

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
is an 8-page paper and is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, in advance, by THE TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING COMPANY of Saint John, a company incorporated by act of the legislature of New Brunswick. THOMAS BURNETT, Business Manager; JAMES HANNA, Editor.

ADVERTISING RATES.
Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper:—Each insertion \$1.00 per line.
Advertisements of Wants, For Sale, etc., or orders for each insertion of lines or less, at the rate of 50 cents per line.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Owing to the considerable number of communications to the editor, it is necessary to request our subscribers and agents to send money for THE TELEGRAPH to us by post office order or registered letter, in which case the remittance will be at our risk.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception names of new subscribers will be entered until the money is received.
Patrons will be required to pay for their papers in advance, and all arrears must be paid before the paper is sent.

WANTS FOR CORRESPONDENTS.
We desire to receive contributions from our readers on one side of our paper only. Attach your name and address to your communications, and if you are not prepared to be held personally responsible, write nothing for which you are not prepared to be held personally responsible.

THIS PAPER HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph.
ST. JOHN, N.B., AUGUST 30, 1899.

CHURCH SOCIETIES.
The great increase in the number of societies and associations that are connected with the churches is one of the features of modern religious life. There was a time when the churches themselves stood for everything the people required in their own domain, and when the clergyman and the church organization fulfilled all the necessary functions in connection with church work. But this is no longer the case in any church for Young People's Association, Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Misses' Society, Ladies' Benevolent Society, and many other associations have gathered about the churches, doing much of the work they formerly did, and stimulating the energies of the church in every direction. There are some people who think that these church societies are not needed and that the work of the churches could be done better without them, but this is not the general opinion. Every age of the world must do its own work in its own way. Formerly people went to church from a sense of duty and if their worship was not of the most devout character, it was at least constant. Now there are many respectable people who think it no shame not to go to church at all, and who are of the opinion that if they pay their pew rent and contribute liberally to the funds of the church they have done all that is necessary. When views like these prevail and when men become apparently indifferent to the cause of religion it is clear that something more is required on the part of the churches than what sufficed half a century ago. Hence the growth of church societies, which make the churches great social organizations, in which each person may have a part, however humble, and which create an interest in its work which would not otherwise exist. There is no doubt that the influence of all these societies is for good, and that the work they are doing is worthy of the highest commendation. In them the women take a very conspicuous part, and they are far more capable of efficient church work than men. Without them many a church would soon become financially strangled and its power would not be half filled with worshippers.

CAN THE BRITISH EMPIRE FEED ITSELF?
This interesting question is discussed by Mr. J. Montgomery Smart in "The New York publication entitled 'Cold Storage,'" and this writer comes to the conclusion that in the course of a few years this may be possible. The figures which he gives of the food products purchased by Great Britain for the three years 1895, 1896 and 1897, are very interesting and are worthy of preservation by all who are interested in the trade of Canada either as producers or exporters. They are as follows:—

	1895.	1896.	1897.
Produce, etc., \$241,368,992	\$255,980,404	\$281,754,759	
Animals, (living) for food, etc., 43,635,759	50,801,620	55,384,282	
Dressed meats, 114,109,524	118,565,552	120,518,292	
Cheese, 22,751,299	28,548,328	32,941,299	
Butter, 62,326,798	74,871,905	77,492,330	
Eggs, 19,488,437	20,318,328	22,000,000	
Wool, 14,416,218	15,837,253	16,845,547	
Fruit, (raw), 23,691,290	25,420,165	26,502,748	
Wine, 14,416,218	15,837,253	16,845,547	
Milk, condensed, 5,573,230	5,665,712	6,575,568	
Preserved, 5,573,230	5,665,712	6,575,568	
Polished, 2,465,112	2,465,112	2,465,112	
Others, 2,465,112	2,465,112	2,465,112	
Totals, \$377,999,521	\$410,812,026	\$455,553,283	

It will be observed that this trade is more than doubled in the last three years.

not only large but that it is rapidly increasing in volume. And this increase is taking place in all the leading articles of food, the only one that shows a decrease being lard. There is, therefore, every reason to believe that this British market will continue to grow, and while the colonies will be able to feed the mother country, it gives at least an assurance that the market will be worth the winning. Mr. Smart, in discussing the capabilities of the various portions of the empire for the production of human food, says:—

Some fifteen years ago Australasia sent no meat to England, while the United States sent about 25,000 tons; in 1898 the United States sent 75,000 tons, while Australasia sent 83,000 tons. Australia could a few years ago ship no dairy produce to England, but now she sends much more than the United States, and for which she receives more per pound, while in nearly every part of the empire in all parts of the world, the same tendencies are at work.

The area of Canada is about that of the United States, while her comparative capabilities of expansion in dairy and other food products for export are much greater, as is evidenced, since the establishment with government assistance of regular cold storage accommodation for inland, terminal and steamship service. Beginning in 1882 New Zealand, with an export of 500 tons of meat, as quickly as it was shown that mechanical refrigeration was a commercial success for long sea voyages, has increased her annual export to England in 12 years to no less than 85,000 tons, while in dairy products she is rapidly coming to the front, as the 12,000 mile voyage, owing to constantly improving methods for ocean transportation, is getting less and less each year. Tasmania exports Australian butter, rabbits, fruit and poultry. New Zealand cheese, etc., all arrive in good condition on the English market.

Australia, with a population of only 4,500,000 people to feed, carries 129,000,000 sheep, cattle and swine, with an area equal almost to that of the United States, so that when we find that there are 114 vessels engaged in the Australasian trade fitted with mechanical refrigeration, and with carrying capacity of 3,441,150 carcases, it is easy to see what an important factor cold storage is, when all this was impossible and unheard of 15 years ago.

PARLIAMENTARY MANNERS.

Some of the newspapers have been discussing the question of the manners of parliament and there seems to be a pretty general agreement that the late session was more remarkable for the decline of courtesy and the decay of good manners among its members than for anything else. This of course is the natural result of the manner in which the Conservative party has conducted itself in the house of commons. If the Conservatives had possessed a competent leader whom they respected and were willing to obey there would probably have been no decline in the manners of parliament during the recent session, but Sir Charles Tupper unfortunately was surrounded by followers who declined to follow his orders. Therefore there was no discipline whatever on the opposition side of the house. Mr. George H. Foster, Mr. Clark Wallace, Dr. Montague and other would-be leaders were constantly interfering and usurping the functions of Sir Charles Tupper. Then long winded blatherers like Nicholas Flood Davin were permitted to go on hour after hour wasting the time of the house and country, making pointless speeches which no one would listen to or read. There was no person in authority on the opposition side of the house to check these breaches of decorum and hasten the public business. Under the circumstances, therefore, our surprise should be not that parliamentary manners declined but that they should continue to exist at all. Among the newspapers that have been holding forth on this subject is the Montreal Star. The Star is, of course, greatly shocked at the decay of the manners of parliament, but no paper has done or is doing more towards that end than the Star itself. The Star has always been noted for its tendency to adopt disreputable methods, but this year it surpassed itself in that particular. Its constant attacks on the government, collectively and individually, might perhaps be excused on the ground that they represented the howl of disapprobation against the members of the government in a series of cartoons, it showed its true character and the worth of its ideas on questions of courtesy to say nothing of decency. Bytown is the old name of Ottawa, and the Star taking advantage of this fact issued a series of ill drawn cartoons under the title of "The Bytown Omen." One of them was a negro, and "The Bytown Omen" were the members of the present Liberal government at Ottawa. The idea involved is a stupid one, but no one could expect anything better to come from the Star office. The attempt to degrade the members of the cabinet in that way, however, was most disreputable. Fortunately the members of the cabinet were fairly backed up by the weak manner in which it was carried out. Yet the Star deserves no credit for its stupidity and weakness because it did its best to cover the leading members of parliament with disgrace. It is to be hoped that next session there will be no complaints of the decay of parliamentary manners and that these journals which this year have assailed to bring about this decay will next year be found engaged in more reputable work.

THE COUNTRY PARSON.

A good many years ago a book appeared in England entitled "The Recreation of a Country Parson," which soon acquired a considerable degree of popularity and which finds readers even at the present day. The title, however, was rather a misnomer, for the author, the late Reverend Dr. Boyd, was not a country parson, but was the minister of a church in St. Andrews, connected with the university. We fear that none of our country parsons in New Brunswick will ever be able to write a book in regard to their recreations, although they might write volumes on their labors. People who live in the cities hardly appreciate the amount of work which clergymen who reside in our rural districts have to do in order to deserve the name of being faithful ministers of the gospel. The country parson in this province is a man who has little or no leisure, but who must make up his mind to live a life of toil all his days. On Sundays he generally has to preach three sermons and conduct three services in church edifices many miles apart, driving to them over roads which frequently are bad and in all kinds of weather. Other men may make the state of the elements or the condition of the roads an excuse for not going to church, but the country parson has to be there whether the congregation attends or not. This, however, is but a small part of his labors. Having to supervise and conduct three services in a large district of country he must keep constantly in touch with the members of his flock by frequent visits. He must be the faithful counsellor of all who seek his advice in spiritual matters. He must attend at the bedside of the sick and conduct services at graves of the dead. His services are constantly in demand, and a large part of his time must be spent on the road driving from one end of his parish to the other. Yet with all this constant labor he is expected to write one or two sermons a week which must be orthodox as well as interesting and delivered in such a style as to command the attention of his congregation. If the country parson was a machine made of iron or steel he might do this work regularly and efficiently without signs of exhaustion, but as he is made of flesh and blood, it follows as a matter of course that he must have many days of weariness and sinking of spirit and that much of his work must be done at times when his strength is hardly equal to it. It must be supposed that men who work as hard as country parsons usually do, would be very liberally paid, but this we fear is not the case. On the contrary it is generally understood that the clergyman who attends to the spiritual needs of the residents of the rural districts are in most cases poorly paid and are unable to save anything out of their meagre salaries. It is well that these men are able to look forward to a higher reward for their labors than can be expressed in money or obtained on earth, for were it otherwise their days would be full of sorrow and gloom. We trust that these observations on the faithful servants of God who labor in the country may induce our readers to take a greater interest in them and to view them with a larger degree of respect. When this country is more thickly settled and when its people have become wealthier the lot of the country parson will be improved, but in the meantime and under existing conditions he must be regarded as among the hardest worked of men and one of the least rewarded.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The Transvaal situation apparently does not continue to improve. Our news despatches state that the volksraad recently by a two-thirds vote adopted the vote of the majority of the dynamite commission continuing the monopoly. This dynamite monopoly is one of the greatest grievances of which the Transvaal complains, for it increases the price of an article which the miners cannot do without and is therefore calculated to injure and hamper the leading industries of the country. We presume that the British government would not go to war with the Transvaal on account of this matter because if proper franchise rights were granted to the Transvaal the dynamite monopoly and all other monopolies would soon come to an end. At the same time the spirit shown by the volksraad in voting to continue this monopoly is a bad one, and would seem to indicate an intention to defy the British government. It is that the design of the volksraad, and if the Boers really desire it, they are likely to be gratified for the assistance of the British government is about exhausted. Very extensive military preparations are being made, and everything is in readiness for the dispatch of twenty thousand British troops to the Transvaal at short notice if their services should be required there.

THE SUN AND THE QUEBEC VOTE.

It is not often that the Sun is brought to its knees so suddenly as it was on Saturday morning when dealing with the Quebec plebiscite vote. For several months the Sun has been shouting that the Quebec vote was fraudulent, that the government induced the election of Quebec to defeat prohibition and that the result in Quebec was due to a vile conspiracy in which the premier and others took part. On Thursday the Sun gave some details which went to show that in about a dozen Quebec polling places there was a large vote cast, all or nearly all of the names on the voting lists being polled and it held this to be a proof of fraud and of the dishonest character of the Quebec plebiscite vote. The editor of the Sun was not wise in thus coming into the open and undertaking to deal with facts and figures, for it was very easy to show that those few polling places where the vote was large were exceptions to the rule in Quebec and the votes cast at them were a mere drop in the bucket compared with the vote of the province as a whole. Mr. S. D. Scott, with the aid of Mr. George E. Foster, has been able to find just twenty-four polling places in Quebec where the vote cast at the plebiscite election was almost as large as the vote on the register; but as there are upward of 2,500 polling places in Quebec it does not look as if the total vote was largely affected by what was done at these twenty-four polling places. If Premier Laurier and his cabinet conspired to defeat prohibition by gross fraud in Quebec as the Sun has been asserting they certainly confined their activities to a very narrow sphere. Why did they only deal with one per cent. of the polling places, leaving the other ninety-nine per cent. untouched. Even the Sun is able to notice the absurdity of its charge against the government with respect to Quebec and in an editorial which appeared in it on Saturday it lowers its colors in the following fashion:—

It is true that the vote in Quebec province was not large, and that in many parishes it was very small. The fact seems to be that the people of large did not take any great interest in the matter. If it be true, as the Sun now confesses, that the vote in Quebec province was not large, and that the people at large did not take any great interest in the matter, why has the Sun been harping about the Quebec vote for months and charging the government with using it to defeat prohibition? What the Sun now says is a confession that all the romps it has been bringing against the government in regard to the Quebec vote were false.

LOSING SIR HILBERT.

The London Canadian Gazette appears to be very much perturbed at the story which is current that Sir Hilbert Taggart does not intend again to offer for parliament. It says:—

Sir Charles Tupper, by the way, is losing one of the strong ties which all his life have bound himself and his family to his native province of Nova Scotia. It seems that Sir C. Hilbert Taggart, who since 1878 has represented the constituency of Pictou and as Canadian minister of marine and fisheries was brought into close association with Nova Scotia and the other maritime provinces, will not again contest his old constituency. We hope it is not to be inferred from this that one of the most promising of the younger Canadian statesmen of today intends to sever his connections with federal politics. Of late Sir Hilbert Taggart has established large business connections with the gold provinces, and there has been talk of his undertaking the somewhat belated task of reorganizing the Conservative party in that section of the dominion. We do not gather from the public statements on the subject whether he has any present intention of adopting this role. But even should he be prevailed upon to do for the Conservatives in British Columbia what his father did years ago in Nova Scotia, his absence from Ottawa during the session of parliament will, we may expect, be only a temporary one.

We do not believe that many people in parliament would die of grief even if Sir Hilbert did conclude not to enter parliament again. Even the men of his own political party are none too much in love with his method of conducting the public business. If Sir Hilbert had not been the son of Sir Charles he would never have been heard of at Ottawa.

THE TRANSVAAL.

We publish elsewhere Mr. Chamberlain's latest speech in regard to the Transvaal, a speech that has attracted a vast amount of attention in England and has convinced many people that it is hopeless to expect a continuance of peace. Mr. Chamberlain's words are strong and some even might regard them as defiant, but he speaks with the consciousness of having the support of the vast majority of the British people who believe his policy to be the correct one. Mr. Chamberlain intimates that if Great Britain has to go to war on account of the misdeeds of the Transvaal government the British nation will never be content until the supremacy of Great Britain in South Africa is admitted. This seems to be a gentle hint to the Boers of the Orange Free State not to mix themselves up in the quarrels of the Transvaal, but to preserve liberty of action with respect to the disputed questions as the circumstances may arise. This hint will probably be taken, for there is certainly no good reason why the Orange Free State should take the side of the Boers of the Transvaal. Their interests are involved in the preservation of the peace, and nothing will so much tend to the keeping of the peace as the conviction on the part of the Boers that they have no chance of success in their contest with Great Britain.

There is a great fight going on between the New York Herald and the New York Sun. Most people will sympathize with the Herald against the Sun, which is always anti-British, like the St. John newspaper.

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AND SEE THEIR 'SHOWING OF'

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Good news for boys and their mothers. Good news for young men and men. Our stock of Fall Clothing is ready. It is the largest and best we have ever shown. Children's, Boys' and Men's Suits. All bright new goods, carefully made; the acme of style.

Pay our store a visit during your stay in the city whether you want to buy or not. We will be glad to see you and to show you the largest and best stock of HIGH GRADE CLOTHING in the Maritime Provinces.

Men's Suits.

For durability, comfort and finish our Men's Suits have no superior. They are cut to fit, made to wear and finished in first-class style. Men's All Wool Dark Blue Serge Suits, double-breasted Sack Coats, very excellent quality. Prices, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.50, \$10.00.

Men's All Wool, dark gray and brown, mixed Tweed Suits, Single and Double-breasted Sacks. A large number of patterns to choose from. Every suit carefully made. Prices, \$6.00, \$8.00, \$10.00, \$12.00.

Fine Black Clay Diagonal Suits, Single and Double-breasted, Sacks and Cutaways finished the same as tailor-made garments. Price, \$10.00.

Boys' Suits.

The ever popular Sailor Suits of good dark blue Serge for boys 4 to 8 years. Prices, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00.

Two-piece Suits for Boys, 4 to 11 years, in Oxford, Tweeds and Serges. Prices, \$2.25, \$2.75, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00.

Vestee Suits

For Boys, 4 to 8 years, in Tweeds, Light and Dark Checks, and Fancy Mixtures. Prices, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00.

Three-Piece Suits

For Boys, 10 to 16 years. Double-breasted Sack Worsteds, Tweeds, Fancy Mixtures and Blue Serges. Prices, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00.

Men's Pants.

We cannot say enough about the goodness of our Men's Pants. The prices we are selling them at do not begin to tell their value; every line is the best in the land at the price. Our stock is the largest, the best value and is full of bargains.

TWO HUNDRED PAIRS of Men's All Wool Working Pants, strong material, were made worth \$2.00 per pair. Our Price, \$1.35.

THREE HUNDRED PAIRS of Men's Gray and Black, fine stripe, All Wool, Tweed Pants, very dressy, extra value. \$2.50 per Pair.

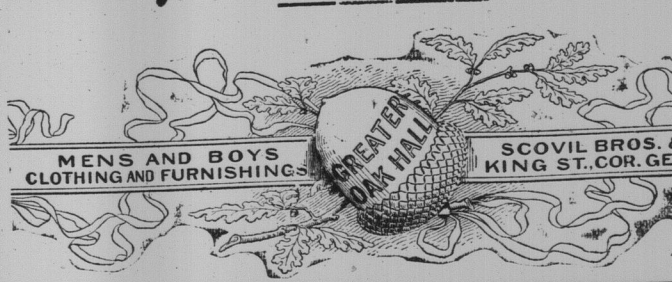
Men's Fall Overcoats.

\$8.00 will purchase a Dark Gray or Dark Fawn Worsteds Overcoat, Single-breasted, hair cloth sleeve lining. It is well made and neatly finished. A bargain at the price.

\$10.00 is the price of a splendid Covert Overcoat. Colors, Dark, Gray and Fawn; made of superior English Whipcord Cloth; Single-breasted, welt seams, stitched edges. Italian body lining, silk sewn and well finished throughout.

\$12.00 will make you the owner of a Covert Overcoat, which is strictly "correct" in style with all the details which distinguish a gentleman's coat. Equal in workmanship and material to the made-to-measure garment at \$20.00.

If you are not coming to the city send us your order by mail. It will be promptly and carefully attended to. Everything we sell is guaranteed to give satisfaction. "You can have your money back if you want it."



The Toronto Mail and Empire is discussing the question why do Christian people know so little of the Bible and its contents? We fear that our Toronto contemporaries have got among a poor lot of Christians, for it is not true that real Christians in this age are unfamiliar with the Bible and its contents. Of course political Christians of the Mail stripe cannot be familiar with the Bible else they would amend their ways and cease to slander their political opponents as they do. It is pleasing to know that in spite of our Christianlike organs like the Mail the Bible is more widely read than ever it was and is likely to continue to be read all over Canada by men of real piety and worth.

Time Lost—"What causes Burkin's miseries?" "He can't quit admiring himself long enough to go to sleep!"—Chicago Record.