

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

DECEMBER 4, 1896. TRADE FALLING OFF.

The latest returns indicate a heavy falling off in respect to the import trade of Canada, a consequent loss of revenue, and a large deficit at the end of next year. It will not be urged, at least on the part of the present Administration, that this is due to harder times than those which existed last year; for it is held that times have greatly improved as a result of the accession of a truly Liberal Government. So we are forced to the conclusion that it is due to the foresight and prudence of importers in view of the promised radical change in our fiscal condition. Merchants are in a better position in respect to this eventuality than are farmers. Merchants can afford to await the demand of their customers before they provide the supply, and they can, in part, work out old stock, until a new tariff shall be enacted, and so minimize their loss. But farmers, to avoid the additional cost of feeding throughout a long winter, are compelled to kill and market their hogs, etc., at once, and to take whatever the buyer can afford to pay them at this juncture. In giving evidence before the Ministerial Tariff Commissioners the Ontario pork packers explained that in their business they had to buy hogs in the winter, the product of which was not sold as hams or bacon till summer or next fall, and that any tariff change that might affect their market compelled them to take precautions, which meant that they would pay less for dressed hogs than they would if they were reasonably certain under what conditions they would market their product. This shows how the present tariff uncertainty affects domestic trade and how the farmers of Canada are the first and heaviest losers on account of it. Traders and manufacturers, however, stand to lose, and lose heavily, especially if, as we now hear, Parliament will not meet until March. In this event, the new tariff will not probably come into operation until April or May, after the spring orders will have been filled. Our merchants will, of course, exercise all possible care and caution. But in spite of that they may do or leave undone, some of them stand to lose as a result of tariff tinkering—and they know it. The effect will be a continuance of dullness in trade and a heavy deficit to be made up in future years.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The customs collections in Montreal in November were \$2,905, less than in the same month last year. It is understood that Sir Henri Joly has decided to refuse to grant, in future, any licenses for breweries in any city or country in which the Scott Act is in force. Mail and Empire: One important circumstance seems to have been shown by the tariff investigation, namely, that the National Policy gathers strength with age. The Emperor of Germany is peculiar. During his recent visit to Kiel he went on board the new warship Agier, and he took one of the regular non-railway routes of the blue jacket, and ate the whole of it, consisting of ham, cabbage and potatoes, out of tin vessel. Montreal Gazette: Mr. Tarte in his reported interview in the West, is unusually severe on Archbishop Langevin. Even in politics it is not counted good to kick an archbishop when he is down. Mr. Tarte is fairly jumping on his defeated opponent. When the Mowat Government came into power in Ontario, the office-holders numbered six hundred. When Sir Oliver Mowat stepped out last July the office-holders numbered three thousand. The figures are those of the Brockville Times. Liberal economy makes itself felt in big Ontario as well as in little P. E. I. It is very significant that the Liberal papers of Quebec have suddenly developed a desire that the forthcoming provincial election shall be run on independent, federal politics. The Liberal Federal government is evidently not just now very popular in Quebec. Mr. Tarte to the contrary notwithstanding. Montreal Gazette: The Liberal press has set to work to explain that the five million dollar deficit which the Laurier Government anticipates will be due to the work of the late Conservative Ministers. The Liberal press evidently thinks that the people who accepted Mr. Laurier as a statesman and Mr. Tarte as a clean-handed politician will accept anything. Pascal who is now a leading man among the maintenance men, has failed in his appeal against the judgment which condemned him to pay \$100,000, with costs, on account of the Bay DesCheneaux Railway steal in which he and the Hon. Mr. Tarte and other Liberal leaders were more or less concerned. His friends now in office at Ottawa will do their best to help him out. The clerk of the United States House of Representatives has issued the usual unofficial list of members of the House of the 55th Congress. The list shows that the House will be composed of 281 Republicans, 124 Democrats, 13 Fusionists and three Silverites, 12 Populists, and there is one vacancy from the first Missouri district, making a total of 357. Of the total membership, 265 were in the last House and 19 others have served in previous Congresses. Montreal Gazette: Papers friendly to the Laurier Government are beginning to prepare public opinion for the heavy deficit between income and expenditure that will be the main feature of the first year of the present Liberal administration, as it was the main feature of the last year of the former Liberal administration. Just five months of the fiscal year has passed. It must be a lively year that sets the party friends at work to minimize the effect of something that will only be accomplished seven months hence. An unusual application has been made at the Fisheries Department. A resident of the Sandwich Islands passing through the Capital to his home in the West, called upon Prof. Prince of the Fisheries Commission, and asked that a supply of salmon eggs be given to the community for the purpose of ascertaining if Canadian salmon will thrive in the waters of the vicinity. This request will be granted, but it is doubtful if the fish will thrive under the

climatic conditions of the Hawaiian Islands. There seems to be no let-up to the demand from Australia for Manitoba flour, the Lake of the Woods Milling Co. having placed another round lot of 5,000 barrels for January shipment to Vancouver. Advances from Bulawayo, South Africa, under date of October 3rd, to W. W. Ogilvie, says: You have, no doubt, heard of the extreme prices flour is fetching here, and it is perfectly correct, in fact, I myself, during the past week, paid \$15 per bag of 100 lbs. Mr. Ogilvie also sold for shipment to the above place in December 2,000 barrels. Late advices from the Pacific Coast are strong, and state that all American grades of flour are selling at an advance of one dollar per barrel over present prices here for Manitoba grade. The demand locally continues slow and the market is very quiet.

NEWS NOTES

There are now thirteen thousand men on strike in Hamburg. Dr. Johnson has been released from prison on the ground of ill health. Advices from Manila are that the Spaniards have defeated the insurgents at Morong. The Spanish loss is 70 killed. They have been having a good deal of snow down south lately. In some places railway communication was interrupted. Acting for English capitalists S. M. Brookfield, of Halifax, has taken up large mining properties in Cheticamp, C. B., for \$300,000. It is announced by a London newspaper that the Government will devote one million pounds to the endowment of a Roman Catholic university in Ireland. The memorial to the late Archbishop of Canterbury is to take the form of a monument in the cathedral and the completion of a portion of Truro Cathedral. Sir John Monson, the newly appointed British Ambassador to succeed the Marquis of Dufferin, was formerly British ambassador at Vienna. He has arrived in Paris. The London Standard publishes a despatch from Madrid stating that in spite of official denials there are persistent rumors circulating in the Spanish capital of the expectation of a cabinet crisis. Chili has recently had a change of government and a new cabinet headed by President Errazuriz was installed. The old radical Balmaceda faction is now fomenting trouble, and an outbreak is expected. The London Daily Mail says that the fetes at Blenheim Castle in honor of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough cost twenty thousand pounds. The petition against the election of Alex. McNeill, M. P., North Bruce, has been dismissed by consent of counsel. A cross-petition against Dr. Bonnar was also dismissed. No order as to costs was made in either instance. Mrs. Mary Barth, of Chicago, went out on Wednesday morning and locked her four small children in the house. Some old clothing took fire during her absence and all the children were smothered to death by the dense smoke. It is said that steps have been taken toward a consolidation of the Methodist and Anglican religious denominations in the United States and Canada. The aims and objects of the two denominations are similar, and the proposed amalgamation will unite in one body two powerful religious sects. The commander of the German cruiser Arcona, lying at Manila, in the Philippines, telegraphs to the government that the situation there is critical. Spanish action, he says, is confined to the defense of Cavite and Manila and an attack is expected daily. Preparations have been made to remove resident foreigners to a place of safety. The enquiry into the accident to the U. S. battleship Texas shows that sixty-one of her water-tight compartments were not water-tight. The Texas was evidently lucky in her lack of sink. Had her valve broken anywhere but alongside a dock she would in all probability have gone to the bottom of the ocean with a good many of her crew. Great Britain is again reported to be moving to secure a conference with Germany and France in regard to the stoppage of the bounties on beet sugar the two countries maintain. These bounties give the British people cheap sugar, but they are destroying a British industry. Hence the protest, the feeling behind which is that cheapness may sometimes be too dearly paid for. England is being urged to increase her army, and France and Germany are asking for large sums to add to their naval equipment. The continental powers' big armies are aggravating Englishmen, and Britain's huge navy is exciting the continentalists into fresh expenditure. The taxpayers in a British colony must object which he lived in a land that did not try to emulate every other that spent money on war.

SUFFERING IN THE NORTHWEST Cold Weather Has Caused Intense Suffering in Many Places. Late advices from St. Paul, Minn., state that the cold weather which prevails in the storm swept districts of the United States Northwest has caused intense suffering, and the death list of four is expected to be increased as the weather grows set in. Ten carloads of sheep destined for Chicago were frozen at Grand Harbor, Devil's Lake. The month of November was the coldest known in the Northwest for fifteen years. Snow fell on the 4th of the month and has not since disappeared. There is great suffering on the stock ranges and thousands of cattle will be killed if the weather continues cold. At Vermilion, S. D., there is hardly a tree standing and every orchard is ruined. In many instances trees a foot in diameter were snapped off at the bottom. At midnight on Monday last the thermometer at St. Paul was 12 below zero. THE QUEEN'S HEALTH. The following, recently penned by a well-informed court correspondent from the north, will be read with interest: "Surely never was a woman well on in her seventieth year blessed with such persistently good health as the Queen. As little influenced by the unwonted gaiety at Balmoral during the visit of the Czar as she has been by the dullness which has followed it, she goes out every morning in her donkey chair for at least an hour. The hills all around us stand out like so many Scottish Socrates, white with snow, but every afternoon she takes a long drive, rarely getting home till midnight. The wonder is that she does not kill herself, for killing herself does not seem to be in her way, but that she does not kill some of the less robust among her ladies-in-waiting and maids of honor." Prevent sickness and save doctors' bills at this season by keeping your blood rich and pure with Hood's Sarsaparil. Ap. le Sale.—Norton's apple sale at 10.30 tomorrow. 100 barrels choice stock.

PERSONAL. Rev. Dr. Doyle, of Vernon River, is in town. Walter Simpson, Esq., of Bay View, is in town today. Mrs. Oscar Garland and Master Garland, of New Hampshire, are at the Queen Hotel. W. F. Baker, Charlottetown, registered at the Victoria Hotel, St. John, on Wednesday evening. Mr. Jas. T. Ferguson, manager of Johnson & Johnson's branch drug store at Souris, is in town today. We regret to learn that Hon. Mr. Hearty continues to be so unwell that he has been constrained to consult specialists in New York. Archibald Kennedy, Miss McLaurin and Miss Russell, of Charlottetown, registered at the Halifax Hotel, Halifax, on Wednesday. Mr. George S. Moore, manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia at Sussex, New Brunswick, returned to his home yesterday. Queen Victoria has been substituted for Sr. Janapulus in the new ballet that Sir Arthur Sullivan is composing for the London Alhambra. The ballet will be a sort of the longest reign on record. Mr. M. J. Dalton, who has been absent from St. John's twelve years, returned by train yesterday from Placentia, at which place he landed from the s. Elliott on Thursday.—St. John's, Nfld., News, Nov. 27th.

F. A. Churchill, North Rustico, and J. Watterson, Mont. al., are among this morning's arrivals at the Hotel Davies. The arrivals last evening included: C. R. Rogers, Albertson; John Underwood, New Glasgow; A. W. O'Brien, St. John; A. A. Lefruger, St. John; Margaret McLellan, Boston; N. Dupon, Toronto. The New York Sun's London special says it is announced with some show of authority that the Queen has given a strict test letter for three years past. She had been accustomed all her life till then to see wing and spirits springing, and was induced to try the experiment of abstention with regard to the painful affliction of the knees and legs from which she suffers. Miss Winter, the English governess who has been for many years in charge of Wilhelm, the young Queen of Holland, has now returned to her home in Eindhoven, pensioned for life to the tune of \$2,500 per annum. Her salary having been \$4,000 a year. Moreover, she has been loaded with presents by both Queens, who really have for which to be grateful to her, the education of a youthful sovereign being at all times a most difficult and responsible piece of work. Mr. John J. O'Connor, of Halifax, who was in Charlottetown during the past summer with St. Mary's Dramatic Class, has gone south for the winter in the interests of his health. Before his departure the junior dramatic class presented Mr. O'Connor with a framed portrait group and an address, and the senior class presented him with an address and a testimonial. Mr. O'Connor was also remembered in a substantial way by a number of his personal friends.

ERATERNAL VISIT.

On Tuesday evening last a special train in charge of Conductor Tanton, left here for Summerside with a number of the members of Charlottetown Lodge, I. O. G. T., and their friends. The City Good Templars paid a fraternal visit to the Lodge recently organized there by Provincial Deputy E. H. Duchemin, of this City. A large number of members, including from Oronoykha Lodge, St. Eleanor's, drove into the meeting and Compton's Hall was well filled, there being upwards of 200 members of the order present. Deputy Duchemin was invited to the chair, and a splendid programme of speeches, recitations, etc., was carried out in a very interesting manner. Rev. R. W. Weddall gave the address of welcome, and was responded to by Messrs. P. H. McDonald, St. Eleanor's; and M. Stevenson, I. O. G. T., and their friends. The City Good Templars paid a fraternal visit to the Lodge recently organized there by Provincial Deputy E. H. Duchemin, of this City. 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