

ADMIRAL KEPPEL DEAD. The Oldest Naval Warrior in Britain's Fighting Line. Had Seen Active Service Under Five Sovereigns, and Won His Way to Renown by Hard Work.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, admiral of the fleet, is dead. He was born in 1809. LONDON, Jan. 18.—The death of Admiral Keppel, the "Father of the Navy" who retired from active service in 1870, but whose name has been kept at the head of the active list by a special order-in-council, as a mark of respect, is the occasion for extended obituaries in the newspapers this morning. All of them refer to his great age and the notable and varied service he had rendered and relates experiences he had had.

THERE ARE OTHERS. St. John Has Had Men Just Like Fred H. Bates.

KILLED BY BLOOD POISONING. AMHERST, Jan. 17.—Henry Hicks, whose arm was amputated on Monday evening last because of blood poisoning resulting from a small injury to the thumb, died on Saturday. He leaves a widow and three children—Walter of Boston, Mrs. David Clarke of Joggins Mines, and Annie, at home. He was a member of the Foresters.

BORDEN AND LAURIER Discussed Our Treaty Making Rights Last Night At the First Annual Banquet of the Canadian Club of Ottawa—Both Leaders Were Cheered.

OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—The first annual banquet of the Canadian Club of Ottawa was held tonight under the presidency of Col. Sherwood. Over one hundred guests were present. The guests included Lord Minto, Sir W. Laurier and Hon. R. L. Borden. Laurier incidentally referred to Canada's right to the treaty making power. A full discussion of the subject ought to be postponed for a few weeks, but he combatted the idea that the treaty making power involved a severance of the colonial tie. What ever of this power was necessary in the interests of Canada, of Australia and of all the self-governing colonies of the British Empire for the development of their own interests, the granting of such a power would simply strengthen the tie which bound us to the parent state. (Cheers.) He concluded with the fervent hope that the Canadian people would be united in furthering the interests of their common country.

RICHIBUCTO SNOWS. The Worst Storm of the Season—Sixteen Below Zero—House Burned.

RICHIBUCTO, N. B., Jan. 18.—The worst snow storm of the season prevailed yesterday and this morning. The citizens woke to find the snow piled up in drifts and the thermometer 16 below zero. A tenement house at Rexton owned by J. & T. Jardine and occupied by three families, was burned at an early hour yesterday morning. One of the occupants got up to have a smoke and discovered the house on fire. This, doubtless, saved all their lives. Dr. Von Hagen and Mr. Purdy of New York, collector and treasurer of the Beersville Coal Mine and Railway Co., spent yesterday in town, the guests of J. C. and Wilnot Brown.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA. Austria's Emperor Wakes up on the Side of Peace. The Czar Is Taking His Time, and Japan Does Not Expect an Answer for a Week—Everybody Marking Time.

VIENNA, Jan. 17.—During the presentation of the general circles at the court ball last evening Emperor Francis Joseph said to Ambassador Storoz: "I think that affairs are going to be better in the Far East. Everything will be arranged." He spoke in a similar hopeful strain to other members of the diplomatic corps. TOKYO, Jan. 17.—The Associated Press correspondent is reliably informed that Japan has received a Russian communication saying that Russia will respect the rights and privileges already acquired by the powers in Manchuria under existing treaties with China, excepting the establishment of foreign settlement and in so far as these rights and privileges are not prejudicial to Russia's future relations with Manchuria. These reservations are regarded as nullifying the value of the assurance.

VIOLENT FIRE. A Block in Wheeling, W. Va., Turned to Ashes.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 17.—In one of the most disastrous fires ever experienced in this city an entire block in the heart of the city's business district was tonight, within the space of one hour, reduced to ruins, entailing a loss of nearly \$300,000. The fire originated in the boiler room of the Wheeling Daily News and spread rapidly, entirely consuming the newspaper press building, the shoe store, and the night editor, Allen B. Smith, and his assistant, R. M. Archer, were compelled to jump from the second story window into the street, escaping with slight injuries. A few moments afterwards the six story walls collapsed. A hot box on the engine was the cause of the fire. The proprietors of the News carried but little insurance.

JOGGINS MINE FIRE. Said That the First Reports Were Somewhat Exaggerated.

JOGGINS, Jan. 18.—The fire at the Joggins on the 10th inst. occurred between the 2,500 and 3,100 ft. levels. The distance of the fire is about 40 feet. This fire is thoroughly closed and sealed up and cannot spread any farther. It is being flooded from the bottom up a distance of 100 feet, which will thoroughly extinguish it. It will take about 14 days to flood the lower level. At the end of that time the men can begin working in the 2,500 ft. level. The fire is not as serious as reported, and is insignificant in itself. But in view of the fact that gases accumulate in such workings, it is not considered judicious to operate the mine under these circumstances. Senator T. Burrows assures your correspondent that the mine will be in full operation within three weeks' time. The loss is light, and it is to be regretted that misleading statements have gone broadcast throughout the country, as the mine will be shortly in operation.

HALIFAX. Arrival of Steamers From Across the Atlantic.

HALIFAX, Jan. 17.—The Allen str. Sicilian, with 2 Canadian mails, arrived this evening from Liverpool. She has 205 passengers, of whom 140 are steerage. They will land here and proceed west. The str. Dominion also arrived this evening from Liverpool. Her passenger list is 190, of whom 68 are third class.

THE NEXT SPEAKER? OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—It is stated tonight that Mr. Belcourt, the Russian minister at Seoul, has notified the Korean government that Korean

IN ICY WATERS Of the Historic Mammoth Cave of Kentucky Eighteen Lives Saved by the Coolness of the Guide and Heroic Work of One of the Party.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 17.—Eighteen delegates to the convention of the National League of Commission Merchants were today thrown into the icy water of Echo River, which winds through Mammoth Cave, and were saved only by the coolness of the guide, John Nelson, and the heroic work of Charles A. Muehlbroemer of Pittsburgh, one of the party. Among the party was Miss Lucie Patch of Boston. The roof of the cave over Echo River is arched, and the space in the center, owing to an unaccountable rise in the river, was only two and a half feet above the water. In order to ensure the passage of the boat, the men and women were forced to stoop over. At one place the boat swerved to one side, raking the heads of the persons in the boat next to the bank. These leaned forward to escape striking their heads. This lowered on end of the boat and the water began to flow in rapidly. The guide saw the danger, and called to Mr. Muehlbroemer to jump and take the chain. This he did, landing on a steep bank, which offered only a slight foothold. Lying down on his face, he held to the chain and pulled the boat to the bank. The boat sank in eight feet of water, but further back there is no banking there is eighteen feet of water. By the light of a single lantern the party escaped by climbing over Mr. Muehlbroemer's prostrate form and waiting several hours for a boat, which brought them safely to daylight.

HALIFAX NEWS. HALIFAX, Jan. 15.—The transportation commission held its second and last session this afternoon. During the morning they were taken for a cruise along the water front and at the opening of the afternoon session, Chairman Bertram said he was surprised at the magnitude of the harbor. William Roche, M. P., gave statistics showing the growth of the trade of Halifax last year, and H. L. Chipman of the Plant Line advocated the extension of the railway down Water street to better serve the mile of wharves south of the present terminus. The speeches of the afternoon were delivered by W. J. Clayton, A. M. Campbell and A. M. Payne. Mr. Clayton suggested that the tariff be amended by the addition of a clause that the trade preference be granted only to British goods imported through Canadian ports, as such a step would vastly increase the trade of all Canadian ports and as more roads would be required to handle it, it would add greatly to the prosperity of Canada. Mr. Bell claimed that there was an unjust discrimination of freight rates in favor of St. John, and quoted figures that he thought supported his contention. He said that as the east is taxed so heavily for the construction of canals in the west to be operated without fee, as a recompense the I. C. R. should be run at a loss. Mr. Payne confined his remarks to the fact Atlantic line, and cited figures to show that were it in operation London would be within thirty days of Yokohama, whereas it is now 32 via the trans-Siberian road, and 34 by the Suez canal.

AN AUSTRALIAN TALKS. He Thinks Canada Has a Great Future.

Hon. Henry Copeland, of New South Wales, Will Sail From St. John on Saturday, Homeward Bound.

HALIFAX, Jan. 18.—Hon. Henry Copeland, agent general for New South Wales at London, from Victoria to Halifax, is in St. John, and is in favor of the scheme proposed by Sir Sandford Fleming for a free service on the Pacific cable, on the board of which he has a seat, except so far as this might lead to the production of revenue. He thinks Chamberlain's proposition a good one, and believes the people of

CLOTHING SALE BOOMING! Prices Cut 10 to 50 per cent. This Sale has been a Record Breaker. Better Values Offered, More Garments Sold than at any previous sale. Bargains in All Lines, Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefers, Men's Suits, Boys' 2 and 3-Piece Suits, Men's Pants.

J. N. HARVEY, MEN'S AND BOYS' CLOTHING, 199 and 201 Union Street, St. John. A SESSION BEFORE ELECTION Parliament of Canada Will Meet on Thursday, March 3rd.

There Will Be Several By-Elections in the Interim to Fill Vacant Seats—One in St. John City Among the Number.

OTTAWA, Jan. 16.—A proclamation will be issued today calling parliament for March 3. An official statement was given out on Friday evening that as certain modifications were asked by the Grand Trunk railway for the contract entered into last session, the premier had decided to ask his excellency to summon parliament. OTTAWA, Jan. 17.—It is noteworthy that in the official communication handed to the government press on Friday night it is said that the Grand Trunk Railway Co. has asked certain modifications of the contract entered into last session. It thus appears that the Grand Trunk Pacific Co. is not considered in the matter. The men constituting the G. T. P. find it utterly impossible to put their scheme through and henceforth the government will deal with the present company. One of the principal modifications asked by the Grand Trunk Co. is the right to utilize its American connections until the government's portion of the line is completed. In other words the sections east and west of Quebec will be the last completed and in the meantime the Grand Trunk would divert the products of the Canadian Northwest to United States roads and ports. This is the very contention which was put forth by the opposition in parliament, and it has not taken many weeks to justify their position. That the conservatives will resist to the uttermost the adoption of such an un-Canadian policy may be accepted as a settled fact. Opinion is divided here whether parliament will meet on February 26th or March 3rd. The Gatinneau district is still first favorite for location of the proposed big military camp. The minister of militia says it is the best to which his attention has been called so far. He had been expecting officers from both the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, but neither government had made a move of the afternoon. Blair is regarded as likely to make a capable chairman, but the choice of Prof. Mills, of the Guelph Agricultural College, and Mr. Bernier as his colleague, astonished everybody. Looking at the personnel of the commission as a whole people here are naturally enquiring where is the practical railway man and where is the representative of great commercial interests in Canada on the commission. Writs for ten by-elections will be issued simultaneously inside of ten days.

BLAIR NOW CHAIRMAN Of the Laurier Railway Commission on Big Pay. His Successor, Hon. H. R. Emmerson, Is Moving Homeward Under Escort of Mr. Turgeon, M. P.

(Special of the Sun.) OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—The earnings of the Intercolonial railway for the six months up to the first of January, show, it is said, a net improvement over last season amounting to \$195,244. In the passenger department the earnings were \$1,168,788, as against \$1,088,621 in the corresponding period of 1902. The number of passengers was 1,307,231, as against 1,238,797. Of freight there was carried 1,363,825 tons, as against 1,386,720 in 1902, but in spite of this decreased tonnage, the freight business yielded \$19,186 more than last year. The freight receipts totalled \$2,075,900. The carriage of mails yielded earnings of \$143,531, as against \$138,530 in 1902.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson, minister of railways and canals, leaves here on Wednesday for Moncton. Mr. Turgeon, M. P., will accompany him. The minister will wait over at Bathurst, where an address will be presented to him. A delegation from the Dominion bill posters' association waited upon the minister of customs today and asked for uniformity in rulings. The deputations had no objection whatever to the anti-poster law of last session. Two handsome moose heads were shipped to England today, to be placed in the regimental headquarters of the Gordon Highlanders as an evidence of the good will which existed between this famous regiment and the Canadians in South Africa. E. L. Borden arrived in Ottawa this morning and was warmly welcomed by the local conservatives. The aggregate of claims amounting in the aggregate to \$10,000 have been entered against the government for losses of express and mail packages which were in the post office building here at the time of the fire. Express packages were saturated with water, and no effort whatever, it is said, was made to protect them by the salvage cover.

trade always favors the flag or not, is ought to follow blood relationship, especially when, in many things, owing to difference in seasons, exchanges could be made between the two countries without doing any injury to the trade of either. He sails from St. John for London on Saturday.

It won't chop wood but Sargent's Gem Food Chopper will chop raw meat, cooked meat, vegetables of all kinds, fruit, crackers, bread, eggs, cheese, nuts, figs and other foods, and It will chop them all rapidly, easily, coarse or fine, in uniform pieces, without mashing, squeezing, tearing or grinding. W. H. Thorne & Co., Limited, St. John.

Ceylon