$20,000
Handsome detached 12-roomed residence, St. George-street; two bathrooms, hot water heating, electric light; lot 100 ft. frontage.
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The Toronto World.

"Maltese Cross" Interlocking Rubber Tiling
The ideal floor covering. Noiseless, durable, sanitary, waterproof. Large range of beautiful colors and designs.
Manufactured solely by
THE GUTTA PERCHA & RUBBER MFG. CO., of Toronto, Limited.

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR — TEN PAGES——FRIDAY MORNING MARCH 25 1904——TEN PAGES — ONE CENT

Senate Reading Room
SENATE

Port Arthur Bottled Up at Last
7 Vessels Sunk at Harbor's Mouth
300 Japs Volunteered for Risk

London Daily Telegraph's Correspondent at Tokio, Generally Well-Informed, Cables the First News.

London, March 25.—The Daily Telegraph's circumstantial report from its Tokio correspondent, that the Japanese succeeded in bottling up Port Arthur on the night of March 22, is not confirmed from any other quarter. The special despatches to the other morning papers announce no new developments in the situation, but throw a few side lights on the operations.

The Standard's Tientsin correspondent says that Viceroy Alexieff renewed his demand for the withdrawal of all Chinese officials and soldiers from Manchuria, on the ground that otherwise it would be impossible to conduct the war priperly.

The Daily Mail's correspondence from Japanese sources give some details of the condition of Port Arthur, which were gathered during a recent visit of a Chinese junk. It is asserted that a boom had been placed across the entrance to the roadstead, which was alive with mines, so defective and so carelessly laid as to equally endanger both Russian and Japanese vessels.

The damaged Russian warships, these reports say, were repaired with such haste that it is dangerous for them to leave their anchorage. Eight battleships and cruisers, and ten torpedo boat destroyers are now uninjured, and often leave the harbor, but never go far from the forts. Japanese naval officers praise the quality of the Russian torpedo boat destroyers, which, they confess, have done excellent work, but they declare that the Russian shells are badly fused and failed to explode, except when they strike direct upon armor, and that their charges of guncotton are insufficient to cause serious damage.

The Daily Mail's Shanhaikwan correspondent says that the Japanese are secretly engaging Chinese to act as irregular corps.

Port Arthur Bottled Up.

LONDON, March 25.—The Daily Telegraph publishes a despatch from its Tokio correspondent, under yesterday's date, which says:

"On the night of March 22 the Japanese fleet renewed the attempt to bottle up Port Arthur. Sixteen warships escorted seven merchant steamers to the mouth of the harbor, and under cover of the bombardment, the steamers ran in and were sunk in desired positions. Three hundred Japanese officers and bluejackets volunteered for this duty. An official report is expected this evening."

BELL CO. DECLINES.

Will Not Give $20 Phones to Citizens of Ottawa.

Ottawa, March 24.—The Bell Telephone Company has declined to agree to the proposition of the city council to supply residential telephones in Ottawa for $20 per year, providing the company is given an exclusive franchise for five years.

The directors of the company held a meeting in Montreal this morning, and word to the above effect was afterwards received in this city from General Superintendent McFarlane. In taking this course the company is repeating its previous refusal for $20 telephones.

It is understood that it is willing to accept the proposal made by Ald. Davidson in council on Monday night, to supply telephones for $35 and $25 for business and residences respectively, pay $2500 annually and also pay to the city the amount it would have paid had its exclusive franchise not expired a year ago.

The company's decision means that the matter will have to be considered further by the city council.

FATAL TRIP ON STONE.

Cheesemaker McGregor Killed by Premature Explosion of Gun.

Brantford, March 24.—(Special.)—A shooting accident took place about three miles north of here this afternoon, in which Dougald McGregor, a cheese maker, lost his life. McGregor had just come out of the cheese factory with a loaded shot-gun, when he tripped on a stone. In some way the charge exploded, and the unfortunate fellow received the contents in the breast. A farmer passing on the road, noticing McGregor in a stooping posture, investigated the matter. McGregor had only time to say faintly: "I've shot myself," when he fell back unconscious. Medical aid was summoned, but when the injured man was being conveyed to the Brantford Hospital he expired. It is likely an inquest will be held.

LOOKS FOR SUCCESS.

Charles Wyndham Has Faith in the Irish Land Act.

London, March 24.—Mr. Wyndham, chief secretary for Ireland, replying in the house of commons to-day to a request of William Redmond (Irish Nationalist), for information concerning the working of the Irish land act, said he believed that if all the parties concerned worked in the same spirit as last year, great success would attend the operation of the act. Applications for advances amounting to $10,000,000 had been received from 4152 tenants, on 206 estates, 61 evicted tenants had been restored and others were about to be restored.

WILL HE GET IT?

There has been some loud talk from many who do not approve of an alderman taking a civic position. The board of control realized that yesterday when they decided not to recommend Ald. Bell's application as a tax collector. An alderman told The World last night that a number of the aldermen who had promised to support Ald. Bell in his application for the position, would change their minds when the motion came before the council. The mayor says Ald. Bell has still the privilege of withdrawing his resignation.

ONLY A SHAFT BROKEN.

Victoria, B.C., March 24.—The Dominion government steamer Quadra returned to-night from Quatsino Sound, bringing the passengers of the steamer Queen City, which is anchored there with her shaft broken. The Queen City will be towed to Victoria for repairs. The Quadra saw no signs of the missing Scotch ship Lamorna, now supposed to have foundered with all hands, about thirty in number.

Broderick's Business Suits, $22.50—113 King-street west. d7

MENARD RECAPTURED.

Ottawa, March 24.—Joseph Menard, the Clarence Township murderer who escaped from his guards at Brook Village during the early morning hours, was recaptured to-night by a farmer. He was hid in a barn about a mile from the village. He will be taken to the county jail at L'Orignal to-morrow.

LIQUOR TRADE DRAWS KNIFE INTERFERENCE MEANS DEATH

"Prohibitation Agitators" Compel Declaration That Liquor Vote, Strained, Ensures Downfall.

Under the caption of "The Situation in Ontario," The Wine and Spirit Journal for March, just issued, speaking for the wine, spirit and allied industries, gives a straight talk to the government to beware.

"There is now but little doubt that the retail and hotel trade in the Province of Ontario will shortly be face to face with restrictive legislation," it says. "As it seems quite certain that our industry is to be dragged into the arena as the football for strategical politics, it is as well to definitely announce that the liquor vote in the Province of Ontario, with all its auxiliary support, must and will become a single political unit, whose support must and will be extended to that party which best protects its legitimate interests. Individual freedom in politics, which the trade has long sought to observe, must in all probability now come to an end—and there is no good reason why we should be other than perfectly frank in the matter.

Politics Governed Vote.

"If the temperance problem in this province was being dealt with on purely moral grounds, and in response to an honest public opinion, there would be nothing left for the trade to do but to bow to the will of the people. As is quite well known, however, the referendum of 1902 was a political move, and 75 per cent. of the vote, both for and against the measure, was instigated on political motives; and it was therefore in no way an expression of public opinion. The measure now being proposed by the government, whatever its ultimate form may be when submitted to parliament, will be prompted solely by political considerations, and the trade, reluctant as they may be to be dragged into politics, have no recourse but to enter the fray as a solid body.

To Be Met by Organized Trade.

"The small coterie of rabid prohibitionists who are responsible for harassing the government at present, should learn the valuable lesson of 'leaving well enough alone.' The liquor trade of the province have persistently and consistently minded their own business, observed the laws and refrained from attempts to influence or interfere with the legislature of Ontario. But the present attempt of the professional prohibitionists to take advantage of the weakness of the government and make harassing and absolutely unnecessary legislation the price of their continued support, must be met by the open and active hostility of the organized trade.

Represent Balance of Power.

"EXPERIENCE HAS REPEATEDLY SHOWN THE SOLIDITY AND POWER OF THE LIQUOR VOTE, AND ANY ADMINISTRATION OR PARTY PRESSING THAT VOTE BEYOND THE POINT OF REASON ARE SIMPLY INVITING THEIR OWN DOWNFALL. The trade in this province represent beyond all doubt the balance of political power; and, while it has always been the principle of the trade that this weapon should not be drawn except under extreme provocation, it begins to look very much as if the prohibition agitators have at last compelled us to draw the knife completely from its sheath. This cold fact is well worthy of being laid on the table, while the question of 'how much the trade will stand' is being discussed by the Ontario government."

Broderick's Business Suits, $22.50 113 King-street West.

THE IMPERIAL LIFE.

The policy contract of olden days was a statement of conditions; the policy contract of the Imperial Life is a statement of guarantee. Have you seen the Imperial's policy ?

Edwards, Morgan & Co., 26 Wellington Street East, Toronto. Edwards & Ronald, 48 Canada Life building, Winnipeg, Chartered Accountants.

FLOUR MILLS SHUT DOWN.

Minneapolis, March 24.—Eighteen Minneapolis flour mills shut down to-day owing to the bad condition of trade.

Is Your Office Well Equipped?

Half the success in business—half the comfort in business comes of having your office properly equipped. We have the best filing system outfits made to-day. Everything in office furnishings. Phone Main 862 and have our representative see you. The Adams Furniture Company, Limited.

Metal Ceilings, Skylights and Roofing. A. B. Ormsby & Co., cor. Queen and George Sts. Telephone M. 1725.

Clubb's Dollar Mixture

Is packed in pound, half-pound, quarter-pound and one-tenth pounds. Every genuine package bears our trade mark, the Triple Photograph. A. Clubb & Sons, 49 King West. The trade supplied.

Broderick's Business Suits, $22.50, 113 King-street West.

The Champion of Champions.

James J. Jeffries, champion of the world, is drawing crowds to the Star Theatre this week. This is his last theatrical engagement before his fight with Jack Munro on May 30 in San Francisco. He will be seen at the Star at each performance for the balance of the week.

B. B. B. Pipes 75c each. Alive Bollard.

DELEGATES AND CANADIANS GIVEN BANQUET IN LONDON

Lord Brassey Presides at Chamber of Commerce Dinner and Colonial Topics Foremost.

(Canadian Associated Press Cable.)

London, March 24.—Lord Brassey presided at a crowded meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce yesterday. Regarding the fiscal question, he thought it would be well to invite further discussion under the auspices of the chamber by leading authorities on the subject of the preferential relation with the colonies dealt with at the Montreal conference. He would personally strongly favor the appointment by the government of a royal commission to exhaustively enquire into the whole question.

Sir Albert K. Rollit, M.P. (Conservative) showed that the system of commercial education organized by the chamber was resulting in transferring occupations to Englishmen which were formerly held by foreigners. In the evening the over-sea members were the guests of the chamber at a magnificent banquet in the Hotel Metropole.

Lord Brassey was chairman, and among those present were Lord Alverstone, Lord Strathcona, Admiral Hopkins, A. Sanderson, a past governor of the Bank of England; Sir Charles Rivers-Wilson, J. Tritton, president of the Institute of Bankers; George Drummond, A. Hodgson, H. Ames (Montreal), General Laurie, Sir William Ramsay, Dr. Jacks, president Glasgow Chamber of Commerce; Sir Francis Hopwood, Sir William H. Holland, Sir Alfred Lewis Jones, Sir Thomas Brooke-Hitching, A. G. Murray and 200 others.

List of Guests.

Lord Brassey, in proposing "Our Canadian Friends," said: "How shall we find words warm enough to express our gratitude for the thoughtful kindness and infinite trouble shown on the memorable occasion of the Montreal congress?" No matter what they thought of the fiscal question, those who were present at the congress were all animated by the same high purpose of keeping the empire together, and he knew no better means than the policy of holding such meetings. Referring to the trip over the continent, designed to let them see the extent of its Canadian resources, he said: "Our Canadian friends proved that every man has a chance in Canada, and that farming pays. The country had been boomed as no other part of the world had been. Canadian wheat sheaves were destined to play a great part in forging the bonds of empire."

Presentation to Brassey.

Amid the loud cheers of the banqueters, Lord Brassey was presented with a splendid service of plate, and an address subscribed by all the over-sea delegates who had attended the Montreal congress. A magnificent silver ink stand was given to the Montreal Board of Trade by the London Chamber, and an illuminated address by the Edinburgh Chamber. A silver barometer and an illuminated address was presented to the French Chamber of Commerce of Montreal, and silver bowls to A. Hodgson and H. Ames, as souvenirs of their courteous services to the congress. Addresses were voted to the C.P.R. and G.T.R. for their hospitality in the way of special trains, and a clock acknowledged George Hadrill in his dual capacity of secretary to the board of trade, and to the Canadian committee.

Lord Strathcona, when replying, spoke of the prosperous condition of Canada and its encouraging prospects. A cable from the Montreal Board of Trade, sending cordial greetings to the banqueters, was received with enthusiastic cheers.

Mr. Drummond, on rising, received

Continued on Page 2.

Try the decanter at Thomas.

TO-DAY IN TORONTO.

P.S. teachers' convention, Ryerson School, 9 a.m.

Lenten service, St. James' Cathedral, 12.30.

Japanese Geisha fete, McConkey's, afternoon and evening.

Legislature, 3 p.m.

Nursing-at-Home Mission, 3.30.

Society of Chemical Industry, annual meeting, McConkey's, 7.45 p.m.

Q.O.R. sergeants' dinner, St. George's Hall, 8 p.m.

Fielding Liberal Club, Queen-street and Brock-avenue, 8 p.m.

48th Highlanders, spring parade, armories, 8 p.m.

North Toronto Liberals, Wardell's Hall, 8 p.m.

Alumni Association of Nurses, Grace Hospital, 8 p.m.

Prof. Fraser on "Glimpses of Italy," Rosedale School, 8 p.m.

Princess, "Isle of Spice," 8 p.m.

Grand, Herrmann, 8 p.m.

Majestic, "Uncle Tom's Cabin, 2 and 8 p.m.

Shea's, Vesta Tilley and vaudeville, 2 and 8 p.m.

Star, Jim Jeffries and vaudeville, 2 and 8 p.m.

Nothing but the best at Thomas'.

DEATHS.

CARRUTHERS—On Tuesday afternoon, at 655 Dovercourt-road, Jane Freeman, dearly beloved wife of the Rev. Samuel Carruthers, aged 56 years.
Funeral on Saturday at 2 p.m. from the church.

HARRIS—At the residence of his son, Thomas Harris, 663 Lansdowne-avenue, on Wednesday, March 23rd, 1904, Samuel Harris, late of Aurora, in his 89th year.
Funeral on Friday at 2.30. Interment in Necropolis.

ROBERTSON—On Thursday, March 24th, 1904, at 211 East Queen-street, George William, infant son of James and Annie Robertson.
Funeral Friday, at 2 p.m., to the Necropolis.

A STRAINED SITUATION

Grays, Father and Son, Found Guilty
Both Denied Knowledge of Wrongdoing

Judge Recalled Jury on Protest From Defence Counsel, But Further Consideration Was Brief.

"Guilty" was the verdict brought in by the jury in the first of the election trials for fraudulently manipulating ballots, and as a result F. A. Gray and his father, Col. John A. Gray, both respectable citizens in the community, now await sentence. The jury was out for only half an hour.

A somewhat sensational incident marked the closing of the trial. After Judge Winchester had concluded his address, which was strongly against the defendants, and after the jury had retired, Frank Denton, K.C., renewed his application to quash the indictment, made prior to the hearing of evidence. He also objected to the judge telling the jury that the Grays should tell how the disputed marks had been placed on the ballots. Mr. Denton claimed that the crown should prove that. Further objections were that the experts had never had to deal with crosses before.

Reserve Motion Granted.

His honor then recalled the jury and explained these matters and made the charge stronger. When the verdict was announced, Mr. Denton demanded a poll, and each of the twelve said guilty. The original bail was $600, but it was increased to $2000 each, in two $1000 sureties, which were met by George T. Harrison and John C. Gray, son of Col. Gray. The defendants receive sentence on April 2. In the meantime the reserve motion was granted.

Sympathy for Col. Gray.

The only witnesses for the defence were the Grays themselves. F. A. Gray, the D.R.O., denied flatly any knowledge of crookedness in the marking of the ballots, and his father asserted the same. When the verdict was announced Mrs. Col. Gray and a lady friend were present in the court room, as were also the two Laxtons and the Gianellis, who are awaiting trial on the same charges. The defendants took the announcement quietly. The few spectators in the court seemed to feel very strongly for the aged colonel. He has been member for West Work in the local house and has occupied a prominent and honorable position in society for many years, and the sentiment was expressed that while it was of course necessary that those guilty of misdemeanor should not escape a penalty, it was rather a harsh fate that spread itself on some while others, with less apparent cause for consideration, have so far succeeded in adoivind the rigor of the law.

Frank Gray's Denial.

Frank Gray went on the stand in the afternoon and declared positively that he was innocent of any wrongdoing. In cross-examination by Mr. Drayton, he admitted having "plumped" for Dr. Orr, and also that his family supported Dr. Orr in the contest. He also understood that his brother, on whom he had not been on speaking terms for a number of years, had also supported the doctor. He said that every ballot had been counted by him and that between the time a ballot paper was given a voter and its return to the box no one else handled the papers. The evidence of the witness, Harper, who stated he had placed an unmarked ballot in the box, Gray denied, and also that he had got an unmarked ballot out of the box in the counting.

Could Not Explain.

When asked for an explanation how it was that so many ballots were marked for Orr, while witnesses swore that they did not vote for Orr, Gray made the statement that the policemen must have frightened them into stating that they had not voted for Orr. Mr. Drayton went at him very strongly on this and made him admit that it was not a serious statement, and witness retracted it. At this stage he was asked to look over the ballots, which were laid out on a table. He admitted the similarity in the marking of the crosses opposite Orr's name and qualified by saying there was a similarity in all crosses. He could not account for the alleged fraudulent markings, nor how the plumpers for Goodeham, a feature which was brought out in the morning, had been spoiled by additions for Orr.

Col. Gray simply denied everything and was not subjected to a severe examination.

Insinuates a Conspiracy.

Mr. Denton, for the defence, attacked the expert evidence as to the handwriting, and dwelt on the fact that many witnesses on the stand had admitted that they could not remember

Continued on Page 4.

GET AFTER ALL OF THEM.

The criminal test case in the civic election scandal has been decided A jury of the sessions court yesterday found guilty F. A. Gray, D.R.O., sub-division 3 of Ward 6, and his poll clerk, Col. John Gray, of the charge "that they did unlawfully combine, conspire, confederate and intrigue to take, open and otherwise interfere with the ballot box and ballots."

The two men convicted were chosen to stand the first shock of criminal examination, because they were looked on as the most respectable of the accused D.R.O.'s. The fact of their respectability only makes it the most imperative that the others who are similarly accused should be proceeded against. The other cases must be searched into in every direction, in the police court and in the civic investigation, so that the evil of ballot box stuffing in Toronto may be stamped out once and for all. The men who stuffed the boxes and the bigger men who inspired the stuffing must get their reward even as F. A. Gray and Col. Gray have got theirs.

It is not Col. Gray or his son that the public is after. The public is after the crime, the abhorrent crime against the freedom of citizenship, the crime of stealing votes. It is unfortunate that persons like Col. Gray and his son must be proceeded against with severity in order to reach the crime, but respectability is no excuse for wrong-doing. The men who worked corruption in the ballot boxes, and all those implicated in the slightest degree must be got after and brought to time, that the evil may be stamped out.

THE TRENT VALLEY CANAL TO LOWER FREIGHT RATES FINDS MANY A CHAMPION

Northwest Wheat Can Be Brought to Canal's Side, Milled and Reshipped at Less Cost Than Shipped as Now to Montreal and Reshipped.

Peterboro, March 24.—(Staff Special.)—As a factor of prime importance in the greater transportation problems of the Dominion, the position of the Trent Valley Canal was established before the royal commission to-day. It was an animated session. Probably a hundred accredited delegates confronted Messrs. Bertram and Reford. The best informed men from the different sections of the territory covered by the highway were there. They were supplied with data covering the project from its inception. They were fortified with the experience of many years in promoting the scheme. They vied with each other in attempting to impress upon the commission the immediate and future value of the canal in solving the freight rate puzzle for Canada, east and west.

Probably no more representative gathering of Canadians has ever met to discuss the subject of cheaper and more adequate transportation. The commercialism of the new era was in evidence. Chairman Bertram was so seriously impressed with the earnestness with which the details had been worked out that he observed that while the United States may have led the last century in enterprise the new century surely belonged to Canada. It was significant that the chief representatives of a big firm of Chicago flour manufacturers were present, and admitted that the completed canal promised to revolutionize transportation problems on both sides of the line.

Many Municipalities Represented.

The boards of trades and municipalities of Peterboro, Orillia, Midland, Port Hope, Trenton, Lindsay, Belleville and Campbellford had representatives present. In addition were many independent promoters of the venture, business men, manufacturers from different towns, ship owners, mill owners and others, who control the industrial life of Central Ontario. A ton of data was submitted. The speeches of the various delegates were confined necessarily to the briefest outline of the subject. Little contentious matter developed. The advocates of the different routes south of Peterboro bore down sharply upon the "natural" course of the canal. To each side the word appeared to mean that condition which suited their claims. But it was the urgent need of the canal as the channel thru which exorbitant freight rates for the entire community were to be lowered that interested each delegate. The rivalry was not on the surface. The commission is expected to report too on the Port Hope or Trent on terminus, but of greater importance the delegates as a whole seem to think was the securing of a verdict first that the canal was a commercial possibility to be constructed as rapidly as money could accomplish it.

Attitude of the Yankees.

Of no small importance was the sidelight cast on the conference by the attitude of Yankee competition, and the aspects as presented by the Chicago men who have money invested in Peterboro manufactories, and who desire to increase their holdings of Canadian mills. It was pointed out, not as a subject to cause any particular alarm, but to show the difference in the view the two governments take of canal projects, that New York State has just appropriated a hundred million dollars to improve the Erie Canal, while five million will make the Trent waterway infinitely superior as a public carrier.

Chairman Bertram called attention to the fact that the railroads were carrying the bulk of the grain in competition with the Erie Canal, were beating the water route and carrying grain from Buffalo to New York for a cent a bushel. The advocates of the Canadian waterway remarked that this was due tot he antiquated methods by which the traffic was handled—horse-power affording the only energy, with a speed limited to three miles an hour.

If figures tell the truth the Trent Canal is one of the expedients that will determine whether Canada continues to control the grain traffic of her Northwest or permits it to pass into foreign hands to the south. At least, that was the tenor of the arguments. Manufacturers gave instances where the competition of the canal would make a difference to them individually in cost of fuel and shipment of manufactured and raw products of from $20,000 to $40,000 annually, based upon the six-foot locks. If these were deepened to eight feet six inches, as contemplated, the saving would be proportionately increased. Victoria County consumed for domestic purposes some 12,000 tons of coal annually. The water route would make a difference in cost of this article of $1.50 per ton. This was an insignificant item, but it merely indicated what the aggregate of saving meant to the country.

An Important Statement.

But still more important as fixing the future of Ontario as a great manufacturing centre were the figures of the treasurer of the American Cereal Company, showing that the wheat from the Canadian Northwest could be brought down to a point along the canal, milled, reshipped and placed aboard ocean-going vessels in Montreal cheaper than the grain could be shipped direct to Montreal and milled there for export. Incidentally the capitalist declared that with his knowledge of the commerce on both sides of the line he knew his company could mill and ship to European ports cheaper in Canada than in the States. The time was when the wealthy flour manufacturers of the States brought Canadan grain to Minneapolis, milled it and shipped same to Europe. Now the tendency was to establish these factories in the country where the raw material was to be secured. The gentleman was cross-questioned closely by the commissioners. He answered queries so readily and intelligently that they thanked him warmly at the conclusion.

These considerations evidently weighed to no inconsiderable degree with the commissioners. They expressed the opinion that the estimate of some of the enthusiasts on the cost of shipping grain from Midland via the canal to Montreal was too low. Some put it as low as two and a half cents a bushel. Three and a half and four was, in the estimation of the commission, as low as it could possibly be handled. But the American Cereal Company made it less, and they figured on the return of barges from Montreal empty. Their agents are suppos-

Continued on Page 2.

PREMIER CAN'T SPEAK YET RE HIS TEMPERANCE BILL

Question by Major Clark Enlivens Session Devoted Almost Wholly to Tax Bill.

Major Hugh Clark of Centre Bruce enlivened the last moments of a dull session of the legislature last night by projecting the following query just before the adjournment: "As a follower of his on this particular question, I want to ask the premier when he intends to introduce his temperance bill?"

Amid great laughter Mr. Ross replied: "I will be delighted to inform my followers at the earliest possible moment."

"It is a source of gratification to me," spoke up Mr. Whitney, "to notice that as the years go on and our physical powers grow less, the premier remains ever the same. My honorable friend will go down in history as the most unique personage in the civilized world, able to get up here year after year and repeat amid jeers and laughter this long-continued, never-ending comedy connected with his treatment of a great moral question."

Taxation Proposals.

Almost the whole of the afternoon was spent in a consideration of the taxation bill. When the clause referring to the rate of interest to be charged on arrears of taxes, which is fixed at 10 per cent. was reached, Mr. Whitney, Mr. St. John and others thought it should be 6 per cent.; but the attorney-general, backed up by members on both sides, insisted on 10 per cent., and after a protracted debate the clause was left over.

A clause was added that assessments made under the old law will still be binding when the new act comes in fore Jan. 1, 1905. The clause is necessary in cities like Toronto, where it will not be possible under the new regulations to prepare this year the assessment for 1905. In cities like Toronto the act will not come into force until 1906.

Business Tax a Snag.

During the evening session the committee went to the end of the bill without encountering any trouble, and then turned back to some clauses on which there is much difference of opinion. The business assessment was the first snag. Dr. Lachner did not see the necessity for the clause taxing the booze shops, as the premier had assured the temperance people that this class of business was going to be wiped out. The house indulged in a broad and audible smile at the premier's expense at this remark.

Mr. Rickard put in a word for the poor coal dealer, who should not be expected to pay a heavier tax than the dealer in furs. Last session a number of honorable members led a movement to establish municipal coal yards, and following up this principle the coal business should be exempt. If the coal merchants were taxed higher it would come out of the consumers. Mr. Rickard moved an amendment that coal, wood and lumber be put on a 25

Continued on Page 4.

Rain and Style.

There is just as much style to be had in a raincoat as there is in a fur garment. Putting on the style does not impair the warming qualities of a fur garment, neither does style make a raincoat leaky. So in buying a waterproof one may ask for a raincoat and get a serviceable, stylish garment at the same price. Dineen's raincoats are stylish importations in military effects. A very complete assortment at W. & D. Dineen's, corner Yonge and Temperance-streets.

MILD AND SHOWERY.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, March 24.—(8 p.m.)—The weather has been fine and mild from the lake region to the Maritime Provinces and cold and very stormy in Manitoba and sht Territories, accompanied by snow. The important disturbance mentioned last night is now centred in Minnesota.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 34—48; Edmonton, 20 below—16; Calgary, 2 below—12; Prince Albert, 6 below—12; Winnipeg, 18—26; Port Arthur, 22—40; Parry Sound, 32—40; Toronto, 28—42; Ottawa, 24—36; Montreal, 28—40; Quebec, 24—38; Halifax, 32—42.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Strong winds; unsettled; mild and showery; local thunderstorms.

Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Strong easterly to southerly winds; mild; becoming unsettled and showery; a few local thunderstorms.

Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Strong southerly to easterly winds; fair to cloudy and mild, with rain by night or early on Saturday.

Maritime—Winds shifting to south and east; gradually increasing in force; fine and mild to-day; Saturday unsettled and showery.

Lake Superior—Strong winds; sleet and rain.

Manitoba—Strong northerly to northwesterly winds; cold; snow most of the day; clearing at night.

Cigars—Royal Infants, Havana, reduced to 5c. Try them. Alive Bollard 125 and 199 Yonge.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

March 24.	At.	From.
Ivernia	Liverpool	Boston
Aurania	Liverpool	Newark
Pretorian	Liverpool	St. John
Montfort	Liverpool	St. John
Celtic	Queenstown	New York
Pretoria	Cherbourg	New York
Koenigen Louise	Naples	New York
Majestic	New York	Liverpool
Saxonia	Boston	Liverpool
Ethiopia	Glasgow	New York

George J. Foy, Born County Mayo, Ireland, March 25th, 1850.