

THE WEATHER.

Maritime—Decreasing northwesterly to westerly winds colder with some snow flurries but mostly fair.

New England Forecast. Washington, Jan. 7.—Forecast for New England: Fair Saturday and Sunday, rising temperature Sunday; moderate west and northwest winds.

AROUND THE CITY

Young People's Lecture. At the Natural History building yesterday afternoon the opening lecture of the young people's course was given by Mr. Wm. McIntosh, the curator.

Has Accepted Call to Fort Fairfield. Rev. Miles Trafton who was pastor of the Reformed Baptist church of St. John for 12 years and who resigned about a year ago on account of ill health, has accepted the pulpit of the Reformed Baptist church at Fairfield, Me., and left last evening accompanied by his wife and family for his new home.

New Uniforms for St. Stephen's Cadets. At the annual meeting of St. Stephen's company boys' brigade last evening, officers were re-elected as follows: Col. Buchanan, Capt. Heans, and Lieuts. Spear and Arbor. It was decided to purchase new uniforms at a cost of \$200. A balance on hand of \$217 towards the purpose was reported.

Pioneer Lodge Officers Installed. Officers of Pioneer Lodge, No. 9, I. O. O. F., were installed by Dep. Grand Master, A. D. Smith, last evening, as follows:—F. H. Sinclair, N. G.; B. Robertson, V. G.; Jos. A. Murdoch, R. S.; A. D. Smith, Fin. Sec.; H. D. Dolg, Treas.; C. N. Skinner, W. E. W. Graham, C.; D. A. Sinclair, R. S. N. G.; C. D. Fowler, L. S. N. G.; A. Hastings, R. S. V. G.; J. Dinsman, L. S. V. G.; R. F. White, R. S. S.; Roy H. Colling, L. S. S.; Thos. McMaster, I. G.; J. S. Gibbon, O. G.

Appointed Third Engineer. Mr. Hugh McDonald, son of the late Captain Angus McDonald, left last evening for New York where he has accepted the post of third engineer on the steamer Aclurykill of the Standard Oil Company's fleet. Mr. McDonald served his apprenticeship with the St. John Iron Works and is a skilled mechanic. His brother William is chief engineer of the Aclurykill. The steamer will sail on Sunday afternoon for China direct. A large number of Mr. McDonald's friends were at the depot to see him off and to wish him well in his chosen profession.

No Reduction Known Here. Asked last evening if the reported reduction in the price of refined oil by the Standard Oil Company in New York would affect the local market, Mr. T. H. Bullock, manager of the Imperial Oil Co., said the reduction was very small and so far he had not received any advice as to the St. John quotations. According to the despatch received the reduction amounted to fifteen cents a barrel on refined oil but this Mr. Bullock said, was incorrect. Prices in New York now stand as follows: refined in cases, \$10.30; in tanks, \$4.40 and Standard white, \$7.50.

Girls' Educational Classes Open. At the monthly meeting of the Kings Daughters held yesterday afternoon at the Guild, a vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. C. F. Woodman for her annual gift to the order of \$25. Thanks were also extended to all who had made contributions to the barrel before Christmas. The barrel was refilled four times and the articles received were of much assistance to the destitute. It was announced that the second term of the girls' educational classes would commence next Tuesday evening at 7.30 o'clock. Two capable teachers will be in attendance and much valuable instruction will be received by those who attend.

St. John Pilot Commission. At the annual meeting of the St. John Pilot Commissioners yesterday, figures were submitted showing a grand total of 311 schooners, 11 barkets and 253 steamers in all 575 vessels on which dues were paid during the year. Of these 236 were British and 239 foreign. On the British tonnage there was collected pilotage amounting to \$29,974.61 and from foreign tonnage \$8,282.56, making a total collection of \$38,257.17. It was now on the active roll 24 pilots, including one at Musquash. Two pilots draw superannuation allowances and eleven windows of pilots who are cared for from the pilotage funds.

Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Pearce. About twenty ladies and gentlemen assembled at the residence of Mr. F. Murray, King street east, last evening and after enjoying a few hours socially, presented Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Pearce, who leave today for London, Ont., with a handsome cut glass pitcher. Mr. Pearce made a fitting reply in which he expressed regret at leaving the city. Mr. and Mrs. Pearce have been active workers in Centenary church during their stay here. Mr. Pearce has been promoted to the head office of the London Life Insurance Co. at London, Ont. The many friends he has made here while congratulating him on his advancement, regret his departure from the city.

NOTE SIGNED BY DEPUTY DECLARED VALID BY COURT

Judge Barry Decides In Favor Of Royal Bank In Suit Against James Tucker—Peculiar Complications.

Judge Barry gave judgment this week in favor of the Royal Bank of Canada in an action brought by them against James Tucker and tried at Newcastle last month. The point at issue was the validity of an indorsement which the defendant Mr. Tucker had authorized his niece to make for him, but which was made by another at her request.

The Anderson Furniture Company of Newcastle gave a note of about \$400 to Mr. Tucker for lumber they had purchased from him and he discounted the note at the Newcastle branch of the Royal Bank. A few days before the note became due the company being desirous of renewing it sent their secretary to interview Mr. Tucker, who lived about twenty miles away. He was not at home so the company's agent left a renewal note with his father, with a request that it be indorsed on his return and mailed to the company.

The note with Mr. Tucker's name indorsed on it was received by the company on the day the old note matured, but after banking hours. It was, however, delivered to the bank and the old note was not dishonored by them.

Before the renewal note matured the Anderson Company was placed in liquidation by a winding-up order made by the late Judge Hamilton, and when it matured it was dishonored and notice of dishonor given to Mr. Tucker. He claimed that he had never authorized the party who indorsed the note to do so. He testified he had authorized his niece to sign it for him.

Told Her Sister to Sign It. His niece gave evidence that she did not sign but had told her sister to sign it. Her sister swore that she did not sign it but got Mrs. Tucker to sign Mr. Tucker's name on the note which was done in her presence. Immediately afterwards she took the note and mailed it to the company.

It was claimed on Mr. Tucker's behalf that his niece had no authority to delegate her power. It was contended on the part of the bank that as the matter was purely clerical and mechanical the niece had the right to get another to sign the name after Mr. Tucker had authorized her to indorse the note for him. The bank also claimed that it should not be prejudiced by the negligence or wrong-doing of the defendant's agent.

The case was tried at Newcastle and argument was heard in Fredericton before Judge Barry, who, after listening to the evidence, gave judgment in favor of the bank. Mr. E. P. Willison was attorney and Mr. H. A. Powell, K. C., counsel for the bank, and Mr. T. W. Butler and Mr. R. A. Lawlor, K. C., acted in like capacity for the defendant.

Mr. Andrew A. Allan of the Allan Steamship Company spent yesterday in the city on a tour of inspection. It was his first visit in several years and although he had intended to stay several days here he was obliged rather unexpectedly to leave for Boston in the evening. During the day he discussed various matters with the officials of the company and also inspected the West Side facilities.

Interviewed by The Standard on his return from the West Side in the afternoon Mr. Allan expressed satisfaction at the improvements that had been made since his last visit. He wished, however, he said, that berths 5 and 6 had been built without an angle. He supposed there must have been some reason for this manner of construction, but the ships could have been more easily handled had the berths been built in a line.

Asked the reason for the increase of at least five per cent in west bound passenger rates, which was agreed on by the Atlantic Steamship Companies at Liverpool yesterday, he said he believed it was due to increased expenses. Better ships and better service required more to keep up. A short time ago it was decided to increase the freight rates and this was another step in the same direction. The passenger rates would be about the same now, he added, whether coming or going.

His firm had no ships under construction at the present time, he said, but he did not believe it would be long before they made additions to their fleet. Asked about the rumors regarding the purchase of the Allan Line by the C. P. R., Mr. Allan said that there was not a word of truth in the story and there was no prospect of any such transfer. The stock was all held by his brother and himself and two cousins. It was all in the family and there was not the slightest foundation for the report.

Mr. Allan will return to the city in the course of a week or two and probably remain for some days. To Speak in Whitfield's Church. Judge Forbes is gradually adding to his record of speeches in historic places. Last year he paid a high tribute to some of the qualities of the Puritans speaking at the Old South Church, Boston. A week hence the judge is to address the Bible Society of the Merrimack region. He will address a meeting at Newburyport, in the church where the remains of Whitfield lie.

LOCAL IMPORTERS CONCERNED AT RAISE IN DRY GOODS RATES

New Schedule On Through Goods To Montreal Now In Force—Will Affect Merchants Here In Summer.

Local merchants are just now much concerned over the new schedule of ocean freight rates, of which advice has been received by Upper Canadian merchants. The new schedule applies to dry goods, which are shipped on through bills of lading from the ports of Liverpool, Glasgow, Manchester, Bristol, Hull and Newcastle, coming via Halifax, Portland or St. John and destined to through ports in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. The new rates went into force January 3.

Speaking to The Standard yesterday members of prominent local dry goods firms stated that they had not received notification of any increase and did not expect any during the winter as goods coming to St. John would be shipped direct. In the summer, however, when goods come in through bills of lading from Montreal, Halifax and Portland a great deal of local dry goods firms here.

Local firms say that they are already paying a high rate on all classes of goods by the C. P. R. and other lines and if the rate is raised on through goods via Montreal, Halifax and Portland it would result in the transference of a great deal of their business to the Furness line which maintains a direct service to St. John in the summer.

GRIEF STRICKEN MOTHER'S LETTER TO S. L. GORBEL

Pathetic Reply On Receiving Word Of Stanley Riordeen's Death—Was Killed On S. S. Montrose Last November.

"We do not know how to thank you enough for your great kindness and great sympathy in writing such a beautiful letter to my broken-hearted daughter. Her father and I thank you for it and also for your kindness in sending that beautiful flower from dear Stanley's grave which my dear girl will keep as long as she lives."

"I trust and hope God will spare her to bring up her two dear babies; we must trust and hope in His great goodness, for I know He will comfort her if she will trust in Him. It is such a terrible blow. Such a young couple, so happy together, and such a good steady young man."

The above is part of a letter received by Mr. S. L. Gorbel, manager of the Seaman's Institute from the grief-stricken mother of Stanley Riordeen of Poplar, London, who was killed November 30th last while working on the C. P. R. liner Montrose the last time the ship was in port.

The funeral of the unfortunate man was held from the Seaman's Institute, the C. P. R. paying the expenses, and an inquest into the cause of death was afterwards held by the Coroner, Dr. D. J. Berryman.

Mr. Gorbel notified Mr. Riordeen's wife of her husband's death, but in order that the news might not come as too much of a shock, he made some inquiries among the seamen in port and, learning that Mrs. Riordeen's father was alive, informed him of the accident and enclosed a letter of sympathy to the widow. He also sent her a flower from her husband's grave in a small box.

In reply, Mr. Gorbel received a letter, a portion of which is quoted from the mother of Mr. Riordeen in which she explained that she was writing on her poor daughter's behalf as she was distressed and grief-stricken on hearing of her husband's death.

TO SEEK LEGISLATION TO MAKE INCREASE IN SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

R. B. Emerson Says More Money Is Needed To Supply Teachers—Demand Created By New Schools.

Mr. R. B. Emerson, chairman of the school board, said last evening that it was true that the school board would ask for a considerable increase in the estimates this year. He could not say, however, how much the increase would amount to, \$10,000, as stated by other members of the board.

It was the purpose of the board, he added, to apply for legislation in order to secure authority for increasing the assessment. More money was needed to supply teachers for the new school, Winter street annex, another room in the High School and for a new school in Erin street.

WASSON'S 'DANDR-OFF' FOR THE HAIR.

Cures and prevents Dandruff, stops itching. 10c. Application at all Barbers. 50c. Large Bottle. Chas. R. Wasson, The Drug Store, 100 King Street.

REMOVAL SALE OF BOOKS, STATIONERY, LEATHER GOODS etc.

In order to reduce stock before moving we are making great reductions in every department. This is a genuine bargain sale, and it will pay you to take advantage of it.

E. G. Nelson & Co., Cor. King and Charlotte Sts.

WHY ARE 'MALTESE CROSS' RUBBERS

Better Than Other Makes? -BECAUSE- They use a better compound. They use a better quality of canvas.

They use lasts that are shaped to fit the style of boots worn now and not a decade ago. They turn out the cleanest and brightest looking goods.

They make their goods in a variety of shapes and widths. They were the first company to put some style in their goods. They are the company in Canada outside of the combine.

MALTESE CROSS Brand lead in Fit, Style and Wear. Maritime Distributors. Waterbury & Rising King Street, Mill Street, Union Street.

MINISTERS WILL EXCHANGE PULPITS SUNDAY MORNING. The committee of the Evangelical Alliance have arranged the following change of pulpits on Sunday morning at the close of the week of prayer:

Methodist. Centenary—Rev. Wellington Camp. Carmarthen street—Rev. J. H. A. Anderson. Exmouth street—Rev. A. B. Cohoe. Zion—Rev. L. A. McLean. Portland street—Rev. J. C. B. Appel. Carleton Methodist—Rev. M. E. Fletcher.

Baptist. Leinster street—Rev. C. R. Flanders. Brussels street—Rev. E. C. Ford. Waterloo street—Rev. W. W. Lodge. Tabernacle—Rev. F. H. Wentworth. Main street—Rev. Nell McLaughlin. Victoria street—Rev. J. J. McCaskill. Presbyterian. St. John—Rev. C. W. Squires. St. Stephen's—Rev. S. W. Anthony. Calvin—Rev. James Crisp. Christian. Douglas Avenue—Rev. B. H. Nobles. Coburg street—Rev. G. D. Milburn. In Carleton. Charlotte street Baptist—Rev. H. R. Road. Ludlow street Baptist—Rev. J. Henney. Presbyterian—Rev. H. R. Robinson. Methodist—Rev. M. E. Fletcher.

Meeting of Thorne Lodge. Rev. A. B. Cohoe will address the Gospel temperance meeting under the auspices of Thorne Lodge, I. O. G. T., in Haymarket Square Hall, at 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Fireplace Fittings. It is not yet too late to pick out some attractive furnishings to enhance the value of the cheery blaze. Come in and see our Andirons, Fire Sets and Fenders, In Iron and Brass. W. H. Thorne & Co. Ltd. Market Square, St. John, N. B.

Overcoat Money--Save It! When a reliable firm well known in the community, offers real reductions from the prices of its goods, THEN is the time when you should open your eyes to opportunity. Our January Sale of 20th Century Brand and other makes of Overcoats means just this: You can buy here and now, an overcoat that will meet exacting requirements in EVERY way, at a cash saving of 20 per cent. Judge for yourself.

GILMOUR'S, 68 KING STREET. TAILORING AND CLOTHING. "A GOOD PLACE TO BUY GOOD CLOTHES"

UNNEEDA BISCUIT. Biscuit are more than mere soda crackers. They are a distinct individual food article, made from special materials, by special methods, in specially constructed bakeries. They are sealed in a special way which gives them crispness, cleanliness and freshness which "crackers" from the paper bag always lack. They are the nation's accepted. 5c. National Biscuit Co. Ask Your Grocer.

Meet at Harvey's Today FOR CLOTHING BARGAINS! As usual this time of year finds a big clothing store like this with a lot of broken lines and odds and ends that it is desirable to clear out quickly. We are now going through our entire stock cutting prices very deeply in order to turn these goods into cash with the least possible delay. We are not going to close our stores, in order to create a sensation; that is not necessary. We are going to give you good honest goods, garments that you will be proud to wear, at a third or more off our regular low cash prices. Read This List of Boys' and Youths' Suit Prices:

Winter Overcoat Clearance. Stylish and Durable Garments for Men and Boys at Surprisingly Low Prices. An unparalleled opportunity this to buy reliable M. R. A. garments at substantial savings and Winter not half over. Every cold weather overcoat now in stock (after a remarkably successful season) is included in this offering which thrifty people will readily take advantage of. Come prepared to be surprised, for many remarkable values are here. Men's Overcoats. In Tweeds, Chevots, Meltons, Vicunas; greens, greys, browns, and black, 46 and 50 in. long, velvet collars; a variety of lapel effects; full, easy-wearing garments with graceful lines. Special, \$5.00 and upward. Boys' Fancy Overcoats. Ages 2 1/2 to 9 years. Several exclusive styles; full reefer length and longer models. Chinchillas, Chevots, Tweeds and Friezes in shades of blue, brown, green and grey. Special, \$3.00, 3.60, 3.75 to 6.75. Boys' Regular Overcoats. 7 years to youths' sizes; velvet or Prussian collars; Meltons, Chevots, Friezes and Tweeds, in greys, browns and greens. Special, \$4.20 to 8.10. Boys' Reefers. 6 to 17 years. Storm collar and with velvet collar. Chinchillas and Friezes in blues and greys. Special, \$2.40 to 6.50. CLOTHING DEPARTMENT. Sale of Household Linens and Cottons, including Free Hemming, Starts Monday Morning. MANCHESTER ROBERTSON ALLISON, LTD.