

## STEAMERS, ETC.

## EAST-RN STEAMSHIP COY.

International Division.

## WINTER REDUCED RATES.

Reduced Rates in effect until May 1, 1903. St. John to Boston, \$10.00. Commencing March 15, 1903, Steamers Three and Four, for Boston direct, leaving St. John on Wednesdays at 8.00 a. m. For Boston direct, leaving St. John on Saturdays at 8.00 a. m. From Boston, Mondays and Fridays at 8.15 a. m. Through tickets on sale at principal railway stations and baggage checked to destination.

WILLIAM G. LEE, Agent, St. John, N. B. A. H. HANCOCK, G. P. & T. A. CALVIN AUSTIN, V. P. and Gen. Manager, Foster's Wharf, Boston, Mass.

## TO LET.

Advertisements under this head: Two words for one cent each time, or three cents a word for ten times. Payable in advance.

TO LET—Flat No. 2, Chipman's Hill, Can. Can be seen Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Apply to MRS. FOTHERBY, 10 University street, containing 9 rooms. Can be seen Tuesday and Friday, MRS. SMITH, 10 University street.

TO LET—A small, self-contained flat of 4 rooms, patent closet, etc., situated 30 Lombard street. Rent \$6.00 per month. Apply to WATERBURY & RISING, 61 King street.

TO LET—One self-contained flat containing 4 rooms. Modern improvements. Apply to WM. HUMPHREYS, 118 St. James street.

FOR SALE OR TO LET—The Leasehold Premises fronting No. 80 on Elm street, Charlotte street, in the occupation of James W. Lee, A. C. FAIRWEATHER, Solicitor.

TO LET—From 1st May next, fine flat No. 10 Cedar street, 129 rooms, rent moderate. Can be seen Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 3 to 5 o'clock. Enquire of C. W. SEGGS, Esq., on the premises. Also money to loan on satisfactory security. Enquire of BURNETT & PORTER, 109 Prince William street.

TO LET—From 1st May next, large shop on Mill street. Also flat No. 129, rent moderate. Can be seen Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 3 to 5 o'clock. Enquire of C. W. SEGGS, Esq., on the premises. Also money to loan on satisfactory security. Enquire of BURNETT & PORTER, 109 Prince William street.

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## ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 1, 1903.

## WILDCAT SCHEMES.

Manitoba and the Northwest are in some danger of being over-exploited in the mother country. There is a temptation for unscrupulous speculators to boom projects which have not the essential basis of hard fact. An illustration of this appears, if we may believe the commissioner of agriculture for the territories, in the prospectus of "The British-American Wheat Raising Co., Ltd.," which has its offices in Montreal. The prospectus says that the company's lands will produce 30 bushels of the best wheat to the acre. The Hon. Dr. Elliott, the commissioner, says this is not true.

"In 1888," he says, "the average yield per acre throughout the Northwest Territories was 13.1 bushels per acre; in 1891 it rose to 13.2; in 1900 there was a big drop to 9.75; in 1901 there was a big jump up to 25.37, and last year the figure was 22.80. The Northwest Territories is a wheat-growing district and offers splendid opportunities to hundreds of thousands of people to build up comfortable homes; but I am obliged to say that, during the last five years, the crop of the Territories has only been in the neighborhood of 20 bushels to the acre. Anyone who knows anything about wheat-growing knows that is considered a magnificent yield."

The company's prospectus says that steam plowing can be done for \$1 per acre. Hon. Dr. Elliott says \$5 would be nearer the real cost. And so he goes through the list, showing that the company figures the yield too high and the cost far too low.

"We are very anxious," he says, "to have settlers come into the country, but we do not want capital to be wasted on any wild schemes. Every dollar invested in this company is an injury to the Northwest. The money will not come into the country and the losers will denounce the country where they will imagine they have lost their money."

Fortunately a London paper has shown up the statement of the company in question, so that investors are not likely to risk much money in its venture. It is nevertheless unfortunate that there should be even a possibility of having the country prejudiced through the reckless ambition of promoters of what are well termed wild-cat schemes.

THE FIGHTING BROTHERS.

Neither of the two officers lately made vacant in the customs house is of anything like the importance it was when established. It was fair and right that the late occupants of the offices should not be disturbed. But the work could now be done at a very much less cost to the country. There is no excuse for giving to new appointees the large salaries previously paid. There is now a most unseemly squabble going on over these two offices, and the minister of railways is being fervently assailed by the friends of the rival claimants. Perhaps the best thing to do would be to reduce the salaries to a low figure, and thus cool the ardor of the office seekers, while exercising at the same time a creditable degree of economy. The quarrel appears to have developed something of the character of a religious war. The friends of the Protestant claimant say that as the government has already appointed twice as many Catholics as Protestants to office in the customs house the present would be a good time to inaugurate the system of permitting a Protestant to succeed a Protestant, and vice versa. This would appear to be a case for the armed intervention of the local "war office."

THE ONTARIO SCANDAL.

The Montreal Gazette thus arraigns the Ross government of Ontario:

"The Ontario legislature has decided to refer the investigation of the Gamey charges to a commission. The majority was five. It included the six ministers, who, as members of the government, are practically under indictment. Without the ministers' votes on an issue that involves the ministers' honor, if not their continuation in power, they would have been defeated or have had to depend on the speaker to save them from immediate resignation. This would be an awkward situation at any time. It is unseemly and improper when the issue is one involving the moral fitness of ministers to direct the affairs of the province. It is a good rule that a government shall have a majority on all matters greater than the number of the ministers who compose it. To break such a rule in order to create a court to try themselves is about the worst scandal in the record of Ontario's liberal administrations, which began as the outcome of an intrigue, have continued as the result of jobs and gerrymanders, a non-secret ballot, a corruption machine and legislative interference with the procedure and judgments of the courts, and promise to end because of the exposure of a crime against the independence of legislators such, at least, as has not been publicly exposed in Canada, and is only associated in the public mind with Tammany and the notoriously rotten legislatures of Illinois and Delaware."

GENERAL.

Hon. John Costigan moved his home rule resolution in the house of commons yesterday. Contrary to what was generally expected, it was supported by both Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Borden, and was adopted by a vote of 102 to 41.

## HARMONY HALL.

Which Relates to the Status of Fellow McDeade.

There was a full house at Harmony Hall, it was a face-mill of a famous meeting in McLaughlin's Hall, although that did not occur to some of the fellows till afterward. There was some surprise, of course, at the very large attendance. At the first there was a fierce fight in progress over two vacant offices was accepted as the explanation. Everybody knew that everybody was after a job.

As a matter of fact, the crush was due to quite another affair. The War Office was to report on the status of Fellow McDeade.

The report was brief and to the point. It stated that a court martial had been held and Fellow McDeade convicted of high treason and indifference to the war. The penalty was instant expulsion from the order.

And then bedlam broke loose. The cheers of the partisans of the War Office were drowned in the howls of the supporters of Fellow McDeade. It took the President a good fifteen minutes to restore order. When he had done so, the fellows arose and moved for a resolution amending the motion for expulsion.

"Whereas, Fellow McDeade is in the same boat with Fellow Ellis, Fellow Sears, Fellow Morriess of Northumberland, Fellow Turgeon of Gloucester, and thousands of other fellows of good repute;

"Therefore resolved, that Fellow McDeade be not expelled from this order, but retained in honorable membership, and offered the first big, fat office that falls within the gift of this order, on the single condition that he keep his own counsel, and keep the enemy guessing."

The President put the motion, and to the great amazement and discomfiture of the War Office it was adopted by a large majority.

Fellow McDeade expressed his thanks, and the meeting adjourned to the yard, where a free fight progressed until the War Office was completely routed.

MISS ROBBINS DEAD.

After a brief illness from pneumonia, Miss Mary Robbins of the Telegraph reporting staff, died at one o'clock this morning. Her death has brought sincere and deep sorrow not only to the hearts of all the newspaper people of St. John with whom she had always been a favorite, but also to a great number of clerics in every branch of life in this city.

Miss Robbins was born at the Joggins, Cumberland Co., N. S., and early in life removed with her family to Springfield. Here she began her newspaper work. As a descriptive writer she has often shown marked ability, notably in connection with the Doherty murder and the trial of Frank Higgins.

Her place in the ranks will be some time filling. Her place in the affections of those who worked beside her will be empty far longer. None who knew her for the companionable, big-hearted woman she was, but will hold her always in affectionate remembrance. She died as she had lived, an earnest, faithful member of the Catholic Church.

Miss Robbins' surviving relatives are two sisters, Mrs. Kerrigan of Portland, Me., and Mrs. James Hennessey of Springfield, and three brothers, Michael, William and Henry of Springfield. The body will today be taken to Springfield for interment.

AGED NEW BRUNSWICKER DEAD.

E. S. Secord, of Bath, Carleton Co., was in St. John yesterday on his way home from Penobscot where he had been attending the funeral of his father, Caleb Secord. Mr. Secord, who was 87 years old, went to Penobscot two weeks ago to visit his son, H. S. Secord. While there he was taken with an illness from which he died last Sunday. He leaves besides the two sons mentioned, three others, A. B. and Caleb Secord, of St. John, and Rev. C. E. Secord, of California; three daughters also survive him, Mrs. Gillespie, of Birch Hill, Tobique; Mrs. Mary E. Blake, of Lewistown, Me., and Mrs. Ruth Crane, of Bath.

DEATH OF MRS. W. A. WELLS.

Word was received yesterday of the sudden death of Mrs. W. A. Wells, relict of W. Allen Wells of Bayfield, N. B., in Brooklyn at the home of her son, Dr. Joseph Wells. She leaves a family of two sons, Dr. Joseph Wells of Brooklyn and Horatio Wells of Portland, Oregon, and two daughters, Mrs. Edgett of New York and Mrs. Fred Harper of Seattle. Her death leaves but one surviving sister, Mrs. Ed. Young of Calais. The remains will be brought by tonight's express from Boston to interment beside her husband in Bayfield.

KENT CO. POISONING.

RICHIBUCTO, N. B., March 31.—A wholesale attempt at poisoning is reported from Rexton, three miles above here. Mrs. Johnston, wife of Thomas Johnston, who recently moved to Rexton from Ductouche, served the family with a mixture of preserves and Paris green for breakfast on Monday morning. The husband and eldest daughter did not partake of any, but Mrs. Johnston and two children did and to-night they are reported in a critical condition.

WANTED.—A case of Headache that KIMFORD POWERS will not cure in from ten to twenty minutes.

## MORNING'S NEWS.

Str. Gammen has been chartered to load deals at West Bay for W. C. Englund at \$12, 6d.

East Trinidad loads lumber at Ship Island for Santos at \$11.

Jas. J. Baxter, secretary treasurer of the Bartenders' International League, will represent that body at the eleventh general convention, which will be held at Philadelphia, Pa., May 11th.

At the meeting of the N. B. Historical Society last night, Secretary Clarence Ward read an interesting paper on "The First Council of St. John," which met May 30, 1785.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and in the Catholic churches will, outside of the usual masses, be observed by the Blessing of the Palms, at the various churches in the diocese.

Portland Lodge, Sons of England, will celebrate St. George's day by a musical and literary entertainment to be given at the lodge room, Orange Simon street. Invitations will be extended to the members of the lodge and their friends.

The closing entertainment of the Y. M. C. A. Boys' Branch will be held in the rooms on Friday evening. An interesting programme has been arranged. The committee invite the parents and others interested to call in during the evening.

David Johnstone and John Wark left Weyford Monday evening for Arcadia, Assiniboia, taking with them six fine horses, thirteen cattle, farm machinery and household goods and lumber for building purposes. Their many friends were sorry to see them go, and wish them well. Several others are expected to follow next week.

George H. Andrews, for the past year in the employ of P. W. Daniel & Co., severed his connection with that firm last evening. Before leaving he was presented by his fellow employees with a fountain pen. Mr. Dolg made the presentation. Mr. Andrews replied briefly. He will leave on the C. P. R. Monday evening for Calgary.

The frame of Fiewelling's new saw mill at Hampton is partially erected and in the dry house have been installed four box making machines and a planer.

At a meeting yesterday of the council of the New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society the by-laws were partially amended to permit of the enforcement of the rule that all drug store proprietors be registered with the council.

The meetings being held in the Coburg street Christian church by Evangelist Robbins are deepening in interest. Seven persons have decided to join the church and are preparing to follow. Services each night at 8 o'clock.

Alexander Temple of Honor hall, Main street, is about to change hands. The sale is being consummated in the name of Alexander Temple of Honor and George Murphy. A new hall will be erected on Main street, about opposite St. Luke's Episcopal church and on the Count de Bury property.

Rev. Mr. Gosselin has gone to Alberton, P. E. I., to relieve the Rev. William Howard, for the balance of the conference year.

The takers of the religious census visited 8,500 families, and the city S. S. Association is very much gratified with the work done. It is believed much good will result.

W. R. Montgomery, son of John Montgomery of Carleton, is manager of the Bank of Montreal of New York city and has won a high reputation in banking circles there.

Forty-three Englishmen who came out on the Lake Erie, and who claim that they were injured to come here by the Dominion Steel Co. of Sydney, are stranded, as the Steel Company declines to give them tickets to Sydney or have anything to do with them. The immigration authorities are a little puzzled as to what they shall do with these young men, who claim to be without funds.

PROVINCIAL.

The lumber cut at St. Martins was considerably smaller than had been expected. The operators had to stop work much sooner than usual.

In the provincial legislature yesterday the list of shareholders of the department was strongly denounced by Mr. Morrissey, and the agricultural and mining policy by Mr. Grimmer. Both of these new opposition members proved themselves to be able debaters, and senty leading Hon. Dr. Pugsley, who was leading the house, and who thought it necessary to interrupt them many times.

GOLD KING MINE.

BOSTON, March 31.—There was a meeting in Boston today of the Gold King Consolidated Mining Company, a corporation in which much New Brunswick capital is invested.

The reports of the various officers showed that the mines owned by the company are developing splendidly and it was announced that there is a one per cent dividend for the three months ending February 28, and a special one per cent dividend for the same period.

It was decided to add \$25,000 to the reserve fund, thus making it \$75,000. The New Brunswick people at the meeting were George West Jones, Capt. E. C. Elkin, F. A. Jones and Charles T. Bailey of St. John, and J. T. Whitlock and John D. Chipman of St. Stephen.

THE DALHOUSIE ROBBERY.

DALHOUSIE, N. B., March 31.—The adjourned hearing of Johnson on the charge of sending a poisoned candy through the mails, was resumed today.

R. A. Lawlor, on behalf of the attorney general, stated it was the intention of the crown not to proceed further at this time with the preliminary examination, that a bill of indictment would be preferred before the grand jury at the August term of the circuit court. This was done to avoid the enormous expense of having the witnesses, six in number, from northern Ontario to two occasions.

THE WINDING LEDGES DAM.

A special committee of the Winding Ledges dam heard further testimony yesterday. A very strong delegation from Madawaska is arguing in favor of the dam, which they claim will be of great benefit to that county. Today a delegation from the St. John River Log Driving Co. will again be heard in opposition.

## Manchester, Robertson, Allison, Limited.

## SPECIAL FOR EASTER.

## Ladies' Silk Blouses.

Many very beautiful and distinctly new styles of Silk Blouses are on display in our Silk Room, Second Floor.

WHITE SILK BLOUSES, lace insertion, \$4.50.

WHITE SILK BLOUSES, plaiting and lace insertion, \$4.25.

WHITE SILK BLOUSES, with tucking and hemstitching, \$4.75.

BLACK SILK BLOUSES, with tucking and hemstitching, \$4.75.

BLACK SILK BLOUSES, tucked and plaited, \$5.75.

LIGHT BLUE SILK BLOUSES, with tucking, hemstitching and white lace insertion, \$5.75.

PINK SILK BLOUSES, with tucking, hemstitching and white lace insertion, \$5.75.

WHITE SILK BLOUSES, with tucking, hemstitching and lace insertion, \$5.75.

BLACK, WHITE, PINK, LIGHT