

## CHIGNECTO POST AND BORDERER.

SACKVILLE, N. B., DEC. 29, 1887.

The first number of the *Empire*, the new Liberal Conservative paper, was issued at Toronto on Tuesday.

The recent blizzard in Kansas was the worst ever known in the state. The number of deaths from freezing, and starvation is believed to be at least 60.

Mr. Norquay has resigned the premiership of Manitoba and a new cabinet has been formed with Mr. Harrison as Premier. The new cabinet is Liberal-Conservative.

Three steel steamers of 3,000 tons each are to be built at the Fairfield yard, on the Clyde, to run in the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Japan and British Columbia service.

The writ for the election in Quebec, has been issued. Nomination January 11th, polling 18th. Joseph Hosen, of Gagetown, is returning officer. The candidates will be Messrs. Baird and King, as at the general election.

The Yarmouth barque Antoinette has completed the round trip between New York and Hieago, Japan, in less than ten months. The distance covered is over 42,000 miles, or nearly twice the circumference of the globe.

Attorney-General Winter, of Newfoundland, is at Ottawa consulting the Canadian Ministers regarding new proposals to be submitted to the United States Commissioners in connection with the Fisheries negotiations.

According to the Bangor (Maine) *Commercial*, the value of free lumber received at that point from the Maritime provinces during the month of November and October was \$22,995. The value of hemlock bark sent over the border in the same time was \$12,532.

It is rumored that the Pope intends to make Archbishop Williams, of Boston, a cardinal. Bishop McMahon, of Hartford, is also a candidate. The Pope is also expected to raise Vice-General Williams, of Boston, to the episcopacy, at Hartford as his see.

A despatch from Victoria, B. C., says Mr. Noah Shakespeare, M. P., Conservative, has resigned his seat in the Commons to accept the Victoria postmaster's office. Mr. Postmaster Wallace being superannuated. Mr. Prior, M. P. for York, intends running in the Conservative interest.

Exported to the United States last fiscal year, worth of merchandise, as with \$768,000 in the previous year. Of this aggregate, \$447,000; dried fruit, \$100,000; \$347,000; and \$99,000 of other goods.

The Canadian snow has been a great blessing to the people of the Maritime Provinces this season. It has done good sleighing, but it is reported that six to eight inches of snow fell throughout Louisiana and Mississippi last Saturday. Snow is scarcely regarded as a blessing in the Southern States.

Frank C. McNeally, the Saco bank embezzler, was arrested in the Halifax hotel last Wednesday night, and held a prisoner till Sunday when he was liberated on the request of his brother, who bore letters that the prisoner be delivered to him. The embezzler arrived at Halifax on the Polynesian, and according to his story his travels have extended as far as Egypt.

The mining industry of Nova Scotia furnishes the Provincial Government with its most important source of income, aside from the Dominion subsidy. In 1886 the receipts of the Department of Mines in that province were \$126,856, and the expenditure \$13,242, leaving a net revenue of \$113,614. This year, owing to an increased output of coal, the net revenue will probably amount to \$122,000.

Judge Alley has given a decision in the Scott Act election recount at Charlottetown. He found that there were 669 valid ballots for the petition to repeal the Act, and 689 against it. The majority in favor of the Act has, as a result of the scrutiny, been increased by three votes, and is now 20. The judge dismissed the petition, and ordered the costs to be paid by the petitioners.

Returns from twelve gold mines in Nova Scotia for the month of November show a total of 2,517 tons of quartz crushed, with a return of 1,055 ounces of gold, valued at \$21,100. One mine gives the enormous yield of 191 ounces of gold from 611 tons of quartz crushed, while another the small return of 384 ounces from 299 tons of quartz. An association of gold miners has been formed, the annual meeting to be held in Halifax on 3rd February, 1888.

The Springfield collieries continue to develop their seams and increase their output. The daily output averages from 1,600 to 2,000 tons, and the demand still exceeds the supply. Over 1,400 men and boys are employed, and the pay roll amounts to upwards of \$50,000 a month. The men are paid fortnightly in cash. The company proposes to sink a vertical pit 1,200 feet deep, and another one 900 feet. These two will afford facilities for raising a million tons of coal each year. Extensive wharves have been built at Parsons, from which 50,000 tons of coal has been shipped to the New England States this season, notwithstanding the duty of 75 cents a ton.

## Commercial Union Progress.

A remarkable fact concerning Commercial Union is that it is making its greatest progress in parts of the country remote from the papers advocating it. The disciples of Erasmus Wiman in the Maritime Provinces tell of wonderful advances the cause is making in Ontario, and in support of their statements cite the adoption of indefinite resolutions by political associations thinly disguised as farmers' clubs; while the papers in Ontario which support Commercial Union inform their readers of the increase of union sentiment down by the sea. Judging by the statements of the great papers the great majority of the electors of the Dominion are anxious for an opportunity of depositing their ballots in favor of unrestricted trade with the United States, but when the test of an election is applied the people do not seem in any great hurry to declare in favor of Commercial Union. In Shelburne, according to some of our contemporaries, Commercial Union was the sole issue in the recent by-election; but the result was that an opponent of the which was to reverse the decision of the people, has increased General Laurier's majority. The results in Nova Scotia have not been remarkably encouraging to the Commercial Unionists, but there does not appear to be much cause for alarm. There has recently been an opportunity of testing the question in an Ontario constituency, and the result can scarcely be regarded as a Commercial Union victory. In the general election last February Dr. Malory was elected in East Northumberland by a majority of twelve as a supporter of the Opposition. He was unopposed for corrupt practices, and in the election of last Thursday was again a candidate. This time he came out as a straight Commercial Unionist, and claimed to be independent of all other parties. He was opposed by Mr. O'Connell, who was defeated in February, and who on both occasions was the standard bearer of the Liberal-Conservative and a pronounced supporter of the National Policy. The Commercial Union cry did not prove any more successful in East Northumberland than in Shelburne, for Mr. O'Connell was elected by a majority of 126. At the present rate of progress the question is not how soon Commercial Union will be carried at the polls, but how long will it take to annihilate the Grit party.

## N. S. Railways.

Nova Scotia has just entered into an era of great activity in railway building. The Cape Breton railway, so long clamored, has been commenced, and will, before many months, bring the industrial centres of that island in close connection with the mainland. On the Short Line, between Oxford and Pictou the contracts are signed. The contract for Pictou-Barnaby was to have been signed on Tuesday night. Work this winter is proceeding on the clearings and outcrops. Nearly 400 men are at work. A large number are at work at what is known as the Oxford branch, reducing the grades to one in fifty. In this four miles there will be 40,000 cubic yards of excavation. The eastern section from Pictou to Mingo Road, 23 miles, is in charge of Mr. R. H. Cushing, C. E., who is located at River John, and has Messrs. Wheaton, Taylor and Eaton as assistants. The western section—over 40 miles—has Mr. J. A. Dickie in charge. His headquarters are at Wallace. He has Messrs. Sargent, Jones, Archibald and True as assistants.

In addition to these, the Spring Hill and Oxford Line—14 miles—has Mr. L. C. R. at St. John's, and the Cape and Railway Co., to Messrs. Chandler and Pearson, who have 200 men at work. The line runs from Spring Hill and connects with the Short Line at Oxford. It crosses the Cape and Railway Co. line, and will be completed early next season.

The passing of a subsidy act by the N. S. Government in the session of 1886, has greatly stimulated local railway enterprise, although the subsidy is very small (\$3,200 per mile) in 1 per cent. debentures, which are below par. The first company to avail itself of this aid is the Joggins line, from which the Government is likely to be more than repaid in a very short time by the payment of interest on the bonds for the line, which the line is surveyed and located, but not commenced, is the Halifax and North Eastern, from Dartmouth to Westville, Pictou Co., distance 89 miles. Another is the Stewiack and Lansdowne, from Brookville to L. C. R. to Lansdowne, distance 85 miles. This line is also located and the sleepers are out. Still another is the Hants Central, connecting Brookville with Newport, Hants Co., 45 miles long. These are all, without exception, advantageous lines, rendering valuable districts of agricultural capabilities or of mineral resources, that are now shut out of the markets. Any line that can be constructed with the above mentioned Provincial aid, has intrinsic merits of its own that amply justify the investment of public money.

LETTER'S LIVING AGE.—The number of the *Living Age* for the week ending Dec. 24th contains Gambler Parry's Ministry of Fine Art, *Edinburgh Review*; Josephine and Maria Louisa, *Temple Bar*; Jenny Lind, *Murray's Magazine*; A Health Resort out of the Season, *Cornhill Magazine*; Major and Minor, *Good Words*; Richard Cable, the Lightshipman, *Chambers Journal*; The Future of New Guinea, *All the Year Round*; with poetry and miscellanea. Five two numbers of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3,200 pages a year) for \$10.00 the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$4.00 monthly or weekly, the *Living Age* for a year, both postpaid. Little & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

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## Is Promulgating Annexation Treason?

How far may one hold speculative views on Annexation without being open to the charge of disloyalty to our Queen and country, is a question raised by Mr. Ellis M. P., editor of the *Globe*, openly advocating in its columns Annexation. It is no empty boast that this is a free country—where neither one's opinion nor one's creed can be challenged. The days of church screws, the rack, and the fagot, are past and gone, and Mr. Ellis is free to hold any opinions he pleases, without let or hindrance. It is however the practical application of a man's opinions that society is obliged to take cognizance of as a matter of self protection. For instance, Brigham Young's free love opinions were of no account until he put them into practical operation, defying the laws of God and man. The sentimentalist who advocates the other Chicago anarchists were of no interest to anyone until they developed into bomb throwing and the wholesale destruction of life and property. So Mr. Ellis' opinions as to a change of flag and allegiance of this country are of no account until he undertakes to give practical force and effect to them, when they are mischievous in proportion to his power and influence. If one can advocate Annexation to United States, one can with equal propriety, so far as loyalty to the Queen is concerned, advocate the extension of Russian or French rule, or extend an invitation to any other foreign dominion to come here and rule us. And if one can do these things, of what value is the oath of allegiance by which Mr. Ellis bound himself, when he took his seat as a member of Parliament? Clearly there is something wrong, either in the oath or in Mr. Ellis' construction of it. But further, if Mr. Ellis esteems it his duty to advocate the annexation of this country, it is only a step in logical sequence for him to advocate it with sword and musket as well as the pen. If such is the case, it seems a little remarkable that the Liberal-Conservative, who is a declared supporter of the National Policy, the Commercial Union cry did not prove any more successful in East Northumberland than in Shelburne, for Mr. O'Connell was elected by a majority of 126. At the present rate of progress the question is not how soon Commercial Union will be carried at the polls, but how long will it take to annihilate the Grit party.

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## Letter from Red Deer.

A Bad Season for the Farmer.—A Fine Country for Stock Raising and Dairying.—Progress Retarded by a Colonization Company.

DEAR SIR:—Allow me the privilege of a few lines in your paper, in order to give to your many readers a true account of the Red Deer settlement in the district of Alberta, its advantages and disadvantages. In the first place the settlement is situated on the Red Deer river (a clear mountain stream about 600 feet in width) about 35 miles north of Calgary. This summer of 1887 has been rather disastrous for the agriculturist, oats being the only grain that matured, and I must say they yielded enormously, in some cases as high as 75 bushels per acre and averaging about 40 lbs. per bushel, barley, wheat and potatoes were a failure. Now in 1886 all crops yielded prolifically, but whether summer frosts are the rule or the exception I cannot say. Take the country as one for producing beef and dairy produce, it cannot be surpassed under the sun. I have farmed many years in the east, but never saw better cream than which flows on the milk in this country. The grass grows in unlimited quantities, and clear water and springs abound. Wood is plentiful and large seams of coal crop out from the banks of the river. The progress of the settlement has been retarded seriously by the selfish and intolerant work of a Colonization Company known as the Saskatchewan Land and Homestead Co. This company holds a certain sum of money in the hands of the Government as security, and with the understanding that they would improve and colonize the lands they claim in this settlement. For the four years they have held sway in this place they have not cleared a single acre of land, and have only one family brought in by their help, and the head of that family had an interest in the company. Now, since the Government has abolished all coal companies, this company seems to have no other business but to keep the pick of all the old sections in the place of the security given to the Government.

This summer they have had a man here taking a survey of all the land in the settlement, and the view ahead that the Government would not charge them for it, and now it is rumored that they are about to induce the Government to exempt their lands from taxes. If they are successful, it means that the land in the settlement will be given to the company, and the company will be able to issue deeds to parties desirous of purchasing, hence their landlocked position. In the meantime the settlers are improving their land, opening up roads, etc., and are at the same time enhancing the value of the company's old sections.

I am, dear sir, yours sincerely,  
A. SERRAN.

Red Deer, Alberta, Dec. 10, 1887.

## Christmas Events.

No-chimes of sleigh bells Xmas day. The editor of the *Sun* and wife spent their holidays with their friends at River Herbert. The driving on Morio's Lake, on Monday afternoon, was rather a fizzle in point of numbers. The wife of the rector of St. Paul's received a well-filled purse on Christmas from their friends. The Salvation Army paraded on Saturday evening with their big drum and they made a big noise. Counsellor Russell and Councilor Tait, of Shediac, Christmased at Westcott this year with Captain Evans.

Prof. Twissel discussed his Xmas goose at Sussex, and Mr. R. C. Boxall, with Mr. Almon, at Hampton. Principal Davis denied the Academic families on Monday, and Principal Jordan reciprocates on next Monday.

Mr. Parson, of the N. Y. Quarrying Co., of Wood Point, forgo to return to Brooklyn, N. Y., this year. The young folks are not forgotten this year. The Salem congregation, had a very enjoyable festival on Saturday evening. Last evening, the Sunday school children of St. Paul's had a Christmas Tree, and the little ones had their full pleasure.

## The Press in Heaven.

Some curious instances are given of extempore prayers. Here is one going the round of the papers, which is said to have been uttered by the Rev. John Allison when praying before the Minnesota Legislature. And now, dear Lord, bless the reporters, whose nimble pens catch every word almost before it is uttered. Like Thee, they are omnipresent, and almost omnipotent. If we take the wings of the morning and fly away to the uttermost parts of the earth, they are there. They meet us in the jungles of Africa, they waylay us in the solitary canyons of Colorado, and when at length we find the latitude of the magnetic pole, behold they are there. May their light and goodness be equal to their power, and in the general assembly of heaven let no reporter be excluded.

For Scrofula, Impure Blood and General Debility. Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphites, has no equal in the whole realm of Medicine. Read the following: "I gave Scott's Emulsion to my own child for Scrofula, and the effect was marvellous."—O. F. Gray, M. D., White Hall, Put up in 50c. and \$1 size.

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## St John Letter.

St. JOHN, Dec. 28th.—Christmas has come and gone; its glories have vanished and Mr. Cheque Smith alone knows what it cost. Last week was happy and joyous in St. John. Everybody seemed bent either on looking out for No. 1 for himself or some one else. Touching upon the usefulness of happiness I will relate briefly what I saw on Christmas day in the public institutions where the weak, the aged, the orphan, and the pauper are cared for. In the General Public Hospital the tired and fevered patients appeared with renewed strength and health and after listening to the sweet tale of singers sat down to a repast which rivalled the Christmas dinner at the Royal, Dufferin, or the Victoria. The choicest fruit was set apart for the bed-ridden patients and none were forgotten. In the Marine Hospital the sight was even more touching. The aged and infirm veterans of the sea had each done his best to decorate his section of the ward with evergreens and appropriate mottoes and the effect produced was very pretty. Every word of that was in the praise of the kind and benevolent ladies to whom they owed their joy. In the Home for the Aged the Christmas dinner at the Royal, Dufferin, or the Victoria. The choicest fruit was set apart for the bed-ridden patients and none were forgotten. In the Marine Hospital the sight was even more touching. The aged and infirm veterans of the sea had each done his best to decorate his section of the ward with evergreens and appropriate mottoes and the effect produced was very pretty. Every word of that was in the praise of the kind and benevolent ladies to whom they owed their joy. In the Home for the Aged the Christmas dinner at the Royal, Dufferin, or the Victoria. The choicest fruit was set apart for the bed-ridden patients and none were forgotten. 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