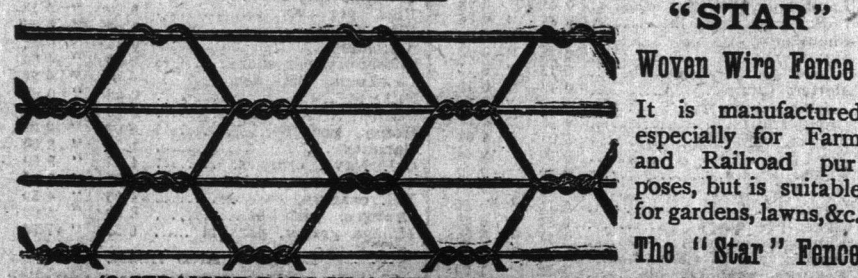


SENSIBLE, USEFUL AND BENEFICIAL Presents For Christmas

Captivating New Ties, in 4-in-hand Bows, Ascots and made-ups—Handkerchiefs, All Colors and prices, White Initial—Scarfs, Silk in varied colors—Gloves, in every variety—Umbrellas, Canes, fancy—Watches, American—Waterproof Coats, guaranteed—Clothing, none better. Prices are low at

FRASER, FRASER & CO.'S, ...CHEAPSIDE.
40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

60 CENTS WILL BUY 16½ FEET OF 4 FEET HIGH.



IS STRAIGHT BARS IN A HEIGHT OF 4 FEET

Is the Farmer's Best Friend!

MANUFACTURED BY THE
WIRE FENCE MANUFACTURING CO.,
ST. JOHN N. B.

A. J. MACHUM, Manager. E. B. KETCHUM, Secretary

OTTAWA.

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—The friendly negotiations which have been going on between the minister of customs and the secretary of the United States treasury looking to an amicable arrangement for the transport of goods in bond over the Canadian and American territory into the Klondike and Alaska gold fields respectively have resulted in an understanding being reached which will obviate friction at entry ports. Under arrangement, the Americans will be allowed to transport goods destined for Circle City in bond over the Canadian passes and down the Yukon river, while the goods destined for the Canadian gold fields will be bonded through to the boundary from Dica and Skagway.

Postmasters are notified of the necessity of vigilance in order to prevent newspapers sent free to subscribers, or sample copies, being made the vehicle for the free conveyance of circulars, hand bills, etc. Any edition of a paper found to contain such illegal enclosures is to be detained until the postage at the rate of one cent per four ounces to each address has been paid on the whole.

An awful catastrophe took place this morning up Friel street, near Clarence. Fire caused the death of Patrick T. Leahy and his five young children. The fire started in a rooming house, and in spite of a prompt response from the reels and hose wagon it was deemed that the house was doomed. It was not, however, until the arrival of Capt. Prevost that it was learned the family, or the best part of them, were in the doomed building. The chief at once ordered the doors burst open, and himself made a rush into the house.

A terrible sight met his gaze. The stairway was burned down, and lying at the foot was the body of an apparently ten-year-old girl, burned to a crisp. It took but a short time to get the fire under control, but it was evident from the smoke and fire that no hopes remained of finding anything, but charred remains. Such proved to be the case, the body of the father and the other four children being found in the bedrooms, from which their escape was cut off.

From what could be learned it appeared that the husband had been for some time showing signs of mental derangement, or so it appeared to the neighbors, and was in the habit of wandering around the house at night with a lamp.

This morning, it is supposed, he dropped the lamp and the whole house was almost immediately in flames. Mrs. Leahy tried to quench the flames, but was unable to succeed, and after exhausting her efforts in that direction had barely time to escape from the house with one child.

The bodies were removed to Gaultier's morgue. Those of the children were so terribly burned as to be unrecognizable. An inquest will be held. Sir Richard Cartwright gives emphatic denial of the report sent out to the liberal papers that Peterson, Tate & Co. have failed to finance their last Atlantic project.

Ottawa, Dec. 19.—The Washington authorities having given to the press the correspondence which has passed between Premier Laurier and General Foster, it may be of interest to publish the original offer made by Gen. Foster. The protocol reads as follows: At a conference on November 16th with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Louis Davies and Mr. Adams, of the British embassy, Gen. Foster proposed: First, that the governments of Great Britain and the United States agree at once to a modus vivendi providing for a complete suspension of the killing of seals in all waters of the Pacific ocean and Behring sea for one year from December, 1897, and for the suspension of all killing of seals on the Pribilof Islands for the same period.

Second—That the British ambassador on the other part, shall, with as little delay as possible, take up for consideration, with a view to settlement by means of treaty stipulations, the fur seal question, the protection of fish in the waters of rivers and lakes contiguous to the United States and Canada, the subject of reciprocal emigration, commercial reciprocity or any other unsettled question between the United States and Canada, which either of the governments may see proper to bring forward.

The members of the government are more than astonished at the action of

this great railway had wiped out the deficiency which it was yearly causing in revenue.

ST. HYACINTHE, Dec. 17.—A sudden death under peculiar circumstances occurred at St. Denis, on the Richelieu river, last night. Six men, seven men armed with guns surrounded the house of an old man named Major, demanding admittance. The old man was so much alarmed that he dropped dead on the floor. The trouble was caused by a friction over the possession of the house, in which the old man lived.

MONTREAL, Dec. 19.—La Minerve, the only French morning newspaper in Montreal, has suspended publication after an existence of nearly fifty years.

W. C. McDonald, the millionaire tobacco manufacturer, whose gifts to McGill University already aggregate nearly three million dollars, has just given an additional \$250,000 to the institution. Fifty thousand of this sum is to be used as an endowment fund strengthening the law faculty, and the remaining two hundred thousand is for the scientific department, in the building of which his previous donations have been principally used.

QUEBEC, Dec. 20.—The World-Letter lectured here tonight before the Quebec section of the provincial bar. MONTREAL, Dec. 20.—The Allan line is building a big passenger and freight boat to be called the "Allan". She will have a registered tonnage of 8,000, length 520 feet, beam 58 feet, making her about half as fast again as the Parisian. She will have a speed of fourteen knots and a half. She will have passenger accommodation for 150 cabin, 120 second cabin and 800 steerage, and will be ready for the beginning next season, and will run on the Liverpool-Montreal route.

Mr. Berthiaume, proprietor of Presse, has entered an action of twenty thousand dollars' damages against Hugh Graham, proprietor of the Star. The action is based on alleged false representations made by the Star concerning the circulation of Presse.

W. C. McDonald has announced another big gift to McGill University. He will give \$200,000 to further endow the science department, \$50,000 for law faculty, and also provide the salary for another professor of chemistry. The gift brings the total of Mr. McDonald's cash contributions to McGill up to one million four hundred thousand. Besides this he has given the university three magnificent buildings worth at least another million.

ONTARIO.

TORONTO, Dec. 17.—The Toronto office of the I. C. R. will be abolished. There is no necessity for the office here, the reason given. It is said a travelling network of inspectors with headquarters in Toronto, and that a couple of railway men who have been offered the position have refused it.

TORONTO, Dec. 20.—The Ontario government's bill laying down a new policy on the timber question was introduced in the legislature today. The bill provides that after April 30th of next year, no person shall be allowed to cut timber on lands owned by the government unless he has been in the province. The measure is intended as a retaliation against the timber laws of the United States. The bill also provides for the two dollar rate on lumber.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Dec. 20.—A terrible gale swept this island yesterday and did immense damage to the fishing establishments and vessels at all the coast settlements. Twelve schooners were blown ashore in Green Bay and became total wrecks and several others were badly damaged in collisions. It is feared that the fleet from Gloucester and the herring fleet now leading in Gloucester Bay have been seriously buffeted by the storm.

MARINE MATTERS.

Barkin, Ramona has arrived at Mumbles, in the quick time of about 10 hours. Sch. Winder, from Boston for Harrington, before reported ashore on Richmond's Island, went to pieces on the 14th, and is believed to have been blown into by and scattered. Sch. Alert, from Mayaguez and Aguadilla, was ashore off Marcus Hook on the night of the 15th, and is believed to have been scattered and damaged, and is also believed to have been blown into by and scattered.

The following is from the armory Telegram of the 18th: "Tug Marina went ashore in the quick time of about 10 hours. Sch. Winder, from Boston for Harrington, before reported ashore on Richmond's Island, went to pieces on the 14th, and is believed to have been blown into by and scattered. Sch. Alert, from Mayaguez and Aguadilla, was ashore off Marcus Hook on the night of the 15th, and is believed to have been scattered and damaged, and is also believed to have been blown into by and scattered."

The shipbuilding industry is reviving in Digby. The large schooner laid in Burdell's yard. The dimensions are: Length of keel, 56 feet; length of hold, 10 feet; breadth of beam, 27 feet. A large number of men are employed in the shipyard. The ship will be completed in the spring on the opposite side of the river. The following particulars have been received regarding the collision between the schooner, Eric and Clavay, in Portsmouth harbor: During a heavy blow on the night of the 14th, schooner, Eric, from St. John, N. B., for New York, and schooner, Clavay, from Boston, both lumber laden, were in collision in the lower harbor. The anchors of the former failed to hold, and the stern round, crashing into the Clavay, carrying away davit, and part of rail. The Eric was slightly damaged.

VINEYARD HAVEN, Mass., Dec. 19.—Sch. Greyhound, from Boston for New York, with cargo of plaster, while passing through Vineyard Sound this morning, misted sails and went ashore on Popple Island. The schooner was wrecked, and the cargo of plaster was lost. The schooner was carrying a full cargo of plaster, and was bound for New York.

The work of reloading cargo in British steamer Bencory, at Halifax, commenced on the 18th, and it was expected that work would be pushed on rapidly. The schooner, Capt. J. W. Dunham, late of the wrecked schooner, was towed to the wharf, and the cargo of plaster was being reloaded. The schooner was carrying a full cargo of plaster, and was bound for New York.

Sch. Alert, at Philadelphia, from Porto Rico, before reported run into by a tow of the schooner, was wrecked. The schooner was carrying a full cargo of plaster, and was bound for New York. The schooner was carrying a full cargo of plaster, and was bound for New York.

Sch. British Star, which got ashore at Jeddah, N. S., last week on the voyage from Halifax to Port Hood, was subsequently wrecked. The schooner was carrying a full cargo of plaster, and was bound for New York. The schooner was carrying a full cargo of plaster, and was bound for New York.

The British Star will go to Jeddah for repairs.

MANCHESTER, ROBERTSON & ALLISON, St. John, N. B.

Dry Goods, Clothing, Carpets and Furniture.

Men's Ulsters.

Heavy Frieze, well lined,
Deep Storm Collars,
\$5.00, - \$6.00, - \$8.00.

Extra Qualities \$10.00, \$12.00.

Men's Reefers.

Grey Frieze, Deep Storm
Collars \$5.00.

Extra Quality Blue Beaver
\$7.50, \$10.75.

Men's Overcoats.

Blue Beaver \$8.25, \$10.00.
Black Beaver \$6.75, \$12.00.
Black Melton \$10.00, \$13.90.
Blue Melton \$13.90,
Dark Grey Cheviot \$15.00,

The best overcoats that can be produced
for the price.

Manchester, Robertson & Allison.

BOSTON LETTER.

New Evidence to be Submitted
in Herbert Fuller Case.

French Canadians are Not Rushing at
Sir Wilfrid's Call.

Gigantic Trust Controls Cape Breton Mines
—The Lumber and Fish Markets.

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Everything except local politics is giving way to the holiday trade. The warm weather has hampered the latter to some extent, but a cold wave reached this section tonight, and it looks as if it would have a taste of genuine December weather at last.

It is now said that the board of general appraisers will decide in favor of a ten per cent. discriminating duty on all goods imported by way of the Canadian railroads, notwithstanding that the attorney general placed different construction on the famous section, No. 23, of Mr. Dingley's tariff law. The matter, however, will be fought out in the courts, should the appraiser give a decision contrary to the finding of the attorney general.

There is a difference of opinion among railroad men what effect the extra ten per cent. duty would have on the Canadian roads. It is generally admitted that it would paralyze Portland and greatly injure the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk, Boston & Maine, and Maine Central roads. Most of the Canadian freight now sent to Europe through American ports would then go through Canada.

The visit of Mr. Fielding and Premier Murray of Nova Scotia to Boston this week to confer with the Dominion Coal company's officials regarding the close of the Cape Breton mines attracted some attention. Mr. Fielding was not allowed to forget the discussions in the Quebec wing of the liberal party, or rather the fight between the old liberals and opportunists, for the Boston papers found room for an account of the difficulty. The same day that Mr. Fielding affixed his signature to the register of Young's following head lines appeared in a conspicuous place in the Boston Transcript, one of the leading papers in the city: "Laurier's Rule Shaken. Langellier of Quebec in the Revolt Because Not Recognized by the Premier. Old-Time Liberals Reassert New Regime."

Trusts are rapidly increasing in the United States, and are threatening the legitimate business of the country to an alarming extent. Mr. Fielding can congratulate himself that through his munificence and statesmanship the Cape Breton coal mines are now controlled by an alliance of the standard old world-embracing octopus. The street railways of Boston and the hands of J. P. Morgan, millionaire capitalist of Wall street, and his friends. The sugar, oil, leather, rubber, iron, steel, glass, cordage, tobacco, whiskey, and glass industries have been controlled by single heads for some time, as has the best trade of the country. Within a month the wire, wood-working machinery, cracker, paper, flint bottle and nail manufacturers of the United

States have formed a combine of their respective interests. The French fish and raw cotton industries are also in the hands of a trust, and we even have a theatre trust. Added, Peabody & Co., bankers, announced that they have received \$27 to date in aid of the Windsor fire victims.

The attempt of the Canadian government to induce French-Canadians in New England to return to Canada is not meeting with much success at the present time. Manchester, Lowell, Woonsocket, and other centres where there are many French-Canadians report that there is no greater exodus to Canada than is usual at this season.

The ten per cent. reduction in the wages of the 28,000 operatives in Fall River cotton mills and of the 9,900 employees of the great Amesbury corporation of Manchester, Jan. 1, will affect a vast number of French-Canadians. In Fall River it is estimated that eight thousand of them are employed, and in Manchester five thousand. It is thought Thomas M. Bram, formerly mate of the barkentine Herbert Fuller, will not be convicted of murder at the trial of the famous case. The decision of the United States supreme court ordering a new trial was not unexpected, although no one looked for the case to hinge on the exception taken relative to the interviewing of Bram by the Boston Power at Halifax. It is rumored here that at the next trial new and startling testimony implicating a person other than Bram or the seaman Brown, the mate of Capt. Nash, Messrs. Nash and Second Mate Bamberg will be introduced. Bram's lawyers, Messrs. Cotter and French, will make another strong fight, and will have considerable new evidence.

Mrs. Melisabell M. Levers, formerly of Yarmouth, died in Somerville recently. One of her sons is a Baptist minister in the province. The following provincialists were in the city this week: John A. McAvity, J. M. McAvity, C. S. Holmes, St. John; M. Lodge, Moncton; Hon. W. S. Fielding, Hon. G. H. Murray, W. B. Ross, R. Drummond, Mr. and Mrs. D. Macken, Miss Burns, A. R. Prescott, Halifax. The following were the exports of flour, meal, etc., by water to the maritime provinces this week: 385 barrels flour, 60 bags do., 655 bags oats, 80 bags mill feed, 425 barrels cornmeal, bags mill feed, 425 barrels cornmeal, per M. J. Soley; 300 barrels flour, 400 bags do., 200 barrels cornmeal, 300 sacks middlings, to Bridgewater, per schooner Leopold; 200 barrels flour, 717 bags do., 300 barrels cornmeal, to Bridgewater, per schooner G. A. Smith; 300 barrels flour, 450 barrels cornmeal, to Bellefleur Cove and Meteghan; 600 barrels flour, 300 barrels cornmeal, 200 bags do., to Liverpool, N. S., per schooner Majestic; 200 barrels flour, 545 bags mill feed, 200 bags oats, 60 bags cotton seed meal, to Yarmouth, per steamer Boston; 76 barrels flour, 60 bags do., 80 bags middlings, to Bear River, per schooner Olivia; 320 barrels flour, 50 bags do., 480 bags mill feed, 30 bags oats, 750 barrels cornmeal, to Bridgewater, per steamer Jeanie Myrtle; 150 barrels flour, 225 barrels cornmeal, to Port Gilbert, per schooner Lizzy Dyer; 450 barrels flour, 300 do. cornmeal, to Lunenburg and Arichat, per schooner Secret; 4,200 bushels corn, to Halifax, per schooner Pelagus; 125 barrels cornmeal, to Clementsport, per schooner P. B. Hardwick; 400 barrels flour, 150 do. oatmeal, 350 do. cornmeal, to Baddeck.

There are always more ways of getting into the Klondike country than of getting out of it.

"EVERYTHING ENGLISH!"

What is the name of the country that at present leads the fashion in matters of art? One shakes the head when one hears "It is England!" In certain branches of art France certainly remains the great number one. But France has herself noticed the fact that her art supremacy somewhat faded, and must out of necessity across the Channel for other ideas and new forms. Also in France it is now "All English!" One has only to glance through an exhibition catalogue to perceive in every other line the words, "After the English original," "English style," "from English patterns."—Venezia Neue Freie Presse.

SCHOOL SCRIBBLER

GIVEN AWAY WITH EACH BOTTLE PURCHASED.