

THE HERALD

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JAMES MCISAAC, Editor & Proprietor.

The Vacant Cabinet Seat.

The vacancy in the Dominion Cabinet caused by the resignation of Sir Louis Davies, consequent upon his appointment to the bench of the Supreme Court of Canada, has not yet been filled, although it has lasted for a considerable length of time and the names of different members and would-be members of Parliament have been mentioned in connection therewith. It will be remembered that one of the pleas put forward by the friends of Mr. Farquharson in support of his candidature for West Queen's was that he was of cabinet rank and in succeeding Sir Louis Davies as the representative of the riding, he would also be taken into the Government as his successor in the ministry. It is safe to assume that no one, except those anxious to receive or willing to be received, ever seriously entertained the notion that Mr. Farquharson would be given a portfolio in the Laurier Government; but the contention served his purpose in helping to boom him for the nomination. Since he was chosen as the Grit candidate for West Queen's little or nothing has been heard of his prospective portfolio. That is just what has been expected. There is a Maritime Province man, however, whose name has been very emphatically mentioned in connection with the vacant portfolio, who, indeed, is said to have entered Dominion politics with the understanding that he would have the option of the first cabinet vacancy. This man is Mr. Emmerson, of New Brunswick. He was leader of the Government in his own province and resigned the Premiership in order to contest Westmoreland for the House of Commons in opposition to Mr. Powell. He was elected, and it was generally expected he would not be long without receiving the reward due his sacrifice of the Premiership. His advent to Dominion politics was heralded with a great flourish of trumpets, and great expectations regarding his oratorical ability took shape in the minds of his fellow Grit members at the Capital. But when Mr. Emmerson had delivered himself of his first oration in the House of Commons his political stock had greatly depreciated in value, and his erstwhile admirers were very much disappointed. Since then his chances of preferment are said to have gradually faded until they have almost reached the vanishing point. However this may be, certain it is that the Government organs have of late more than once intimated that a western man would be taken into the Cabinet, and something has just happened in British Columbia that seems to clothe these prognostications with a very strong coloring of probability. The seat of Col. Prior, one of the Conservative members for Victoria, has been declared vacant by the courts, in consequence of some improper practices by agents, and this circumstance seems likely to be used by the Government as a bait to capture a seat in the west. Referring to this matter the St. John Globe, a strong Grit paper, has the following:
"Mr. Prior's enforced retirement may have some general effect on public affairs. There is a vacant seat in the Cabinet—a seat which some New Brunswick papers, apparently with little foundation, declared was to be given to Mr. Emmerson. The British Columbian members have been some time pressing that a seat be given to one of their number. They have urged upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier that as compared with his predecessors he stands in an apparently unfriendly attitude to their province in not giving it representation in the Cabinet; and they have strongly pointed out that large as the Cabinet is, it contains only one member from constituencies west of Ontario. These representations cannot but influence the Premier's mind and conduct. Probably notwithstanding the representations which were made to Sir Wilfrid there would have been some difficulty in taking from the far West one that would fairly suit all the others; but by Mr. Prior's enforced vacation of his seat for Victoria city, there is a new condition. Mr. Templeman, who is now in the Senate, would more amply represent British Columbia and Liberal interests and feelings than anyone hitherto available. With a position in the Cabinet he could easily carry the seat against Mr. Prior or any other Conservative; and his appointment therefore would satisfy British Columbian aspirations."
This will hardly be pleasant reading for Mr. Emmerson, how-

ever shrewd it may appear on the part of the Government. Sir Wilfrid's delay in naming Sir Louis' successor would seem to have been in anticipation of the vacancy in Victoria. This circumstance enables the Government to bring the pressure of a cabinet position upon a Conservative seat; all the same it is rather rough on Mr. Emmerson and those who had undertaken to boom him.

The Price of an Escape.

(St. John Sun.)

The exchequer court is asked to decide how much the people of Canada shall pay to Mackenzie and Mann for the damages sustained by the contractors in connection with the Yukon contract. The claim is for \$302,717 with interest. The claimants ask for a large amount, but the above sum only is included in the reference. The grounds for this action are easy to understand. A few days before parliament met in 1898, the government, moved thereto by Mr. Sifton, made a contract with Mackenzie and Mann for the construction of a narrow gauge railway or tramway from a point on the Stickeen river to one of the tributaries of the Yukon, a distance of over 250 miles. This tramway was represented to be a route to Klondike gold fields, though it would not now be so considered. It is now about as easy to get to Dawson as it would be to reach the nearest end of the Stickeen railway, and much easier to reach Dawson from the coast than it would be to journey thither from the other end of the proposed tramway. But by Mr. Sifton's remarkable contract, for it is fair to say that Mr. Blair had nothing to do with it, the contractors were to receive four million acres, or six thousand square miles, of gold lands, to be selected by themselves in alternate square mile blocks on any creeks or gold districts that might be discovered. They were also to be freed from half the royalty paid by the owners of other claims. This was a rather startling price to pay for the proposed tramway and protests went to Ottawa from all over the country, especially from the working miners in the Yukon gold fields. The contract, which was given without tender and without publicity, was made subject to ratification by parliament, but by arrangement with Mr. Sifton the contractors took their chances and began work. Opposition to the astounding contract soon developed on both sides of the house. A number of government supporters refused to vote for it, and several went so far as to vote against it. But it was forced through the commons. The senate however, refused ratification and the work stopped. It was said at first that the bill might be re-introduced the next year, but long before twelve months the government was only too glad to get rid of the scheme, for by that time the Stickeen route was altogether abandoned as a road to the Yukon.

The contractors are now pressing their claims for money expended on the scheme. In the meantime another company has opened a railway, which begins on the coast, instead of a hundred miles up a river that cannot be navigated, and at the Yukon end delivers the traveller much nearer to the gold fields than the Stickeen tramway could. Not a foot of land nor a dollar or subsidy was given to this company, which is making large profits from the enterprise. If the fare by this White Pass railway were double what it is people going to Dawson would pay it rather than be transported over the long and perilous Stickeen route free of charge.

There are some fourteen vacancies in the membership of the Dominion House of Commons, and Ottawa advices indicate the bye elections for these seats will not likely be held before the middle of January. But there is one exception, a falsification of the Government's declared principle of holding bye elections simultaneously. The exception is York N. B., where the polling is to be held on the 28th inst. It will be remembered that Mr. Gibson, Grit, was opposed by Rev. Dr. McLeod, Conservative. Gibson was elected; but Mr. McLeod entered a protest on the ground of corrupt practices. He pursued his case in court till Gibson threw up the sponge and was unseated. The same candidates are in the field again.

A GREAT many more men presented themselves at Charlottetown, for enrollment in the third South African contingent than could be accepted. Of the twelve accepted, seven have already seen service in the first or second contingent, and two have served a year at Halifax. Good!

MUCH inconvenience is experienced these days in consequence of the break in the telegraph cable across the Straits. No telegraphic news reaches here or goes from here except by the steamers. Efforts are making to discover the break and it is to be hoped it may be discovered and mended without much further delay.

The Herald's Scoop-Net.

CONDUCTED BY TOM A. HAWKE. Getting my Christmas!

The girl who is named Daisy frequently has a hard time living up to it.

People of Canada are using more postal cards. So the country postmasters are kept in light reading matter.

"Court the fresh air day and night," says a medical exchange. That's good advice for the girls, but if you are a young man you had better contribute the fresh breeze.

The Governor General may as well resign before Premier Farquharson pushes him out of his job. The Premier seems to think his method of doing business is modelled after an improved Code, eh?

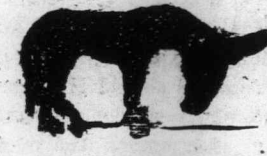
The telegraph cable is broken between the Island and the mainland. The Patriot announces that it got its telegram by wireless. That's nothing new.

The Guardian published the picture of Sir Walter Scott last week and called it Robert Burns. What's Scott to be done, has Scott to be done, is probably the spirit in which the Guardian looks upon the matter.

An Alabama man returned to life just as they were lowering him into the grave. The reason it is called life is because he's not so lifeless as he had been.

Here is a Georgia boy's composition on Indian summer: "Injun summer is the best season of the year, 'cept swimmin' time. The days are so still you kin hear dad swearin' two miles off, as well as every lick ma hits him with the broomstick. This may not be escapin' by the skin of the teeth, but it's gettin' out of a pretty bad hole."—Montreal Herald.

THE ARMY MULE. Let others sing of the noble horse, High-stepping, brave and gay, Who prances proudly o'er the course In its patrician way; A humbler figure claims our song, A victim of misrule— The poor, oppressed, yet tough and strong American army mule.



The long-eared mule, Missouri mule, The halting, biting, Kicking, fighting, Rough and rusty, Tried and trusty, Tough old army mule. He's no prize beauty, and besides, He wasn't made for show; The most inside his leathery hide Is gristlier than iron; But warring nations wait until He comes across the sea Before their armies come to kill The bloomier enemy. He's ugly, churlish, crabbed, grim, And cross and sullen, yet He's won his crown of martyrdom A thousand times, you bet! That tough old mule, Missouri mule, That haw-hawing, Kicking, biting, Swearing, fighting, Ugly, rancorous, Rude, cantankerous, Old muck-eaten, Weather-beaten, Measley piebald, Glistening eyeballed, Grouchy, grumpy, Rope-tailed, dumpy, Darned old mule, Missouri mule, American army mule. —Chicago Tribune.

The pupils of Prince Street School gave a pleasing exhibition of rare curiosities in the Y. M. C. A. hall on Friday afternoon. Tom A. Hawke inspected them all, and found that they were good, but still there were a few things missing from the collection which he would give a lot to see; for instance: A paring of nail from the finger of scorn, A glove from the hand of fate, A shoe once worn by the foot of a tree, And a piece of a nickel plate.

Some butter made from the cream of a joke, The whiskers from Nature's face; A shingle off the temple of fame, And a rein from the human race. A hat from off the head of a street, A tooth from the mouth of a brook, A curl clipped from the brow of a hill, And a fish caught with Sandy Hook. A feather pulled from a mountain's crest, And some out of fancy's wings, A hinged that came from the Golden Gate, And some pieces of Sulphur Springs.

The pig that ate from the trough of the sea, The lid of a box on the ear, The dog that gave the bark of a tree, And a necklace of beads on bears. The knives that go with the forks of the road, And a lash from a needle's eye, A few recaptured mosquito bills, And the wings of a long, foul fly.

The hair that grew on the tail of a kite, Also on a cabbage head, A leaf that fell from a family tree, And a sheet from a river's bed. Of all these things I have often thought, But none of them I have been able to see, The showman who can collect them all, Must greater than Barnum be!

If a child eats ravenously, grinds the teeth at night and picks its nose, you may almost be certain it has worms and should administer without delay Dr. Low's Pleasant Worm Syrup, this remedy contains its own cathartic.

Richards' Headache Cure gives instant relief.

Sad Drowning Accident at Ottawa.

Another heartrending accident from skating on almost virgin ice happened on the 6th inst., in Ottawa, when Miss Bessie Blair, fourth daughter of the Minister of Railways and Canals, and Mr. H. A. Harper, assistant editor of the Labor Gazette, were drowned in the icy cold waters of the dark-flowing Ottawa river, not far from Kettle Island, a short distance down the river from the canal basin.

Miss Bessie Blair and Mr. H. Creelman, of the Imperial Bank, were skating together. A short distance ahead were Miss Blair and Mr. Treadgold. Mr. H. A. Harper and Miss Snowball, a daughter of Senator Snowball, who is a guest at Mr. Blair's, were skating behind Mr. Creelman and Miss Bessie Blair.

Harper and Miss Snowball heard a cry and saw them breaking through the ice. Harper, however, did not wait an instant. Telling Miss Snowball to skate to Gattineau Point for help, he threw off his coat and gaiters and without a moment's hesitation plunged into the water to the rescue. Creelman said that before Harper could reach them he (Creelman) made an effort to lift Miss Bessie on the ice, but with the weight of her soddened clothing could not succeed. Creelman sank in the attempt, and on rising found her under the ice. He smashed it with his hands and, clinging to the thin sheet as best he could, looking round he could not see a trace of either Harper or Miss Blair. Both had gone down.

Meantime the screams and cries of Miss Snowball aroused people on Gattineau Point, and they were also heard by Miss Amy Blair and Mr. Treadgold. Matthias Blas, who lives in a shack below the village, when he learned of the accident, pushed off in his punt to the scene of the accident to which Miss Snowball directed him, and there he found Creelman in the water clinging to the ice. Blas had just succeeded in getting Creelman into the boat when Treadgold skated up. They searched for the other two members of the party, but without any success and reluctantly had to leave the scene to convey to the shore Mr. Creelman, who was benumbed with cold and almost unrecognizable after his immersion of twenty minutes. At Blas' house he was stripped of his clothing and put in blankets, and about 9 o'clock was so far recovered that he could be removed to the city. He is in pretty bad shape. His hands were badly lacerated by contact with the ice.

The news of the death of Miss Bessie Blair was carried home by Miss Amy and telegraphed, but at once sent conveying the sad intelligence to Mr. and Mrs. Blair, who were at Clifton Springs, N. Y.

MR. CREELMAN'S STORY. A. Creelman, who is a brother to Adam Creelman, the C. P. R. solicitor, was seen and gave the following narrative of the drowning: "I was skating with Miss Bessie Blair, about forty feet ahead of Harper and Miss Snowball; our skates went through the ice and we tripped and fell head first into the water in an air hole. I was keeping Miss Blair up in my water, and shouted to Harper, who was rushing to our assistance, to keep back, so he could do more good on the ice than in the water.

Harper pulled off his gaiters and his coat and plunged into the water where we were struggling. In trying to lift Miss Blair I sank myself. In coming up I struck my head against the ice and I had to break it with my hands. There was no sign of Miss Blair or Harper. Matthias Blas put out in a boat from the Quebec side of the river and pulled me out. I was hanging on to the ice until he reached me. Just then Treadgold, who was skating in front, returned to me."

Miss Blair was the fourth daughter of the Hon. A. G. Blair, and was about twenty years of age.

Mr. H. A. Harper was a very bright young man, a graduate of Toronto University, and was for a few years in journalism before joining the labor department of the Government. He was correspondent of the Montreal Herald. He visited the Maritime Provinces with the Press Association last summer.

Hon. A. G. and Mrs. Blair arrived home from Clifton Springs, N. Y., Sunday morning. Sad to add, the first intimation the bereaved parents had of the death of their daughter was through the newspapers. Telegrams sent to Mr. Blair Friday night had not been delivered. Mr. and Mrs. Blair were at breakfast in the Sanitarium on Saturday, when one of the guests came over to tender his sympathy. Mr. Blair was astonished at the remark, and then friends pointed to the sad Ottawa despatch in the newspaper which he had in his hand.

The Prices.

There was a very good market yesterday. All commodities were in good supply. There were no changes of any importance. The loads of hay on the Square were disposed of at prices ranging between 55c. and 60c. per cut. Pressed hay is \$11.00; straw \$7.50. Oats bring 80c.; potatoes 20c. Pork was not so plentiful as last week; 7c. was the price paid, and in some cases we believe, as high as 7 1/2c. was paid.

Butter, (fresh) 0.23 to 0.24 Butter (salt) 0.20 to 0.21 Beef (small) per lb. 0.06 to 0.10 Beef (quarterm) per lb. 0.04 to 0.08 Calf skins 0.06 to 0.08 Ducks 0.50 to 0.70 Eggs, per dozen 0.22 to 0.25 Fowls 0.30 to 0.50 Geese 0.50 to 0.80 Hides 0.05 to 0.08 Hay, per 100 lbs. 0.55 to 0.58 Lamb 0.05 to 0.08 Lamb (carcase) 0.44 to 0.05 Mutton, per lb. 0.05 to 0.03 Oats 0.00 to 0.48 Quaim (per cwt) 0.00 to 0.25 Potatoes (buyers price) 0.00 to 0.14 Pork (small) 0.10 to 0.14 Pork (carcase) 0.00 to 0.73 Sheep pelts 0.10 to 0.10 Turnips 0.10 to 0.15 Wild Geese 0.80 to 1.00

DIED

In Charlottetown, Saturday morning last at 3 a. m., Mrs. John Conroy, in the 63rd year of her age R. I. P.

At the head of Pownall Street Dec. 8th, Mrs. James O'Brien, much and deservedly regretted, aged 64. She leaves a disconsolate husband and three children, two sons and one daughter, to mourn a loving wife and mother. May she rest in peace.

In this city on the 5th inst., Francis Dyer Beer, M. D., aged 63 years. Dr. Beer was well and favorably known in this city, where he had practiced his profession for upwards of thirty years. His funeral was very largely attended.

At the residence of his father, Pownall Street, on Dec. 6th, James Curran, aged 24 years. Deceased was a young man much esteemed by all his acquaintances, and his death after a lingering illness of heart disease is deeply regretted. His funeral on Sunday was one of the largest seen in this city for some time. The funeral and the Benevolent Irish Society, to which associations, deceased belonged turned out in large numbers, preceded by the band. His parents and other members of his family have the sympathy of the community in their sad bereavement. May his soul rest in peace.

The Most Nutritious.

EPPS'S COCOA

Prepared from the finest selected Cocoa, and distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of flavour, Superior quality, and highly nutritive properties. Sold in quarter pound tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd., Homeopathic Chemists, London, England.

EPPS'S COCOA

Breakfast—Supper. Oct. 2, 1901—301

A BIG SNAP!

For the lucky buyer

Men's Underclothing

At less than first cost

Some of the lines are broken in the sizes. A few of the Linters and Drawers we cannot match.

JUST THINK!

A nice heavy all wool Linder for 38c., 50c., and 75c. each.

Come quick as they cannot last long.

GORDON & MACLELLAN,

Men's Outfitters.

Market Day Bargains

AT PATON & CO'S.

50 Ulsters, \$5 and \$7 for \$3.75.

Thirty-five Boy's Ulsters worth up to \$4 for \$2.25; 185 pairs factory Pants, \$2.50 kind for \$1.50; 53 Suits, \$8 kind for \$4.75; 18 Men's Suits, \$4.50 for \$2.75; 78 ends 1 1/2 yard Brussels Carpet, best make, worth \$2.25 for 98 cents; Sheepskin Lined Coats, worth \$5 for \$3.75; Rainproof Reefers, \$2.50 and \$3.50; 183 Boy's Pants, worth up to \$1.75 for 75 cents; Boy's Reefers, \$1.00; 83 Youth's Ulsters, sizes 32 to 35, worth up to \$6 and \$7 for \$3.75; 89 Beaver Overcoats, worth \$6.50 for \$4.75; one lot of Clothes at half price.

A Good All Wool Ulster worth \$7.50 for \$5.00

We will save you many dollars on Furs.

83 TRIMMED HATS,

\$2.75 quality for \$1.75, \$4 hats for \$2.50, \$5 hats for \$3.25, 50 hats, good, stylish; Hats for ladies worth up to \$1, 25c.

24 Ladies' Jackets, long lengths, not the newest, worth \$4 and \$5 for \$1.50. 15 Ladies' Capes, \$5 and \$7 for \$4. One lot Serge Skirts, \$4.75 quality for half price. 50 Ladies' Short Jackets half price. One lot of Ladies' Suits half price.

Kunfort Mitts 35 cts., Men's Reefers \$3.25, Underwear, fleece lined, \$1.20 for 90 cts.

MEN'S OVERCOATS,

\$5, \$6 and \$8, worth \$2 more. 500 Ladies' Hats at 1-4, 1-3, and many half price. Come along and get value for your money.

JAMES PATON & CO.

Meet Me at the Always Busy Store

A Ladies' Coat Bargain

Worth \$5.00 to \$8.00 each FOR \$2.00 each

These Coats are all black, well made and perfect fitting. The reason for the cut in price is the sleeves are too large. You can easily remedy that, and you save \$3.00 to \$6.00 on a Coat.

A lot of Capes

\$3.00 each W RTH UP TO \$12.00

These are suitable for middle aged ladies. They would also do splendidly for a heavy warm driving wrap. \$3.00 each.

These are BARGAINS.

Stanley Bros

IT PAYS TO BUY AT PERKINS'

Blankets

Not all good blankets are all wool.

Some are strengthened and bettered by a warp of cotton; or in other words, are better blankets at the price than if every thread were wool. But whether you want the all-wool or the mixed kinds, you may be sure we'll point out the difference to you. This is a safe place to buy blankets.

Cotton Blankets, 85c. and \$1.20

Union Blankets, \$1.50 and 2.50

Wool Blankets, \$3.60 and upwards

All-wool Moncton Blanketing 90c. per yard.

F. PERKINS & CO.

THE MILLINERY LEADERS.

They Help.

It is the little expenses that count. It is the small leak that sinks a big ship. Housekeepers can save quite an item in their Grocery bill by dealing at McKenna's. Everything new and fresh at the Corner Grocery.

JOHN McKENNA.