

GATACRE REPULSED!

Misled by Guides and Driven Back from Stormberg by the Boers.

He Admits a Serious Reverse and Reports Some 600 Men Missing from His Command of 4000.

Half the Canadian Contingent Have Gone Forward from Orange River—Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking Still Reported Safe—Great Havoc by Lyddite Shells.

GATACRE REPULSED

Over 600 Men Missing—Misled by Guides—Many Officers Wounded.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Lord Lansdowne, secretary of state for war, has received the following despatch from Gen. Sir Frederick Gatacre, commander of the British troops in Cape Colony:

"The following was received from Gen. Gatacre this morning: 'I deeply regret to inform you that I have met with a serious reverse. In an attack this morning on Stormberg I was misled by the guides and found impracticable ground.'

In a later despatch to the war office Gen. Gatacre says: 'In reference to my telegram of this morning the casualties so far as known at present are:

"Second Royal Irish Rifles—Killed, none; wounded, Lieut. Col. Eager, Major, Second Lieut. Kelly, Lieut. Stephens, Lieut. Barnardston, and Lieut. Stephens. The British troops in Cape Colony:

"Suffolk regiment—Capt. Weir and five lieutenants missing; rank and file, none killed, 11 wounded and 200 missing.

"Berkshire mounted infantry—One killed, seventy-fourth battery—A lieutenant and three men severely wounded, a major and one man slightly wounded, and one gunner killed.

"Northumberland Fusiliers—Major Stephens, Captain Price, and Lieut. Morley and three lieutenants missing, also 306 non-commissioned officers and men missing.

"The remainder of the casualties will be wired as soon as known."

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 8, 3.30 p. m.—The position of the enemy on the Stormberg district last night was: At Stormberg, six laagers; at Dordrecht, 800 men; 23 miles south of Stormberg, 200 men. Major Bull has reported Delagety with a force has gone towards Dordrecht to co-operate with Gatacre.

TELLS PART OF THE STORY.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—The Central News correspondent at Mafeking, Cape Colony, in a despatch dated today at noon, gives the first press account of the disaster that has befallen Gen. Gatacre's command. At the time the despatch was sent, the correspondent did not know the extent of the disaster, or was not allowed by the censor to describe it as such.

"Early yesterday morning Gen. Gatacre took a brigade northward to surprise the enemy and make a night attack on their Stormberg column, but we, ourselves, were surprised, and had to retire in the face of a much stronger force. According to reports brought to camp by our spies, the Stormberg Boers did not number more than 2,500, and the enemy's position and circumstances generally appeared to favor a night surprise. The brigade, consisting of the Shropshire regiment, the Royal Dublin regiment, the Second Northumberland regiment, 300 Mounted Infantry and two batteries of field artillery, left Putters Kraal, and moving cautiously, arrived safely at a point two miles from Stormberg, when suddenly they were exposed to a terrific fire right ahead and on the right flank simultaneously. The Irish, who were in the van, immediately sought cover behind a kopje that was fortunately near on the left. The Artillery, Northumberland regiment and the mounted troops followed in perfect order. The men were settling comfortably in their new positions when they found they were covered by the enemy's guns, which were much more powerful than had been supposed. Meanwhile the Boers were maintaining a heavy rifle and artillery fire, but were not doing much damage. Still under fire, the infantry and artillery sought another position half a mile distant, the field batteries covering the withdrawal splendidly. The new position was admirably adapted to holding the enemy in check, the infantry firing behind good cover with precision and effect, while the mounted infantry moved to the north, with the object of getting the Boers on the right flank."

"The action was now pretty general, but was still at long range. Only a few of the British were hit. Then there was another quick change in the situation by the discovery of a command of mounted Boers moving from the northeast. The Irish and Northumberland regiments were sent to engage them. They, however, were met by a heavy fire from a number of machine guns in a good position. It was clear that the enemy numbered at least 3,000, with the best of ground and plenty of guns. It was,

therefore, decided to retire thirteen miles to Mafeking."

"The retirement was carried out in perfect order, despite the fact that the Boers followed closely, bringing two of their forty pounders to bear. Had they followed more closely, it is probable that they would have inflicted considerable damage on us. Several shells directed at the ambulances fell short."

"On arriving at Mafeking, it was found that casualties were slight. The scheme of surprising the Boers failed, but we obtained valuable information."

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at Mafeking says that Gen. Gatacre's force numbered 2,700 men.

LONDON, Dec. 11, 4 a. m.—Beyond full accounts of Gen. Gatacre's brilliant little exploit in Gun Hill, near Ladysmith, South African news is confined to Gen. Gatacre's serious disaster. The war office at midnight gave out the first news, which was meagre, and which was only slightly supplemented from other sources. Even these short independent accounts vary on several points, and none hint at the disaster which is admitted in the official despatch, as three separate accounts give three different versions of the time Gen. Gatacre left Putters Kraal, but all agree that the British took place early Sunday morning. It is practically certain that Gen. Gatacre with about 4,000 men, including the first Dorsetshire regiment, the presence of which with Gen. Gatacre was unknown before he left Putters Kraal yesterday afternoon. The English comments on the reverse is universally of the most gloomy character. The Morning Post says:

"After Nicholson's Nek this is the most serious reverse of the war. We do not know its full proportions, but the worst must remain behind. Already the list of missing is close on to 400, and of the Northumberland six officers are reported missing, but there are no doubts regarding the men, while of the Dorsetshire regiment 306 men are missing, and there are no details in regard to the others."

The paper comments on the extraordinary proportions of the various casualties. So far only one officer is reported to have been killed, 8 wounded and 9 missing, while of non-commissioned officers and men two were killed, 17 wounded, and 200 missing. The Suffolk was one of the battalions sent to replace the men captured at Nicholson's Nek. It concludes: 'Men must be sent, cavalry and horse artillery especially unless in sheer necessity we throw away the men of the empire.'

The serious feature of the affair is generally considered to be the probability that it will give impetus to Dutch disloyalty in Cape Colony, where hosts of farmers are being driven to see which will prove the winning side.

Wonder is expressed as to how the Boers increased their numbers at Stormberg, which all along has been Gen. Gatacre's immediate objective, without his knowing it.

The Chronicle's critic remarks that it is curious to see an experienced soldier trusting so implicitly to his guides, and that his scouts and advance guards did not inform him that he was coming in close contact with the enemy, and that the ground in front was impracticable. The fact seems clear that Gen. Gatacre was led unsuspectingly into an elaborately prepared trap, and it is almost wonderful that the disaster was no worse, when, as a correspondent says, the force was not molested by the enemy until it had actually reached the impracticable position occupied by the Boers, when a hot fire was opened unexpectedly upon it. Everything seems to have been unexpected, from the location of the enemy to his numbers and guns, while the country itself was apparently absolutely unknown, though it is the very district Gen. Gatacre has been preparing to operate in ever since his arrival.

Mafeking, Cape Colony, Dec. 10.—Gen. Gatacre has been driven back from Stormberg after a three hours' battle with the Boers. Gen. Gatacre left Putters Kraal by train for Mafeking and then proceeded by forced march twelve miles toward Stormberg. He had 2,000 men, including the Northumberland Fusiliers, the Royal Irish Rifles and two batteries of field artillery.

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to the top of a high ridge north of Modder river town, whence they fired Lyddite shells on the Boer position at a range of 4,000 yards, where the enemy was apparently constructing an emplacement for a 40 pounder. The Lyddite shells appeared to do immense damage. The Boers retired; but the incident is interesting as showing that the Boers are still in position quite close to Modder river.

The engineers report that it would take two months to rebuild the iron bridge.

Lord Methuen is still compelled to live about in a cart, as his wounds prevent him going on horseback. Should the rains destroy the temporary bridge there is enough rolling stock on the north side of the river to serve Lord Methuen's purpose.

It is reported that the Boers are busy making entrenchments at Spytfontein. Several tiers of works are beginning to appear at the foot of the heights. The force fired on by the British naval gun is believed to form the right flank of the enemy's main body, throwing forward for patrolling and scouting purposes. It is reported that the bad water at Spytfontein threatens an epidemic of typhoid.

Kimberley still quiet there up to Dec. 7, and that the pressure of the winter is diminished.

Two shallow draught river gunboats are being prepared at Chatham for service in South Africa. Each will carry two 6 pounders, quick fliers and four Maxim's.

A despatch from Cape Town to the Daily Mail, dated Thursday, Dec. 7, says: 'News that Chiefs Khama, Lihwhe, Bathoen and Sechele, with their people in Bechuanaland, have risen to attack the Boers seriously complicates the situation. It is probable that the Basutos and other tribesmen will follow their example.'

AT PEPPERWORTH HILL. LONDON, Dec. 11.—A special despatch from Ladysmith, by way of Ficksburg, adds to the war office account, dated Saturday, of the capture of the Boer guns near Pepperworth Hill. It says:

"Gen. Broekhuysen, with cavalry and artillery, reconnoitred in the direction of Pepperworth Hill, with a view of cutting off the Boer retreat, but he found the position still strongly held. The 18th Hussars, pushing forward, drew a furious fire and suffered heavily, losing four killed and seventeen wounded."

The Boers fired incessantly as the British slowly retired. At a special despatch from Ladysmith, dated Saturday, Gen. Hunter and all engaged, especially Major Henderson, for brilliant work."

CAPE TOWN, Saturday, Dec. 9.—It is rumored here that the Boers attacked Kimberley at close quarters last night, but were repulsed, with heavy loss.

YEARS LOSS IS HEAVY. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Times publishes the following despatch from Mafeking:

"Gen. Gatacre attempted to assault the Boer position at Stormberg at dawn today (Sunday). The guides led us wrong, and we were surprised when in four and a very trying night march. Our retirement was effected in excellent order, there being no hurry even at the most critical moment. The Northumberland and Irish Rifles behaved as if on review day. I saw our losses are heavy. One of our guns we had to abandon."

MODDER RIVER. HAVOC CAUSED BY LYDDITE SHELL FROM NAVAL GUN. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Times publishes the following despatch from Mafeking:

"A 4.07 inch gun from the cruiser Dorris, drawn by 32 oxen, started at midnight last night, and proceeded in the morning northward. A squadron of the Ninth Lancers and a battery of Horse Artillery joined the naval force at 3.20 o'clock this morning. The naval contingent consisted of four companies of marines and 50 sailors, under command of Capt. John E. Bess, and a detachment of the 1st Battalion of the Argyl and Highlanders have gone south to reinforce the rear guard, which has had an engagement with a thousand Boers, who had returned to their old position at Gras Pan. It is not known whether the Boers came from Grigoland or are a Free State commando. A train consisting of sixteen carriages came into the camp last evening over the completed bridge."

CANADIAN CONTINGENT. ORANGE RIVER, Saturday, Dec. 9.—Half the men of the Canadian contingent have gone forward. Like the Australian contingent, they have been put to stiff work since their arrival, and have been building sidings, erecting platforms and rendering the usual routine service. They are in excellent condition and very zealous.

AT MAFKING. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Daily News correspondent at Cape Town, in a despatch dated Dec. 7, says:

"A letter from Mafeking states that the Boers loaded a wagon with dynamite and tried to send it down the line to explode in the buildings, but doing no damage. A

MODDER RIVER, Dec. 8.—The first Lyddite shell burst over a high point in the range of hills. The area of the destruction was enormous. The whole range appeared to be consumed into a red dust. The Boers hurriedly left an emplacement which they were preparing for a forty pounder. The emplacement was apparently destroyed."

AT FERRIS. FERRIS, Dec. 10, 5.15 p. m.—The correspondent of the Sun spent today in visiting the field hospitals. Transvaal reports show that the health of

GREAT REDUCTION

In good, seasonable Clothing—Overcoats, Suits, Ulsters and Reefers for men and boys. Our low prices will make people talk.

Fraser, Fraser & Co., - Foster's Corner, 40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

The command is exceptionally good. There is one sick in every 100 men. The cases are very slight. There are only fourteen cases of dysentery. Helio-graphic communication is still open with Ladysmith. The Boer forces are in bad condition. Commandant-General Buller. Botha are in command of the Boer forces. The Tugela river is still low. (By Associated Press.)

FERRIS CAMP, Natal, Dec. 10, 6 p. m.—A heavy report was heard in the direction of Colenso today. The sound was followed by a big cloud of smoke. The supposition is that the enemy had blown up the highway bridge.

The Transvaal government has decided to consider Winston Churchill, who was captured Nov. 15 between Easport and Chieveley, a combatant officer and to retain him as a prisoner. Mr. Churchill has applied to General Buller with a view of getting an exchange.

This has been a quiet day here. The health of the troops is excellent.

METHUEN'S MOVEMENTS. (Special despatch to the Sun.) CAPE TOWN, Dec. 8, 11.30 p. m. (delayed in transmission).—President Steyn has written stating that the Orange Free State forces operating against Gen. Methuen had 28 medical officers, and that only two are left, and asking an explanation. A reply was sent to him stating that five republican medical officers had been found with wounded Boer prisoners. Permission had been given to them to return to their own lines, but only three had availed themselves of the opportunity, the others refusing to leave. The railway line is clear again north of Beibos.

Methuen reports that he made demonstrations up the railway at daylight with a cavalry regiment, a battery of heavy artillery, a battalion of infantry and the naval 4.7 inch guns, which made beautiful practice. The enemy did not reply.

Methuen is receiving the remainder of his reinforcements and supplies. He has established detached posts along his line of communication.

Mafeking reported all well on Nov. 30. Although apparently the situation in the latter place is growing worse. A correspondent at the Boer headquarters outside Ladysmith, dated Dec. 4, points from despatches with which Kaffirs vainly tried to pass the Boer lines toward Easport. These show that both men and horses in Ladysmith are on half rations. Beer is all gone, whiskey sells for 20 shillings a bottle, and milk half a crown a tin.

From Nov. 1 to Dec. 5, 3,561 Boer shells dropped in the town, killing 31 civilians and wounding 145. The town hall is a complete wreck. The messages, some of which were for the press, also show that the Transvaal artillery is almost exhausted, and the hands of German and French mercenaries, but for whom there would have been no siege and probably no advance beyond the borders of the republic by the Boers.

The Boers are weary of war and that many of them are surrendering to the British pickets.

THE BOER ARTILLERY. BERLIN, Dec. 11.—The National Zeitung claims to have received from a trustworthy source the following list of the Boers' artillery: Eight 15 centimetre Krupp's, sixteen 4.5 centimetre creusets, eight or nine Maxim's and Nordenfledts, twenty-four 3.7 automatic Maxims, four 12.0 Krupp howitzers, four 12.0 creusets howitzers, four modern 21 Krupp mountain guns and four 15.5 creusets, making a total with odd pieces of eighty or ninety. The Boers have purchased in recent years 25 million cartridges, 40,000 Mauser rifles and a large number of Martini rifles.

REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSS. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News in a despatch dated Dec. 8, says: "It is rumored that the Boers attacked Kimberley yesterday, but were repulsed with heavy loss."

In a later despatch the correspondent says: "It is feared here that Gen. Gatacre's repulse will have a bad effect on the wavering Dutch colonists. It is felt that it was a great mistake to abandon Stormberg, which, owing to its position, is almost impregnable."

EARLY FORWARD MOVEMENT. LONDON, Dec. 12.—The Daily News' Modder River correspondent in a despatch dated today says:

(1900) (1900) (1900) (1900)

FREE COMBINATION OFFER. NO MONEY WANTED.

FROM YOUR OWN POCKET. In order to introduce our Assorted Steel Pens we have arranged to give away the following: Rings, Bracelets, Autographs, Jack Knives, Fountain Pens, Cameras, Chairs, Air Rifles, Clocks, Stoves, Sleds and numerous other beautiful premiums. Ladies, boys and girls, send us your names and addresses, and we will mail you (12) packages of our Assorted Steel Pens, to sell among your neighbors and friends, at 10c. per package. When sold remit us amount due, 10c., and we will forward premium you select from our mammoth catalogue, which we will send you free. Send today. Address: STANDARD WATCH AND NOVELTY CO., P. O. Box 9, St. John, N. B.

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

The Maritime College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.

To the Editor of the Sun:

Sir—Without intentional reference to local politics, of which I know but little, I count it fortunate for Nova Scotia that New Brunswick has at this time, as leader of the government, a man of the liberal and progressive spirit of the Hon. H. R. Emmerson. I consider that the new movement toward the establishment of a maritime institution for technical training in agriculture, horticulture and the mechanical industries, the plans for which he is giving his best aid to perfect, is one of the most important events which will ever be recorded in the history of these provinces.

To say that something of this kind is an absolute necessity is not using language too strong, and, as proof of our backward condition, for it is known that across the border there are at least twenty-one State Colleges of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, in addition to a number of Technical Institutes which are independent of state aid.

The Nova Scotia government passed a measure last session for the establishment of a Provincial College of Agriculture and Horticulture, and no doubt are prepared to carry out this plan, if the proposed conference between the three governments do not result in a united effort for a larger and more efficient establishment.

We in Nova Scotia have watched with interest the success of the agricultural policy propounded by Premier Emmerson and his government in the encouragement of what growing, dairying and institute work, and if this spirit of progress can be affiliated with the determination of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia to keep pace with other countries in the development of their resources, there seems no reason why the schemes now under consideration should not result in something which will benefit the province by the sea will regard with well merited pride.

I also count it fortunate for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island that a situation is offered for this institution, which, as far as the larger considerations of agriculture and horticulture are concerned, is almost ideal. I say the larger considerations of agriculture and horticulture, for Mother Earth has demanded, and always will demand, the first attention of her sons and daughters. It is upon the cultivation of the soil as a primal condition that the strength of nations is maintained. If it is deemed wisest that the advantages of aggregating large numbers of young men at an institution of broad scope and liberal foundation, and that the economic factor is the factor of greater importance than the proximity of mechanical training to urban population, then the banner province of Nova Scotia will welcome with the greater eagerness the institution, which, as far as the larger considerations of agriculture and horticulture are concerned, is almost ideal. I say the larger considerations of agriculture and horticulture, for Mother Earth has demanded, and always will demand, the first attention of her sons and daughters. It is upon the cultivation of the soil as a primal condition that the strength of nations is maintained. If it is deemed wisest that the advantages of aggregating large numbers of young men at an institution of broad scope and liberal foundation, and that the economic factor is the factor of greater importance than the proximity of mechanical training to urban population, then the banner province of Nova Scotia will welcome with the greater eagerness the institution, which, as far as the larger considerations of agriculture and horticulture are concerned, is almost ideal.

Through it would not be wise to go at length into details showing the superior advantages offered by the indicated location, yet in view of the interest which every farmer in the maritime provinces should take in this question, it occurs to me that it might be well to point out, briefly, that in agricultural lines Kings county has very often shown at exhibitions that in best in dairying, grains and roots, she leads her sister counties; that she is the only county in Nova Scotia that took more prizes in beef at the recent exhibition at Halifax than the splendid little province of P. E. Island; that according to the government dairy expert at Napton she has the most "up to date" dairy in the maritime provinces, and that she exports as many potatoes as all the rest of Nova Scotia.

From a horticultural standpoint it might be shown that Kings county has made the enviable reputation which Nova Scotia has earned at exhibitions at Philadelphia, Chicago, Edinburgh, London and Germany, and she has put up the complete fruit exhibit for the Paris exposition. Kings is almost wholly responsible for the existence and sustenance of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' association and the Nova Scotia Horticultural school, which have had a most marked influence in developing the fruit industry of the province, and she is determined ever to maintain in the interests of this industry the latter institution within her borders. It is considered a fact that Kings county grows as much fruit and as great a variety as any area of equal extent in North America, that she exports as many apples to England as all the maritime provinces, and that her sales of apples there this year will amount to \$1,000,000. She has individual orchards of plum from 1,000 to 3,000 trees. Seven successive varieties of peach have perfectly matured in a single orchard within her borders, and many small fruit farms are producing from 5,000 to 10,000 boxes of strawberries, raspberries and blackberries.

It seems a pity that when the fruit capabilities of your province, as well as P. E. Island, are so great, and when you have such easy access to your seaboard at St. John, which is the terminal port of the Furness line of boats, that you are sending these boats away week after week, from your port to the mother country without a single barrel of apples, and at Halifax, which is simply her calling port, they are taking each trip, from the middle of September till April, some 5,000 to 10,000 tons of this county's Kings. All that your coming farmers want in order to duplicate this in almost every county of your province is the inspiration and knowledge which can be obtained by contact with this coming institution and its surroundings if located in Kings county, where individual orchards are this year producing from 1,000 to 3,000 barrels with receipts of \$5,000 to \$5,000.

The late W. F. George of Sackville will ever be remembered in your province as one of your most successful and progressive agriculturists. It will generally be conceded that few farmers, if any, took a greater interest in the educational advancement and general welfare of New Brunswick. In a most inspiring letter written to me just a few days before his sudden death, referring to the agricultural college, he says: "It will be a God-send to the young farmers of these maritime provinces. I quite understand that the first outlay in land and buildings would necessarily be large, but I cannot help thinking that with a large area in fruit of every description and with economical management, it must almost if not entirely pay for itself. I know if I had had a year or two at an institution of that kind it would have helped me wonderfully in after-life. What I do know in some lines in agriculture I have learned the hard way, and I have had my share of sad experience." Few men were better acquainted than Mr. George with the agricultural status of these provinces, and he had a very intimate knowledge of Kings county, N. S., in particular. In a previous letter, just a few weeks ago, in reply to an invitation to be present at a meeting to be addressed by Dr. Mills on "Agricultural Education and What Can be Done for Ontario," he wrote me: "It would give me great pleasure to be present, but it is impossible. I am still in favor of the agricultural college being established in Kings county, and would have spoken in favor of it if I had been present."

It could be shown that the share town of this county, Kertville, has advantages over many towns as being suitable for proximity for such an institution, in that it has no public school or college supported by a particular province or denomination, and is thus free from denominational and provincial prejudice; that the foundry, railway shops, carriage, and pork curing factories may be of some value in illustrating the technical work in mechanics; that there is in this town an exhibition building and grounds, where some of the best provincial exhibitions of stock and fruit have been held, and where it is proposed to hold other county or district exhibitions in the future, but the verdict of a man who has guarded the progress of the college at Guelph since its commencement should be all that is necessary in guiding the governments of these provinces in this question of location, a question so far-reaching in its influence and fraught with momentous loss if unwisely determined.

We hope that the incoming century of 1900 may mark in history the inception of this broadly outlined institution, which can be made a greater factor for developing and dignifying the pursuit of agriculture and the industrial arts than any other movement propounded in our times.

Yours very respectfully,

RALPH S. EATON.
Cornwallis, Kings County, N. S.,
Dec. 6, 1899.

Scott Act in Moncton.

To the Editor of the Sun:

Sir—After a hard struggle the Scott act has been sustained in the county of Westmorland, and now with many the question arises: Will the Scott act be enforced, or will it be allowed to remain in some time past, nearly a dead letter?

The fact that in this city, so named, less votes were cast for the act in the recent election than in 1896 goes to show that while the temperance sentiment is probably not on the decrease the popularity of the C. T. A. as carried out in the city of Moncton must certainly be.

There is no doubt that in a large measure this is due to the non-enforcement of the act. People not specially interested are becoming tired of the effort to maintain prohibition by their votes, and as soon as the excitement of election subsides see the whole thing flake out, as it were, and the prohibition voted for degenerate into a sort of low license for the liquor dealer.

At a crisis, as during the last campaign, prominent temperance workers come nobly to the front and spared neither time nor strength to bring about a victory for the temperance cause, but when the battle is fought and won, and they hold the matter virtually in their own hands, they seem to lose interest, and the prohibition for which they strove, and count maintenance is allowed to lapse into a veritable farce—a target for the jibes and jeers of the friends of the traffic and a reproach to all well thinking people.

Not long since your correspondent was asked by one of the prominent business men of the city, an advocate now of license system: What do you mean by enforcing the Scott act? Do you mean the prohibition of the liquor traffic? Or do you mean an imposing of fines that will bring more money into the treasury than would be brought in under license law? If the latter, I am already convinced that the Scott act at certain times and seasons when rigidly (?) enforced has been a success. If the former, the Scott act to my certain knowledge has always been a failure in this city.

Who or what is to be blamed for such a state of affairs under the C. T. A.? Not the act itself. It prohibits so far as a local law can. There are no loopholes in it. Not the liquor dealers—who can blame them for carrying on an unlawful business in defiance of the law if permitted to do so. If the officials are blameworthy they are responsible to the council that appointed them, and the council is surely responsible to the voters, and so it is plain that the good people of Moncton are submitting and consenting to this half and half way of carrying out a prohibitory law which if properly enforced would prohibit, and at the same time grumbling because it is not carried out.

This is a condition of things which might prove interesting to a student of many sided human nature, but to one who is a sufferer from this nefarious traffic it calls to mind the words of a prophet upon one occasion when reproving the people of another city for no greater evils than we have in this city of Moncton today because of the drink traffic.

SUFFERER.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Disposition of British and Boer Forces at Strategic Points.

Lieut. Winston Churchill Believes the War Will Be Bloody and Protracted.

A New Searchlight for Communication With Ladysmith—Mausers Bullets—Dr. Hornabrook's Plucky Act—Presented Great Britain With Six Thousand Horses.



LIEUT. WINSTON CHURCHILL.

Thinks the Struggle Will Be Protracted One.

Through the courtesy of the Transvaal authorities the correspondent of the Associated Press at Pretoria, in the company of Mr. Giebler, under secretary of foreign affairs, and Mr. Deous, secretary of the war department, was enabled to visit Lieutenant Winston Churchill at the Model School, which serves as a prison, and where he is with the captured officers. Beyond a slight bullet wound in the right hand, he seemed well and looked hearty. In the course of the interview he said:

The Boers have treated us with much kindness. This was the case from the first. They praised our defence of the train and expressed surprise that the locomotive was saved from becoming a hopeless wreck, as they expected, under their artillery fire. We were then marched through a pouring rain to Colenso, proceeding the next morning to the Boer camp near Ladysmith and then going by rail to Middelburg, finally arriving here on Nov. 18th. On the journey great numbers of burghers crowded to see us, but there was only one who made insulting remarks, the others offering us cigarettes or showing some marks of attention.

Lieut. Churchill said the confinement was close and severe, but under all the conditions, he had no grounds to complain. When asked regarding his general impression, he said he had had many discussions with the Boers as to the rights of war and had been much impressed by the number who could speak English. He had found that most of the Boers were of the opinion, asserting that it had arisen as the result of misrepresentation. So far as he could learn, however, the spirit of the burghers in the field despite their privations, was said he had had many discussions with the Boers as to the rights of war and had been much impressed by the number who could speak English. He had found that most of the Boers were of the opinion, asserting that it had arisen as the result of misrepresentation. So far as he could learn, however, the spirit of the burghers in the field despite their privations, was said he had had many discussions with the Boers as to the rights of war and had been much impressed by the number who could speak English.

"I fear," said Lieut. Churchill, "that the struggle will be bloody and protracted."

DISPOSITION OF OPPOSING FORCES.

The dispositions of the British and Boer forces, the strategic points and engagements, as gleaned from the latest advices are as follows:

NATAL.

Durban—British base. Pietermaritzburg—Held by British. Mool River—Field by British. Estcourt—Held by British.

Frere—British advance of 18,000 men under Hildyard operating from this point. Railroad open to this point.

Commanded by Boers from Grobler's Hill on north bank of Tugela, Joubert with 15,000 Boers expected to make strong stand. Bridges down and river in flood. Battle imminent.

Ladysmith—In British hands. White commands about 11,000 troops, closely invested. Schalkburgers commands Boers. Town safe but hard pressed.

CAPE COLONY.

Cape Town—British base.

East London—British base for Gat-scape's column.

Queenstown—Gat-scape's headquarters.

Nauwpoort—Occupied by British.

November 16. French's cavalry operating from this point.

Stroomburg—Occupied by Boers.

Storkfontein—Gat-scape reported here.

Colesburg—Occupied by Boers.

Alwal North—Occupied by Boers.

Burgersdorp—Occupied by Boers.

Norval's Point—Occupied by Boers.

Orange River Frontier—Boers in force.

De Aar—British military depot.

Orange River Junction—Starting point of Methuen's advance to Kimberley.

Belmont—Midway between Orange River Junction and Kimberley.

Methuen defeated Boers here November 23.

Gras Pan—Ten miles north of Belmont.

farmers, Kaffirs and Boers always rub a little tar or eucalyptus oil in the nostrils of the horse when he is out on the veldt.

A large owner of property in Essex has generally been arranged to look after the families of the reservists in all the villages around his property while they are away.

Out of a total of 105 killed and wounded in the naval brigade at Gras Pan, eighty-seven were royal marines, so that it was rather a marines' than a sailors' battle.

The French cabinet have decided that the minister for war shall not only refuse all applications from officers for leave to go abroad, but declines to accept their resignations.

All Boers are not the same, they themselves speak of those "dashing dare-devils," the Middelburgers, the more discreet Bethel men, and the sturdy Heidebergers.

When the Ladysmith balloon goes up the Boers make great efforts to move their guns. They seem to regard it as an infernal machine destined to destroy their camp.

The editor of the Krugersdorp Voortrekker, one of the most villainous rags in the Transvaal, is an English curate, who was for some time headmaster of Alwal public school.

At some hotels in Switzerland the boorish waiters are trying to boycott English visitors by refusing to serve them. In consequence the waiters soon find themselves outside the hotels.

The Queen has given a Union Jack for the hospital ship in which the Duke of Connaught will present to the executive committee on December 16, when the vessel will be on view.

One of the Boers killed at Elands-laagte was found to be an English soldier, as he wore three British medals. Perhaps he was the English ex-colonel who was forcibly commandeered by the Boers.

A letter, said to be from General Joubert, dated Ladysmith, October 27, and published in the Magdeburg Times, says that the Boers allowed English spies to inspect their old war material while carefully concealing the modern material.

A non-commissioned officer in the 15th Hussars writes from Ladysmith: "We are not of us fear the fighting, but the hardships are terrible. Today is the fourth day that we have not been allowed to sleep. We are not allowed to take our boots off. My feet have become raw and very painful."

"What made me feel simply mad," says a Carbineer, "who joined in the pursuit after Tinta Inyoni, 'was to see some Boers as they retreated firing and slashing at our poor wounded fellows.'"

A Gordon Highlander, wounded in the right shoulder by a Mauser bullet, said all he felt was a sensation of numbness in the arm, and the feeling only a sharp prick when the bullet passed through arm or leg.

A Boer farmer assured a colonist that when the war was over Paul Kruger was going to hire a ship and take Joubert and some commandos with him to England and bring the Queen to the Transvaal, where she would have to die in Pretoria gaol.

A letter from a resident in Cape Town, which is dated Nov. 7, says: "Some devil yesterday sent a lot of cigarettes to the wounded troops out at Wynberg with poison in them; they are kept in a dark to try and catch the brute."

The knowledge of tactics displayed by the Boers in their two battles with Lord Methuen is probably derived from the training given by Major Albrecht, commander of the artillery, who is an ex-officer in the Austrian army.

A Gordon Highlander had his smashed shoulder put into a splint without chloroform. When the operation was over he began to laugh, saying, "It is funny not to have any pain," and he began waving all round with a clay pipe, and was as pleased as Punch.

A farmer near Estcourt writes: "I saw a train full of our wounded, and got into conversation with one of the drivers. He had an exploding bullet through his arm, and would have to lose it, but he laughed and joked, and his only regret was that he was incapable of having another go at the Boers."

"We had a glorious charge," writes one of the 5th Lancers after Elands-laagte: "such slaughter was never seen before. There was but one cry, and he began waving all round with a clay pipe, and was as pleased as Punch. We lost all count of the number we pierced with that terrible weapon the lance."

A letter from a doctor in the Cambridge Daily Leader, says: "Poor Woods-Sampson got his thigh smashed, and when I was fixing him up he said: 'It is very hard to be a philosopher over this when one gets knocked out, but I can't have another shot at the Boers.'"

A native runner from Krugersdorp, carrying letters and a copy of Punch to Mafeking, was captured by the Boers, who tied the poor fellow to the wall of a room, and would have to lose it, but he laughed and joked, and his only regret was that he was incapable of having another go at the Boers."

A soldier received three Mauser bullets in his left leg, but was quite unconscious of the fact until loss of blood forced him to lag behind, when he became aware that he had been wounded. Mauser bullets, having a very high velocity, go through a man's body like a rapier thrust.

When it was known in Kimberley that the waggons were being captured, the Boers rode out to the intermediate station, some four or five miles, quite unarmed and attended only by his valet. The Boer patrols round the town let the prize slip through their fingers.

"It is surprising how used you get to fighting," writes the manager of a Johannesburg firm, who has joined the Carbineers, "we are all eager for the next battle; in fact, I am getting impatient. One loses all fear after two or three of your mates have gone down."

Dr. Hornabrook did a plucky thing after Elands-laagte. Riding alone to a party of twenty-five Boers, who had lost their way, he told them the English had won the battle, and they must consider themselves his prisoners. He ordered two to take the weapons and the others to march before them, and so brought them all safe to the railway station.

Here is another story of the ways of the Boers, told by a wounded man at Maritzburg. He found himself lying

close to his major, who had been killed, so he covered the dead officer's face with a coat. A Boer came along, lifted the coat, and then looked the face and body.

A correspondent of the Cape Times has been told by a Free Stater that it was a well-understood arrangement between the several commanders that as the English concealed themselves in the khaki the only way to deal with them was to lure them from cover by displaying the white flag.

The Buenos Ayres Nacion says that the Great Southern Railway company has presented to Great Britain 5,000 horses for use in South Africa. The gift was made through the British commission which is buying horses in the Argentine Republic.

SENIORITY OF OFFICERS.

As vague ideas prevail as to the seniority of general officers at present serving in, or on their way to South Africa, the following correct list in order of seniority, is interesting.

General Sir Redvers Buller, in command.
Lieut.-General Sir George White.
Lieut.-General Sir F. Forester-Walker.

Lieut.-General Lord Methuen.
Lieut.-General Sir C. Warren.
Lieut.-General Sir Francis Clery.

Lieut.-General Sir W. Gatacre.
Lieut.-General J. D. French.
Major-General Sir Archibald Hunter.

Major-General Sir Henry Colville.
Major-General G. Barton.
Major-General Sir H. N. Lytton.

Major-General A. Wauchope.
Major-General A. Pitt Rivers.
Major-General H. J. Hildyard.

Major-General H. Wood.
Major-General C. Buller.
Major-General J. P. Brabant.

Major-General G. H. Marshall.
Major-General F. Howard.
Major-General J. M. Babinington.

Major-General J. H. Yule.
Major-General J. F. Brocklehurst.

OTTAWA.

New Regulations Have Been Adopted for the Protection of Lobster Fishing.

Major Doherty Attached to the Canadian Contingent—Free Press Concedes a Big Conservative Victory in Manitoba.

OTTAWA, Dec. 8.—The cabinet has adopted new regulations which Hon. Mr. Davies had deduced with a view to the proper protection of the lobster fishing. Henceforth the maritime provinces will be divided into three districts, in which there will be three minimum sizes, under which it shall be illegal to take lobsters. In the first district the minimum size will be ten and a half inches. The counties included will be Digby, Kings, Queens, N. S., Cumberland and St. John (in the Bay of Fundy).

In number two district the minimum size will be nine inches, and the counties included will be Charlotte, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, N. B., Sunbury and West. Halifax. In all the unenumerated sections the minimum size will be eight inches. In the Bay of Fundy section the season will extend from January 15th to June 30th. In the "nine inch" district the season will be from Dec. 15th to May 30th, and in the other sections the old regulations as to the duration of the season will be adhered to.

Strong pressure on the imperial government has induced them to stipulate that the Canadian contingent to the Boer war, Hong Kong, to the Canadian contingent, as a special case.

A scheme is on foot for the organization of Canadian and American paper manufacturers into one association, to secure economy in purchasing supplies and to prevent the cutting of prices.

Gen. Hutton submitted a scheme to the minister of militia with a view to increasing the military force by 7,000. Ultimately he hopes to bring the strength up to 50,000 on a peace footing and 100,000 on a war footing.

The post office department warns the public against mailing parcels abroad without the customs declaration outside of the parcel, giving contents, value, etc.

The Ottawa Free Press, grit, concedes that Manitoba has gone conservative and says that a prominent Manitoban has assured the dominion government that aside from Hugh John's personal popularity, the Manitoba government suffered severely through the active hostility of the Northern Pacific railway.

The minister of militia has decided to advance to the wives and children of members of the Canadian contingent the sustenance allowance, which, under army regulations, they are entitled to receive from the imperial government. This action will have the effect of avoiding any cases of hardships. A refund will be made by the British government. Members of the permanent corps who are in the contingent will receive full pay during their absence. The rate of pay for the active militia has not yet been settled.

The government has appointed three commissioners to expend \$40,000 voted last session by parliament, as compensation to the city of Ottawa, for municipal services.

SILLY SPANISH PREES.

The Spanish press is publishing much the same kind of news about the Anglo-Boer war that it did about the Spanish-American war. It says that the English are treating the Boer prisoners from the month of Maximilian (sic); Gen. White has charged defenseless women and children and put a "Red Cross ladies" to the knife; to say nothing of having been himself killed once by his own hand. Most of this news is in the Imperialist. Madrid's leading paper.

"He told his audience that he was wholly unprepared. Do you believe it?" "Yes," he had his speech in his pocket but he hadn't learned it."

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

It is another story of the ways of the Boers, told by a wounded man at Maritzburg. He found himself lying

PROVINCIAL NEWS

CAMPOBELLO, Dec. 2.—The families of Captain Shepherd Mitchell and Edmund Calder have returned from Labrador, where they have been working during the summer.

George W. Watson, son of George R. Watson, is a stenographer at South Union station, Boston, Mass.

Rev. W. H. Street has been visiting friends at Fredericton.

Rev. G. Swin has been holding services in the F. C. Baptist church at Wilson's Beach, Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Malloch are visiting Mrs. Malloch's parents, at Oak Bay.

HARTLAND, Carleton Co., Dec. 4.—The contract to build the bridge across the river at this point has been awarded to Arthur J. Wood, of Woodstock, for \$23,000. Work will be begun this month.

The members of the Free Baptist church held a picnic supper on Friday evening at the new parsonage, which is now occupied by Rev. J. B. Daggett. It is a story and a half frame building and is a credit to this circuit.

Sawyer's mill, above the village, closed today. This is the first season since its erection, five years ago, that it has been in operation later than Nov. 20.

HAMPSTEAD, Queens Co., Dec. 5.—Rev. W. H. Perry held service at the hall here last Sunday afternoon, when four converts were baptized.

The carpenters finished work on Dr. M. H. MacDonald's house on Saturday.

Thomas W. Palmer, general merchant, of Hibernia, who had been acting strangely for some time, had to be taken to the asylum last Friday.

Malcolm Watson the other day while stepping outside of the door of his house slipped and fell, hurting his arm quite badly.

James L. Hastings is laid up with acute rheumatism.

David Adams of St. John was here last week with a scow towed by a tug and had it filled with cordwood.

HOPWELL HILL, Dec. 6.—The funeral of the late Hiram Kilian took place on Sunday afternoon, interment being at the Calkins cemetery, Lower Cape. The services, which were largely attended, were conducted by Rev. S. James, Methodist minister of Hillsboro.

G. McLeod and bride were serenaded by the Minto cornet band on Friday evening.

Rev. J. Hunter Boyd delivered an interesting lecture in the evening at last evening to a good sized audience. The lecture was illustrated by stereoscopic views. Music was furnished by the Albert band.

ALBERT, Dec. 7.—Deputy Sheriff Stuart today arrested W. Peck of the Royal Hotel on a Scott Act warrant of commitment. Detective E. B. Peck was the informant in the case that resulted in the issue of the warrant, and C. A. Peck, C. C. defended the accused. An appeal to the county court was not allowed. It is stated in temperance circles that the commitment would have been allowed to stand had not new supplies arrived.

WATERVILLE, Dec. 7.—The furnace for the new Baptist church here arrived last night. It was bought of R. Howes of Sussex.

Capt. Gordon's apple schooner, only Son of Margaret, N. S., which was broken up considerably here during Monday night's gale, is being repaired by Daniel Anderson.

Stillman Anderson of Little Rooster is recovering from the effects of acute rheumatism. Mrs. Enoch Marks of West River is very low with consumption.

HOPWELL HILL, Dec. 7.—Miss Jessie E. Bishop, only daughter of the late Silas Bishop, died at her home here this morning. The deceased, who was formerly a teacher in the public schools here, had been living in Swampscott, Mass., for the past year, and came home a couple of months ago, in failing health, her illness rapidly developing into consumption. Her mother, who survives, and who is now bereft of husband and family, has the sincere sympathy of all in her affliction.

The death occurred this week at Curryville of Miss Ethel Hawkes, the sixteen year old daughter of Anthony Hawkes.

Dr. E. Chapman and Mrs. Chapman of Albert, returned on Tuesday from Amherst.

The election of councillors for the parish of Harvey, which took place on Dec. 2nd, resulted in the return of Geo. D. Prescott and Howard O. Barbour, the old members.

BOISTOWN, Northumberland Co., Dec. 7.—On Friday evening last a debating society was organized with the following officers: Pres., W. H. Irvine; M.D., 1st vice-pres., N. Foster Thorne; 2nd vice-pres., H. A. Kendall; sec., Fred W. McCloskey; treas., Wm. T. Sharpe.

A large party of young ladies and gentlemen drove to Avery's Portage on Friday night to attend a dance and

for elegant effect.

As well as durability,

Nothing finishes the skirt edge so handsomely as the

S. H. & M.

Bias Velvet and Skirt Binding.

BELLE is the name of the S. H. & M. Plain Velvet. REDFERN is the name of the S. H. & M. Bias Corded Velvet.

Be sure that S. H. & M. is stamped on the back of every yard you buy.

The S. H. & M. Co., 24 Front St. W., Toronto.

THE MARKETS.

Revised Every Monday for the Weekly Sun.

COUNTRY MARKET.

Fresh laid eggs are scarce and high. Turkeys a little higher on Saturday, being under construction. There is no change in quotations on meats and vegetables, or butter. There is a steady market, with but slight fluctuations.

(Wholesale Prices.)

Beef (country), per cwt. 0.07 0.08
Lamb, per lb. 0.06 0.07
Pork, per lb. 0.05 0.06
Butter, per lb. 0.04 0.05
Eggs, per doz. 0.03 0.04

On Sunday evening Rev. A. F. Robb preached an eloquent and patriotic sermon on the war in the Transvaal to a large and sympathetic audience.

John Knight, eldest son of Rev. Matthew R. Knight, Methodist clergyman of this town, is to take a course in electrical engineering at Lynn, Mass.

ST. MARTIN'S, Dec. 7.—A lecture delivered by the Rev. Mr. Barham, Episcopal, in the Temperance hall, Nov. 30, on the Lost Ten Tribes, was a marked success. The Rev. gentleman held the undivided attention of a representative audience that completely filled the hall.

St. Martin's Poultry Association has been doing some business of late in shipping live stock to different parts of the province, giving satisfaction to the purchasers in every instance.

Mrs. J. E. Hopper of St. John is visiting her daughter, Mrs. E. A. Titus, on Monday evening, Dec. 4, Mrs. Titus entertained a large number of young children, the occasion being the sixth birthday of her son Louis. Games and merry-making were the order of the afternoon, followed by a dainty supper in a tastefully decorated dining room, to which the youthful company did justice.

Rev. Mr. Vinning of Winnipeg spoke this evening in the Baptist church in the interest of the "Lost Tribes" mission. Mr. Vinning is a pleasing speaker and tells his story in a manner well calculated to interest his hearers. A collection for the work was taken at the close.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

Very Interesting Discussion Yesterday on the Colonial Budget.

PARIS, Dec. 8.—During the debate in the chamber of deputies today on the colonial budget, M. Firmin Faure, anti-Semite, urged the necessity of strengthening the defences of the colonies and the colonial army, in addition to a system of French-owned cables. He pointed out that while Mr. Chamberlain's speech was, perhaps, only his personal opinion, the fact that a British minister had indulged in such language towards France was sufficiently grave cause for his consideration by the chamber, and he added it was time to take notice of Mr. Chamberlain's warning.

M. Firmin Faure also intimated that British emissaries were overrunning Tunis, disguised as Protestant missionaries, and selling ammunition to the Arabs.

The anti-British remarks were heartily cheered.

M. Destourelles, republican, dwelt upon the danger of colonial expansion, especially the risk of foreign complications, since France, he asserted, had neither a colonial army nor navy.

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(Evangelical Churchman.)

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Revised Every Monday for the Weekly Sun.

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(Wholesale Prices.)

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Lamb, per lb. 0.06 0.07
Pork, per lb. 0.05 0.06
Butter, per lb. 0.04 0.05
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FUR ROBES,

HORSE BLANKETS,

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Nothing like a ride behind a well gotten up team, with a good driver and sleigh furnished with robes, bells, horse blankets, harness and a complete assortment of Horse Paraphernalia. Our establishment is the largest in the Maritime Provinces, and our prices are the lowest.

H. HORTON & SON,

11 Market Square, St. John, N. B.

Quick Action...

Can be obtained in curing your horse of enlargements (no need to blister or fire), Spavin, Curb, Splint, Strains, Sprains, Kicks, etc., by using

SLOAN'S LINIMENT.

It has wonderful penetrating qualities. Is as good for man as beast, and can be taken internally, as well as in the way of a liniment.

Prepared by DR. EARL S. SLOAN, Boston, Mass.

P. E. ISLAND.

Dogs Destroy Many Sheep in the Last Few Weeks.

Montague has Electric Light—Produce Shipping is Brisk—Freezers for Fish—Society and Personal Notes.

MOUNT STEWART, P. E. I., Dec. 6.—Heavy frost, last night closed the river to navigation. The fishermen are now on the move for eels and smelts, both of which command high prices.

This school here is doing admirably under the able management of the new teacher, Joseph F. Doyle.

William N. Douglas recently purchased a very fine breech-loading gun. He was fortunate enough to kill a goose the first day he went shooting with it at the extraordinary distance of 145 yards. Her record in shooting at a target has never been beaten in the village.

The Messrs. Jay of Pisiquid recently killed three fine hogs, under seven months old, which weighed respectively 280, 285 and 333 lbs.

Edward Leeman of Georgetown spent a night in the village last week. He is looking well and is as genial as ever.

CHARLOTTETOWN, Dec. 8.—The Methodist church of Charlottetown, which has been closed during the latter part of the summer for repairs, was re-opened on Sunday.

The deceased was a daughter of J. C. Clark of St. John's, and Mrs. Clark, reached Worcester before their daughter's death.

The marriage of George W. Smith, a mill owner, and James Chisholm, a cabinet-maker of Tryon, have returned from Sydney, where they purchased a valuable lot of land. They intend returning to Sydney at once and opening a home.

The village of Montague is now possessed of a new electric light plant, with a plant, with power generated from a mill dam about half a mile distant.

J. J. Davies, late proprietor of Hotel Davies, has purchased the late residence of David J. Davies, and has purchased the north side in the summer.

P. E. I. hospital Wednesday to undergo treatment for a broken limb. He was returning shortly before daylight a few days ago from a visit to one of his patients.

The remains of the late Dr. Alex. D. J. New Brunswick, who died last week in New York city, were interred in the family vault at St. Andrews yesterday morning.

The deceased was a large, powerful man, and was a member of the Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of New Brunswick.

James H. Lennart has returned to Fredericton after a short visit to Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Johnson of this city. In the first place, he was accompanied by the choir under Professor Watt, sang "Dusseidort," composed by Mr. Lennart, who enjoys the reputation of being one of the most thorough musicians in the maritime provinces.

Tryon celebrated the fifth anniversary of their marriage on Friday. They were married in 1894, and removed to P. E. Island five years later. Mr. Morrison is 84 and Mrs. Morrison is 82.

At the close of the sermon in Grace church, Sunday evening, the pastor, Rev. W. W. Morrison, announced that a note for \$1,000 had been lifted Saturday by the trustees of the church.

The church is free of debt for the first time in its history. The sum of \$700 has also been received from the congregation to meet current liabilities.

Nellie Malone of Charlottetown has gone to New York to spend the winter. Dr. Kendall, M. P. of Sydney, is in the city, and is engaged in the construction of a new building for the preservation of our most valuable fish until convenient to ship to market.

Barrett Henderson, Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Henderson were engaged in ranching. Mrs. Henderson, daughter of Rev. Keith Henderson, well known here, is secretary of the P. E. I. Association.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.



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