## POOR DOCUMENT

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1903.

SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.

E. W. MCCREADY, Editor. ADVERTISING RATES.

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#### THE TEACHERS.

The action taken by the New Brunswick teachers who met in Moneton Tueswill commend itself to thoughtful people as a wise one. The organization formed will be able to do much good, not at all confined to the teachers. The aims and purposes, as set forth in their declaration, are worthy of the sympathy and support of the people. There has never been as close a bond of sympathy between parents and teachers as the great responsibilities resting upon the latter, in their relationship to parents, unquestionably

that will provoke most comment, but it can scarcely be adverse. New Brunswick teachers are notoriously ill-paid. Year after year the question has been discussed, but no effective method of improving their condition has been discovered. The teachers themselves have probably found the solution. If they fix a minimum seale, and stand by their decision, they will at least secure a living wage; and through the medium of their own organization they will doubtless be able gradually to still further improve their position.

The other aims set forth in the state ment elsewhere published in this paper can best be carried out by well paid teachers will be for the benefit of the the action taken was wholly contrary to whole community. Theirs is a great rethe former declared policy of that counsponsibility and a trying task, and the influence they exert and the principles they instil into minds that are still in the formative stage bear fruit in after years and later generations. The Telegraph extends to the new association best wishes for its success.

#### THE TIME OF GOOD WILL.

It is well at this season, perhaps more learned the lesson of Paul-in whatsoever state they are, therewith to be content. This leaven of philosophy has a large place in human nature, and may subsist along with a lively ambition to better one's condition; for there is really no contradiction in the terms.

perhaps gets from Santa Claus only a few perhaps gets from Santa Claus only a few to what extent it is difficult to deterhappy over it as the more fortunate ones the cause of a lowering birth rate is are in the possession of costly gifts. And how many there are who can afford only how many there are who can afford only left with the registration report of 1900 field the park. Let us hope Ald. Lewis sees to it that the men are given plenty of plain food, an occasional change of diet, things that he really needs is just as how many there are who can anord only late, under the caption race suicide, has and warm clothing. the purchase that it may cause the greater of births the children of the foreign born happiness at a time when all the world mother are largely in execess over the 4,328 students. The number of profe

where more apparent than in the shops at Christmas time. Side by side stand those by whom the cost of an article is 56.70 per cent, for the native born living of the students who throng our universely whom the cost of an article is 100.70 per cent, for the native born living of the students who throng our universely the students who th

good will, and of a desire that all may

#### A FARMERS' YEAR.

Crops have been generally good, and prices for all kinds of produce have been profitledge to be turned into better equipment, better quality of produce, and better re-

### A NOTE OF WARNING.

turns in the market.

The Globe Tuesday read some St

"The Montreal Herald undertakes declare who is to be the next candida; of the Liberal party in Charlotte county, and gives the position to Mr. D. Gillmor vention in the county of Charlotte and that the convention will select a suitable candidate. It may be Mr. Gillinor, or Mr. Todd, or Mr. Armstrong, but the positive ously, would seem to indicate that a con-

vention is scarcely necessary." Any persons who have been laboring to secure a nomination in advance of a convention will please take notice. The Globe is manifestly in earnest, and when in that mood is not to be trifled with.

#### SCHURMAN ON PANAMA.

That gifted Prince Edward Islander, President Schurman of Cornell University, liscusses with great freedom all questions affecting the expansionist policy of the Philippine commission, he was of course in a position to speak with a degree authority on the subject of that war and its results, although he did not always agree with the policy of the administra-

ed his views on the Panama affair, and in this he heartily endorses the course of President Roosevelt, declaring that the government of the United States would ma and made preparations to protec American interests and safeguard transportation across the isthmus. He said:

"We insisted that there should be peace throughout Panama. What was the alternative? It was to have allowed Colombian troops to land and to have stood by while they waged war, maybe for congress one year from now to turn over the canal rights to France and thus bring about serious international complications.
"Between two alternatives, both dangerous, our government made a choice, which, most expedient with reference to American interests and the most just in view of all the circumstances of the case."

This all sounds very well, and the result of the action of the United States may, and doubtless will, be of benefit to try. The government simply acted on the principle that, wanting a certain thing, and being strong enough, they should go ahead and take it. And that is what hap-

#### THE BIRTH RATE.

cent utterances on the subject. The editor

The birth rate for the year 1902 the lowest since 1879, and a decrease of .49 from the previous year. Doubtless economic conditions of the less economic conditions of the population have an influential effect on the number of births by increasing or mine. In the registration report of 1900

previous registration reports show that the average birth rate for 1849-1858 was

births and 40.04 for the foreign; the averpercentage of native born was 34.82, for-eign born 44.10, and in 1900 the percentage was 31.45 for native, 49.30 for foreign

The following remarks:

and Belgium with 29, Norway 31, Italy 33, Spain 34, Holland and Germany 35, Austria 37, Hungary 39 and Russia 49.

and to regard the day because they receive

the views of Bishop Ludden. Santa Claus through the ages. This hypercritical bighmorning and see Santa Claus at work If he will do that, he will go home con tent to leave the substantial side of Christmas to the old saint, and devote his own of the spiritual significance of the day

#### NOTE AND COMMENT.

That is his job, anyhow.

men got shorter terms for a similar offence. Even in Chicago the law is some times enforced. The journalistic war on the Miramichi

goes merrily on. Such playful epithets as 'liar," "thief," and "skunk" are being tossed about with a gay cheerfulness that quite takes one's breath. The Woodstock Press wants to know why a beneficent government that give

us good crops and the like should permit such a scarcity of turkeys at Christma time. Turkeys are certainly scarce. The diligent reader of the Ottawa de spatches from day to day cannot fail to observe that the government is paying much attention to proposed new measure

for the benefit of the country. As election signs go, this is not a bad one. A recent struggle with burglars prove that Boston policemen are not well equip ped when revolvers are needed, and not the Journal says the whole force of 1,200 will be given target practice, to improve

their marksmanship. The New York World chides this precocious country for its boastfulness, seeing that in the year 1901 there were only 322 divorced women in all Canada, against 1, 059 in the single State of Rhode Island the year before, and 2,061 in New York. We are a little behind in some respects.

The Timber Trades Journal of Dec. 12 says: "The spruce market keeps upon a level bottom without any sway to either side. The cargo, per 'Nova Scotia,' from Dalhousie, has arrived here upon the oper market, and up to the time of writing is still unsold. We understand a very high price is asked for it."

Here is a hint from Halifax to the city council of St. John. The Chronicle says: "The civic authorities have at last realiz ed the necessity of having a police patrol would have such a vehicle. The mayor, members of the police commission and the chief of police are all in favor of procuring a patrol waggon, thus avoiding the disgraceful scenes of dragging prisoner through the streets, which has been so evident of late."

success of the plan to provide work fo paid, to avoid the hard labor, and enriched the civic treasury to that amount and while the men are better at worl

age of 1859-1863, the native 48.06 and 46.89 foreign; average 1869-1873, 40.54 for the native and 48.48 for foreign; average 1874-1878, 40.52 for native and 45.30 for foreign; average 1879-1883, 41.68 for the native and 41.32 for foreign. In 1890 the native and 41.32 for foreign. In 1890 the lieve that it would induce a young man

The following remarks made in this week by William Lloyd Garrison are has dulled the popular conscience, a gov-

New York Evening Post: "No sheep can bite me and live," said a soldier, who

In his address at the annual meeting

them promptly." It looks as if the S John city council had struck the psycholo gical moment to order that new ferry

Mr. Thomas Barelay, of England, las

Mr. G. M. Bosworth, of the C. P. R who has just returned from England, says

week addressed the Boston Chamber of

## THE TELEGRAPH'S PULPIT.

Lessons from the Manger in Bethlehem-Rev. B. N. Nobles Speaks on Cnristmas to Readers of the Telegraph

Luke 2: 12-"Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,

There are several births mentioned in the Scriptures concerning which more or less is written. We read of the birth of Jacob and Esau, twin sons of Rebecca the wife of Isaac. We read also of the birth of Benjamin and of Ichabod whose mothers died on the day of their birth. Of Moses it is written that his mother hid him in her home for three months after his birth and then when the child could be concealed no longer she made a little canoe of bulrushes, making it watertight with clay and pitch and set the child afloat in it near the royal bathing grounds. Record is also made of the birth of Samuel whom God gave to Hannah in answer to prayer. Further we read of the birth of John the Baptist and here St. Luke ecords the birth of Jesus who he says was born in the manger of stable in Bethlehem because there was no room for his mother Mary in

In King David's! time there was built a house here for the accommodation of travellers and it may have been in the stable belonging to this ancient structure that David's Lord was borne a babe. The stables of the country are sometimes simply natural grottos or caves in the limestone rock and the one which is associated with the birth of Jesus is one of these limestone grottes, enlarged somewhat by human skill and labor. It is and has been from early centuries marked by a church and it may be this grotto thus marked from early times is the very place where Jesus was born and where the wondering shepherds found him wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

As you this moring view that lowly mother and that helpless babe cradled in a manger among the grunting camels and snarling dogs and braying asses, you surely see an exhibition of marvellous love and condescension. I have read that when Hon. William Gladstone was prime minister of the empire he used to find time to call upon sick and aged peasants in Hawarden, and has been known to sit by the bedside of a poor man and read to him to wile away the hours. Similar stories are told of that great and good man Philipps Brookes. What love and regard and interest were beneath such kindly action! Look into that military hospital at the British headquarters in the Crimea. Do you see that young woman with her staff of nurses, going from cot to cot, dressing wounds, speaking kind words to the suffering, receiving last messages for loved ones at home, contributing in every possible way to their comfort. Who is she? You ask. Why she is Florence Nightingale, the educated and accomplished daughter of William Shore Nightingale of Embley Park, a gentleman of the English aristocracy. So great was her love and sympathy for the poor soldiers who were fighting for her country that she willingly gave up society and friends and home to labor for the easement of the wounded and dying on the battlefield. But the love and condescension exhibited in this babe of Bethlehem is beyond comparsion with that of these.

Who is this child lying in that manager bed? He is the Son of God. Paul speaking of Him says: "He being originally in the form of God . was made in the likness of men and being formed in fashion as a man became obident unto death." And John speaking of Him says: "In the beginning was the Word . . . and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." What condescension! What sacrifice for the Eternal Son to take upon himself our nature and in that nature serve as a plain man, humbling himself even unto death on the cross! What love for the fallen race he must have had! What condescension! No marvel that God hath highly exalted Him and given him a name above every other name! No wonder that Isaac Watts should write:

"Oh for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise; The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

Again as we take our stand beside the wondering shepherds and lool upon this babe in mariger cradle we should be reminded of man's innumanity to man. Why is that babe lying there upon the straw? Why is that young mother lying at such a time in a stable with only the straw for a bed and for covering the blankets they had brought with them? Why in such a place at such a time? Luke simply says, "there was no room for them in the inn." Doubtless strong, healthy women and girls, and vigorcus old men and hardy young men had apartments in the inn that night but no one gave place to this young wife that Christmas eve. Each kept their own comfortable couch. How selfiesh! How inhuman! How far re moved from the disposition Jesus exhibited in subsequent years, for did He not ever seek to ease and comfort. And hath he not inculcated the same in his followers. In Christian lands we find hospitals for the sick and suffering, homes for the aged and unfortunate, asylums for insane and blind-such institutions for the betterment and amelioration of man's hard lot abound but only in lands where his truth has penetrated. The spirit peculiarly the Christian or Christ-like, is the kind, self-forgetful, nerous, loving, unselfish spirit. May it rule in our lives.

further, as we gaze upon this babe in the manger cradle we should be impressed with the dignity and worth of man in God's estimation. For surely he, for whose redemption the Son of God would sacrifice himself in human nature and suffer even unto death must be of worth in the eyes of heaven. Men have failed of the full meaning of the incarnation of Christ and his life and death if they have not recognized in them not alone the measure of God's love for man but also his estimate of man's worth and dignity. Verily man created in the image of Deity is a great being. The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork, but in nothing is God's glory and wisdom and power so manifest as in the creature, man. He is the acme of God's creation. An immortal being, made in the image of God, endowed with self-consciousness moral nature, religious instincts and reason, and withal most intricately united with a mortal, material body of most marvellously delicate organic structure. Such is man, God's greatest triumph in creation. And though the divine image is sadly marred, and though so far as we know he is the only intelligent creation, save the devils, that has asserted himself in dis-

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Behold the Eternal Word incarnate in this Babe of Bethlehem and see that which declares God's estimate of man's worth as also the measure of his love. Behold the Son of God suffering rejection and death and learn the same truths. Hear the voices of the angelic host above Jordan hills singing this Christmas eve: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to men," and be conviced of man's dignity and worth. Think of these hosts of the Lord who dwell with Him in undimmed light and glory, obedient to the divine behest ministering to the heirs of slavation and be convinced again of the divine love for, and the divine estimate of man. Nor fail to mark his great achievements. What problems hath he solved! What skill hath he displayed! What literary creations

hath he produced! Verily man is great. Therefore should men have self-respect. Possessed of such diginity and worth, in no wise should they prostitute their powers to unholy uses, lending themselves to the servants of sin. Contrawise should they assert themselves in opposition to the flesh and the devil which have wellnigh ruined the race, and aspire toward goodness and usefulness in the fellowship of Jesus Christ. So under the spell of his friendship and the communion of his spirit, the divine image shall be restored and men made

meet for the inheritance of the saints in light. Once more as we look upon this babe in its manger cradle should we be impressed with the fact that the great may be found in lowly, humble surroundings, for this is God's Son we find here. That country pastor driving over the hill and dale in the discharge of his duty, comforting, instructing, arousing his people—may in his unpretentious surroundings be a greater man than he of greater name in town or city amid affluent circumstances and manifold privileges. That mother toiling for her family, planing how to make the most of her limited means, and withal by word and example instructing her boys and girls to the end they may become good, prudent, honest, industrious men and women, may be greater than other mothers amid wealth and luxury. That young man, that young woman, struggling for a livlihood, enduring privations, maintaining integrity and honor, purity and virtue amid fearful temptations, is greater by far, though known only among their few friends, than those who may be widely known in social, professional or business life, but have never met and conquered these temptations and trials or meeting them have fallen. Great men and women are often found in the high places of life, but

often also in the lowly. And often from these lowly spheres are called forth those who in wider ones manifest their greatness. Gideon was a farmer, David was a shepherd. Some of the disciples were plain fishermen. Luther was the son of a poor miner, Andrew Fuller the great English divine was a farm laborer. William Carey was a shoemaker, John Foster was a weaver. Lincoln was a woodcutter and Samuel Leonard Tilley a druggist's clerk. In the humble spheres of life the great are often found Sometimes they remain there and with praise unsung do their whole work for the family, the community, the nation—sometimes called forth to wider spheres these great ones do great things for men.

And so in conclusion let me impress this thought upon you that your environment whatever may be its nature is not that by which you shall judge of your worth or insignificance as an individual, or your value to society. Nor let any account that his humble surroundings are indicative that God has nothing for him amid larger opportunities or that lowly conditios forbid one's entrace into wider spheres of usefulness. Rather should men whatever their environment, listen and watch for divine calls and beckoning, and if they, coming, bid you enter larger spheres, go forward and God shall clear the way.

## TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE OF ALICE M. JACOB'S CREW.

Storm With the Thermometer 13 Below Zero -- All Were Badly TWO NOVA SCOTIA Frostbitten, and Are Now at Halifax.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 22.-The crew of the wrecked American fishing steamer Alice M. Jacobs arrived today from New undland. The men tell a thrilling story The vessel struck on the reefs at Ger-rand's Island between 5.30 and 6 o'clock in the evening. A blinding storm was prevailing and the thermometer registerand 13 degrees below zero.

All the crew were more or less frost

bitten. One of the men, Austin George, had his ears and fingers frozen. All hands had a hard fight for life. Immediately after the vessel struck the waves dashed over the craft, coating her with ice, filling the cabin and extinguishing the fire. The men huddled to gether on deck. A dory was launched, but it was smashed by the waves. A sec-ond dory was launched and smashed. The men were suffering intensely from the cole and the water-soaked clothing soon be-came solid. The blinding snowstorm con-

rocky coast.

It looked bad for them and rescue seem caused the vessel to heel over and make a lee. One of the crew got into a third dory with a rope, which had been made fast to the steamer. The boat and its occupant were carried ashore by the waves and it was driven well up on the rocks and its occupant managed to effect a landing. He tied the end of the rope to a rock and the crew managed to land in a dory, holding on to the rope until they operations of the packing house combination.

had reached the shore. In this way all

were saved.

Gerrand's Island, on which the men landed, is uninhabited. The snow was deep and the cold intense. The men dragged a dory over the island, which is three ged a dory over the island, which is three gut. September 1. The men dragged and the state of the gut. September 1. The men dragged a dory over the island, which is three gut. Steamer Struck Rocks in a Blinding and one-half miles wide, to the gut separating it from the mainland. Reaching the mainland the men found shelter.

## LOBSTER FISHERS DROWNED TUESDAY

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 22.—(Special)—Alfred Nickerson and Geo. Colvill, two lobster fishermen, were drowned near Clark's Harbor today by the capsizing of their dory. They went out to overhaul their trawls and were never afterwards seen. Their dory was found bottom up this afternoon. Nickerson leaves a widow and three children and Colvill a widow and large family.

A Lesson in Politaness.

While Louis XII was still Duke of Ortinued and in the darkness the crew heard the roar of the water as it broke on the of this treatment, the duke called the ed impossible. Fortunately, the waves caused the vessel to heel over and make sidered the most recognition to the darke called the