

**Today's Probabilities**

TORONTO, August 20.—(Spec. I.)—Moderately warm.

Did you know that you can buy any of those pretty Colored Blouses for half price? Its so.—Moore & McLeod. 11

**Why Drink Water**

During the hot weather when you can buy

**Pure Orange Cider**

A most delicious beverage for 15c per quart. Or put up in quart bottles at 15 cents. Try a sample bottle.

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North Side Queen Square,  
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Business Office Telephone 1330.  
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J. P. HOOD, Bus. Mgr.  
Residence Telephone, 1330

Editorial and News Telephone 133.  
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J. E. B. MCCREADY, Editor.  
Residence Telephone 32

**THE MORNING GUARDIAN**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1902.

**THE UNITED WORKMEN.**

These are emphatically the days of fraternal and benevolent societies, which have multiplied throughout America and the civilized world. They are now so numerous that a mere recital of the names of the different orders would fill a large space in print. Many of these were first formed for the advantages of social intercourse and improvement which their meetings afforded. Care for sick brothers followed as a matter of course. On this was engrafted a system of aid in time of sickness or death, and to this many of the orders have added an endowment payable at a fixed period or a stated sum payable at the death of a member to his family or dependents. These methods of insurance being usually at a lower rate than those charged by the old line insurance companies were not viewed with favor by the latter, but in spite of all opposition fraternal society insurance has enormously increased in recent years, and has undoubtedly proved of public benefit. The meeting in our midst of the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces of the Ancient Order of United Workmen affords an evidence of the growing popularity of the fraternal benefit orders, and also of the increasing

favor with which Charlottetown is looked upon as a place for their annual meetings. This evening the City by the Mayor and other public men will extend a cordial welcome to the visiting delegates, of which they are well worthy. The order has only in recent years been extended to the Island, but we doubt not that the meeting of the Grand Lodge in our midst will so call attention to its many interesting and valuable features as to lead to a considerable extension of its membership in this Province. The Guardian joins in advance in the welcome which will be heartily voiced by representative public men to the Workmen now in our midst.

**A SHIPBUILDING COMBINE.**

Following the famous shipping merger, more commonly spoken of as the Morgan combine, the United States Shipbuilding Company has been formed by a consolidation in one of many leading shipbuilding concerns throughout the country. The new combine comes into possession of large shipbuilding plants in Maine, Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and on the Pacific coast. It also owns the famous Bethlehem Steel Company's plant, and will make the steel and iron to be used in its vessels. It is claimed that economies will be effected by centralised management, cheaper materials, and by each establishment being given over to the construction of a special type of vessel.

It is given out that the shipbuilding combine hope to accomplish great things, among others to undersell the Clyde and take away the customers from the British shipyards. This may or may not be effected. Unfortunately for the chances of success in that way it appears that the shipbuilding combine, like the Morgan shipping merger, begins its operations under a heavy load of over-capitalisation. All the shipping plants that have joined in the venture are taken over at very high figures. And according to a New York despatch, the Bethlehem Steel works, which were bought by Mr. Schwab for \$7,500,000, have been sold to the new shipbuilding concern for \$26,000,000 in securities, collateral, common and preferred stock. It will take a very large share of all that can be saved by economies to pay dividends on stock watered at this rate.

**BELFAST CENTENNIAL.**

An excellent and timely proposal is that of "Belfast," whose letter appears in another column. The company who came to the Island in the ship Polly nearly a century since have left descendants numbering thousands and including a large number of our most prosperous and prominent people. They all have the common bond that their forefathers came here together from the land of their nativity. It is eminently fitting that the centenary of their coming should be celebrated by their descendants. Moreover the arrival of the Polly marks an epoch in our Island history sufficiently important to give a provincial character to the proposed centennial. Especially will all Islanders who boast of Scottish descent share in this feeling. The proposed historical sketch ought to form a valuable addition to our local history. No doubt, too, that many descendants of the Polly's passengers who are now in other lands would gladly return to join in the centennial celebration.

According to the Toronto Globe the estimated crop of fall and spring wheat in Ontario is over 25,000,000 bushels over 21,000,000 and oats over 105,000,000 bushels. If these figures are realized the crop will be the best for years, and a considerable advance on that of last year. Beyond Ontario lie the splendid grain fields of Manitoba which promise a yield at least double that of the big Province which was formerly the granary of Canada. In the matter of grain-growing Ontario must rest content with second place among the Provinces hereafter.

An exceedingly bad report comes from Ottawa, received there from South Africa, of the conduct of the last contingent of Canadian Mounted Rifles. The report is that while stationed in Northern Natal, having practically nothing to do, they took to looting, and one day swept down upon Newcastle, taking everything before them. It is stated that their reputation for unruliness was such that when the Rifles left Newcastle to take the train for Durban, the Newcastle merchants put on their shutters to protect their property. It is added that Australians and New Zealanders shared in the outrage and that claims have been forwarded for the Colonial Governments to make good. This, if not greatly overstated, is all very shameful, involves a grave reflection on the officers for failing to maintain discipline, and will be remembered for a generation in South Africa as a stain upon the guilty ones. To a certain extent it tarnishes the fair fame of Canada, whose earlier contingents fought so bravely and conducted themselves so well. We cannot expect the people of Natal to make very nice distinctions in these matters, and the innocent will be blamed with the guilty.

In an excellent article on the manufacturers and the tariff the Toronto Globe points out that it must be disappointing to the advocates of high protection in Canada that after nearly a quarter of a century of high protection the manufacturers are clamoring for more. When the national policy of a higher tariff was first being advocated we heard much about the "infant" and "struggling" industries of the country. The pretext was then that they needed a little help until they should become strong enough to stand alone. Since those days the industries have become strong and prosperous as well. They never were more prosperous than they are now, as was admitted by the president of the Association in the meeting at Halifax. Apparently they have become strong enough to seek to control the Parliament of the country to their own advantage. The general sentiment of the country is that our tariff is now too high, and if it is to be revised in any way it ought to be made lower. Fortunately the tariff may now be said to be out of politics, but there is none the less necessity for consumers to jealously guard their rights against threatened encroachments.

**BELFAST CENTENNIAL.**

Some sons of Scotchmen who came to Belfast in 1803 in the good ship Polly propose that the centenary of their coming be celebrated in 1903. It is well to be up and doing. It will take almost a year to work this up. A general meeting should be held, a committee chosen who would make arrangements and have these communicated in time through friends so that those abroad would fix their holiday for the home week in Belfast. The gentleman who will unite the historical sketch should soon be engaged on this most important feature. The Calestria Club should be invited. An enjoyable time should be provided for. The benefits to flow from such a gathering are many. What incentives could be given to the young and rising hopes of our own land. What a benefit to the Island to have thousands visit it and know of its summer beauties, to say nothing of the cementing of old friendships. Let us have a "home week" in Belfast.

BELFASTER.

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