

OTTAWA LETTER.

The Facts Regarding the Expansion of Trade.

A One-sided Preferential Tariff That Discriminates Against Great Britain and Favors the United States.

OTTAWA, Feb. 15.—Parliament seems to have gone into the short session business. Since the house opened a week ago the sittings have never lasted more than two hours. Yesterday Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper entered a dignified protest against what he considers to be the neglect on the part of the government to provide business for the house.

It may be said that this question of adjournment brought up an interesting little discussion. Mr. Maclean asked the hon. minister of finance if he would move the house into supply tomorrow afternoon. Mr. Fielding replied that if the auditor general's report was laid on the table it was the intention of the government to adopt that course.

The printing of the auditor general's report suggests another little matter in connection with the publication of the blue books. Mr. Clarke asked the minister of finance whether the departmental reports had been printed in the government printing office.

The recent delay in transmitting Prince Edward Island mails was brought to the notice of the postmaster general by Mr. Hackett. He informed the house that eight days had elapsed since he had received any mail from the island.



GIRLS AT SCHOOL

While the accumulating knowledge of the profound sciences, are often so ignorant of their own natures that they allow local disease to fasten on them to the ruin of the general health.

Mr. Mulock is concerned, before the present condition of affairs is remedied. Yesterday a delegation of the house, including Messrs. Kendall, Johnson, Emerson, Gibson and Flint of the maritime provinces were to have attended the banquet to be given by Mr. Clergue and the Boer.

The opposition are still hammering away at the Grand Trunk problem. Mr. Monk, the leader of the Quebec conservatives, does not intend to let the matter drop, and yesterday he asked if the government had taken any steps to ascertain exactly whether the Grand Trunk Railway Co. and the Dominion St. Co. intend making the city of Portland, in the United States of America, the shipping point of both these companies.

Mr. Smith, secretary of John Connor of grain elevator fame, is here in the interests of his employer. Just whether the big elevators in Montreal are to be erected is a matter of doubt, in view of the action of the Grand Trunk. At present the contracts have been carried out in a very indifferent manner.

OTTAWA, Feb. 16.—Parliament Hill was unusually quiet today, most of the members having taken advantage of the opportunity afforded by the early adjournment yesterday to get home. Many members who were expected to be present at the meeting of the house on Thursday where the house would go into supply on Monday, were absent.

Yesterday a delegation of the Ontario Beet Sugar Association waited on the members of the cabinet to present their views in regard to granting a bounty on beet sugars raised in Canada. The representatives were F. M. Shuttleworth, Brantford; D. H. Price, Aylmer; N. B. Cash, Toronto; Geo. E. Bristol, Hamilton; W. K. Snider, Sombra, and E. Parnell, London.

which the people of the lower provinces were compelled to pay for. He submitted that the duty on flour, resulting as it did, in encouraging the farmers of Ontario, offset anything that the government had done to help the miner.

An effort is being made to induce the government to give more encouragement to field batteries of the lower provinces. The corps at Sydney, N. S., and Woodstock, N. B., are comparatively isolated in respect to the field artillery of the dominion.

Mr. Wilson, Lennox, who has been interesting himself in the I. C. R. grain elevators at Halifax and St. John, has not yet received the information regarding them which he so much desires and has been waiting for some time.

How much Great Britain and the mother country have benefited from this system of preference, concerning which we have heard so much, can be best shown by an analysis of the figures furnished officially by the trade and commerce department. During four months of 1900 we increased our purchases from the United States \$6,350,924, while the United States took only \$405,834 worth more from us than for a like period in the previous year.

OTTAWA, Feb. 18.—Since the Laurier government assumed the reins of government the people of Canada have heard much of the growth of their country's trade. Following the adoption of preferential trade, this increase in commerce has been attributed in a very great degree to the opening of commodities between this and the mother country.

After the adoption of the preferential trade tariff it is true that the commerce of this country did increase, but careful investigation will show that the increase was not in relation to the mother country, but rather as concerned trade with the United States. Mr. Guthrie in his recent speech dwelt at some length on the expansion of trade with the mother country, but the figures taken from the blue books of the trade and commerce department do not support Mr. Guthrie's contentions.

THE COST OF A SONG.

Over and over and over, the songs of our life are sung. The same today as in ages grey when first the lute was strung.

To sing the song that lingers in his heart from that first day when he was born. When men were brave and women fair and life was in its May.

DE WET AND HIS SUPPORTERS. A Hint on Coffee-Making in South Africa. The London Times publishes a long letter from an officer who was captured at Dewetsdorp by De Wet, and made to trek with him 17 days before he found an opportunity of escaping.

Mr. Maclean a week ago today informed Sir Wilfrid Laurier that he (Maclean) was against a one-sided preferential tariff, and this statement Sir Wilfrid saw fit to quote or paraphrase at a later stage in the debate in this way: "My hon. friend from East York, a stalwart of stalwarts, says I am against the preferential tariff."

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But even these great advantages enjoyed by the United States do not seem to satisfy the present government, who have promised that ere long they will make another pilgrimage to Washington and there place at the feet of President McKinley and his government a formal petition to prohibit the export of the parties who are not sacrificed on previous occasions.

A MARRIAGE QUESTION.

Georgia's Secretary of State on "Only Pebbles." (Atlanta Constitution.) NEWAYOG, Mich., Feb. 4, 1901. Dear Sir—I wish some information regarding the marriage laws of your state, Georgia, and wonder if you could give me some.

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, GEORGIA.

My Dear Madam—Replying to yours of the 4th inst., the laws of Georgia would prohibit the marriage of the parties you mention. If, however, each is to the other "the only pebble," their hearts desirably may be united. I am, Sir, very respectfully, PHILIP COOK, Secretary of State.

DOES A TWO-YEAR OLD BABY PAY?

(J. D. H., in Detroit Free Press.) Does a two-year-old baby pay for itself when the time it reaches that interesting stage? Sometimes I think not. I thought yesterday when my own baby slipped into my study and scribbled on my papers with white dress with my bottle of ink.

MANHATTAN STEAMSHIP CO.

The United States Investor of Feb. 2, in the course of a somewhat lengthy reply to a question "as to the advisability of purchasing the 7 per cent preferred stock of the Manhattan Steamship Co. for a safe, permanent investment at par," says: "We should hardly class the stock of this company as a safe, permanent investment."

SMALL-POX.

One Death and Several More Cases at Gauthreau Settlement. MONCTON, N. B., Feb. 19.—Peter Gauthreau, aged 65 years, is reported dead with smallpox at Gauthreau Village, near Dorchester. There are six new cases and four under suspicion.

MEMBRACOOK, FEB. 19.—

It is now reported that there are 15 cases of smallpox at Gauthreau village. Five of the cases are serious, and it is said two will prove fatal. The road leading to Gauthreau village has been closed and great precautions are being taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

HIS AMBITION CHANGED.

A young man who has always had a desire to be a war correspondent seized the opportunity offered by the Boer war and went to South Africa to report on the war. He was exceptionally well fitted by nature for just the kind of hard work that he expected to do. The only drawback was that his expectations fell far below the reality.

WASHINGTON, FEB. 20.—

The answer of the state department to the resolution of the U. S. senate to be used for forwarding American horses and other supplies to the British army in South Africa, a privilege not enjoyed by the Boers, will point to the well established section of international law war neutral nations in selling supplies to belligerents, though these supplies may properly be made by a belligerent. It also will show that no obstacle was interposed by the United States government to the purchase of horses and mules by the Boers who presumably did not do so because they were unable to land them in South Africa.

THE S. P.

Annual Meeting Afternoon Office

Reports of the President and Treasurer—Stock Yards—

The annual meeting of the S. P. C. board of trade took place on Monday afternoon. President J. Thos. Walker, Mrs. Mrs. J. V. Ellis, Mrs. and Messrs. J. M. Weather, T. O'Brien, and W. S. Fisher.

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