

AROUND THE CITY

Str. Connors Bros.
Steamer Connors Bros., will sail from her wharf at St. John at 7 a. m. on Saturday in place of 7.30 a. m. as usual.

Bandmen to Meet.
All members of the Artillery band are requested to be at the room at 8 o'clock sharp this evening (Friday) to receive pay.

Wagon Unscathed.
Yesterday morning street car No. 40 and Patrick Gleason's wagon collided on Union street and the car was slightly damaged.

To Receive Pay.
No. 6 Battery, 1st N. B. Heavy Brigade Canadian Artillery, will meet at their drill hall Friday, Dec. 22nd, at 7.30 p. m., to receive annual drill pay. All equipment and rifles must be returned.

Didn't Stay Long.
Acting Sergeant Ross and Officer O'Leary were called to the general public hospital about 2.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon to eject Timothy Burke who was drunk. The ejection was rapid and Burke was placed under arrest.

A Pretty Calendar.
The Standard has received from J. A. Marvix, of Moncton, a very serviceable calendar for 1912. The design is especially appropriate to the Lily White brand of goods turned out by the Marvix Company.

Seaman Arrested.
George Dixon, an article seaman on the schooner Luella, in Gregory's slip, was given in charge yesterday afternoon by Captain Thomas Young for being absent without leave and for using abusive language. Police-man S. L. Hamm made the arrest.

Child Strayed.
At 4.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon Minnie, the 4 year old daughter of David Fraser, 66 Gifford street, West End was found straying on King street by Mrs. Smith and was taken to the central police station where she was called for later by her anxious mother.

A Narrow Escape.
George M. Ross, druggist of 472 Main street, had a narrow escape from being killed or seriously hurt yesterday afternoon. Mr. Ross, while crossing the street in front of his place of business, yesterday afternoon, slipped and fell on the car tracks in the immediate vicinity of the spot where the fatality occurred on the evening of Dec. 12. At this time a car was coming down Main street and Mr. Ross leaped to his feet just in time to escape being run over.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINS WILL TOUR PROVINCES

Governments of New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec Negotiating with C. P. R. for New Demonstration Feature

Agricultural schools on wheels which have been common in the United States and western Canada, will probably be seen in the east next summer. The governments of New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec are now negotiating with the C. P. R. with a view to having special agricultural trains tour every part of the respective provinces, giving lectures and demonstrations in the modern science of farming.

The C. P. R. with a view to increasing the productivity of farms, has employed such trains in the west with excellent results, and the co-operation of the governments of the provinces mentioned has been enlisted in a plan to operate such trains in the east.

W. W. Hubbard, secretary for agriculture, will leave for Montreal next week to discuss final details of the scheme which has been under consideration for some time, and hopes to be able to complete arrangements so far as this province is concerned. It is understood that the I. C. R. authorities are also considering a proposition to place agricultural instruction trains on its lines, and provide for demonstrations and lectures. If the I. C. R. train is not ready for service in this province next summer arrangements will be made by the local government to have the C. P. R. special train go over the I. C. R. lines in the province.

The plan which the C. P. R. and the local government is now working on involves the employment of special trains with lecture and demonstration cars, and with professors from the various agricultural colleges will spend the spring and summer months over the provinces, and stopping at all the prominent towns for lectures and demonstrations, to attend which farmers will be granted reduced fares from all over the various districts. Daily farming, fruit farming, stock raising and a good seed propaganda will all be treated from a scientific point of view, and in such a way as to afford the maximum of practical help and encouragement to the farmers in every locality.

BEAUTIFUL SHOWING OF CUT FLOWERS.
The thousands of people who are daily passing the floral store of W. & S. Pedersen at 49 Charlotte street, are unanimous in their admiration of the display of cut flowers and potted plants shown there. It is doubtful if ever before a greater or more beautiful exhibition has been seen here.

The Christmas shoppers find this establishment one of the most convenient in the city for purchasing floral presents appropriate to the season.

VALLEY RAILWAY CONTRACT OUR BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT

A King Street Business Man Says Merchants will be Greatly Benefitted by Increased Business to Come from New Line, Contract for Which Has Been Signed.

The best part of St. John was out shopping yesterday; at any rate the crowds of ladies thronging the stores and streets were considerably larger than any day so far this Christmas season. If many of them followed the advice of the friends of the shop who to shop early and avoid the rush, they evidently decided that they needed some more presents, or are so fond of the bargain counter excitement that they could not resist the temptation to take part in another rush.

Shopkeepers say the Christmas trade so far has been heavier than last year, and at the same time they expect the sales for the week-end to break all records. A well-known King street business man stated that the shopkeepers of the city could contemplate the year's developments with satisfaction, and had every reason to feel merry on Christmas Day.

"What special reason have you to be pleased?" he was asked.

"Well, there are several special reasons," he said. "One is the signing of the St. John Valley Railway contract; that is the best Christmas gift that could be presented to the merchants of St. John. That road will bring a population of at least 10,000 in touch with the merchants of this city, and that population should increase rapidly every year. At present a vast amount of money from the St. John River Valley goes to the small order concerns of Toronto and Montreal. When the railway is in operation and the people for a good distance up the river are able to run into St. John without much loss of time, they will come to town when they want anything, and purchase from us instead of sending their money out of the province. St. John merchants are certain to reap a great benefit from the construction of the Valley Railway right from the outset; and if the construction of the railway, as there is every reason to believe, results in the filling up of the unoccupied lands it will mean that this city will do a steadily increasing business.

"Its industries will develop, its population will increase, and it will respect the impulse to progress. It receives from the people of the valley by providing them with a steadily increasing market for the products of their farms. And those who know anything about the valley, know that its possibilities along agricultural lines are very great. All that is needed to effect a revolution in farm production is co-operation and a little more expert knowledge of modern farming and fruit raising methods. When the old Loyalists and others first settled in the valley they worked on co-operative lines to a great extent. When any farmer had a special job on hand, he invited his neighbors to help and they came and made a festival of the occasion. The younger generations have rather abandoned the old harvest festivals, threshing bees, etc., and the old social spirit which they embodied has departed and rural life in consequence has lost something of its old brightness and charm. But it is to be hoped that our farmers will learn co-operation on more advanced lines, as they have learned in other countries, and that through it rural life will acquire the spirit that once characterized it."

WAS RYDER WARNED OF APPROACHING DEATH?
Strange Story is Told by Friends of Victim of North End Street Car Accident Last Week.

Weird stories of an ante mortem warning are told by the friends of the late James A. Ryder, who met his death in a street car accident in this city on December 13th. It is said that Ryder was employed as night watchman in Hilyard Brothers' lumber yard, and it is said that about 12 o'clock, on the night prior to the accident, he was seated in a small office when he was startled by an intermittent knocking upon his door. Rising, he opened the door, but could find no trace of anyone in the vicinity. He returned to the office, only to be again startled by a repetition of the knock. This time Ryder locked the door, but his precaution was useless to exclude his ghostly visitor. Rising, apparently from the floor, a dark, almost indistinguishable figure confronted him for an instant, before retreating through the doorway. Upon examination, Ryder found the door to be unlocked.

After repeatedly pulling the whistle cord, Ryder left the premises, never to return. The following night he was struck by a street car, and instantly killed.

Residents of the vicinity heard the whistle blow at Hilyard's mill and several of Ryder's more intimate friends vouch for the story of his premonition of the disaster. The latter state that Ryder informed them that he expected something to happen him, and did not intend to return to his work.

VERY LITTLE SERIOUS ILLNESS IN THE CITY
Board of Health Reports Show Hardly Any Contagious Diseases — Death Rate for Month so far Light.

Although the officials of the Bureau of Associated Charities report that considerable sickness exists among the poor of the city, the officials of the Board of Health say there is very little contagious disease, and that the number of deaths for the month so far has been unusually small.

"Of course only cases of infectious or contagious disease are reported to us," said the secretary of the Board, "and we have little information as to the existence of ordinary sickness. But there is little serious illness in the city, judging by the number of deaths during the month so far."

"Two-thirds of the month has passed and there have been only 50 deaths in the city, that is the same rate as maintained that would give about 45 deaths for the month of December this year. That is a low death rate for December, as we had 59 deaths in December of last year and 73 deaths in the same month in 1909."

Painless Dentistry
Teeth filled or extracted free of pain by the celebrated "HALE METHOD"
All branches of dental work done in the most skillful manner.
BOSTON DENTAL PARLORS
527 Main Street, Tel. 544
DR. J. C. MAHER, Proprietor.

NEW BRUNSWICK'S GREATEST SHOE HOUSE
Shop Early in the Day.

Men's Christmas Slippers

The majority of Men Never buy slippers for themselves. There is a kind of a tradition that has come down through the years that Santa Claus always supplies the Men's Slippers.

Our Christmas Slippers
Are selected by men who know what men like. There is no gift you can select that costs so little, lasts so long, and gives such an amount of genuine comfort.

50c to \$2.50 a Pair
Shop early in the day.

Waterbury & Rising, Ltd.
King St. Union St. Mill St.

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price
Diamond and Emerald Rings
\$12.00 \$16.00
20.00 25.00
30.00 40.00
50.00 60.00

Diamond and Sapphire Rings
\$12.00 \$16.00
20.00 25.00
30.00 40.00

Diamond and Ruby Rings
\$12.00 \$16.00
20.00 25.00
30.00 40.00

Diamond and Pearl Rings
\$16.00 \$20.00
30.00 50.00

L. L. Sharpe & Son
Jewellers and Opticians.
21 KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.

CHRISTMAS ENGRAVING
Initials, Monograms, Etc.
GREETING CARDS AND CALENDARS.
C. H. Flewelling
Engraver-Printer
85 1-2 Prince William St.
See us or phone for Samples.

Toys! Toys! Toys!
Cardboard Soldiers With Wood Stands 30c, 60c, \$1.25 Box
Metal Soldiers 15c to \$3.00 Box

Dolls of All Kinds
Prices 15c to \$6.50
Character Dolls Prices \$1.25 to \$2.25
Doll Furniture, Beds and Carriages
Our Electric Toys are particularly fascinating
Trains \$8.00 up Motors \$1.50 to \$2.50
COME IN AND SEE THEM GO

W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd.
Market Square and King Street

SPECIAL SALE--20% DISCOUNT
On Percolators Chafing Dishes Candle Sticks
We have just received a late shipment of the above goods, and rather than carry them over we are offering them at a discount of 20 p.c.
EMERSON & FISHER, Ltd., 25 Germain Street
Phone 2520

All M. R. A. Stores Open Tonight Until 10 O'Clock
Sale of Novelties in Brass, Copper, Nickel and Art Silver
Delightful Christmas Gift Articles Reduced to Low Figures for Immediate Clearance
This time the tardy gift buyer is fortunate for here is a sale presenting saving opportunities unusual on the following articles which have been marked low in order to dispose of them before Christmas check what you would like and come at once. In many of the things there are several, others three, two and some only one, so promptness is important to prevent disappointment.

COMMENCING THIS MORNING

OFFICE SCISSORS and PAPER KNIVES. Sale price \$2.75. INK WELLS. Sale price .50c to \$3.50.	MANTEL CLOCKS. Sale prices \$5.00 to \$12.00. COPPER TEA SETS. Sale price \$4.25.	ELECTRIC DESK and TABLE LAMPS. Sale prices \$1.50 to \$25.00.
OFFICE and DEN NOVELTIES in brass, copper, nickel and oxidized silver. Sale price .35c to \$5.50.	PICTURE FRAMES in wood and Celluloid. Sale prices .20c to \$2.00.	JARDINIERES and VASES brass. Sale prices 75c to \$6.00.
FLOWER HOLDERS. Sale price \$2.50.	PICTURE FRAMES in silver. Sale prices .35c to \$4.00.	PIPE RACKS in Carmack brass. Sale prices \$4.50.
SMOKER'S STAND. Sale price \$3.00.	CANDLE STICKS, brushed brass. Sale prices 50c to \$2.25.	JEWEL CASES in Carmack brass. Sale prices \$3.50 to \$5.24.
STATUES in BRONZE. Sale price \$2.50 to \$10.50.	BOOK RESTS, brass. Sale price \$2.15 to \$5.00.	CLOCKS in Carmack brass. Sale prices \$3.50 to \$5.50.
DESK CLOCKS. Sale prices \$3.50 to \$5.50.	FERN and FLOWER BASKETS. Sale prices 35c to \$2.50.	CANDLE STICKS in Carmack brass. Sale prices \$1.75.
AUTO CLOCK. Sale price \$1.50.	JEWEL CASES, brass. Sale price \$2.75.	BRIDGE COUNTERS. Sale prices .35c to \$1.75.
DESK CALENDARS. Sale price \$2.25.	HAIR RECEIVERS, art silver and glass. Sale prices .45c.	CIGAR ASH HOLDERS. Sale prices .25c to \$1.00.
CIGAR CUTTERS. Sale price \$1.00 up.	BOOK RESTS, oak and mahogany, plain and brass mounted. Sale prices \$1.50 to \$4.25.	CIGAR LIGHTER. Sale price \$2.25.
SKULL PAPER WEIGHTS. Sale price \$1.00 up.	CANDLE SHADES, paper, Japanese and French makes. Sale prices .25c to \$5.00.	SPIRIT KETTLES for travelling. Sale prices \$2.25 to \$5.00.
TOBACCO JARS. Sale price .75c to \$1.50.		PIN HOLDERS. Sale price .50c.
		SHAVING MIRRORS, etched. Sale prices \$1.50 to \$2.50.

Sale Will Start at 8.30 in Show Room—Second Floor.

Linen and Lace Gift Handkerchiefs

PLAIN LINEN HANKERCHIEFS, 1-8, 1-4, 1-2 inch hem. Per half dozen. .50c to \$2.00.	DAINTY COLORED BORDERED HANKERCHIEFS, each .20c to \$1.50.
INITIAL HANKERCHIEFS, half dozen in box. \$1.00.	MADEIRA HANKERCHIEFS, hand embroidered. Each .85c to \$1.80.
INITIAL HANKERCHIEFS, each 20c, 25c, 25c and 32c.	ARMENIAN HANKERCHIEFS, hand embroidered. Each \$1.00 to \$2.50.
EMBROIDERED AND EMBROIDERED HANKERCHIEFS, each .12c to \$1.50.	REAL LACE HANKERCHIEFS, Maltese Thread, Duchess, etc. Each \$1.20 to \$2.50.
FANCY LACE EDGE HANKERCHIEFS, each 25c to 90c.	CHILDREN'S HANKERCHIEFS, from 5c each.
EMBROIDERED HANKERCHIEFS, embroidered copper, each .15c to 50c.	HANKERCHIEF CENTRES, all sizes. 10c to 25c.

Make selections early while stock is complete.
FRONT STORE.

MANCHESTER ROBERTSON ALLISON, LTD.