

The Chatham Daily Planet.

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THOS. STONE & SON—THOS. STONE & SON

Fancy Goods Dep't.

One of the most attractive corners in our store is the Fancy Goods Section. Miss Richardson, who is in charge, is ready at all times to give you any information you may require about new designs, new modes of work and the prevailing fads.

Cushion Tops on Sale.

On Friday we offer you a bigger bargain in cushion tops than was ever on our counters. Come in and see them—pretty tops for little prices.

Lithograph Tops in pretty designs in colorings, reg. 35c. for..... 19c

Japanese Crepe Tops in very effective colored Japanese designs, reg. 25c., Friday for..... 14c

Embossed Velvet Tops in very rich dark colorings, reg. price 60c. each, on Friday for..... 30c

Stamped Tops and Back combined, in designs that can be worked on silk, reg. 50c. each, Friday, for 28c

Satin Jean Tops in good solid colors, stamped in pretty designs for working, reg. 25c., Friday for..... 14c

Best quality Lithograph Tops in handsome variety of designs, beautifully colored, reg. price 75c. each, on sale Friday for..... 42c

Jeans Tops in good colors, stamped in pretty designs for working, reg. 50c., Friday for..... 28c

Berlin Wools.

Complete stock of every wanted shade in Berlin Wools, 2 fold—4 fold—8 fold and Zephyrs, at per ounce..... 6c

Shetland Floss. Shetland Floss in Black, White, Cream, Pink, Sky, Heli, etc., and in shaded colors, excellent values at per skein, 6s., 6s. and..... 7c

Lace Braids. Very large assortment of Lace Braids, and all you want of any style at lowest possible prices.

Brainard vs. Armstrong's Silks. The best Silks in the trade today are those made by the Corticelli Silk Co.—best colors—easiest to work with—put up in patent holders—all styles are one price, at per skein..... 5c

Cushion Cords. Colors and combination of colors to match, almost any thing you want—Mercerized Cords at a yard..... 10c

Silk Cords at a yard..... 20c

Thomas Stone & Son.

The Best. The Strongest. The Cheapest.

Woven Wire Fencing

Is home-made and built with the...

LONDON FENCE MACHINE

The best because each wire is stretched singly. The strongest because it is all built of No. 9 wire. The cheapest because it costs less than 35c. per rod for a 10-wire fence. We also sell this fencing ready-made. These fence machines are for sale only by

GEORGE

Stephens & Douglas,

HARDWARE & IMPLEMENT MERCHANTS

P.S.—This is the right time of the year to feed Herbageum

A WISE IDEA

To get your old carpet manufactured into beautiful, durable rugs at prices that are right. Call and see samples. Factory opposite Pigott & Son's lumber office in J. & J. Oldershaw's block.

THE CHATHAM RUG FACTORY.

Phone 85.

BOOKS...

Are Bound at small expense at the

PLANET OFFICE

RED CEDAR SHINGLES,

BEST BRAND. BY OAR LOT.

WRITE FOR PRICES.

Thos. C. O'Rourke

Box 28, CHATHAM, ONTARIO

THE NEW WARDEN

Thomas Robinson, the new Warden of Kent County, was born in the Township of Romney 47 years ago and has lived in that Township ever since, with the exception of a few months spent in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Dakota. He has been a member of the County Council for four years. He was first elected in 1896, the last year of the old system of electing the County Council. He was in the Romney Township Council for four years prior to 1896, and in that year was elected reeve of Romney, which in those days made him a member also of the County Council. Mr. Robinson is a nephew of Geo. Robinson, who was Warden in 1895, the year before the present Warden's advent into the County Council.

THE RIGHTS OF MAN.

REVISION OF FRENCH CONSTITUTION DEMANDED.

The Declaration of 1791 is Asked to be Included—Two Deputies in a Fight.

Paris, Jan. 29.—A proposition backed by Jules Roche and other Deputies was introduced into the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, calling for a revision of the constitution. The main features of the measure consist in the incorporation, as its first paragraph, of the declaration of "The Rights of Man," in the constitution of 1791, and in the conversion of the Court of Cassation into a Supreme Court, empowered to pass upon the claims of citizens that their constitutional rights have been violated by the legislative and executive branches of the Government.

A second bill was introduced by Charles Benoist, providing for the establishment of a Supreme Court, entrusted with the protection of the rights and liberties of the citizens and organized on the same lines as the Supreme Court of the United States. At the conclusion of the day's sitting Deputies Cadent and Chapus got into a heated discussion, which culminated in a personal encounter. Mr. Cadent badly scratched his adversary's face. The colleagues of the two Deputies intervened and separated them.

NEWTONVILLE INQUEST.

An Unfortunate Oversight of Agent McDougall.

Port Hope, Jan. 29.—After a short and unimportant session yesterday the inquest on the remains of Fireman Thomas Matthews and brakeman Benj. Everist, victims of last Wednesday night's disaster on the Grand Trunk west of here, was resumed at the Town Hall here yesterday at 10 o'clock, Coroner A. G. Aldrich, M.D., presiding. The witnesses examined yesterday were Thos. H. Bell, G.T.R. station agent at Port Hope, who was on duty at the time of the accident, and who heard the dispatcher at Belleville asking the Newtonville operator whether he had received order No. 82, to which the latter replied in the affirmative; the undertaker Alf. George and Dr. Powers, G.E.R. physician, testified as to the condition and means of identification of the remains, while Mrs. Heagans, the day operator at Port Hope, whose hours of duty are from 7.35 a.m. to 7.35 p.m. daily, produced copies of train orders received at Port Hope. The first news of the accident reached her through Conductor Prescott of the westbound freight, who walked to Port Hope to report the accident.

Mr. Ward addressed a few remarks to the jury, and, after considering the matter for about thirty minutes, they brought in the following verdict:—"We find that Thomas Matthews and Benjamin Everist came to their death as the result of a collision between trains extra west No. 895 and eastbound train third (engine 920) on the Grand Trunk Railway, on Wednesday, Jan. 21 last, and we further find that the collision was caused by an unfortunate oversight on the part of Alexander McDougall, the agent at Newtonville station."

IMMIGRANTS REJECTED.

Sixteen of the Numidian's Passenger Sent Back.

Halifax, Jan. 29.—The examination of immigrants arriving at this port, under the new rules of the immigration department, is very strictly conducted. Dr. Ellis, chief medical officer of the department, personally examined the passengers who arrived on the royal mail steamer Numidian yesterday, and of the 200 steerage sixteen were rejected and ordered to be deported, owing to indications of trachoma. Dr. Ellis held up ten, five of them young Finns, and the others a Syrian family, consisting of father, mother and three bright-looking children. The United States Commissioner also held up six passengers, and the whole party were marched on board the steamer by the immigration guards. The steerage passengers landed here were a fine, healthy lot, many of them Englishmen, a few for the West Indies, but most of them for Ottaville, Ont., and Winnipeg. They included pattern-makers, carpenters, farmers, butchers, etc. A Syrian family were bound for Stratford, and there were 40 Finns for Rat Portage, Copper Cliff, Port Arthur, Alberta and Winnipeg, and 50 for Michigan, Detroit, San Francisco and other United States points. There were 35 Norwegians and Swedes for different points.

WILL STEVENS STRIKE OUT-RIVAL THE GREAT GURD GUSHER?

Promises of Big Things from the Well of the Chatham Oil Company—A Planet Representative on the Scene—A Strong, Steady Flow of Oil—Has a Powerful Gas Pressure Behind it.

"Stevens' Strike," the great gusher struck by the Chatham Oil Co., on the Edwards place, is a fine one. It poured forth oil at a tremendous rate until the well was plugged.

At a depth of 395 feet the Chatham Oil Company have struck the best oil well yet found in the Raleigh oil fields. The members of the company are wild with delight and all the shares have been taken up and the books closed.

The news of the great strike was brought to the city about 2.30 yesterday afternoon by Superintendent Samuel Trotter and the owner of the farm on which the well is located. Mr. Edwards was most enthusiastic over his wonderful well, and it was not long before a number of the members of the local oil company could be seen flying around the lively stables for a rig to convey them to the scene of their happy find.

A Planet representative journeyed to the well in the afternoon. The rather pleasing odor of crude oil was wafted to the nostrils when going up the eighth concession line. Around the well everything looked oily; the derrick was covered with the black fluid clear up to the top, showing that the statement that the oil had spouted to the top of the derrick and beyond was no fiction, but straight truth. The ditch, too, which passes along side the derrick was overflowing with the clear stuff, not a particle of water about it.

The men were busy preparing to remove the cap for the purpose of putting a stop-cock on. The curious crowds around the place were tingling with excitement, to see what would be the result of removing the cap.

When the well was struck at 1.30 in the afternoon the drillers did not have a chance to get the tools out of the well, and they are down there yet. The pressure of the gas on the cap was so great that it was oozing through the 3-foot cap.

Hust! Siss! Belch! Gulch! "Watch out for oil there!" "Stand back!" "There it comes!"

"There won't be any use trying to catch that cap until it starts to come down," came from Joe Hadley, who had shortly before brought out a large tank.

The cap was almost off; the belching and gulching of the gas and oil was furious; the next minute a great boom was heard, and the oil was seen flying fully ten feet above the top of the derrick.

Mr. Trotter and his men now had a task on their hands—that of fixing the stop-cock on. The oil flying up in their faces almost blinded them, and they were almost overcome by the gas which was shooting up. Mr. Trotter's head was a black mass of oil, and, dizzy with the gas, he had to retire for a minute to get air, and return the next to successfully screw the stop-cock on. The valve was turned off so quickly, however, and the tremendous pressure of the gas blew the top part of the casing off, and some time was required to put it on again.

The men were a sight when the operation was over. Among those present at the well at the time of the uncapping were Dr. W. R. Hall, J. T. O'Keefe, D. Turrill, John McCorvie, John Watt, Jos. Hadley, Jos. McQueen, Hugh Stringer, J. A. Walker, besides a number of oil men of the district and local farmers.

A large six-inch pipe was put on the nozzle of the stop-cock reaching to a barrel. A steady stream was started but was stopped for a minute to adjust the barrel. In the meantime the casing had filled with oil and the weight of the oil, together with the machinery, which was still there, was too much for the gas and when the valve was turned gas alone came out.

When seen by The Planet representative Mr. Edwards was very enthusiastic and delighted. He said: "Why I told them this morning when I came out we'd strike a gusher to-day, and I think we have a good one. I always knew there was oil here and I've been looking for some body to come along and drill for it. I have another well on my other farm a half mile farther up the concession and I'm going to have another gusher there. This strike is in the third vein; the first vein we went through there was a showing of oil with water. The second vein showed up better and the third, well this is the third."

Isaac Canfield and son, of Denver, Colorado, were at the well and Mr. Isaac Canfield in conversation with The Planet scribe said: "A well like that in our country, Colorado, would mean at least a 500 barrel. A very good feature about this well which makes it seem better

than the Gurd Gusher is the fact that the pressure behind it is gas, where Gurd's was water.

"I have leased about 250 acres just north of here on the Payne and O'Rourke places and will start to drill to-morrow."

Mr. Canfield has been prospecting for oil at Thamesville and said that yesterday he shot a well there with 40 quarts of nitro glycerine but got no oil. He is also drilling at Morpeth.

He is of the opinion that there is no such things as pools or lakes of oil but that it runs in veins. He says that the field is undoubtedly a large one—does not just extend from the Gurd Gusher to the Stevens strike, but has a still greater area.

Mr. Canfield is the father of the oil industry in Colorado, starting both the existing fields in that state, namely, "The Bolder and Florence Fields."

A TROUBLESOME QUESTION. Alaska Boundary Dispute a Stumbling Block.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Senator Foster of Washington recently represented to Secretary Hay the request of some of his constituents for the establishment of a fish hatchery on the Fraser River, in British Columbia, which has called forth a general statement from the Secretary, showing it to be the policy of the State Department to take no action upon any minor questions affecting the relations between the United States and Canada so long as the dispute over the boundary between British America and Alaska remains undetermined. In a letter to Senator Foster the Secretary says:—"The recommendations of the Joint High Commission, so far as they touched the subjects upon which concurrent opinions were reached, are still in abeyance, the drift of sentiment on both sides being that while an agreement upon the subjects brought before the commissioners appeared to be desirable, and for the most part obtainable, it seemed appropriate to dispose of them as a whole subject to the adjustment of the main question of the Alaskan boundary. The indisposition of the Canadian Government to assent to the settlement of the subordinate questions pending the disposal of the boundary question makes it unlikely that a particular detail of the general plan would be favorably considered by the British Government at this time. Moreover, the legal question as to the jurisdiction of authority of the Federal Government to deal with the matter is still unsettled, being that it should properly be settled by treaty rather than by concurrent legislation or local understanding."

AFRICA FIGHTING. Factions Engage in Battle in Natal Colony.

Durban, Natal, Jan. 29.—Serious factional fighting between Kaffirs has occurred in the Umzinto district, 37 miles from here. It is reported that forty of the natives were killed.

BATTLE IN MEXICO. Indians Almost Captured a Mining Town.

Camana, Mexico, Jan. 29.—The Yaquis have attacked the Town of San Marcia, the mining centre of the State, and almost taken possession of it. The defenders of the city included more than twenty Americans, eight of whom were killed, among them McAllister, former superintendent of the Puerto Citos mine; Frank Pendleton, formerly foreman of the same mine; Ed. Shult and George Carroll. It is asserted there were a number of Americans on the side of the Yaquis.

WANTED FOR MURDER. Two Men in Sing Sing Will be Brought to Alberta.

Winnipeg, Jan. 29.—Capt. Walker of the Northwest Mounted Police has left here for Sing Sing Prison, New York, to bring back an alleged murderer named Morgan, and accomplice, Jos. Laron. They are charged with killing a companion named Wm. Johnston, near Red Deer, about two and a half years ago, and efforts will be made to have them extradited. The accused are noted criminals, and are just completing a term at Sing Sing for robbery committed in New York.

GOING TO MONTREAL. Marconi to Attend a Banquet Before Sailing For Europe.

(Associated Press Despatch.) New York, Jan. 29.—William Marconi will go to Montreal to-day to attend a Board of Trade banquet and will return in time to sail for Europe on the Etruria next Saturday.

MR. FETTERLY'S PROMOTION

Phil. B. Fetterly, of this city, has accepted a proffered lucrative position as inspector for the Huron & Erie Loan Company, of London. Mr. Fetterly, while entering upon his new duties on Feb. 1st, will continue to conduct the district business of the Mutual Life Insurance Co., with which he has been identified for some years past, for about two months more, and will endeavor to be in Chatham on the Saturday of each week for that purpose.

Mr. Fetterly is one of Chatham's most popular and highly esteemed young men, and, while congratulating him very heartily upon his splendid advancement, his many Maple City friends will feel much regret if the change should mean Mr. Fetterly's permanent removal from Chatham.

TO EXPLORE BLUE NILE. Well-Equipped Expedition to Start From Abyssinia.

London, Jan. 29.—W. H. MacMillan of St. Louis, Mo., has planned to leave London in a few days for Adis Ababa, capital of Abyssinia, whence with Col. John L. Harrington, British Agent at the Court of King Menelik, and Isidor Morse of Boston, he will lead an important expedition to explore the whole course of the Blue Nile. The expedition will consist of 100 camels, 40 attendants, an armed escort of Abyssinians, and a flotilla of specially constructed boats. The object of the expedition is to ascertain the navigability of the Blue Nile as a trade route from Central Abyssinia to the Mediterranean. The Anglo-Egyptian authorities are aiding Mr. MacMillan, who is defraying the expenses. He expects to launch the flotilla at the source of the Blue Nile in June, and hopes two months later to reach Khartoum, 1,000 miles below, at the junction of the Blue Nile and the White Nile.

THE ARMY CONTRACTS. War Office Urged to Reform the Present Method.

London, Jan. 29.—The colonial representatives here are urging the War Office to revise its methods of army contracts. They represent that as forms for meat contracts in South Africa are not obtainable in Canada and Australia, it is impossible to send colonial tenders. They urge that in order to secure real competition the War Office must issue conditions of contract and tender forms in sufficient time to enable Canadian and Australian contractors to tender direct.

RETURNING SOLDIERS. Dissatisfied with Their Treatment in Africa.

Halifax, Jan. 29.—The returned Canadian soldiers on the Numidian, numbering about twenty, belonged to the South African Constabulary. Some of the members of the constabulary spoken to regarding their grievances in South Africa said they were substantially the same as reported in despatches. The trouble, they say, arose from the fact that British officers were substituted for Canadians. These returning make no bones about the fact that they rebelled. They were discharged, and went to Cape Town and asked to be sent home. There was some difficulty about the matter, and the Canadian trade commissioner at Cape Town communicated with Lord Strathearn, and in this way they received a free passage. A majority of them had been in Cape Town but a week, returning by different boats. Some of them went from South Africa to England on the troopship Montrose.

Glad Tidings May be Saved. Victoria, B.C., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Capt. Buckholz of Venture reports that the little steamer Glad Tidings, which sank at Shushartie Bay a few days ago, has been raised, and that he will tow her here on his next trip.

Rubbers

AND

Overshoes

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.. CHEAPEST IN CHATHAM...

PEACE & COY