

ALMS HOUSE.

Commissioners Visited the Institution Saturday Afternoon. Christmas Tree Provided for the Children and Gifts for the inmates—All Given a Splendid Time at the Home.

The Alms House commissioners and about fifty other citizens visited the Alms House Saturday afternoon. A Christmas tree was provided by the commissioners for the children and gifts were made to each inmate. The visitors went through the institution, and several of them expressed satisfaction at the good condition in which it is. One remarked that the tidy and cheerful appearance of the rooms all through the building reminded him of a large private home. The general condition of the building goes well for the commissioners, and E. C. Woods and Mrs. Woods, the superintendent and matron.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTATIONS.

Tokens of Goodwill Which Were Exchanged. The employees of Messrs. Campbell Bros. presented to the Junior partner, with a Turkish lounge. Geo. A. Knodell, chairman of the board of commissioners, extended a welcome to the visitors. It was not for the commissioners, he said, to speak of the condition of the institution. The visitors were invited to inspect it and to judge for themselves. Magistrate, Ritchie and Rev. Dr. Raymond made short addresses in which they expressed appreciation of the excellent services rendered by those who were responsible for the well-being of the institution.

BIG CONSERVATIVE VICTORY!

North Renfrew Administers a Fatal Blow to Ross Government by 600 Majority. It Was a Liberal Seat, but It Vindicated Gamey With a Rush—Reported That Laurier Will Promptly Call on Dominion Elections, ere the Revolt Becomes Still Greater.

PEMBROKE, Ont., Dec. 26.—The by-election in North Renfrew for the Ontario legislature today resulted in the return of Mr. A. Dunlop, the conservative candidate, by over 600 majority, which will probably increase his majority. The result is a big liberal seat and reduces the Ontario government's majority to one on a vote in the house. The election was a most exciting one and despite the fact that the thermometer registered 40 below zero the largest vote in the history of the riding was polled.

WAR INEVITABLE.

China Thinks Russia and Japan Will Fight Ere Long. TOKIO, Dec. 27.—The opinion entertained by the best informed diplomats in Pekin that war between Russia and Japan is probable and almost inevitable, remains unchanged. Nothing has been received here to corroborate the special despatches from Tokio which said that the Japanese government was adopting an imperative tone in pressing for a speedy reply to its last note. The report is not believed.

TWENTY-TWO KILLED

And Twenty-nine Others More or Less Injured. Most Deadly Collision Ever Known in the History of the Pere Marquette Railway System. GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 27.—Tonight the death toll resulting from the head-on collision between two Pere Marquette R. R. passenger trains near East Paris early yesterday morning stands at 22 with 29 persons injured, several of them probably fatally.

WHY SHE WEPT. "Alice Ben Bolt" Had Lost a Drink. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Weeping as if her heart was breaking, one of the eleven women who, with five men, were arrested in a resort in Mulberry street last night, was asked sympathetically by Magistrate O'Brien in the Tombs police court today what was the cause of her tears.

TRIPLE DROWNING.

Terrible Skating Accident at Half-way River Lake. Near Parrsboro. Beverley Robinson Lost His Life in Valp. Effort to Rescue His Son—James Lockhart Was the Other Victim. PARRSBORO, N. S., Dec. 27.—One of the worst skating and drowning accidents that ever took place in these parts happened here, yesterday afternoon, and as a result, the cruel waters of the lake claimed as its victims Beverley Robinson, his son, Clifford Robinson, and Jas. Lockhart. The two last victims together with a younger brother of Robinson's, were skating on the lake when the time was arrived for the last of the afternoon. When at the upper end of the lake near the line, Lockhart, without a bit of warning, slipped and fell into the water. He was close behind, but who is supposed to have been on his feet, was seen to splash and to be struggling to stay afloat. The younger brother of Robinson, who was far enough behind to save himself from going in, went as fast as he could to the Newville Co.'s store and gave the alarm and as fast as they could get there a number of people were on the spot, among them Beverley Robinson, father of the boy who was ill holding on to the ice. In coming along the men had hastily grabbed a board and this was shoved under the boy, but he was far gone that he could not let go of the ice to grasp it and as a last resort the board was shoved over the hole and the father started to reach the boy. Just as he was about to take hold of him the board broke and father and son disappeared under the ice, never to be seen again. The drowning happened at about five o'clock, just as it was becoming dark, but searching parties went to work and at once began to try to recover the bodies. The search did not until ten o'clock at night and then, on account of the cold and stormy weather it was abandoned until this morning here, they went to work again and were rewarded by finding the bodies at twelve o'clock quite close to where the accident happened.

OF INTEREST TO N.B. TEACHERS.

FREDERICTON, Dec. 27.—The committee on text books appointed by the Provincial Institute at its last session here in June, 1900, will convene at the school in Fredericton this morning. The committee consists of Mr. H. C. Foster, Dr. Bridges of St. John's, C. Foster of Fredericton, R. D. Hanson of Bathurst and Miss Harvey of Fredericton.

DIGBY.

John Doe of Legal Notoriety in Jail—Schooners in Collision. DIGBY, N. S., Dec. 28.—John Doe, hailing from New York, was arrested at Digby today, charged with the theft of a horse and wagon from James Bain of Yarmouth. Doe drove from Yarmouth to Meteghan, where he left the horse and carriage. Herebefore John Doe has been a notorious character in the law courts, but there is nothing unusual about his namesake who occupies a cell in the lockup tonight.

OTTAWA NEWS.

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—At the governor general's New Year levee, Col. Elmhurst, deputy minister of militia, and Herbert, well known sculptor, will be the guests of the governor. The governor conferred on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday.

J. N. HARVEY, MEN'S AND BOYS' CLOTHES, 199 and 201 Union Street, St. John. While the Christmas Sales were far beyond our expectations, All the Bargains in Suits and Overcoats are not gone yet. All broken lines have been greatly reduced in price. MEN'S OVERCOATS, \$3.75 to \$15.00. MEN'S SUITS, 4.00 to 15.00. MEN'S REEFERS, 2.98 to 4.50.

CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT MONCTON. Among the gentlemen of note who reached St. John Saturday and spent Sunday in the city were O. Turgeon, M. P. for Gloucester, and Hon. C. H. Laplante, the provincial chief commissioner of public works. They leave this morning for Moncton in connection with the inter-provincial bridge at Metepedia, going there for the purpose of interviewing Chief Engineer Mackenzie of the C. P. R. as to conference between him, the Quebec province engineer, the New Brunswick engineer and the engineer of the Canadian Bridge Co. Previous to the awarding of the contract for the steel superstructure by the dominion government to the province, the department of railways and canals had entered into an agreement with the Canadian Bridge Co. to replace the old bridge with a new one and the old structure was to be removed piece by piece. What the public works department want now is that the bridge instead of being dismantled, be removed from its present position a distance of about 14 or 15 feet to become the passenger bridge.

FILLED WITH RAGE.

The Old, Old Story of the Vicious Mother in Law, and Run. BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 28.—Filled with rage because he believed that his mother-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Lawrence, had seduced his wife to separate from him, Joseph Eardley, a plumb weaver, this afternoon, forced his way into Mrs. Lawrence's home, and fired a shot from a revolver into her temple from which she died this evening without having regained consciousness. Eardley was arrested within 15 minutes after the shooting. He became hysterical in the police station and denied that he had committed the act, but tonight he made a statement in which the police say he admitted the shooting.

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