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OTTAWA

Prevalence of Smallpox Through Dominion Will Effect Attendance at Military Camp.

Special Notice Issued by the Customs Department—Population a Little Short of Sixty Thousand.

Other News.

OTTAWA, June 5.—Charles Hall, supernumerary civil servant, sent to the bank of Montreal a cash superannuation check for \$55. The teller passed the bill through the window, but before the civil servant could connect with them, a hand slipped under his arm and grasped the wrist. The civil servant and the teller grappled, and the latter flourished the weapon, but did not touch the conspicuous hand did not stir. The man with the money said he was a sheriff's officer and had seized the cash for debt. A judgment for \$500 against Hall was recently obtained by a food-store vendor named Hatch, and the latter took this method of recovering. It is the first instance of a seizure under such circumstances, and the money is still in the sheriff's possession, but neither Hall nor the bank has taken any action as yet to test the legality of the procedure.

Chief Architect Ewart of the public works office on the 22nd for England. There he will meet Hon. Mr. Fielding and inspect the class of buildings suitable for a branch of the royal mint to be established in Ottawa.

Col. Steele sails on Saturday next from Montreal for South Africa to take over a district command in the constabulary. Saturday is his 52nd birthday. Col. Steele has been promised that special legislation will be passed next session to grant him a pension from the Mounted Police, but after his shabby treatment by the government the promise does not amount to much. It is not a want of money that takes Steele again to the wars, as he recently sold mining property in Kootenay which netted him sixty thousand dollars.

Smallpox has again broken out in Hull. Two cases from the lumber woods have been quarantined. Compulsory vaccination will be inaugurated in the schools.

A cable received from Lord Strathcona announces that the war office has authorized the Canadian government to advance the imperial gratitudes to all officers and men who returned direct to Canada from South Africa without delay. The gratitudes therefore pay all claims immediately and be reimbursed from the imperial exchequer later on.

The marine biological station, which is being moved from St. Andrews to Campsie, will arrive there tomorrow night in tow of the Dominion fishery cruiser Curlew. It will be moored in the Tickle channel, about a mile from Campsie town. Pears had been entertained that the delay was due to the storm encountered by the Curlew.

THE WAR OFFICE

Report of Committee Recommends a Rational Change in Organization.

LONDON, June 5.—Simplification and decentralization are the key notes of the report issued this morning by the committee under the chairmanship of Clifton E. Dawkins (partner in J. S. Morgan & Co.) appointed to inquire into the war office organization. The abolition is recommended of the present system of ruling the army by minute and irritating regulations, both military and financial.

The committee considers the war office ought to be relieved by the decent relaxation of a mass of routine work now absorbing the energies of the high officials and preventing proper attention to important military questions. Further decentralization should be secured by an enlargement of the powers and responsibilities of the officers commanding districts, and, finally, a permanent war office board should be established, which, under the authority of the secretary of state should control the business of the war office as a whole, without detracting from the individual responsibilities of the commander in chief and head of departments.

LONDON, June 7.—The Chinese government says the Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express "has ordered that bonds be prepared for the payment of the indemnity."

STEAMSHIP ASHORE.

Leyland Liner Ass on the Rocks Near Cape Race.

Was Bound from Antwerp to Montreal With a Big Cargo—Crew's Hair Row Escape.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., June 5.—The Leyland liner Ass, a 1,400-ton steamer from Antwerp for Montreal, with 1,500 tons of cargo, went ashore on Cape Race at midnight. She has eleven feet of water in her hold and is likely to prove a total wreck. Her crew had great difficulty in getting ashore and reaching shore. No further news is obtainable at present. The Ass, a German-built vessel, was bound for Montreal. When the Ass struck the rocks on Cape Race at midnight, the crew composed mainly of Germans and Hollanders, stampeded and scrambled for life boats. The officers were helpless. Only the proximity of land on the port side afforded a partial shelter, preventing a greater catastrophe.

The crew had a most wretched experience in the boats during the night. They were not aware of their position and there was danger of the ship collapsing and boats swamping. The captain wired at noon that his forehills had fourteen feet of water in each of them. The ship is hoped for from the stern and he hopes to get her off if the sea keeps smooth with the assistance of steamers from St. John's.

The Ass was running at full speed through the fog when she struck Cape Race. She has an almost hopeless haul on the coast. For three days Captain Dingley had been looking for the Ass, but without success. He was last seen upon a rounding Cape Race thirty miles south of land. The ship, however, was frustrated by a northerly current.

The Ass struck at 11:30 p.m. and was driven ashore by the wind. The arrival of daylight enabled Capt. Dingley to land the mate, who climbed the cliffs, proceeded to Cape Race station and telegraphed the news. Three steamers and three divers were sent to the wreck. It was considered to begin operations tomorrow morning. The Merritt & Chapman Dredge and Wrecking Co. have wired that they are ready to undertake refloating the Ass, but will not do so until the report of the divers before acting.

ST. STEPHEN

Rev. A. S. Morton Inducted as Pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

ST. STEPHEN, N. B., June 5.—Quite a large congregation gathered in the Presbyterian church this evening to witness the induction of Rev. A. S. Morton into the pastorate. In succession to Rev. Dr. MacKenzie, who has removed to California and joined the Episcopal church. The service opened with the singing of the 72nd Psalm, followed by Scripture readings and prayer by Rev. Dr. Fraser of St. John, who also preached the sermon. His carefully reasoned remarks were listened to with close attention. Singing and prayer followed, after which Rev. A. S. Morton was inducted by Rev. Dr. Fraser. Rev. Mr. MacNeill addressed the pastor and Rev. Mr. Burgess the people in an impressive manner. Rev. Mr. Murray offered prayer, and the session closed with singing. The new pastor was inducted in the presence of a large and enthusiastic congregation during the vacation. Rev. Mr. Morton was presented with a cheque for his first month's salary. He is warmly welcomed by a large and united congregation of workers, active in every good effort.

W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD.

Our line of Refrigerators is perfect. All have a perfect system of cold dry air circulation. Walls which repel heat and retain cold. They are very easy on the ice. Prices \$7.60 up.

W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD. ST. JOHN, N. B.

WINTER PORT TRADE.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Kitchener's Scouts Surprise and Rout Four Hundred Boers.

PRETORIA, June 5.—Col. Wilson with 240 of Kitchener's Scouts, has surprised and routed 400 Boers belonging to the Bever commando, 24 miles west of Warm Baths. The Boers resisted stubbornly but finally broke and fled, leaving 27 dead, a hundred prisoners, and all their weapons and supplies, including 5,000 cattle, in the hands of the British. The loss of the latter was three men killed and 15 wounded. Bever's main command arrived on the scene soon after the engagement, but failed in the attempt to recapture the supplies. Bever was thus left practically without any transport or supplies.

SPECIAL LONDON CABLE.

MONTREAL, June 5.—The Star's London cable says: Much surprise is expressed here among Anglo-Canadians at the announcement of the war office that the imperial government declined to furnish the offer from the Dominion government to furnish another cavalry corps for service in South Africa, holding that at the present stage of the war and with the large number of men now in the field, it was hardly necessary to ask Canada to furnish another contingent.

DEATH OF MAJOR ARTHUR

CLEVELAND, June 5.—Major George Arthur, assistant paymaster of the U. S. army, who recently returned home from the Philippines, died suddenly in this city today.

GIVEN A SPLENDID RECEPTION

LONDON, June 5.—Maurice Labori, the distinguished French advocate, speaking in a speech before the House of Commons of the British bench and her tonight applauded by his audience. More than five hundred persons were present at the reception, including the lord high chancellor, all the members of the cabinet, all the judges of the high court of judicature and many other distinguished persons, did honor to the occasion.

CARNEGIE'S EDUCATIONAL PLANS.

LONDON, June 7.—At a meeting held yesterday to consider Mr. Carnegie's educational plans for Scotland, the Earl of Elgin and Lord Rosebery were present. The principal features of the plans were settled and will soon be published. It is understood that one condition of the trust is that the capital sum provided shall at present remain invested in the securities in which Mr. Carnegie placed it.

MONTEBREAL, June 5.

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