit lengths which we would rather have made into suits and get the cash for than carry in stock. We have marked them down, and will make a suit to your measure, giving you your pick from this lot for \$15.00. Former prices \$20, \$21, \$22, \$23.

Your choice of a lot of Trousers. Former prices \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.00. For \$5.00.

OUR GUARANTEE GOES WITH EVERY GARMENT.

## GREATER OAK HALL,

King Street,  
Cor. Germain.

SCOVIL BROS. & CO.

#### LOOKS SERIOUS AGAIN.

Word from Panama Seems to Indicate Trouble.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The state department received advices today from Consul General Goulger at Panama, indicating that the Colombian revolution had again assumed a serious aspect. He states that the Colombian government announces that the revolutionaries are approaching Panama and are making preparations for a fight, which is likely to occur soon.

There is reason to believe that the U. S. government will adopt a vigorous line of action in case the city of Panama is attacked or there is any interruption of the transit facilities of the isthmus. According to a treaty between the United States and Colombia, the U. S. has been given a certain measure of protection over the peaceful conduct of this traffic across the isthmus. Mr. Goulger's present despatch does not indicate that the city itself is about to be attacked, but if it develops by later information that there is any prospect of bombardment, vigorous procedure will be instituted.

At present the gunboat Ranger is at Panama and the Philadelphia and Iowa are on the way to that locality.

#### Mr. SHAUGHNESSY INTERVIEWED

Is Favorable to Railway Commission in the Matter of Western Freight Rates.

Montreal, Jan. 8.—(Special).—F. S. Shaughnessy, president of the Canadian Pacific railway, has returned from Milwaukee, where he had been attending the annual meeting of the Canadian Pacific railway and British Columbia and demanding the appointment of a railway commission to enquire into this question. Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he would welcome the appointment of an impartial railway commission if for no other reason than to give an authoritative denial to such baseless charges.

He said the stories that individual directors of the Canadian Pacific railway were interested in Mr. Hill's schemes was nonsense. Referring to the story that Mr. J. J. Hill had secured control of the Crow's Nest coal fields, Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he had been aware that negotiations had been pending between the Great Northern and this coal company for some time.

Regarding the statement made by Mr. Elias Rogers, the managing director, that the company had contracted to deliver 800 tons of coal per day to the Great Northern railway, he stated that, as the coal company was not in a position to present even to supply the local demands in British Columbia, he hoped that the company would not undertake to supply foreign corporations to the detriment of Canadian industries.

Artificial silks are made of wood fiber, dissolved to a glue-like consistency by acids, forced through holes in glass and drawn out into threads.

#### PROVINCIAL PRISON.

Subject of Establishing One at St. John for

SHORT TERM PRISONERS.

Committee Interviews the Attorney General--Objection That Other Counties, Satisfied with Present Conditions, Might Not Favor the Added Expense.

Yesterday afternoon a committee of the municipal council interviewed the attorney general, Hon. William Pugsley, with regard to the establishment in St. John of a provincial prison for such short-term prisoners as are confined in the county jails and respecting the carrying out of a hard labor law in connection therewith. The committee comprised Councilors Millidge, Macne, Baxter and Secretary Geo. R. Vincent.

The first question discussed was as to whether or not the provincial government would favor the establishment of a prison in St. John by the municipality of the city and county to be managed in connection with the jail.

The attorney general was asked if he would favor the passing of a law for the confinement therein of short-term prisoners convicted of offences against the provincial statutes and empowering the municipal council to make regulations for the employment of such prisoners at hard labor during their term of confinement.

The attorney general replied that he felt quite sure that the government would be disposed to introduce any reasonable legislation in this direction which the municipal council might ask for, and requested the committee to acquaint the government with the decision of the council as soon as one was arrived at.

After thanking the attorney general the committee withdrew.

Ordinary tamblers will hold water because the globules of water are too big to squeeze through glass. But glass is as full of holes as a sponge, and air blows right through it, because the specks of air are smaller than the holes.

#### SAXE-WEIMAR DEAD.

The Grand Duke Passed Away Sunday.

Berlin, Jan. 6.—Charles Alexander, Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, is dead. (Grand Duke Karl Alexander was born June 24, 1818, the son of Grand Duke Karl Friedrich and the Grand Duchess Marie Paulowna, daughter of the Czar Paul I. of Russia. He succeeded his father on July 8, 1853, and married Oct. 8, 1842, Sophie, born April 8, 1824, daughter of King Willem II. of the Netherlands, who died March 23, 1897.

Karl August, his only son, was born July 31, 1844, and married Aug. 23, 1873, Princess Pauline of Saxe-Weimar; he died Nov. 20, 1894, and has one son who succeeds to the title, Wilhelm Ernest, born June 10, 1878.

The two daughters of deceased are Princess Maria, born Jan. 20, 1849, and married Prince Heinrich VII. of Reuss-Schleiz-Koestritz; and Princess Elisabeth, born Feb. 28, 1854, married Nov. 6, 1886, to Johann, Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. The cousin of Karl Alexander is Prince Edward, a major-general in the British army.

The late Grand Duke was an uncle of the Queen of the Netherlands and is possessed of a private fortune inherited from his wife. He was also brother of the late Empress Augusta of Germany. His principal residence was at Belvedere, near Weimar, but had castles at Dornburg and Eisenach. He is succeeded by his grandson, Wilhelm Ernest.

#### TO FORM COLONY OF BOERS.

Florida Citizens Plan to Give 200 Acres to Burglar Families to Settle in that State.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 8.—A movement has been started in Florida to secure a colony of 600 Boer families for the counties of De Soto, Manatee and Polk, in the Manatee section of the state. J. M. Standfield, of Bradenton, is one of the originators of this undertaking, and is convinced that the Transvaal natives will take kindly to the proposition.

Several thousand acres of land in these counties, adapted to fruits and vegetables, are owned by the railroad interests of the state, and the plan is to give 200 acres to each settler, a family among the Boer immigrants. Looking to this end, a meeting will be called in February to confer with the railroad officials.

#### WANT TO IMMIGRATE.

The Molokau, a Sect of 40,000 Living in the Caucasus.

London, Jan. 8.—The Molokau, a sect numbering 40,000, who are located in the Caucasus, and whose delegates brought glowing reports of the conditions and surroundings of the Donkubors in Canada, are petitioning the Russian government for permission to emigrate.