

THE ST. STAR JOHN N. B., TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1907.

FIVE

THE INVICTUS "INVICTUS" SHOE FOR MEN.

Admittedly the best wearing and most comfortable feeling shoes made in Canada

\$4.00 and \$5.00 a pair.

Waterbury & Rising.
King Street. - Union Street.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all our Friends and Customers.
A. B. WETMORE, 59 Garden Street.

THE WICKED YEAR 1906.
"Writing two months before the record for the year 1906 is made up," says E. S. Martin in Appleton's Magazine, "it is already possible to set it down as a year of previous peculiarities. The weather has seemed to be altogether indifferent to precedent. The winter neglected its business of making ice; the summer was of a sort to make you wish you were a British subject and could call it 'nasty' without compunction. It was nasty. It was hot and it was wet. It bred mosquitoes in vast multitudes in mosquito districts, and in lesser swarms in the districts where usually mosquitoes are unknown. It was sticky; it was sticky; it was protracted. It made people weary of living. When has there been a summer the idiosyncrasies of which have been so generally execrated?"

"And besides being uncomfortable the year has been calamitous. Vast fires have raged; earthquakes and fire have destroyed San Francisco and done vast damage to Valparaiso. Typhoons have swept ruin upon Hong Kong. West India hurricanes have done the like to Mobile and Pensacola. September saw England blasted with more than mid-summer heat, and early October saw Buffalo prostrated by a snow blizzard. It has been a year of extremes, and extremes, meteorological, political, and social, and it will go out leaving a long bill of damage for better behaved years to pay."

"They tell us that the wildest freaks of climate befall in the first ten years of each century, and along about fifty years later, after the middle of each century; that the winters of extreme cold come at those times, and the most frigidous and peculiar summers. They lay it to the recurrence of the big sun spots, which agitate the nerves of the earth and make it shaky, causing the Gulf Stream and other currents to stagger from their right course, and upsetting all sub-lunary habits. That the minds and passions of men are affected by the restlessness of their earthly habitation is easy to believe, whether or not the world is well founded. Now some of the foreboders bid us look out for a very hard winter, but we have already had (in 1904 and 1905) two pretty hard winters, and to predict another seems like rubbing it in."

THE IMPROVED "Silent" Parlor Match
Is dipped in red wax, with white tips.
Ask for "Silents" always.

SCHOFIELD BROS.,
SELLING AGENTS - ST. JOHN, N. B.

SPREADING THE NET.
(Montreal Herald.)
Figures look so much alike it takes some effort of the imagination to realize the full meaning of the statement that there are over five thousand miles of railway now under construction in that part of Canada which lies between the Great Lakes and the Rocky Mountains. This, however, is the simple truth of it. The Canadian Pacific people are adding to their existing system a nice little leanto of 1,400 miles. The Grand Trunk Pacific are starting out with 1,500 miles. The Canadian Northern, trying to live up to Mr. Mackenzie's maxim of no day without its mile—or two—is in for 1,500. And "Jim" Hill, the terror of the plains, is laying a thousand miles to keep up the reputation of the Great Northern.

Three of these railway companies are making for the Pacific coast as fast as they can go, the fourth being already there. Also there are signs that some or all of them will presently have outlets on Hudson Bay. They work while we sleep, these railway builders, and when we awake, as we shall one of these days, it will be a new country altogether upon which we shall look out.

THE TAX ON THE RAILWAYS.
(Toronto News.)
The Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk and Canadian Northern are not the only railways on the continent that are short of adequate rolling stock and motive power. Similar conditions exist in the United States. From the east, the west and the south come reports of an insufficiency of cars and engines to move the grain, coal, lumber, and general merchandise that is offering for shipment. Congestion of traffic exists at railway centres all over the continent and the result is a certain check to trade and commerce throughout America. The railway authorities, of course, are in a measure to blame for their unprepared condition, but they have some excuse in the fact that the present period of prosperity and expansion is, perhaps, more striking and has lasted longer than any other similar period in the history of the modern world. It has surpassed all anticipations.

TENNYSON SMITH AT NORTON.

NORTON, N. B., Dec. 31.—Tennyson Smith's campaign in Norton has proved a great success. Each meeting since the first has been crowded, and on Sunday alone 104 pledges were taken. The series closed on Tuesday night with the lecturer's famous tug-of-war.

TORONTO BANK CLEARINGS

TORONTO, Dec. 31.—Toronto's bank clearings for the year were \$1,219,125,359 or an increase of \$179,034,658 over last year. Building permits were issued for \$13,152,000 worth of buildings, an increase of \$61,385 over last year.

BRAGGO THE MONK.

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