

THE TWICE-WEEK HERALD IS PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY, FROM THE OFFICE, CORNER QUEEN AND ROBERT STS., FREDERICTON, N. B., BY THE HERALD PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., LTD.

THE HERALD. TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1900.

THE CANADIAN CONTINGENTS.

It is somewhat difficult to follow the movements of the Canadian soldiers in South Africa, and perhaps a few words of explanation of how the first and second contingents are brigaded will assist the readers of the Herald in keeping track of our boys.

The first Canadian contingent which is composed exclusively of infantry, is in a brigade commanded by Gen. Smith-Dorrien, and the division commander over him is Gen. Colville, so when it is mentioned in the despatches that Smith-Dorrien's brigade has engaged the enemy or is moving in this or the other direction, we may be reasonably sure that the first Canadians are having a part in the fray of the movements.

The second Canadian contingent, consisting of the first and second battalions of Mounted Rifles, the Strathcona Horse, and D and E Batteries of Artillery, are in General Ian Hamilton's division, and their brigade commander is Gen. Hutton.

The first Battalion of Canadians, under Col Leesead includes the Mounted Rifles from the eastern provinces, and the second battalion is the North West Mounted Police under Col. Herchmer. Col. Steele commands the Strathcona Horse, D battery of artillery was enlisted at Ottawa and is commanded by Major Herdman, and E battery which includes the lower province men, is in command of Capt Ogilvie.

Brave Captain Pelletier of Quebec, who in the delirium of fever in Wynberg hospital fought over again the battle of Paardeberg, shouting "Forward Canadians," is now invalided to England, and his fellow countrymen sincerely trust he will speedily recover from his disability. Capt. Pelletier has proved his loyalty and that of his fellow French Canadians.

The Boer peace delegates before leaving Holland for America, issued an appeal to the United States to stop the South African war. Our Yankee friends are not likely to heed the appeal, but if the Boers will elucidate some scheme by which the war in the Philippines can be terminated, they will be sure of an enthusiastic reception in the neighboring republic.

Lord Roberts has commenced his main advance towards Pretoria and seems to be making good progress. In the very front ranks of the invading army are the Canadian mounted rifles under Gen. Hamilton whose movements are mentioned in the despatches to-day. We would not be surprised if he is a Canadian who first plants the British flag in Pretoria.

Mr. Blair and Mr. Tarte are getting a rest while the St. John Sun, Moncton Times and other Tory newspapers are abusing Mr. Tweedie for leaving the Tory ship.

The Empire day proceedings in the public schools, May 23, will sharpen the loyalty of the boys and girls for the royal celebration of the Queen's birthday.

Sir Chas Tupper's insurance scheme for Canadian soldiers serving in South Africa, has not yet contributed a cent for the relatives of those killed in battle.

The gallant conduct of the Mounted Canadians in Saturday's fighting is mentioned in Lord Roberts' despatches. We are helping the old land to make history.

Col. Otter is nursing his wounds at Bloemfontein, and Col. Buchanan is in command of the first Canadian contingent.

St John Market Quotations. Following were the ruling prices in the St. John market, Monday, May 7.

Table with market prices for various goods like Beef, Pork, Butter, etc.

BORN. In this city, May 4th, to Mr and Mrs W A Gibson, a daughter.

OTTAWA LETTER

Echoes of The Recent Fire.

HELP FLOWING IN FROM ALL DIRECTIONS.

Tories Still Pounding Away at the Preferential Tariff.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Ottawa, May 4th, 1900—Parliament re-assembled on Tuesday afternoon, after an adjournment from the preceding Tuesday, owing to the fire. One of the first acts of the members was to vote \$100,000 in aid of the sufferers, and \$41,000 for the immediate reconstruction of two bridges that had been destroyed, and the Hull Post Office.

The size of this appropriation will afford some notion of the disastrous nature of the fire and the misery and want that it has brought to thousands of people in Ottawa and Hull. It is not remembered that the Dominion Government never made a contribution towards the sufferers by any calamity which has occurred in Canada. It was fortunate for the many victims that their trouble came upon them at a time when the Dominion treasury was full, and that the members of Parliament were able with their own eyes to measure the extent of the disaster.

One of the strong compensating features of this disaster is the proof which it has brought of the sympathetic connection which prevails among all parts of Dominion. The call for help has been responded to by every city in Canada and by at least three of the Provincial Governments. Another feature which is full of encouragement is the aid which has come from England. At this moment of writing the subscriptions at the Mansion House at London reach close upon \$100,000, and messages of condolence have been received from Her Majesty and from distinguished persons.

Lord Strathcona has sent \$25,000, Lord Mount Stephen \$30,000 and the Earl of Derby \$5,000. Several commercial corporations doing business in Canada have also responded generously.

It is worthy of remark that large donations have also come from the United States, in money, in food and clothing and in the loan of machinery for some of the industries that were destroyed. At this time it looks as if the relief fund would reach nearly \$1,000,000 and this will be sufficient not only to relieve the immediate wants of the homeless and destitute, but to lay the foundation for the restoration of the houses which have been burned. The sufferers are for the most part laborers and artisans who have been left without a dollar of means, very little insurance, and their livelihood taken away in the destruction of the mills. Wisely expended the money available will enable the commissioners to re-build 1,500 suitable houses, superior in sanitary provisions and general convenience to those which were wiped out, and ensure greater safety for the future.

This plan, of course, is based upon contributions in small instalments from the sufferers, so that the properties will be complete in time without making them feel that they have been a burden on the recipients of charity. All this, however, remains to be developed.

One cannot help but admire perseverance even in a bad cause. For weeks the Opposition have been hammering away on the budget, developing nothing new and saying nothing that was interesting, and yet after the short recess of four or five days they returned to their cold porridge with an eagerness that might have deceived a casual visitor into the belief that they relished it. What they are really doing is simply to mark time until all danger of an election in June is past. That danger does not exist some time ago; but such is the dread of the Conservatives of an appeal to the country, and so strong is the hope that something may turn up to their advantage, that they hang on with a grim doggedness which, while it is annoying to those who would like to see the business of the House disposed of and is costly to the country, cannot but be admired as an object lesson in pertinacity.

The burden of all this talk by the Tories is without a single element of novelty to relieve the monotony of the daily debates. They still argue that England should not receive a preference from us unless she is willing to give a preference in return. Little by little this line of reasoning leads them into an attitude of stronger hostility to the Empire, and, strange to say, they accompany their anti-imperialism with many reproaches upon the loyalty of Liberals. It will be seen that they are thus playing a very funny double game, although it is very difficult to see what they can possibly accomplish by it. The Scriptural axiom that one cannot serve two masters is equally applicable to politics. The Conservatives cannot oppose a preference on the ground that it is not mutual, and yet claim that they are doing this in a spirit of super-loyalty to Great Britain. Nor can they get sensible people to believe that England is being humbugged on one hand, and that Canadian industries are menaced on the other.

The old logic of events continues to be against the Tories. The returns of exports and imports for the nine months of the fiscal year up to the end of March show an aggregate trade of \$75,632,510 against \$23,682,353 for the same period of 1899, an increase of \$39,970,163. Imports for the nine months amounted to \$135,639,293, as compared with \$112,760,006, and exports to \$139,973,223 as against \$122,572,347. For the month of March alone the increase over March 1899, in exports is about \$2,000,000, and in imports over \$2,000,000. The customs revenue in the nine months also shows a development of \$3,265,030. This promises to be by all odds the most remarkable year in the history of the Dominion, and it would not be surprising if the increase in trade for the entire twelve months amounted to nearly as much as the increase for the entire 18 years of Co servative rule.

The bank statement tells the same story for March that it has done for many months past. In all important respects it shows large growth, except in overdue debts, which are now not half as large as they were in 1896. As compared with the month of March last year the deposits have increased by \$22,000,000, and the discounts, which indicate the measure of commercial activity, by \$39,000,000. The money in circulation is larger by \$5,000,000, and the business with foreign banks was doubled. The entire situation in this regard points to continued prosperity and business enterprise.

Much ado has been made by the Conservative press over the price of coal oil. It is thought to be good party tactics

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