

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N.B., JULY 4, 1900.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH.
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FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception the number of new subscribers will be entered until the money is received. Subscribers will be required to pay for their papers sent them, whether they take them from the office or not. Hence, those who take a paper from the office will be required to pay for it. It is a well settled principle of law that a man must pay for what he has. Hence, those who take a paper from the office, whether directed to him or someone else, must pay for it.

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Write plainly and take special pains with your copy. Write on one side of your paper only. Attach your name and address to your communication as an evidence of good faith. Write nothing for which you are not prepared to be held personally responsible.

THIS PAPER HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.
MR. T. W. RAMSFORD, Traveling Agent for the Daily and Weekly Telegraph is now in Northumberland County. Subscribers are asked to pay their subscription to him when he calls.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N.B., JULY 4, 1900.

A FAMILIAR BLUFF.

When Sir Charles Tupper was speaking of Mr. Montague's constituency the other day he declared that he had said to Sir Wilfrid Laurier: "I challenge you now to put your finger upon one single pledge you gave to the people of Canada that you have carried out." There is no doubt that Sir Charles did make this challenge.

He is a very daring old gentleman and it is quite his custom to make challenges of this sort. In fact, the more certain he is of being answered, the more voluble and sweeping would be the challenge.

But because Sir Charles says that the premier at dumb before this invitation, it does not follow that his challenge was not taken up a score of times and satisfactorily disposed of. The doughty baronet goes about nursing the illusion that his challenges and his speeches are never answered, and cannot be answered, by anyone else knows to the contrary, but it is not at all impossible, nor even a difficult matter, to prove that a good many of the pledges given by the Liberal party have been redeemed. Of course, when opponents of the government dismiss Liberal pledges they have the reprehensible habit of inserting a number of pledges which the party never gave. But there need be no misunderstanding on that score; for the pledges of the Liberal party were announced at the great convention held at St. John in 1893 and are on record. They are the only pledges respecting which the party can properly be called to account, and when the case is submitted to the people of public judgment will be found satisfactory.

In the meantime the bluffs of Tory campaigneers will not be able to make any impression.

It cannot be denied, however, that there was one important pledge given by the Liberals which they have not redeemed. They committed themselves definitely and unequivocally to the repeal of the Gerrymanders of 1882 and 1892—those two measures which did more to prevent the free exercise of public opinion than anything else. They certainly tried to carry out that undertaking, and after weeks of struggling against the blockade tactics of the opposition, they succeeded in carrying the repeal through the House of Commons. That was all they could do.

It is hard to that extent fulfilled their promise. Everyone knows, however, what happened in the Senate. The partisan majority in that chamber, without warrant or reason, threw the measure out. They knew that without the unfair advantages given them by the gerrymanders of 1882 and 1892, their friends in the commons could not face the electors of Ontario. If Sir Charles had had this in his mind when he was speaking in Ontario, there is not an impartial man in the dominion who will think that the circumstance is creditable to the Liberals or reflects upon their honesty of purpose.

There were other pledges, and no one knows better than Sir Charles that they have been redeemed. He knows that the Liberals have:

Repealed the Franchise Act.
Taken a plebiscite on Prohibition.
Readjusted the tariff.
Introduced preferential trade.
Practiced economy.

Given a clean administration.
These, with the promise to repeal the gerrymander acts, were the undertakings of the Liberal party as announced at the

Ottawa convention. It cannot be hoped that the opposition will admit the two last items, because it is part of the game of politics to insist that the government is extravagant and corrupt. But the facts clearly established a faithful and conscientious discharge of obligations before the people of Canada, all statements to the contrary notwithstanding.

DR BORDEN AND THE MILITIA.

The Sun's Ottawa letter, which is written by Mr. S. D. Scott, editor of that paper, with a view to doing as much injury to the government as possible, criticizes the Hon. Dr. Borden's recent speech on the militia and tries to show that he does not deserve any credit for the manner in which the Canadian contingents were sent to South Africa. Dr. Borden in the course of his speech called attention to the fact that the number of troops raised for active service in South Africa, including the battalion stationed at Halifax which went to relieve the British regiment removed from that place, numbered about four thousand, whereas the number of troops sent to the Northwest to put down the rebellion was only some 3,200. Mr. Scott lights on this and tries to show that Dr. Borden was attempting to detract from the merits of the militia who put down the Northwest rebellion fifteen years ago. Perhaps the best way to illustrate Mr. Scott's remarks is to quote what he says:

"In the first place, we might naturally expect that fifteen years of military evolution would accomplish something. We have had the military college turning out officers during all that period, and we ought to have something better to send to the field than we had in 1885. But Sir Adolphe Caron was able in a shorter time than Dr. Borden used to gather nearly as large a force to transport it, partly in winter, thousands of miles by land, much of the distance without a railway; to maintain it in the field, with many of the units far away from a railway base or a base of supplies; to follow an enemy fighting as the Boers fight, from behind shelter with rapidly changing positions, to guard a frontier of a thousand miles, threatened by hostile Indians and largely unsettled; and to do it all with at least equal success to that obtained by the British forces in their early encounters with the Boers. The military department of the present day, with the larger organization, costing double the annual grant, raised its force and delivered it on board ship at Canadian ports, the government having no responsibility on the battlefield or anywhere in the area of military operations. No doubt the military branch of Dr. Borden's department did the work well, but that is no reason why anyone should disparage the work done fifteen years ago under Sir Adolphe Caron and General Middleton."

Mr. Scott completely ignores the fact that the militia who were sent to the Northwest did not require to be enlisted because it was a part of their duty to go to any part of Canada where their services might be required, whereas every one of the men who went to South Africa had to be individually enlisted and examined. He likewise ignores the fact that the troops for South Africa had to be gathered in one place for embarkation and sent thousands of miles by sea, that everything necessary for a campaign had to be provided for them in haste and that in engaging in this work, Canada was doing something that was wholly new; because while the Tories were in power they never offered to send a man abroad to assist the British government in any of its numerous wars. Dr. Borden did not, as the Sun states, make light of the work that was done by his predecessor fifteen years before, on the contrary he gave it its proper meed of praise, but he did right in showing that a still greater work had been done by the present government. We leave it with the Sun to settle with its readers with regard to its sneers at "the success obtained by the British forces in their early encounters with the Boers." We are of the opinion that Mr. Scott will regret having written that sentence, because what have the militia of Canada to do with any lack of success which the British forces encountered in the early fights with the Boers. No Canadian was in these battles, and if Canadians had been there even Dr. Borden responsible for these early reverses, no matter how intelligently it might be sought to find capital against the present dominion government. Nothing that the Sun can say with regard to the Canadian contingents sent to South Africa can detract from their merits or lessen the credit due to the minister of militia under whom their great work was done. At a time when the whole world is praising the conduct of the Canadian forces it seems rather an opportunity for the Sun to be endeavoring to show that they did nothing worthy of applause.

ATTACKING GREAT BRITAIN.

The Sun continues to countenance and assist the enemies of Great Britain by publishing Mr. I. N. Ford's cable despatches, in which everything possible is done to minimize Great Britain's achievements and to magnify any disaster or loss she may suffer. In his despatch, which was published in the Sun of yesterday, Mr. Ford, whom the Sun claims as its own correspondent, took occasion to attack Lord Salisbury's policy with respect to China and to endeavor to magnify Russia at the expense of our mother country. After the amount of howling and screeching that the Sun has indulged in at the expense of Mr. Tarte, what will its readers say to the following extract from its telegraphic columns:

"Salisbury has not disclosed any objective points beyond protection of the British legation and commercial interests. He has not started out well, for the relief force commanded by Seymour has returned to Tien Tsin after being thwarted and baffled in an attempt to reach Peking, and the Russian column with other foreign contin-

gents has rescued it. England has taken a subordinate part in the bombardment of the Taku forts, and European forces have rescued an expedition which was badly planned by the British admiral. Salisbury will now fall back, without doubt, upon the European concert, and the initiative will be taken by Russia. The American government, unlike the European powers, seems to know its mind, and this is a great advantage. It provided a small contingent for Seymour's column, and another one was under fire with the Russians before Tien Tsin was relieved, but both were sent into China under definite instructions, and there was no engagement to do anything more than cooperate with the other forces in the protection of the life and property of foreigners. American activity will end when its legation is safe and the lives and property of Americans in China are protected."

We think that most readers of the Sun will persevere the above with a great degree of indignation. It will be observed that instead of Admiral Seymour being commended for his gallant attempt to relieve the embassies at Peking his efforts are treated with something like contempt. No mention is made of the fact that it was for fifteen days Admiral Seymour's column was surrounded and fighting with thousands of enemies; that for ten days they were on quarter rations, and that no troops have ever displayed more heroism than the little force which Mr. I. N. Ford, correspondent to the Sun, speaks of with so much contempt.

Then we are told by the Sun that England has taken a subordinate part in the bombardment of the Taku forts. That is, we suppose, stated for the purpose of throwing more contempt on our mother country and exalting the Russians and Yankees at her expense. We believe that Great Britain was as well represented at the bombardment of the Taku forts as any other power. If the whole British Chinese fleet was not present at the occasion it was due to the fact that China has a pretty long coast line and that Great Britain has to watch other parts of it, besides the mouth of the Pei Ho River. A great deal is made of the fact that a Russian column rescued Admiral Seymour's gallant little army, but the truth of the matter is that all the great European powers, as well as the United States were then some talk of acquiring the Hudson Bay territories and joining them to Canada, but no man in that day dreamed of uniting the eastern provinces to British Columbia, or that the new confederation would extend from ocean to ocean. The men who designed this union and carried it out were empire builders in the truest sense. They were men of foresight as well as men of ability, and in future ages their memory will receive due credit for what they did to establish British power on this continent and to lay the foundation of a young and vigorous nation. No man who traces the history of Canada back to the first union of the provinces can deny that it has been a very great success. Were they to contrast the Canada of 33 years ago with the Canada of today they could not but be struck with the immense advances that have been made in every respect, in commerce and in material wealth, and in all that goes to make a nation since the union was first effected.

We have grown very largely in population and in area, but we have grown still more in the true national spirit, and we have made Canada known and respected all over the world. Everyone recognizes in the Canadian dominion the right hand of the mother country, the greatest of her colonies and the future heir of her greatness; a land to which the whole British race might emigrate and build up a new empire. A land of such magnificent resources that at some future date it may become the home of 250,000,000 people.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S COLUMN.

Admiral Seymour possesses one quality which a good many of the commanders in South Africa seem to be deficient in, he knows how to write a despatch that is clear and intelligible. The account which he gives of his attempt to reach Peking, which appeared in our columns on Saturday, is a very plain and full statement of the difficulties he had to overcome in the face of enormous difficulties to rescue the embassies at the Chinese capital. It is a conspicuous proof of the bad editing of the Sun and of the bad spirit which prevails that paper that on Saturday it allowed Mr. I. N. Ford to say that the British government had received only eight words from Seymour, and that the accounts of Seymour's operations and the conduct of the column that relieved him are still "vague and confused." Mr. Ford must have put that in out of pure spite, because there never was a clearer statement than that which Admiral Seymour issued. We can almost follow him as he fought from day to day to endeavor to reach Peking, and we can view with the eyes of imagination his return when his brave troops were on short rations and in danger of being completely overwhelmed by the hordes which he bravely fought.

Admiral Seymour conducted himself through all these operations like a brave and competent commander. His losses were heavy and it is a notable fact that the losses of the British in killed and wounded were greater than those of all the other nations combined. It is easy to see from these figures by whom the fighting was done, and the manner in which the Chinese hosts were beaten back. There was something dramatic as well as heroic in the manner in which Admiral Seymour, beset by numerous enemies, succeeded in capturing the Chinese arsenal with its immense store of provisions and arms, and holding on to it until the relieving column reached him. It was a clear stroke of genius and stamped the admiral as a man fit for any emergency and worthy to lead brave British sailors and marines under any circumstances.

THE KHEDIVÉ.

The Khedive of Egypt is meeting with a warm reception in England, which he is now visiting, but whether he deserves it or not is another question. There is a very strong impression that he has not been a friend to British interests, but that he has intrigued with the French for the purpose of getting rid of his British advisors. Still, it must be remembered that the Khedive was a very young man when he ascended the throne, only eighteen years of age, and he is a young man still for he has only attained the age of twenty-six. It is to be presumed that he is learning wisdom from his experience during the past few years, and that he now sees that the true friends of Egypt are the British and not the French. The extension of the Egyptian territories into the Sudan, is an achievement which ought to make his present Egyptian advisors stand well in his eyes. It is safe to say that if the French had occupied the same position in Egypt as the British did, no Khedive would now be on the throne, but Egypt would have become a French colony. Whether the existing system of ruling Egypt is destined to be permanent may be a question for the future to decide. The Khedive receives an income of \$500,000 a year, and apparently

he does nothing to earn it for he is not a potent factor in the government of Egypt, although he is nominally its head. Still, it may be that it is wise to keep the shadow of a sovereign on the throne for the purpose of quieting the susceptibilities of the Egyptians, who might not like to see their native ruler wholly deposed. We trust that the Khedive may enjoy his visit to England and that on his return to Egypt he will give no further cause of suspicion with regard to his entire friendliness to Great Britain and the officials who rule in her name in Egypt.

DOMINION DAY.

Sunday was the 33rd anniversary of the union of the four original provinces of Canada into a confederation. A great many men are still in active life in St. John who took part in the work which led to this union and were prominent on one side or the other in the election which brought it about. Yet a whole generation has passed since then, and the entire aspect of affairs has changed in Canada to such an extent that there is very little resemblance between the dominion as it was, when it first came into existence 33 years ago, and the dominion as it exists now. The union of the Canadian provinces, although it seemed to be a natural and proper result, from the fact that they were all under the British flag and lay close to each other, was opposed by many good men on the ground that the smaller provinces might not receive full justice from the larger ones. Local jealousies also caused many people in the maritime provinces to hesitate before tying their destiny to that of Canada, but in the end the larger views prevailed, and the union was accepted not as inevitable but as proper. However, all the anti-confederation feeling which existed in Canada a few years ago has now wholly died out. No man talks of the dissolution of the union, but every man is proud of the progress that Canada has made, along every line of endeavor, during the period that the dominion has been in existence. When the dominion was first organized it embraced only a comparatively small area, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario. There were then some talk of acquiring the Hudson Bay territories and joining them to Canada, but no man in that day dreamed of uniting the eastern provinces to British Columbia, or that the new confederation would extend from ocean to ocean. The men who designed this union and carried it out were empire builders in the truest sense. They were men of foresight as well as men of ability, and in future ages their memory will receive due credit for what they did to establish British power on this continent and to lay the foundation of a young and vigorous nation. No man who traces the history of Canada back to the first union of the provinces can deny that it has been a very great success. Were they to contrast the Canada of 33 years ago with the Canada of today they could not but be struck with the immense advances that have been made in every respect, in commerce and in material wealth, and in all that goes to make a nation since the union was first effected.

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SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

Sir Charles Tupper has taken his departure from Ottawa and gone to England where he expects to remain for some weeks. This may be accepted as an indication that he does not expect the election to come on soon, or perhaps it may mean that he is taking less interest in public affairs in consequence of some prospective change in the leadership of his party. Sir Charles Tupper has been the leader of his party for four years and a half, but we cannot say that in that time he has greatly advanced the welfare of the party in which he claims to take such an interest. There is reason to think that if he had remained in England it might have stood in a better position today than it now occupies, and that it would have escaped some of the disasters which have befallen it. At the same time it must be admitted that if Sir Charles were to withdraw from the leadership, it would be extremely difficult for the Conservatives to fill his place. One has only to look at the depleted front seats on the opposition side of the house to realize how hard is the plight of the Conservative party with respect to leadership or even men of ability. Mr. Foster, who, no doubt, aspires to the leadership, would not be at all acceptable to many of the Ontario members, and certainly his chances of being accepted have not improved during the present session. Mr. Haggart, Mr. Montague and others on that side of the house are of course not to be thought of as party leaders, because they have none of the qualities that are required for that trying position. Bad as the leadership of Sir Charles Tupper is as any other leadership from among the Conservatives now in the House of Commons would be infinitely worse.

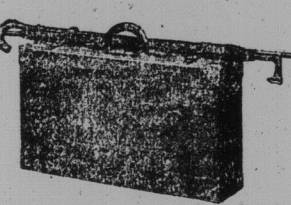
SCHOOL TEACHERS' PENSIONS.

The co-operative spirit of the age, which lies at the basis of our insurance system, is steadily reaching out into new fields of service. The Utopia of the future, so invitingly painted by enlightened social reformers, has this as its central and vital principle. Among the forms in which it has been tried in some communities is that of creating a fund upon which school teachers could depend, when unfit for continued employment at their vocation; and without claiming to have given the matter special thought we venture the opinion that there is nothing to prevent the adoption of such a mutual pension system in Canada. The suggestion, if it has not already been considered, is at least worthy of attention by those who are most directly concerned.

In some of the states of the American Union such a system has been in operation for years. It has been based on the assessment plan, and the experience thus far realized goes to show that everything

TRUNKS AND BAGS.

Thousands of people live in their trunks all summer. Then the trunk should be roomy, convenient and durable. Our trunks are all that. Moreover, they are all new, and prices most reasonable.



SUIT CASES—We have a special line of suit cases in solid leather, steel frames, hand sewn and copper riveted. Colors are brown, olive and russet. Excellent value. Price only \$6.00.

We have another line of suit cases of heavier leather than the above line, and of very fine finish. Price \$9.75.

Other lines ranging in price from \$12.00 to \$15.00.

BAGS—Leather bags with good frame and lock: 4, 16, 18 inches. Price \$1.90, \$2.20, \$2.55.



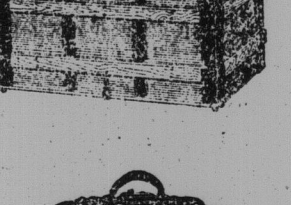
Better lines in russet and olive shades, \$2.65, \$2.95.

Solid leather English finished bags in black, russet, brown and olive with canvas linings. Price \$3.35 and upwards.

Solid leather English finished bags, same colors as above line; leather lined. Prices \$4.65, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 9.35.

KIT BAGS—Leather lined. Prices \$3.00, 5.00, 10.75, 11.75.

GLADSTONE BAGS—Prices \$4.65, 6.00, 6.45 to 12.00.



TRUNKS—Metal covered, oval top with tray. Prices \$2.25, 3.75, 4.00, 5.25.

Leather covered, oval top with tray. Prices \$6.75, 8.25.

Canvas covered, flat top with tray. Prices \$5.25, 6.25, 7.75.

Steamer Trunks, extra well made. Prices \$6.75, 7.00.

Solid sole leather trunks with all necessary compartments for travelling. Will last for years. Price \$27.



TRAVELLERS ORDER BOOK AND STATIONERY CASES—What every commercial man should have. We are the only people in the city carrying these cases. Solid leather. Prices \$4.65, 5.00, 5.40.

YOUR MONEY BACK IF DISSATISFIED.

GREATER OAK HALL, SCOVIL BROS. & CO.,

King Street, Corner Germain.

ST. JOHN, N.B.

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In some of the states of the American Union such a system has been in operation for years. It has been based on the assessment plan, and the experience thus far realized goes to show that everything

depends upon the prudent administration of the accumulating fund. In one case which has come within our knowledge the result has been disappointing. The school teachers' pension fund in Chicago has lately been examined by an actuary, and found to be utterly insolvent. About 6,000 persons have been contributing to this fund, expecting to receive a pension amounting to half their salary on retiring. There is now an impairment of over \$600,000, and those who supposed they would get a pension of \$800 a year find that \$25 is all that they can hope for. The conclusion which this result confirms is that nothing is more certain than life insurance when scientifically managed; nothing is more ruinous when undertaken by incompetent and ignorant persons.

MISREPRESENTING THE GOVERNMENT.

The Sun, under the heading "A British Example," attempts to draw an unfavorable comparison between the conduct of the government of Canada and the conduct of the British government with respect to matters which it claims require investigation. It states that when charges were made against the British army hospital service, and it was stated that the soldiers had suffered owing to the lack of sufficient equipment, the government at once announced that it would assent to the appointment of a competent committee of physicians and others to investigate the whole matter. The Sun goes on to say that if such a matter had been brought up in the Canadian parliament the government would have resisted all efforts to hold an investigation, and when forced by the current of public opinion to take action would either have appointed a partisan committee to whitewash the wrong doers, or a committee with restricted power who would not be permitted to get at the facts. This statement of the Sun is not true in any particular, but as we have long since ceased to look in the slightest surprise. The Liberal government of Canada has never resisted any fair demand to investigate any matter in the public interest, but the conduct of the opposition has been such that it was frequently impossible to tell what they wanted, because if one thing is conceded they claim that what they wanted is something else.

In the West Huron election case they demanded a committee and a committee according to the Sun's interpretation, it would be a partisan committee, that is, it would be composed of Liberals and Conservatives. The government appointed a judicial commission, a committee of judges, who were altogether removed from politics, and they gave it the amplest powers. This did not satisfy the opposition. What they wanted was the

thing which they now call a partisan committee. They wanted a committee before which Mr. Powell, of Westmorland, and other men of similar calibre could air their eloquence so that the people of Canada might see what able men they were. In the emergency nations case the government appointed not a judicial commission, but a committee. They gave the opposition the amplest opportunity of bringing in evidence. The whole proceedings of that committee have been laid before the country, nothing has been held back. Yet the Sun has the indecency to falsely charge the government with attempting to hold back the facts. For the credit of journalism, even Conservative journalism, we may say that until the present editor of the Sun took charge of it there was always some attempt to act fairly and honestly towards its political opponents. Now under the changed conditions there is no such thing as fair play, honesty or truth to be found in the Sun.

Mr. Bourassa is said by Tory journals to be in Manitoba working up an anti-British feeling. The statement is a sheer invention, inasmuch as Mr. Bourassa has been steadily at Ottawa for many weeks past. The obscurity of such an announcement, however, is shown by the fact that Mr. Bourassa has not, neither in Parliament nor out of it, uttered one word in hostility to Great Britain. Like thousands of men in England, he merely questions the justice of Britain's cause in South Africa.

Speaking at Hagersville last week, Mr. Bergeron said:

"Where could one find a happier people than the French-Canadians, enjoying, under the British flag, the free exercise of their religion, of their dear mother tongue, of their French laws?"

That settles Mr. Bergeron. The Mail and Enquirer and Montreal Star will read him out of the party. Just fancy his talking about "their dear mother tongue!" That's almost precisely what Mr. Tarte said in Paris.

One of the great heresies entertained by Conservatives is that Providence operates only on their side. When they were in and times were good they took the credit—when times were bad they attributed the circumstance to Providence. Now that the Liberals are in and times are good they say the fact is entirely due to Providence. If times were bad they would say the cause was the Grits.

The Liberals are said by the chief Tory organ to be "violently opposed" to preferential trade with Great Britain. The people of England are probably content to put up with this form of opposition as they see it in practice, rather than have the preferential policy which Sir Charles Tupper favors.