

# THE GUARDIAN

An Independent Journal, untrammelled and fearless; aiming to be **Just, Impartial, Reliable, Newsy** seeking of all things, so far as the best interests of the people, and recognized therefore as **The People's Paper.**  
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 J. E. B. McCREADY, J. P. HOOD, Editor, Business Manager.

## THE MORNING GUARDIAN.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1899.

### A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

The refusal of the party that proposed the plebiscite to be governed by the voice of the plebiscite seems to open up for the Conservative party in Canada a straight path to the retrieval of their ill-fortunes. It opens the way for that party, if they will, to give the country prohibition. Let Sir Charles Tupper, who is at heart, we believe, a prohibitionist, take up the cause of prohibition, and test the opinion of parliament on the question. Let him move that it is the duty of the government to obey the voice of the majority. Would the members of his party stand by him if he did this? If they would do so, we feel assured that with them he would obtain enough additional support among the Liberal contingent to give him a majority in the Commons, defeat the government and bring the matter of prohibition as a political issue before the people at the polls. At the head of a prohibitionist party in an election Sir Charles would probably carry five or six provinces out of the seven, and be in a position to give the temperance people what they desire. And how could Sir Charles better round out his distinguished career than by giving the country a prohibitory law?

Now, we frankly express our fear that Sir Charles will not take the course we have outlined. Nor do we believe that all or nearly all of his Conservative followers would stand by him if he should do so. But none the less there is a great opportunity for a leader of men to create a powerful political diversion at the coming session. Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues have terribly disappointed and dissatisfied tens of thousands of their supporters. The ministers have placed themselves in the position of refusing the wishes of the majority of the people, and preferring the will of the minority—a most weak and illogical position. The prohibitionists of Canada, having labored for a lifetime to obtain a law suppressive of the liquor traffic, are in no mood to patiently have the legitimate fruits of their victory at the polls snatched from them. They are moreover earnestly desirous to obtain a prohibitory law. They see by present indications that the Liberal party, largely controlled as it is by the one province most hostile to prohibition, will never give them the law they ask for so long as the party is led and controlled as it is at present. They must turn elsewhere. And they would in tens of thousands rally to the standard of any strong leader that would at the present juncture raise the standard of prohibition.

The great opportunity is now open to Sir Charles. And "there is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune." Let Sir Charles undertake the task, earnestly and in good faith and the moral sentiment of Canada, east and west, will rally to his support as it

never rallied before. Will he and his party rise to the great occasion?

It will be idle for Sir Charles and his party to pursue a mere policy of fault-finding at this time. It will be equally idle for them to fall back upon their record on the temperance and prohibition questions. Their royal commission was merely a time-serving expedient to stave off the issue. Both parties have hanged mill-stones about their necks by their treatment of this great issue. The larger and the heavier mill-stone is the plebiscite, because in Sir Wilfrid's treatment of the plebiscite majority there is a distinct setting at naught and defiance of the will of the people. But the Conservative party cannot drown the government, even with that great weight, unless they first gain the confidence of the temperance electorate by raising the prohibitory standard and the adoption of prohibition principles.

They have everything to gain and little to lose by doing this. The leader and the party that now have the courage to take up the policy that Sir Wilfrid has rejected will have the pathway to power clearly open before them. They have more; they have the privilege of conferring an unspeakable boon upon the people of Canada!

## EDITOR'S MAIL.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

SIR.—I am pleased to see the Presbyterian of P. E. I., through their published records, call the attention of our legislature to the necessity of an act, making the registration of births compulsory in this province. I believe we are far behind sister provinces as well as other enlightened countries in this respect. All life insurance men know the difficulties met in securing proofs of age in connection with policies of life insurance. The public should be aware that every claim is subject to proof of the age of the insured.

It is true, church registers are faithfully kept in Catholic churches and in some Protestant churches, but I think I am safe in saying, in the majority of Protestant churches and homes, no record of births is kept. As life insurance is becoming so general a thing in our province and gives evidence of increasing to still greater proportions, I feel I am speaking in the interest of the rising generation, in emphasizing the absolute necessity of such legislation.

J. K. ROSS.

Charlottetown, March 13th.

### FROM MR. J. P. COOKE.

SIR,—In the GUARDIAN of to-day you head my letter "Reply to Anti-bumbug." It was not intended as a reply to "Anti-bumbug," and it conveys a wrong impression heading it as such. Kindly oblige by inserting this.

Yours respectfully,

J. P. COOKE.

Charlottetown, March, 13 '99.

**Abbey's Effervescent Salt**  
 Trial Size **25c** Now Out  
 A trial of a good article establishes its goodness. The merits of the preparation will do the rest. All druggists. Large bottle, 60 cts.

Christy's Hats are the best, acknowledged by every person who knows anything about hats to be the best all-round hats made. Sold retail and wholesale by Prowse Bros., the Stylish Hatters. 14 3i

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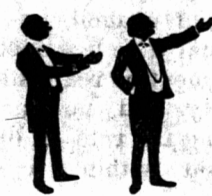
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### Telegraph Furnishes Some Gigantic Statistics.

Fifteen years ago there were 40,000 telegraph offices in all the countries of Europe combined and 10,000 in the United States, the number of messages sent being greater in proportion to the number of offices in U.S. than abroad. An official statement of the telegraph service of the United Kingdom, which is under government control, shows that in 1870 there were sent in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales 6,859,177 telegrams while last year the total number of telegrams sent was 83,029,999. The increase in some other countries is quite as large. In the United States in 1870 the total number of telegraph messages sent was 9,157,644. Last year the number of messages sent was approximately 90,000,000, a larger number than was furnished by any other country in the world. In 1870, the year with which the present telegraphic statistics are usually compared, the number of messages sent in Germany was 8,200,000 last year it was 33,000,000. The number of messages sent in France in 1870 was 5,600,000; last year it was 55,000,000. In Italy the number has increased during the same period from 2,000,000 to 9,000,000, in Austria from 3,300,000 to 13,000,000, exclusive of Hungary. In 1870 in Hungary the number of telegraph messages sent was 1,500,000; last year it was 12,000,000, a substantial increase in a country the chief business of which is done in one large city. The number of telegraph messages sent in Holland in 1870 was 1,800,000; last year the total number was 5,000,000, which contrasts most favorably with the telegraph business of Spain, which amounted to 4,250,000 messages, though the population of Holland by the last census were less than 5,000,000 whereas the population of Spain was 18,000,000. Holland is a small country and the requirements of communication by telegraph are by no means so many or so urgent as in a country covering a large area and having imperfect communication between various points, as is the case in Spain. By the last report there were 5,185 miles of lines in the Dutch Indies, with 106 offices the number of messages was 614,065. In December, 1896, Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya were connected by telephone. The total length of the telegraphs of the world, land and marine is in excess of 5,000,000 miles, and the larger part of it is in America. It has been computed that the average cost of a telegraph message sent from one point of the United States to another was \$1 in 1870, 32 1/2 cents in 1890, 31.6 in 1892, 31.2 in 1893, 30.5 in 1894, 30.7; in 1895, 30.9 in 1896, 30.5 in 1897, and 30 cents in 1898. More than 25,000 telegraph messages are sent in a year in South American countries and more than 30,000 in Australia. The Russian telegraph system has been developed extensively of late years, but the United States continues at the head of all countries in the volume of telegraph business done.—Ex.

### Remedy for Whooping Cough.

If your children have whooping cough don't start dosing with Cough mixtures. Griffith's Menthol Liniment is the most successful remedy. Applied to the chest and throat and taken internally on sugar, it goes direct to the spot and gives ease and relief in a few minutes. Your druggist has our authority to refund the money if it is not satisfactory. Price 25 cents.

## TO LET

Hawthorne Villa. That pleasantly situated cottage at Brighton heated with hot water, has a bathroom and all other modern improvements. For further particulars apply to E. T. Higgs, Charlottetown. 13 dly 1w.

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**Good SOAP cheap.**  
 We find WE have too much  
**No. 1 Family Soap**  
 In order to reduce stock  
**WE OFFER**  
**1 doz. 1 lb Bars for 42c.**  
 Box lots at a lower price.

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 Graduate College of Civil Engineering Cornell University  
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 Office at Charlottetown and St. John.  
 Correspondent address to Charlottetown

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**Baby's Own Soap**  
 to all mothers who want their babies to have pink, clean, clear, and healthy skin.  
 Made of the finest materials. No soap, wherever made, is better.  
 THE ALBERT TOILET SOAP CO. MONTREAL  
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## HOCKEY

### Return Match

Crescents vs. 2nd Victorias  
 Tuesday Evening, March 14

The extreme closeness of the match in which the Crescents won the Trophy has caused a general feeling in Hockey circles to see these two clubs meet again before the season closes and the Manager has secured them for above date.  
 A grand contest is promised and the match will be at popular prices.  
 Same evening a second match, will be played.  
**ANCHORS VS. Y. M. C. A.**  
 And those who saw the splendid showing of the Y. M. C. A. Team on Tuesday evening last, will realize what a good contest is here assured.  
 Admission 15 cents. Reserved seats, 20 and 25c. At C. D. Rankin's.  
 A. A. BARTLETT, Manager.

**Pure Gold Jelly Powder**  
**Pure Gold Flavoring Extracts**  
**Pure Gold Coffees**  
**Pure Gold Spices**  
**Pure Gold Baking Powder**  
 These goods cannot be beaten for Purity and Excellence.  
 Mail orders have special attention.  
 Address,  
**PURE GOLD MFG. Co., Ltd.**  
 31 & 33 Front St. East, Toronto.

## TENDERS

For Repairs to Bridges in Queen's and King's Counties.  
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, Charlottetown, March 6, 1899.  
 SEALED TENDERS will be received at this Office from any person or persons willing to contract for repairing the following Bridges:—  
 1st.—Repairs to Clifton Bridge, Lot 2, Queen's County.  
 2nd.—Repairs to Stanley Bridge, Lot 2, Queen's County.  
 3rd.—Repairs to Bear's Mill Bridge near Montague Bridge, King's County.  
 According to specifications to be seen at the following places:—For Clifton and Stanley Bridges, at the Store of A. McLeod, Esq., Stanley Bridge, and at the residence of Robert Lamb, Esq., Supervisor of Roads; for Bear's Mill Bridge, at the Hotel of Captain Donald McLeod, Montague Bridge, and at the residence of Allan McDonald, Esq., Supervisor of Roads, Valleyfield.  
 Tenders will be received up till noon on Wednesday 22nd instant.  
 Government not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.  
 The signatures of two responsible persons willing to become bondsmen must accompany each tender.  
 Tenders to be marked Clifton Bridge, Stanley Bridge, Bear's Mill—and addressed to this Office.  
 RICHARD SMITH, Sec'y of Public Works.

**JOHN T. MCKENZIE**  
**THE TAILOR,**  
 CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND