

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

DECEMBER 31, 1896.

1896.

To-night the curtain falls upon the drama of 1896, a year marked by events not only important in themselves, but destined in all probability to give a color to the future in many significant respects. Hardly had the good wishes of New Year's Day been uttered, when the contending hosts of politicians lined up in the Parliament Building at Ottawa for the sixth session of a Parliament which will pass into history as the most remarkable in Canadian annals. When its members met for the first time, the veteran statesman, Sir John Macdonald, "Canada's darling son," was at the helm of state; when next the Commons assembled the chief's chair was vacant, save for the wreath of immortality which will never fade from the memory of the deceased, Sir John Abbott assumed the vacant position, and for one session guided the ship of state but failing health compelled his resignation, and before the fourth session was held he had joined his great leader in the silent land. The fourth meeting was directed by the wise, firm hand of Sir John Thompson, whose apparently robust frame gave promise of years of eminent service to his country; but at the very height of his fame the solemn summons fell upon his ear, and he, too, passed within the veil. The fifth session found Sir Mackenzie Bowell Premier of the Dominion. The sixth saw the Cabinet divided, and, ere the proclamation of dissolution of Parliament was issued, Sir Charles Tupper had succeeded Sir Mackenzie Bowell. Never before had a Canadian Parliament seen a sixth session; and, if the Assembly which convened at Ottawa in January last be a fair example of sixth sessions, long may it be ere we see another. According to intimation given during the session of 1895, the Government finding it hopeless to expect any satisfactory arrangements from the Government of Manitoba, introduced a Remedial Bill designed to secure the legal rights of the Roman Catholic minority in educational matters. The Opposition exhausted all means of obstruction, and succeeded, not only in stopping the passage of this act, but, practically, in blocking all legislation and preventing the granting of almost all supply. Parliament was dissolved, and the Conservative Party appealed to the country to ratify their policy on the school question. Never was the delightful uncertainty of the popular verdict more fully exemplified. The Province of Quebec which might naturally have been supposed to have the deepest interest in the question of Roman Catholic rights, dominated apparently by racial prejudices and swayed by promises of "better terms" than the Conservatives were prepared to support, gave the Liberal Party a decisive majority and practically settled the question for the whole Dominion. In the other provinces, the Conservatives lost ground, but not to a greater extent than they themselves anticipated. Our own Island was the single exception, it being the only province in which the Conservatives increased their representation. The Government promptly resigned, and Mr. Laurier formed a Cabinet, the most remarkable feature of which was that portfolios were assigned to the leaders of the local Governments of Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and one to the Provincial Secretary of Manitoba. It is too soon to say anything about the policy of the new government. So far it has been a government by commission. A settlement of the school question has been effected which it is devoutly to be hoped may bury that troublesome issue for ever. If it is acceptable to the province of Quebec and the Roman Catholics generally so much the better; if not, they have only themselves to thank for it. The commission issued to investigate the tariff question has thus far met with the experience of the King of Moab when he sent for Balaam and was compelled to declare "I took thee to curse mine enemies and behold thou hast blessed them altogether." Will the government have the courage to reject the testimony, and offer the country a tariff measure based upon their oft-repeated denunciation of protection and laudation of Free Trade? The next session will reveal the answer. The Star Chamber commission for the purpose of furnishing pretexts for the dismissal of public officials is yet in its infancy and all that is needed is to call public attention to its un-British mode of conducting enquiry, and to the means employed to procure evidence. The Petrel, our latest ice steamer, is simply a joke, expensive it is true, but fortunately for the safety of all concerned, harmless. It is gratifying to learn that the \$10,000 voted for this experiment will not be altogether wasted as it is expected that the captain and crew will gather much valuable information about the ice in the strait. We presume they will, besides venturing out occasionally when there is open water, take daily observations from the Cape Tormentine pier, with the aid of spy glasses, and will watch the variations of the barometer and thermometer in the Petrel's cabin. Turning to the wider field of the world's politics it will be remembered that, toward the close of 1895, the threatening attitude of the President of the United States in the Venezuela question caused a good deal of uneasiness. The Boundary Commission has been sitting during the present year, and, though the result of their labors has not yet been made public, there is grave apprehension among the jingoes of the United States that they have been "hoist with their own petard." It looks as if Great Britain will secure about all she wants by the treaty entered into between herself and the United States,

while the Great Republic, by constituting herself the arbiter of the destinies of the petty republics of America, has saddled herself with responsibility for their good behavior. So much does this view of the matter prevail that Venezuela is making serious difficulty about ratifying the treaty which her foster mother has negotiated for her and like many another unfortunate, she is compelled to say "save me from my friends." In Africa, 1896 has been a year of activity. The Jameson Raid into the Transvaal, unfortunate in its inception and issue, gave rise to no end of perplexities. At one time it seemed as if England and Germany would be embroiled through the unguarded action of the erratic Kaiser. But the atmosphere now seems clearer, though the seeds of future trouble are abundant in South Africa, and sooner or later some change in the constitution and relations of the Transvaal must come. Later in the year, a formidable outbreak among the Matabele occurred which was suppressed with some difficulty. The result, as is usual in such cases, was the advance of the British boundary line. In the North, the British advance on Dongola, under the skillful leadership of Sir Herbert Kitchener, recalled the glory days of England's military past. The wisdom of the lamented General Gordon's declaration that the Mahdi must be smashed is now fully recognized, and 1897 will doubtless see the British flag wave over Khartoum. The insane jealousy of everything British entertained by France has once more over-reached itself. When the Egyptian Court of Appeal had decided that Britain must refund the amount taken from the Egyptian Treasury to cover the expense of the Dongola expedition, the French newspapers indulged in some exuberant manifestations of triumph; but when Britain promptly handed over the money the French journals discovered, what they had simply aided to strengthen the hold which "Perfidious Albion" had already acquired over Egypt and the Soudan. On the west coast His Majesty of Assaute has passed into a tributary vassal of Britain, and thus the sphere of British influence is still widening. In Abyssinia, Italy has met with serious disaster, and has been compelled to purchase an ignominious peace from King Menelik. France has tightened her hold upon Madagascar at the expense of a good deal of blood and treasure; but her past experience as a colonizer does not warrant very extravagant hopes for the future of the island. In Asia, Japan has had great trouble in occupying Formosa, and the outlook on that island is not promising. China has been endeavoring, with only partial success, to regain her shattered prestige and put the affairs of her vast Empire into something like order. Russia, under the guise of disinterested friendship, is steadily creeping eastward, and it is a safe prediction that ere long she will secure some acquisitions at the expense of the Celestial Kingdom. India has been visited by a severe famine, the extent or severity of which it is impossible to estimate. In such a country, despite the utmost exertions, such a calamity, involves the starvation of thousands and extreme suffering for millions. Late rain falls will, to some extent, mitigate the disaster, but the pressure will be extreme for months to come. In Europe, the Turkish problem has been the most agitating question of the year. The barbarous massacres of the Armenians have sent a thrill of horror through the whole civilized world, while Europe, paralyzed by jealousy and suspicion, seemed powerless to intervene. The division of the spoils was an insuperable barrier to anything like united action. Excited public opinion in Britain, fanned by the eloquence of Gladstone, demanded that Britain, single-handed, should undertake the task. Fortunately for the peace of the world, cool-headed men were at the helm of state, and the calmer judgment of the nation now recognizes the wisdom of the course pursued. The latest intelligence indicates that an agreement has been reached by which the Powers will control Turkey, making the Sultan a kind of pensioner. It is to be hoped that this will prove correct, as it is imperatively necessary for the safety of the Christian population, as well as for the progress of the empire, that the present state of misrule come to an end. Italy has been on the verge of bankruptcy, to which her unfortunate Abyssinian expedition contributed in no small degree. In Russia the Coronation of the Czar was the occasion of a magnificent display, but the festivities were marred by the terrible loss of life occasioned by a mad rush of the crowd at the distribution of presents. The young Emperor and his wife have been visiting the other powers, and have made a favorable impression wherever they have appeared. In Germany nothing of importance has transpired. The Kaiser has uttered the usual number of enigmatical speeches, but Europe is becoming more accustomed to his theatrical posing, and less attention is now paid to his eccentricities. The veteran statesman, Bismarck, has been in a very bad humor, and in his spleen, has revealed a number of state secrets which go to prove that it is true that "there is honor among thieves," the same cannot be said of Continental diplomats. The visit of Li Hung Chang; and the various attempts at negotiation made by that exalted personage have given a new force to Bret Hartie's poem— "For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain "The heathen Chinese is peculiar." Pity that we cannot get the old man's real opinion of the statesmen of Europe and Canada; it would be doubtless be instructive! It was a gratifying act that the Chinese Envoy selected our Canadian

Pacific Railway and the magnificent steamers that system for his return trip homeward. Spain has been struggling with insurrections in Cuba and the Philippine Islands throughout the greater part of the year. The drain upon her resources both in men and treasure has been so great as to bring about a serious state of affairs. Spanish pride will compel the Government to make all sacrifices in order to hold the little that remains to Spain of her once magnificent colonial empire. The death of Maceo, if confirmed, may have an important bearing upon the suppression of the rebellion. But amid the contradictory telegrams it is impossible to form a correct idea of the real state of matters. The close of the year leaves Europe still armed to the teeth, with navies stronger than ever before, and each nation striving to outstrip the other in the accumulation of the materials of war. Turning to America, the United States has passed through its quadrennial struggle. The interest was intensified by the issue being "Silver against Gold." In spite of the brilliant oratory of Bryan, the silverite, the common sense of the people of the United States (save McKinley a large majority. His eloquent recital of the triumph of protectionist principles and the building up of home manufactures. It is evident that the brief experience of even a partial attempt at reducing protective duties has proved too much for the American people. The Jingoism of the Senate has found vent in a resolution to recognize the Cuban insurgents. It is strongly hinted that some of the European powers have intimated to the United States that they will not tolerate such an action. It may be well for our American cousins to learn that they do not own the whole earth. The small states of Central and South America have as usual been more or less disturbed; but as this is chronic it is not necessary to go into them in detail. Newfoundland is still passing through a period of depression, though it looks as if the new railway would open up valuable mineral deposits. The seal fishery was a failure, and the price of codfish in the markets of Europe was unprecedentedly low, and it is now feared that there will be great suffering in some of the more remote districts. In the scientific world we note the safe return of Nansen from the Polar expedition. Though unsuccessful in reaching the Pole, Nansen has demonstrated that a ship can be built which can navigate Polar waters without the risk of being crushed, and his achievements have brought the solution of the vexed problem measurably nearer. Lieut. Peary made another unsuccessful visit to Greenland. Little in the way of discovery is to be expected from that quarter. During the year McGill College received another splendid gift of half a million dollars from one whom our Island is proud to reckon among her sons—William C. McDonald. Throughout the Dominion crops, on the whole, were good and prices fair, and the dairy industry was fairly remunerative; and though 1896 will not pass into history as a year of marked prosperity, its returns will show a good average. The rapid development of mining in British Columbia was one of the main features of the year, and the future prospects of that province are bright. In our own island, with the exception of the potato crop, the farmers received bountiful returns for their labors; but prices ruled low and meagre in consequence has been scarce. The season was remarkably fine, though winter set in early with heavy frost and very little snow. Politically we had the usual Liberal deficit in finances and a steadily accumulating debt. The outlook is by no means bright, and some radical change must be made if our island is not to be saddled with an unbearable burden. The election of Hon. Wm. Campbell to the seat made vacant by the death of Hon. Alex. Laird was a severe defeat for the Government, and the prospect now is that the next general election will see the overthrow of the present ministry. One of the features of the year was the collapse of the Patron movement which perished, as the doctors would say, of inanition, having signally failed to make any permanent impression upon the politics of the country. Among the disasters, we note the tidal wave in Japan causing immense loss of life and property; the mutiny on the Herber Fuller, with the murder of the Captain, his wife and the first mate; the Tiber Maggie collision at St. John's, N.B.; the cyclone at St. Louis, Mo; the loss of the ss. Drummond Castle on the French coast, with 350 on board, and, just at the close of the year, the waterspout at the Azores and the landslide in Ireland, which latter has already caused serious loss of life and great damage, and threatens to destroy the beautiful Lakes of Killarney. In our own island, the Tighish fire nearly destroyed one of our most flourishing villages, but the energy of the people has almost effaced every trace of the disaster. Turning to the other side of the picture, we record, with the deepest thankfulness, the fact that in 1896 our beloved Queen passed the limit of the reigns of all her predecessors; and the Empire throughout its vast extent is looking forward to a fitting celebration of the close of the sixtieth year of her rule in 1897. The steady progress of the great cause of Imperial Federation during the year is another reason for satisfaction, as the future greatness of the British Empire is inseparably bound up with the success of this magnificent scheme. In our own city we note with pleasure, the completion of the beautiful edifice erected for the worship of the Church of England, the New St. Paul's; and the inception of the grand cathedral, the New St. Dunstan's. Steadily, if slowly, our city is improving the quality of its structures, and by the exercise of a little

care and taste, it will soon become a source of pride to every native of our Island. The death roll of 1896 contains some illustrious names. The Church deploras the loss of Archbishop Benson, the able and vigorous Primate of the Church of England; Dr. Burns, of Fort Massey, Halifax; D. J. Macdonell, the brightest ornament of the Presbyterian Church in Canada; and as we go to press news comes that the Venerable Archbishop Fabre has passed away. Ari has lost two distinguished sons in the persons of Sir Frederick Leighton and Sir John Millias, both presidents of the Royal Academy. Among the world's notables, Prince Henry of Battenberg, son-in-law of our Queen; Hugh E. C. Childers, whose name will always be remembered in our Island for his services on the land commission; Hippolyte, the negro president of Haiti; Ex-Governor Russell, of Massachusetts; Prince Lobanoff, Prime Minister of Russia; and Admiral Milne of the fleet, pass from the stage. Literature will miss Da Maurier, the artist of other days, who burst like a meteor upon the public with his Tribby; H. C. Bowen, editor of the Independent, and George Munroe, the munificent publisher, of New York. Commerce is poorer for the loss of Sir Edward Harland, founder of the White Star line of steamers; Sir John Pender, the great promoter of Submarine Cable enterprises and B. Ketchum the Engineer of the Chignecto Ship Railway. The Dominion has been called upon to part with some of her distinguished sons, among whom we specially mention the veteran statesman Sir Leonard Tilley who left behind him a record, like Bayard of old, "Sans peur et sans reproche"; Sir David McPherson who breathed his last on ship board almost within sight of home; Sir John Shultz, ex-Governor of Manitoba; T. W. Anglin, ex-speaker of the House; Colonel Amyot and Dr. Bergie, members of the Commons; Hon. John R. Robinson, ex-Governor of Ontario and Hon. J. J. Frazer, Lieut-Governor of New Brunswick. Within the limits of our own Island, Mrs. Hunter, long to be remembered as Miss Barr, the able and successful principal of Prince Street School; Wm. Heard, a leader in every good word and work in our city; Benj. Battenburg, one of our successful merchants; Alex. McKinnon, prominent in the business, political and religious life of our community; George Peake, the upright and esteemed citizen; Hon. Alex. Laird, probably the ablest son of an able family; B. W. Higgs and Nathan Davies, old and respected townsmen, and B. D. Higgs, whose name will always be associated with the success of the Daily Guardian, entered upon their reward. Turning its face to the incoming year, THE EXAMINER, with parsimonious pride, refers to its past record, and, assuring its patrons and readers that no effort will be spared to maintain and increase its efficiency, both as a newspaper and advertising medium, wishes them, one and all, A HAPPY NEW YEAR. NOTES AND COMMENTS. Ten vessels were registered at the port of Charlottetown during 1896—four new ones measuring 363 tons, and six transferred from other ports, aggregating 569 tons. The total number of vessels on the registry at this date (31st Dec. 1896) is 174, measuring 16,540 tons. These include 2 barques, 11 barkentines, 7 brigantines, 132 schooners, 1 sloop and 21 steamers. LOCAL NOTICES. MERRY GO ROUND.—The merry go round will be running at the Lyceum each evening at 7 o'clock. 153 21 pd. HAVE A DRIVE.—The merry go round will be running in the afternoon at 2 o'clock on New Year's Day and also evening at the Lyceum. 153 21 pd. MISS AI ME.—Miss Cecil Jones now prepared to take private and class pupils in Dancing and Physical Culture. GREEN GRAPES, purple grapes, northern apples, syrups, cereals and coffee for New Years' at Best & Goff's. 1897 DIARIES for the pocket, house and office.—Hazard & Moore. 1896—Extra copies of today's EXAMINER, containing the review of the year just ended, may be obtained at this office. Selling out cheap this evening, balance of Calendars, Cards, Booklets, Toy Books, Toys and Fancy Goods. Follow the crowd to Carter's Bookstore. Our \$16.50 fine Beaver Overcoats are the best value in town.—S. A. McDonald, DIED. At Charlottetown, on Thursday morning, Dec. 30th 1896, after a lingering illness, which she bore with Christian patience and love, Sophia A. Van Buren, wife of George Henry, in the 55th year of her age. [Funeral from her late residence Grafton St. to Cross Roads cemetery, lot 48, at 2 o'clock p. m.] At his residence, Queen Street, this morning, after a lingering illness, John J. Trauer, in the 50th year of his age. [Funeral notice later.] At Cavendish Road, on December 26th, Mrs. Sillick, aged 77 years. At Summerside, on the 16th inst., Prudence Arsenault, aged 76 years, relict of the late Casimir Perry, her first husband, and of the late Melrose Gallant, her second husband, leaving four children and a large circle of relations and friends. At Clinton, December 20th, Sadie Grace, infant daughter of Daniel and Margaret Dunning, aged three months and eleven days. Why pay \$120 for a Typewriter? THE "EMPIRE" EQUALS SUPPLIES all in many ways. V. this writing, positive alignment, simple construction, Harlowe parts, agents wanted. HALF THE PRICE ONLY \$65. The Williams Mfg. Co., Ltd., Montreal, P.Q. 154-61 cod.

TELEGRAPHIC. SERIAL DISPATCHES TO THE EXAMINER. THE PREMIER'S MONTREAL BANQUET. An Appeal to the Young Men. MONTREAL, Dec. 31. The Laurier banquet last night was both a success and a disappointment. The Premier was greeted with the utmost enthusiasm, but he made no allusion to the censure of the Bishops. His last words were an appeal to the young men. In a very dramatic tone he said that religion was immutable, and asked them not to be shaken in their religious convictions by the actions of men. This was the Premier's nearest reference to the action of the Bishops. Mr. Laurier spoke about five minutes in English. THE PREMIER AND THE CLERGY. Advised to Come Out Squarely. MONTREAL, Dec. 31. Mr. Beauregard, of La Patrie, issued last evening an open letter to Mr. Laurier, asking him to come out squarely at the banquet against the clergy, and telling him that he will be unworthy of his position if he fails to return blow for blow. MACEO COMING TO LIFE. Reported to be in a Hospital Recovering From His Wounds. HAVANA, Dec. 31. It is now said that Maceo is alive. He was wounded, but is now in Sigüenza hospital, slowly recovering. Hockey at Winnipeg. WINNIPEG, Dec. 31. The championship game of hockey between the Victoria Club of Montreal and the Victoria Club of Winnipeg, which took place here last night, resulted in a victory for the former of 65 points. Disaster at Sea. LONDON, Dec. 31. The bark Rhea, at Belfast, from Pictou, encountered a hurricane on Nov. 29th and lost her deck and had her bulwarks smashed. The mate was swept overboard and drowned. Sir Hector, Again! THREE RIVERS, Dec. 31. It is understood that Sir Hector Langevin will contest the seat, in the Conservative interest, for Champlain, made vacant by the decease of Dr. Marjotte. Death of Archbishop Fabre. MONTREAL, Dec. 31. Archbishop Fabre died last night, a few minutes after seven o'clock. Johnson's Baking Powder gives fullest satisfaction 25c a pound. Johnson & Johnson. All remaining perfumes and toilet articles will be sold at slaughter prices at Watson's Drug Store this week. Our sales this season far exceeded all previous years, but our stock was unusually large (as was evident to the many hundreds who visited us before Christmas), and we still have a beautiful assortment to get bargains from. NEW YEAR'S -EVE- Closing out sale of Calendars, New Year Cards, Booklets, Toy Books, Fancy Goods, Toys. Open until 10 o'clock. Come and get bargains. Geo Carter & Co Santa Claus' Headquarters, Fancy Goods and Toy Bazaar. ICE! ICE! We will supply ice this season on Kelly's Pond at Southport, Gates' and Higgins' Ponds at West Royalty, and will commence as soon as ice and roads permit. J. H. MYRICK & CO. 154-61 cod.

Our Last Advertisement. YOUR LAST CHANCE TO-NIGHT Paton & Co. will offer all their FUR GOODS at SWEEPING REDUCTIONS. Call this p. m. for bargains. Kid Gloves, Silk Handkerchiefs, Gents' Scarfs, etc., etc. WISHING ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR. JAMES PATON & CO. A GOOD RESOLUTION For 1897 is to insure your property against fire in one of those good Stock Companies represented by E. R. BROW, AGENT Charlottetown. The Tariff on Boots & Shoes ago We made our bow to the people of Charlottetown and vicinity. We came as strangers, but our now well known methods of "Know How" and "Painless" Dentistry have made us our friends. We make our bow to the year 1897 and trust that by a continuation of our methods, to receive a share of the patronage in our line of business. Great Success is due to the fact that we do just as we advertise, and we now make a bow to the public as the Berlin Dental Parlors, over store of Prowse Brothers. CHRONIC DISEASES Treated by the SALISBURY Method of persistent SELF-HELP in overcoming past errors and removing the causes of disease. The result justifies the means. This is not an easy quick cure-all. Neither should it be judged by certain bad imitations already among the people nor by the half-bad efforts of invalids to go it alone or half do it. The salvation of health necessitates sincere repentance, constant self-denial and whole-hearted faith in the good works of physician and patient. Not even M. D.'s certificates by the team will save one from the evil consequences of stimulants, food or cold. DR CLIFF Graduate of N. Y. University, and the N. Y. Hospital. 20 years practice in N. Y. City. Diploma registered in U. S. and Canada. Address—Charlottetown P.E.I. Office—Victoria Row, Telephone Call A HOME TREATMENT preserving from month to month. ACCOMMODATIONS reserved for patients. REFERENCES on application. 50 Horse Rugs at Lowest Prices you ever heard of. Come with the crowd to J. B. Macdonald's Old Stand, Directly Opposite the West End of the Market House.

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