

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
Is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE, by The Telegraph Publishing Company, of St. John, a company incorporated by act of the legislature of New Brunswick.

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Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper, each insertion, \$1.00 per inch.
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Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 13, 1904.

OUR DEFENCELESS FRONTIER.

Some of the armchair strategists in London have been regarding Canada's frontier and have made the shocking discovery not only that it is undefended but that no adequate plan to defend it has been adopted either at Ottawa or by the British War Office. If this discovery is disconcerting in London, what must it be among Canadians who live where they can see American territory every time they look South? A cable dispatch shows that the London Saturday Review is distinctly excited over the matter, that it calls the leisurely Mr. Balfour a coward, and gives him no understanding that this 4,000 mile frontier must be fenced forthwith. To quote:

"Mr. Balfour's talk about the position and nature of the Defence Committee was marred by a glaring omission, an omission conspicuous throughout the whole discussion. Not a word had he to say on the most difficult problem of Imperial defence of the Canadian frontier. Was that for fear of wounding American susceptibilities? The truth is, nothing but sheer cowardice keeps the leaders on both sides from discussing Canadian defence. They know, naval and military experts know, that the Canadian frontier is simply undefended, and they have no plan for its defence. In order to cover their impotency they invent the excuse that mutual affection makes war between Canada and the United States impossible, so that there is no need to consider Canadian defence. This is a transparent, dishonourable fiction."
If Mr. Balfour were a magician of unlimited power even his fear of wounding American susceptibilities would scarcely prevent him from making the Canadian frontier impassable, save perhaps by railroad tunnels here and there, and doing it at once, even if he had to break a golf engagement to visit the Saturday Review's approval and escape its suspicion that he is an impotent coward and a fool to boot.

But what can Mr. Balfour do about it? The Review probably expected General Kuropatkin to draw a line of bayonets and force across Korea from the Yellow Sea to the Sea of Japan and prevent the Japanese from crossing into Manchuria. That line would have been but a few hundred miles in length and Kuropatkin had an army of 200,000 men and an empire of 140,000,000 people to back him. The Review may have derived its idea of frontier defence from the Spanish. When one end of Cuba was controlled by the insurgents the Spanish general built a trench across the island at its narrowest point—a chain of forts thirty or forty miles in length. He had an immense force, yet parties of insurgent raiders crossed the trench almost at will. The Spanish were wretched soldiers, it is true, but they had but a handbreadth of frontier to guard—and the insurgents were never very formidable. Defending frontiers presents difficulties, and mayhap Mr. Balfour and his military advisers hesitate over the little matter of a 4,000 mile trench which would be broken by extensive stretches of lakes and mountains.

Mr. Balfour may—probably does—believe that to erect fortifications along the border would not help Canada in time of war or in time of peace. He may believe that such fortifications would be a waste of money and would probably lead the Americans to erect similar ones and begin to work out plans on paper for the invasion of this country. Mr. Balfour probably believes that nothing more wretched and terrible than war along the Canadian border could well be conceived. That is the common view. Yet he and the Canadian authorities have for years been forced to consider what Canada's best defence would be in case the unexpected happened. Mr. Balfour does not believe it wise to station British troops along the frontier in time of peace.

Canadians do not believe in lining up at the boundary or building forts there while relations are friendly and likely to be friendly. They believe that a rapidly growing population excelling in the arts of peace is this country's best defence. They believe that Canada, as a part of the Empire, should have a well-trained, compact militia force, fully equipped with the best rifles and artillery and capable of expansion according to well formulated plans in case of emergency. And they believe this measure of preparation, which will soon be perfected, is sufficient for a loyal and courageous people much given to minding their own business but by no

means likely to cower at the threat of invasion from any quarter.

PARKER AND THE RAIN.

It was raining cats and dogs while Mr. Champ Clark of Missouri and 600 Democrats stood bareheaded before Judge Parker yesterday and "noctified" him that he had been nominated. The more eloquent Mr. Clark became, the harder it rained—according to the Associated Press. A judge, who has been photographed while bathing on horseback, at his desk, in the hayfield and on the bench, did not appear to mind the rain, the report says. But mark the change—when Judge Parker began to reply the rain ceased. He admitted that the United States was a world power. The lowering clouds began to disappear. But he denied that the United States had only become a world power during the last few years—i.e. since the Republicans returned to power. The sun began to shine. He assured them that if elected he would neither seek nor accept a second term as president. By this time there was not a cloud in the sky.

And he only spoke in a conversational tone at that. One naturally wonders what might have occurred had the candidate shaken the dome of heaven by raising his voice as he would do later on when the battle waxes furious. As soon as he had finished his speech and some lesser light tapped a vein of oratory it began to rain again. These facts are gravely set forth in impressive sequence. In Canada the politicians sometimes beg the question by calling their opponents disloyal. The Democrats seem to go them one better. By circulating this story about the rain-controlling power of Judge Parker they doubtless intend to promote the impression that the stars in their courses are somehow hitched this year to the Democratic wagon.

The Republicans will be bound to deny this rain-stopping story. It may be expected that they will even ridicule it. They must do something. Judge Parker is becoming a bigger man daily, and Mr. Roosevelt, who shines in action, is apparently controlled by friends who have made him promise to do nothing startling enough to strengthen the story that he is unsafe and dictatorial.

He has sent a fleet to menace the Turk, it is true, but he has not followed it up by making public any threats to Russia, Constantinople, and that, in his case, is singular assurance. The Democratic newspapers are inclined to agree that the Turk has been impertinent, but they cannot altogether conceal their hope that the Turk may see the President's bluff and raise it, or that something may happen which will lead Mr. Roosevelt into a characteristic outburst. They are likely to be disappointed. The candidate is going to be good until November. For all that it is going to be a great show this year. The odds on Mr. Roosevelt are expected to grow smaller as the fight develops.

ELECTION FORECASTS.

Mr. Hays says there will be no construction work on the Grand Trunk Pacific this year. This will be used as an argument by those who say the government will make no appeal to the country this year. Some rather well informed men, by the way, are of that opinion, and do not agree with Dr. Daniel who believes the elections are coming this fall. Elections this year or next, the political forecasters are at work trying to figure out how the battle will go. The Toronto News, which is described by Liberals as too Conservative, and by Conservatives as too Liberal, and which describes itself as entirely independent, has a long editorial on the situation in general and the state of political sentiment in each of the provinces. The News says the Opposition seem to look for their chief gains in Ontario, New Brunswick and the West. The News is in some doubt about the result, though it does go so far as to say that the present Dundonald-loyalty agitation, if it helps the Conservatives in Ontario, will stiffen the government forces in Quebec.

Whether an election or another session is to come first, both parties the News says, will now begin to make ready for the fray. Only three times since Confederation has a parliament completed its full term. After 1878 Sir John Macdonald always went to the country before he was forced to do so, as did Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1900. There was to have been an election last year, but Premier's health or the G. T. P. matter caused a delay. The News says it is doubtful if the government has gained strength in the meantime. It maintains that the Grand Trunk Pacific is more objectionable now than when Mr. Blair opposed it, and it asserts that the Dundonald business will do the government no good outside Quebec. While Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Borden have avoided appeals to prejudice such as some of their followers in Ontario and Quebec are now making, the News foresees that the old quarrel over race matters and loyalty is going to figure in the next campaign in the principal provinces.

The News believes the outcome of these agitations will be bad for Ontario. "As a result the government will hold its enormous advantage in Quebec, and probably fail to improve its position in Ontario. This is not too satisfactory from the national standpoint. While it cannot be shown that Quebec has taken advantage of the premiership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to exploit the treasury, it is natural that the solid support which the French province gives to the government should be resented by the Conservatives in the

other provinces, and should encourage a disposition among Opposition politicians to array the English provinces against Quebec. The national interest would be served by a fairer distribution of the French seats between the two parties, and the return of a stronger Liberal contingent from Ontario."

The News complains that the principal ministers have neglected Ontario, have not visited it, and have appeared to indifference to it. The Ontario ministers are weak. The country is governed by Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. Neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives of Ontario have their old time influence at Ottawa, the News thinks. The influence of the West, of course, is growing. Both sides are warned that Ontario must not be thrust too far into the background.

"The situation demands the earnest attention of both sets of politicians. The leaders must endeavor to bring more men of strong character and first-rate capacity before the constituencies, even if this should mean a revolt against the caucus which is crushing spirit and individuality out of our politics. It cannot be said that the Federal Ministers from this province have been wise to ignore the people during a whole Parliamentary term, and they will probably find when they go to the country that they will hardly do better in Ontario than they did four years ago."

Having thus saved Ontario from political extinction the News proceeds to tell us what may happen elsewhere. Here is its opinion:

"But while the Opposition will carry Ontario, even if the Grand Trunk should enter the contest in support of the Ministerial candidates, the Liberal forces in the country that they will hardly do better in Ontario than they did four years ago." Having thus saved Ontario from political extinction the News proceeds to tell us what may happen elsewhere. Here is its opinion:

"The whole atmosphere of existence in Canada is suffused with ideas, habits, methods, instincts, and traditions borrowed from the other side of the line—that is, the United States. 'What is there,' he asks, 'in the United States, outside the political sphere, that is not duplicated in the Dominion?'"

Mr. Jones' case is absolutely hopeless. Yet after seeing Canada as one can see it in a few weeks, he hesitates not to rush into print with a series of amazing conclusions such as that quoted. And many of his countrymen will believe what he writes. It is only left for us to hope that his book will have no great sale, and that other hurried authors who visit Canada may forbear.

NO MONEY IN IT.

It is conceded that the St. Louis exposition is a great show, but a dismal financial failure is now generally expected. It is admitted, too, that an exposition lasting for several months, injures the ordinary business of the city in which it is held for a considerable period after it is over, while shorter and less pretentious exhibitions have the opposite effect.

The attendance at St. Louis up to date has been something more than 4,000,000, counting paid and free admissions. The cooler weather will see a tremendous rush, no doubt, but the attendance during the last three weeks in July showed a falling off as compared with some of the earlier weeks. Financially and in point of attendance the St. Louis fair will far out-run that at Buffalo, but it must be compared with the Paris and Chicago expositions. These were the greatest of their kind, and Paris was far in the lead. The figures subjoined show the number of paid admissions at some of the great shows of the world:

London, 1851—6,039,195.
London, 1862—2,211,103.
Paris, 1855—5,162,300.
Paris, 1867—8,805,069.
Philadelphia, 1876—10,164,439.
Paris, 1878—16,022,725.
Sydney, 1879—1,117,536.
London (Colonial), 1883—5,550,745.
Glasgow, 1888—5,748,379.
Paris, 1889—28,140,353.
Chicago, 1893—27,530,521.
Paris, 1900—50,000,000.
Buffalo, 1901—5,300,830.

The St. Louis venture started owing the United States government alone \$4,000,000. Apparently it faces a great deficit. It is well worth seeing for all that.

A STRIKING VALEDICTORY.

Some church members will readily discover food for thought in the remarks of the Rev. C. T. Phillips who contributes what he terms his valedictory to the Religious Intelligencer. The reverend gentleman evidently feels that the simple announcements of his resignation made by the secular newspapers are inadequate. He would say his own word at parting in his own way. He tells suspicious people everywhere, he says, that there was not the slightest "trouble." "The relation between pastor and people was the pleasantest." He observes that "any pastor who chooses and works for it, can have a pastorate as long as he pleases. It does not require great ability nor great grace

to stay on." Mr. Phillips insists that the people were very kind to him—paid his salary promptly and gave him presents again and again. And, "after my resignation," he says, "they gave me three weeks' holidays and thirty dollars." The dollars are gone but he has some of the vacation left and is going to enjoy it thoroughly.

Mr. Phillips thus leads up to the causes for his resignation: "Now for my reason for leaving this church and the kind people. In the first place, I am stronger physically than when I came here, and I enjoy my pulpit work. I can prepare sermons more easily than when I came. I enjoy visiting the aged and the sick and the poor and the suffering in the hospital and asylum, but I have neither the strength nor the inclination to visit the people who have to be flattered and coddled, and will attend church only as often as the sexton visits them. The streets of St. John are hilly and much walking gives me much pain in a foot injured in Sussex many years ago. This is the reason why I resign, because I feel that I cannot visit all the people scattered over the city."

But for the "people who have to be flattered and coddled," evidently, the reverend gentleman would not have resigned his charge. His valedictory may lead them to change their ways—if they recognize themselves. Some may suspect that their neighbors are meant.

Mr. Phillips speaks well of his successor and of the Baptist ministers and the Evangelical Alliance.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S VIEW OF US

There would be no great objection to books on Canada written by Englishmen for Englishmen if the writers would stay in Canada longer than six weeks or six months, and would beware of first impressions. Mr. J. Stephen Jones, who is Secretary of the British Iron Trade Association, has just turned out a volume which he calls "Through Canada in Harvest Time." During his glancing here Mr. Jones appears to have missed the wheat of fact and garnered the weeds of unfounded impression. In the main his quarrel with Canada is based on his discovery that we are ambitious to build up an iron trade. He resents any such ambition, believing that we should stick to farming. That, in itself, is distressing. But while some of his criticisms of our business methods are not wholly without point, it is when he describes our general characteristics that he is particularly pleasing. He gravely informs his British readers that:

"The whole atmosphere of existence in Canada is suffused with ideas, habits, methods, instincts, and traditions borrowed from the other side of the line—that is, the United States. 'What is there,' he asks, 'in the United States, outside the political sphere, that is not duplicated in the Dominion?'"

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THE FACTORIES.

Those who read the testimony given before the Factory Commission Thursday will form the impression that one result of the investigation will be to show the strength of the sentiment here in favor of a compulsory education law. There are doubtless conditions in some of St. John's factories where conditions should be altered for the better. It was known, however, before the Commission met—and the testimony already heard emphasizes the fact—that while there is room for improvement in some places St. John is free from the hideous conditions which exist in neighboring states. There, too often, weak and ignorant children of tender years are forced to slave under conditions fatal to health, good citizenship and anything approaching sound moral sentiment.

The manufacturers here are small, as a rule, and the hardships due to keen competition and greed cannot exist in anything like the degree known in some countries. For all that the Commission will no doubt find some things to correct, and it may be a work of great value if it secures legislation which will prevent the growth of factory evils hereafter as our industries increase and factory workers become more numerous. It is, of course, too soon to estimate accurately the importance of the information which will be acquired here. The attendance of "workers" at last evening's session was not exactly encouraging. As it is of moment that no information of value be withheld from the Commission, a complaint made by one of the witnesses last evening shall be mentioned.

Each to be 16,500 Tons and of High Speed—Admiralty in a Hurry for Them.

London, Aug. 10.—The admiralty has invited the Clyde shipbuilders to tender for two battleships of 16,500 tons and high speed. It is said that these vessels in the matter of armament and armored protection will eclipse anything yet attempted. That the admiralty officials are in a hurry to get the vessels started is indicated by the fact that tenders must be sent in by Sept. 9, which is an unusually short notice.

It was asserted by one or more witnesses that the small attendance of workers was due to fear that employers might discriminate against such employees as testified. Most employers of labor in St. John have nothing to conceal. Moreover there is nothing to prevent the commissioners from summoning any witnesses whom they regard as important. The commissioners can go into every place in St. John which is described as a factory and observe for themselves the conditions under which labor is carried on.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Now that Japanese destroyers have pursued a Russian destroyer into Chefoo harbor and towed her into the Russians will ask the Chinese to punish the Mikado for trespass.

All the world is still waiting for a definite account of what followed the rally of the Russian fleet from Port Arthur. That admirable reporter, Togo, has not yet sent in his story.

The British Indian force which is at Lhasa numbers 3,000 men of all ranks. The loss during the advance was thirty-eight killed and 132 wounded. Three British officers and two native officers were among the killed.

The Sultan would not converse with the United States minister, saying he talked only with ambassadors. The United States fleet has gone to Smyrna to correct the Turkish view. The Turk is used to such arguments, but they usually prove effective. Some day when he is feeling belligerent he may resent one of these naval demonstrations, and the demonstrators will be in a very awkward position.

The road to Lhasa is rough but the Forbidden City is worth looking at. A London Times correspondent grows enthusiastic over it. "There was nothing in the whole of Europe up to the last moment," the correspondent says, "suggesting the exquisite foliage and towering architecture seen when Lhasa from end to end breaks upon the view. Potals (the hill palace of the lama) would dominate London, and Lhasa is almost eclipsed by it. Travelers must indeed have been blind who saw the city in this fleeting moment of summer, but left no record except of the buildings of this mysterious, long-hidden city. There is no lack of population in her streets, although Tibetan soldiers, reported as numbering between 4,000 and 5,000, retreated during the night. No malevolence has been displayed, only insatiable curiosity."

Bishop Potter is the target for so many critics just now that he cannot answer them except in a general way. He says in part:

"I have publicly stated that I never dreamed of regarding the present saloon as either a blessing or a necessity, and no word of mine, whether uttered recently or at any other time, warrants any such inference. I have simply regarded it as an inevitable and necessary evil until it is displaced by something better." ... By means of coffee houses and cabmen's shelters and reading rooms and clubhouses they have made a bid for the patronage of these men and women of the laboring classes who first built the gin palaces of England by their wages and then supported them by their vice. And up to no exaggeration to say that nothing which has occurred during this century has done more to restore to the Church of England the sympathy of the common people and the friendship and respect of the multitudes who are not of her fold than the organization and work of the Church of England Temperance Society."

The Chefoo liar is too far in the lead to be overhauled during the war, but some French correspondents who are not the Russian army and who are not allowed to send any real news, are sending out some very pretty stories. One of them sends the following which he says was related to him by "a Chinese diplomat": "Yu Li (the truthful diplomat) had three dogs who made themselves at home in his rooms. He found them once on a magnificent teak-wood table, and he punished them severely for their impertinence. The next evening he went into that room and found the dogs on the floor in dreamless sleep, but he happened to put his hand on the teakwood table and found it warm. Not a dog opened an eye, until he felt again the blows of punishment. The next evening Yu Li was quietly sipping. He caught the dogs on the table, but they were blowing on it to cool it!" Mr. Yu Li is well named, and the Frenchman is pressing the Chefoo man hard.

TWO MORE BATTLESHIPS FOR GREAT BRITAIN

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THE COMMISSION ON FACTORY ACT

Began Taking Evidence in This City Thursday Afternoon.

TWO SESSIONS.

Employers Were Heard in the Afternoon and Members of the Fabian League in the Evening—Nothing of a Sensational Nature Was Developed—Another Session to Be Held This Morning.

The opening session of the factory act commission was held in the government rooms Thursday morning, John Palmer presiding.

W. G. Scovell, manager of the tailoring department of Messrs. Scovell Bros. & Co., reported that in a thirty feet square room twenty hands were employed. No one under fourteen years of age is given employment. The room is in the top flat of a four story building. There are no fire extinguishers or escapes and there is but one exit.

Abraham Isaacs, cigar manufacturer, said the main work room in his factory is 70x32 and forty hands are employed. No one under fourteen years is employed. The floors are well cleaned regularly. The walls are cleaned once every eight months. The factory is devoid of fire escapes and extinguishers. The main door opens inwards. The hours are from 8.30 to 12, one hour for dinner. Work for the day is finished between 3.30 and 5 o'clock. An employee had never been known to faint while at work.

Mr. Isaacs believed a factory act necessary. Rev. J. A. Richardson spoke in regard to cotton mills. He visited both mills on Wednesday. He believed that the girls employed in the factories were older than the boys. He was of the opinion that the few of the boys had passed further in school than the lower fourth grade. In the York mill the work rooms are large, with high ceilings. Both factories had fire escapes and automatic sprinklers. At the York factory there was a regular fire brigade. Mr. Richardson thought the sanitary equipment in both factories very good. Ample opportunity for washing was provided. The employees were allowed from 6.30 a. m. to 12 noon, and from 12.45 to 6.10 p. m. Saturday afternoon was a half holiday. Some hands questioned by Mr. Richardson said that as the hour for being sent to school was early they had to eat breakfast at their machines. Mr. Richardson believed a compulsory school law should be enacted. He thought the manufacturers would welcome such a law.

T. E. White, manager of the White Candy Company, said there was good ventilation in the establishment, electric fans aiding in the work. The rooms were all commodious. The floors are cleaned weekly, but the walls had not been renovated for several years. There were no fire escapes and the building was four stories high. There are automatic hose reels on three flats and chemical fire extinguishers on each floor. The stairs are open. The system of sewerage as passed by the board of health. About twenty-five hands are employed.

Abraham S. Hart's evidence was similar to that given by Mr. Isaacs. He was in favor of a factory act and compulsory school law.

C. W. Brown, of the D. F. Brown Company, said no children under the age of fourteen years were employed. The building is three stories and there is excellent fire protection. The doors open outward. Many employees take lunch in the factory, but will not use a room set apart for the purpose of a lunch room. Mr. Brown saw no need of a factory law in St. John. If the board of health did its duty and a compulsory school law were in force he believed no law of the kind proposed would be necessary.

Evening Session.

The evening session commenced at 8 o'clock. Peter C. Sharkey, freight handler, told of the Fabian League's early endeavors for labor reform and of stories which had reached him concerning bad conditions in the cotton factory. He had heard tales of bad sanitation, trying hours, poor facilities for the accommodation of the employees. As a delegate of the league he visited the mill, but was not permitted to make an inspection. The mill proprietors denied the reports. Mr. Sharkey narrated what had been told him of conditions prevailing in a certain bakery. Last winter he saw a girl, on coming out of the factory, faint. She was an employee and the change from a heated atmosphere to one of coldness, might have occasioned her weakness. It had been represented that the tobacco factories stood in need of improvement for the benefit of the employees. In case of fire life would probably be sacrificed. The factory dust was very heavy and the employees were obliged to breathe it. There was great need of improvement in the sanitation. He had been informed that the toilet facilities were wretched. There was but one apartment for both sexes. Mr. Sharkey spoke further about rolling mills and bakeries. He had heard of a bakery and stable being in the same building. He was strongly in favor of the factory act, also of a compulsory school law.

James R. Warner, of the lumber and manufacturing business reported that the main room of his mill was 80x40 feet. He had about ninety employees throughout the establishment. There were no employees under fourteen years of age. There were no boys under eighteen years operating machinery. Work began at 7 o'clock. There were occasional accidents. The mill had good ventilation—almost too airy late in the season. It was difficult to state the most dangerous work in the mill. Any work was dangerous for a careless workman. Old hands were more careless than those recently employed. Regarding a factory act he had not studied the matter sufficiently to give an opinion. There

were no better judges of what would be necessary in a mill than the men employed. In bad weather there was ample shelter for the men while lunching. The hours of work were from 7 to 5 o'clock. No record of the ages of the younger employees was kept. About a month ago a fourteen year old boy left the mill of his own account. He had come to work at the solicitation of his mother.

Daniel H. Melvin, superintendent of the North End electric light station believed a factory act for New Brunswick to be necessary. It would prevent child labor. In company with a member of the Fabian League he visited Hilyard Bros' mill and saw no boys under fourteen years of age at work. Other mills were visited and in two of them boys were found, who appeared to be under twelve years of age, but they were not engaged in very laborious work. One youth's duties were dangerous. In another mill one boy was evidently not over ten years. The machinery was properly guarded, but still there always existed a certain danger. The mills were all practically illuminated with smut lamps. No cotton factories or bakeries were visited. He had heard reported statements to the effect that mill accidents had happened, due to the incompetency of the workmen.

Thomas Kichham, harness maker, believed the province needed the factory act. He had no practical experience of factory life, but believed the act would be beneficial alike to employers and employees. He had never visited any city factories. He had heard of young girls going to work at 6.30 o'clock in the winter season in order to obtain the Saturday half holiday. This was to be deplored. He had heard factory employees express great dissatisfaction. One could easily ascertain whether a grievance was real or imaginary.

William Griest, moulder in McLean & Holt's foundry, reported that part of his occupation was dangerous. It could be guarded against. The room he worked in had good ventilation. It was easy to accustom ourselves to the fumes from the metal. Some of the employees took meals in the foundry. There was no lunch room. In case of fire it would be easy to escape. He had no grievances, except to say that in some of the shops the toilet facilities were inadequate. He knew of no boys employed under 17 years of age. Sanitary conditions were good.

R. G. Murray, barrister-at-law, believed a factory act necessary. Its enactment would prevent unjust hours of labor, bad sanitation and other undesirable features. As competition between more keen the poorer class of factories endeavored to transact business under as cheap conditions as possible—hence the employees and families. There should be some regulation limiting the age under which children were employed. Another reason for the adoption of the act was that employers should have some authority to which they could appeal competent to regulate the grievance. It was desirable to place this province on a par with the most enlightened countries in the world. The city was on the verge of possessing sweat shops. He knew of rooms in upper stories which could practically be called anything but desirable, especially in hot weather. In frequent instances the owners of the buildings were to blame. Only from report did he know of children under fourteen years of age working.

James R. Woodburn, machine shop proprietor, said that in his establishment ten people were employed. No boys under fourteen years were employed. Windows were in each side of the building, and there was ventilation from the roof. There was no apartment in which to lunch. Such a room would be absurd in a factory of the kind and size he was connected with. He was strongly in favor of a factory act. The factories should be under public control and be made to possess proper sanitary conditions. Boys should not be employed under sixteen years of age. He had no knowledge concerning the cotton factories.

R. G. Murray supplemented his previous remarks by saying that no measure had been introduced to aid guard employees from contact with moving machinery. In speaking along this line he drew attention to poor sanitation and doors opening inward.

Peter Sharkey said that it was difficult to procure employees to appear before the commission. They feared the loss of position.

ON THE ROUGH ROAD TO LHASSA.

The Brahmaputra, which our army will have to cross before it reaches Lhasa, is the same as the Tsangpo of Thibet. It rises in the northern range of the Himalayas and flows its way through the southern range on to the Indian plains. The identity of the two rivers was a riddle which puzzled geographers for at least a century, and was one of the questions to which Warren Hastings directed Bute to give his attention. The native pundits ultimately settled the point, though a portion of the course is still unsettled. At the point where the Lhasa road crosses the river is about 50 yards wide, and is unfordable. There is a bridge, however, and also a ferry, though there is no guarantee that our men and their goods in good condition awaiting their convenience—Westminster Gazette.

Prentice Boy, of Carleton, will hold their annual picnic at Lepreau on Aug. 14.

Our Flower Seeds Have Arrived.

Large and very fine assortment to choose from. Seed Oats, Grass Seeds, Clover Seeds, Bone Meal, Black Turn, Flax Seed, Buckwheat, and all the other varieties.

PRICES LOW.

JAMES COLLINS,
208 and 210 Union Street,
St. John, N. B.