

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.
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ADVERTISING RATES.
Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper. Each insertion \$1.00 per inch.
Advertisements of Wills, For Sale, etc., to come for insertion of six lines or less. Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths \$5.00 for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Owing to the considerable number of complaints as to the mismanagement of letters addressed to the office of the Telegraph Publishing Company, we have decided to send money for the Telegram to do so by post office order or registered letter, in which case the remittance will be at our risk.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception, names of new subscribers will not be entered until the money is received. Subscribers will be required to pay for papers sent them, whether they take them from the office or not, and all arrears must be paid. There is no legal discontinuance of a newspaper subscription until all that is due is paid.

RULES FOR CORRESPONDENCE.
Be brief.
Write plainly and take special pains with names.
Attach your name and address to your communication as an evidence of good faith.
This paper has no room for anonymous contributions in this Maritime Province.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.
The following agents are authorized to canvass and collect for The Semi-Weekly Telegraph:
W. A. SOMERVILLE,
W. A. FERRIS.
Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 12, 1902.

THE SERIOUS SIDE.
There is a serious side to the charges made by Mrs. Tremblay concerning the general efficiency and management of the Public Hospital which should not be overlooked. This is not the first time that such charges have been freely circulated, but it is the first time that any one has come forward and offered to prove that such remains to make the conditions of this institution what they should be. It is likely to be the last. To allow the present opportunity to pass without a reasonable demand for the betterment of affairs is to permit a good enough principle to operate in an institution where the best is not good enough.

We believe the Hospital Commissioners are desirous of reforming conditions which the better informed among them privately admit are not such as should exist in a public institution for the care of the sick. It is unfortunate, therefore, that in this particular case they should have regarded themselves in the light of accused, when their proper position was rather that of judges anxious for the truth, or rather that of judges anxious to remove improper conditions from the department under their control. The commissioners cannot plan, and we believe rightly, that not sufficient funds are provided for the efficient carrying on of the hospital. It is the more to be desired that within reasonable limits the money they now control should be spent to the very best advantage, and that good service and courteous treatment should be to the inmates should be insisted upon, as well as the utmost cleanliness which is so important in a temporary home for the sick.

Complaints of the improper nature and of the improper preparation of the food supplied both to paying and non-paying patients have been frequent in the past, and the Telegraph has on more than one occasion brought these complaints quietly to the notice of one or other of the commissioners. The men who form the Hospital Commission are in earnest in their desire to give the best possible treatment to patients admitted, but the system has been greater than the men, and the result is the public notoriety and disrepute into which the hospital has undoubtedly fallen.

The present is the best time to remedy the errors of the past, and if we correctly estimate the men who compose the commission, they will not assume an obstinate disregard of facts, but will work unceasingly to the end of making the Public Hospital an institution above suspicion. The future will show whether we are correct. It is easy to disprove charges when there is no one present to give in the proof of them, and when even the press is excluded from such a place. We trust the commissioners will rise superior to the position which they assumed Friday evening in secret conclave. They held a serious trust from the people which in justice to themselves and the entire community they must discharge in a satisfactory manner.

HAVE FAITH IN OURSELVES.
The letter which we print in another column today on the natural advantages of St. John is a presentation of the matter which may seem new and possibly extravagant to St. John people because the people have become so familiar with the regular conditions that they do not regard them as anything remarkable. It is like a person living in a house with the same surrounding fields and the same scenery which he has been accustomed to from childhood, and which he has consequently failed to appreciate at its full value until a stranger happens along and expresses his

admiration in overflowing terms. Up till that time the owner of the property, reading of splendid places where money has been lavished elsewhere, has never doubted that such places must have greater advantages than his, and has never questioned that if his place had been considered valuable it would have been discovered long ago. He is apt to forget that in the days of his father there were no railway facilities to bring experienced strangers within sight of his place and that times have changed in recent years so that the experienced and appreciative stranger with a covetous eye for his fields and natural scenery has greatly multiplied, thereby adding new wealth to his natural possessions.

St. John is in no better natural position for business than it was a century ago, but business is in an infinitely better position to appreciate St. John now than then. Railways and steamers have multiplied transportation facilities, bringing commerce to our doors; connection with the other provinces has given us a greater area in which to readily command trade and from which to attract capital and labor; the present bounding growth of western Canada is giving us a tremendously greater market within ourselves for manufactures, and manufacturers have so developed in rising to the opportunity that they are steadily demanding the centres for establishment which can offer the best advantages of position, accessibility and other conditions essential to the greatest success in manufacturing.

That St. John possesses in a marked degree most valuable features in position and facilities such as manufacturers require, it is evidently the purpose of our correspondent to point out. He further intimates, and most advisedly, that it ought to be the pleasure and privilege of our people to highly prize these possessions and, to use a slang expression, "blow about them" until they are recognized in their true light and value by others. It may be added that it is undoubtedly the fact that one reason Upper Canadians and foreigners do not as yet fully appreciate our advantages is because they are ignorant of them through having heard so little about them. If the awakening of our people to a greater and more sincere optimism in regard to our possessions is in any degree accomplished by the letter of our correspondent, he will have conferred a great and lasting benefit upon St. John.

THE TIME QUESTION.
It seems a pity that the members of the city council had not made sufficient study of the time question so that they could have taken some decisive action on the petition of the Neptune Rowing Club, at their meeting on Friday last. Alderman Baxter, it appears, thought the whole question should be left open to decide what system was the best. The matter was consequently referred to the board of works to report upon. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the members of the board of works will take a little pains to inform themselves as to the actual feeling of the community upon the subject, so that they may be prepared to act without any further and unnecessary delay. It will not require very great labor on their part to discover that three systems of time are maintained at present in this city, eastern standard by the railways, Atlantic standard by the telegraph offices, and local St. John time (which is 24 minutes one way and 36 minutes the other way between the two) by the churches, schools, law courts, and most of the business houses. It will not require very much further investigation for them to discover, if they have already forgotten, that several years ago an endeavor was made to establish eastern standard as the popular time in the city, but it signally failed, and there is no reason why it would be found any more popular now. A very little further investigation will demonstrate to the board of works that Atlantic standard time is maintained by law throughout the provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Reference to the Canadian Almanac for the current year (page 39) will show that Atlantic standard time there is in the list of standard times designated for all places in the world, as International standard time, the time originally designated for the section of country traversed by the Intercolonial railway, and which is exactly four hours west of Greenwich time. But little further investigation will convince them that it will not be a difficult matter to have our railways revert to this proper Intercolonial time, if properly approached on the matter, as the Tourist Association have already to some extent ascertained. If the members of the board of works choose to spend a few minutes in conversation with tourists and travelers, they may likewise have their ears warmed with vociferous expressions of opinion about "rotten and incomprehensible antiquated nonsense in time business such as no other civilized city in Christendom would tolerate." And if they consult the members not only of the Neptune Rowing Club, but also of the Kennebec Yacht Club (which has likewise passed a resolution on the matter), and the representative bankers and business men generally, as well as clerks and employees, they will find that the opinions in favor of the advantages of adopting Atlantic standard time gather force and weight as easily as does a snowball in rolling it down a hill. Consultation of the files of The Telegraph for the past three or four months will amply the arguments in favor of Atlantic standard.

The Telegraph started out to investigate the matter without any prejudice whatever, but the evidence of popular opinion became so overwhelming that

there seemed no two sides to the subject. The results accumulated by The Telegraph are heartily at the service of the board of works if they will only cast upon the matter promptly.

SELLING THE I. C. R.
The alleged purchase of the Canada Atlantic Railway by the Vanderbilts interest has given rise to the rumor that the same syndicate proposes to buy the Intercolonial. Such talk is idle. The Intercolonial is not for sale, and it would be the height of folly to suppose that it ever could be except upon one condition. Those who speak of such a thing cannot have given the matter intelligent thought, nor can they be conversant with the real purpose served by the government railway system. The building of the Intercolonial was the chief consideration which the Maritime Provinces received in the bargain of confederation, and until the people down here by the sea agree to forfeit that consideration the honor and integrity of the Dominion is pledged to maintain it. That consent will not be given.

The unwise and thoughtless action of certain Conservative journals, aided by the propaganda which the Halifax Board of Trade recently set afoot, is accountable for the assumption in some quarters that the Intercolonial might be purchased. Our local morning contemporary never grows tired of decrying the Intercolonial, and only the other day the Montreal Gazette came out squarely in favor of handing over to private control the railways now owned by government. That Conservative opinion declared: "The country's real interest lies not in nationalization, but in getting rid of the railways it already owns and operates. Under private management the Intercolonial would pay its way." Last view should be thought by anyone to represent the judgment of the Canadian people, we desire, without the least disposition to indulge in bluster, to say at once that it is far from being so, and that the Intercolonial as a government road could only be taken from the Maritime Provinces by an unpardonable breach of faith.

It was no part of the compact into which New Brunswick and Nova Scotia entered in 1867 that the Intercolonial should pay. Nothing whatever was said about that phase of the matter. We say, however, that Mr. Blair has demonstrated the Intercolonial may be made to pay its way, and if we are not misinformed he will confirm that view by the results for the current year. But why should the Intercolonial be singled out by the pessimists of the Tory press for treatment in the fashion just referred to? Do the canals of Upper Canada, which cost half as much more than the railway of the Maritime Provinces, pay? Far from it. Yet what would be said of the patriotism of the Canadian who proposed to hand over the canals to private ownership and management? He would be treated with scorn. And the man who talks about disposing of the I. C. R. is not deserving of any milder treatment.

Again let it be said that the Intercolonial is not for sale. Any government which listened to such a proposition would not only lose the confidence of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, but would be showing a grave disregard of the solemn pledge of confederation. It may suit irresponsible journals and persons with an interest to gaffer to talk in a light way about the matter, but no good can come from creating an impression which is not founded in the sober judgment of the people of Canada as a whole, and there ought to be no more attempts made to do so. Such efforts are merely designed to cause political trouble, and the time has surely come when the press of any party ought to be above that sort of thing.

INCREASE OF INSANITY.
Someone has said that at the present rate of increase of lunacy in the United States the time will come when the majority of the population will be insane. The latest statistics of the State of New York seem unfortunately to bear out this melancholy prediction. The Commission in Lunacy of that state in their annual report show that the increase of insanity in the commonwealth, and especially in New York city, is much above the ratio of increase in population. All state asylums are now overcrowded beyond their capacity and the annual increase in the numbers of insane throughout the state has been for some time past between 700 and 800 cases per year. The total number of admitted insane persons in New York city at present exceeds 25,000, of which about 24,000 are inmates of public asylums and the others distributed among some twenty private licensed hospitals. The public cost of maintaining them aggregates about \$4,000,000 per year. In New York city alone there are more than 7,000 insane. At Bellevue Hospital from 2,800 to 2,900 patients are examined every year and of these about one-third are found to be deranged in mind.

The details of the commission's report presents some interesting features. It is shown that a very limited number of cases proportionately occur through local affairs. Whether this is a peculiarity of New York or applies to other places as well it is impossible to state. The proportions, however, calculated from an ordinary typical lot of 750 cases were as follows: Thirty-five from local affairs; 500 from temperance; 100 from privations and overwork; 50 from sunstroke; the remainder from a great variety of causes, including prominently despondency and discouragement. Intemperance, it will be seen, figures most largely as the cause of insanity. Religion, it may be noted, does not seem

to be a special cause of insanity in New York. It is found that a larger proportion of farmers and farm laborers become insane than any other class of workers, so that outdoor activity and pure air do not save men from the deteriorating effects of isolation, routine, drudgery and lack of mental stimulus. It is among foreign farm laborers, however, that there is the greatest proportion of insanity and this is said to be due to their excessive ignorance, also perhaps home-sickness and disappointment as to the realization of their dreams in the new country. The statistics show that about 600 laborers and nearly 1,000 domestics per year go insane, of whom about 700 are of Irish extraction, 500 German, 175 Russian and 135 English.

The fewest patients, it appears, come from the highly educated classes. Only about 100 professional men per year are admitted to New York asylums, including clergymen, doctors, lawyers, professors and civil engineers. There seems no distinction in numbers between the married and the single. The age at which mental derangement is most liable to occur is pronounced to be certainly between 40 and 50. It is stated that irreparable financial loss in middle life is the severest strain that can be put upon the human mind and that many such unfortunate attempts at suicide. It is pronounced impossible to deceive the experts by feigning insanity.

THE NURSES' TESTIMONIAL FUN.
The Telegraph is very much pleased to find that the fund for the testimonial to the nurses, who so faithfully stuck to their posts at great sacrifice during the recent smallpox epidemic in this city, has begun to grow, and that public sentiment in regard to the matter is being awakened, as evidenced by the additional letter which we print in another column today and by the sundry contributions also chronicled. It is to be regretted that the matter has not been made as yet distinctly a public movement, but the publicity which has so far attended the calling attention to the facts in these columns has resulted in ample expressions of opinion to justify the Telegraph in continuing to receive subscriptions all of which, however trivial may be the amount, will be placed to the credit of the fund and regularly acknowledged.

It may perhaps be well to emphasize the fact that neither the nurses nor the physicians connected with the epidemic have had anything to do with this testimonial movement in the remotest degree. Their unostentatious performance of less dangerous duty since the epidemic, has continued, as through it, faithfully, asking nothing and acknowledging their losses without a murmur. It is but fair to them and to the credit of the public therefore that for their distinguished services the nurses should be to some extent rewarded and for the noble work performed they should be appropriately honored. To efficiently carry out this plan a considerable fund might be very worthily raised, but it is not well to fix a figure in advance too extravagant lest it make us fear impossibility of attainment, or too humble lest it make any careless of the advisability of his contribution. It is a movement that any grateful citizen may honor himself and inspire honor in others by joining. Send along your contributions.

AN AUSTRO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.
The fate of the German tariff bill is anxiously awaited by the European nations. Should the bill pass it is almost certain to cause an economic rapprochement between Austria-Hungary and Russia, and it is reported that the people of the former nation, even those of German origin, are favorable to such a refuge. It is quite evident that the dual monarchy does not propose to play the part of the "patient lamb" while the leader of the Triple Alliance is threatening her with commercial terrorism. The Vienna News Presse says that Russia is prepared and even anxious to enter into friendly politico-commercial relations with Austria-Hungary and to come to terms respecting a future commercial treaty. The Czar's government is prepared, in exchange for certain concessions, to grant facilities for Austro-Hungarian export trade with Russia.

There is a difference of opinion regarding the result of such an agreement between the two powers. There are those who view it as a "political ploy" against Germany and others who discard any such idea. The cables inform us of the visit of Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria to St. Petersburg and there is no doubt that it is on a political mission, probably with regard to an entente cordial regarding the united action of the two powers in case the German tariff bill should become law. The Liberal press of Germany predicts that should the Agrarians succeed in forcing their obnoxious measure upon the people it will mean commercial collapse brought about by the tariff reprisals of other nations.

NOTE AND COMMENT.
The American Sulphate Manufacturers' Association have agreed upon \$1.90 as the minimum price for sulphate pulp.

The New York Herald calls Miss Hay, who was married on Thursday, an "American Princess." Is this not rather monarchial for a republican country?

A Californian physician claims to have found the love bacillus. He should send cultures of it to the Princesses of Europe who are in trouble with their consorts.

A Buffalo coroner is charged with robbing a corpse. This does not equal our

Boys' Clothing--Big Reductions.

If we hadn't such peculiar notions as to how new and fresh a Clothing stock should be at the beginning of every season, we'd sell all we could of these Clothes at full prices and keep the rest till next fall and winter.

But we've got that peculiar notion, and besides we want the trade of Men and Boys who want good clothes, but haven't found out yet where they are, and so we are willing to lose some money on the balance of stocks.

You will need to take quick advantage of such pricings as these.—

Vesice Suits—These suits are for boys 3 to 9 years old, and are made in tweeds, serges, chevrols and worsteds. We have grouped them into three lots, with a full range of sizes in each lot, and priced them as follows:

Lot 1—Former prices, \$2.50, 2.75, 3.00;
Your choice, \$2.00
Lot 2—Former prices, \$3.50, 3.75, 4.00, 4.50;
Your choice, \$3.00
Lot 3—Former prices, \$5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50,
7.00, 7.50;
Your choice, \$4.00

Two-Piece Pleated Suits—There are over 200 Suits in this lot, and are for boys four, five and six years old, and are made in Tweeds, Serges and Worsteds. We give you your choice of \$2.00. Former prices were \$2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50, 5.00. Exceptional bargains in this lot of suits for some one.

Boys' Ulsters—Our full stock of boys' ulsters are placed in two lots, and priced as below:
Lot 1—Former prices, \$3.00 to \$4.50;
Now \$2.50
Lot 2—Former prices, \$5.00, 5.50, 6.00;
Now \$3.40

Two-Piece Pleated and Norfolk Jacket Suits for boys 7 to 12 years. We have made three lots of these suits and priced them as below:
Lot 1—Former prices \$2.25, 2.50, 2.75;
Your choice, \$1.90
Lot 2—Former prices, \$3.25, 3.50, 3.75;
Your choice, \$2.90
Lot 3—Former prices, \$4.25, 4.50, 4.75, 5.00, 5.25;
Your choice, \$3.90

Boys' Three-Piece Suits, for boys 9 to 16 years, made from all the popular fabrics. We have priced them to clear as below:
Lot 1—Former prices, \$3.50, 3.75, 4.00;
Your choice, \$2.95
Lot 2—Former prices, \$4.50, 5.00, 5.50;
Your choice, \$3.95
Lot 3—Former prices, \$6.00, 6.50, 7.00, 7.50;
Your choice, \$4.95

Boys' Reefers, for boys 3 to 16 years, in Beavers, Naps, Friezes and Curly Cloth. Prices are now:—
Lot 1—Former prices, \$2.50, 2.75, 3.00;
Sale price, \$2.00
Lot 2—Former prices, \$3.50, 3.75, 4.00, 4.50;
Sale price, \$3.00
Lot 3—Former prices, \$5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50,
7.00, 7.50;
Sale price, \$4.00

You can't afford to miss this sale if your Boy needs Winter Clothing for this season or next.

GREATER OAK HALL, King Street, Cor. Germain. SCOVIL BROS. & CO

North Shore constituencies of this province, including Madawaska and Victoria, are unrepresented in the senate. As usual our Halifax Tory contemporary is wrong. Senator George T. Baird represents Victoria and Madawaska, while Senator Wark is the Kent county representative.

The health authorities of Wilkesbarre, Pa., have ordered the slaughter of all the cats and dogs, some two thousand in number, in order to prevent the spread of smallpox. This sounds like the vermin of that used to be ordered by the ancients to propitiate the gods during a plague. That was considerably before the discovery of vaccination.

The Fredericton Gleaner thinks that the death rate of this city is not too high and that the statistics of those cities having a lower rate are probably made to order. If our contemporary will deduct the ratio per thousand of deaths from preventable causes it will be seen that the St. John mortality would about reach the average normal death rate of less than 14.0 per thousand.

A New York physician who has never attained particular fame or fortune in his regular practice has at one bold stroke secured world-wide advertising by offering himself as a subject for vivisection, and several other equally undistinguished doctors have volunteered as candidates for fame by expressing their willingness to carve him up. The man's wife and two children, however, object to the performance and the District Attorney says that he will have arrests and prosecution made for the perpetration of any unnecessary surgical operation or for manslaughter should the vivisection prove fatal.

A LIQUOR COMPLICATION.
Portland Driver Says He Was in Possession of Goods—Others Had Been Convicted.
Portland, Me., Feb. 8.—Fred W. Brown, driver for the Portland and Portsmouth Express Company, has entered a claim in the municipal court, in which he declares he was the custodian of the liquor which ex-Alderman Round and Edward A. Conley were convicted of having in their possession. Brown claims that the liquor was his property, was in his lawful possession at the time of the seizure and not intended for unlawful sale, as the deputy sheriff stated. A hearing will be given Wednesday.

Four half barrels of ale, consigned to the Portland and Portsmouth Express Company, were seized by the sheriff today.

Stephen A. Douglas, son of Lincoln's famous opponent, was married to Anne MacDowell, of Chicago yesterday. Mr. Douglas is an attorney and his acquaintance with the Portland and Portsmouth Express Company was retained to look after the estate of her deceased father.

Thirty million stamps bearing King Edward's portrait were placed on sale in the post offices throughout England on New Year's day.

CORONER CHARGED WITH ROBBING A CORPSE.

Official Arrested—Alleged He Took Money from Body in Morgue.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 7.—Coroner W. C. Boller was arrested this afternoon. The specific charge is that November 19 last he robbed of a \$10 bill and other bills the body of Martin Sierczak, truck walker, killed by an engine in the yards of the Erie Railroad. The body lay in the morgue.

Boller pleaded not guilty and released on bail for hearing next Thursday.

SMALLPOX PATIENT CHOSE A GOOD PLACE.

Tramp Afflicted With Disease Wandered Into Board of Health Building.

Boston, Feb. 7.—Another case of traveling smallpox was discovered here today, in the old court house, in which the board of health office is located. A tramp, entitled into the corridors by the warmth of the radiators, was the victim. One of the doctors saw him and ordered him sent to the detention hospital. Ten cases were reported today.

THE ANAEMIC YOUNG GIRL.

Perhaps she is sixteen. Suddenly she seems to lose strength, her beauty fades because her strength fails, her eyes lose their lustre. How her spirit droops! It alarms you, but all this may be corrected quickly. Get her Ferrero's, it is a nerve tonic, it aids the stomach to do its work. Appetite? she'll eat anything and digest it too. Ferrero's is an absolute specific for the anaemia of young people. Ask your druggist for it. Sold by A. Chipman Smith & Co. Price 50c.

British Imports and Exports.

London, Feb. 8.—The statement of the board of trade for the month of January shows an increase of £4,143,800 in imports and a decrease of £400,000 in exports.

ACUTE AND CHRONIC RHEUMATISM

are equally influenced by the almost magical pain-subduing power of Polson's Nerviline, equal in medicinal value to five times the quantity of any other rheumatic remedy. Nerviline cures because it reaches the source of the disease and drives it out of the system. Nerviline is an unusually good rheumatic cure, and makes many unusual cures. Just rub it in the next time you have an attack. The immediate result will surprise you.