

ed for which let us be devoutly thankful, a Southern Railway begun, and a mythical Hillsboro bridge kept dangling before us, for both of which we will be thankful when we get them. Alas! the party in power is always "Liberal" in promise but extremely "Conservative" in performance. The bye-elections have been favorable to the Government, but the spoils question is the rock ahead. Into the unsavory mess in Quebec it is not ours to enter in a review of this kind. Suffice it to say, it is only what might have been expected. There is too much Mercurism about the Party of Purity in that province for anything else to happen. The retirement of Sir Oliver, and the probable early shelving of Sir Henry Joly suggest that while the Liberal ship carries full sail the hull is badly strained and there are dangerous leaks. The School Question, despite the missions to Rome, and the visit of the able Mounseigneur Merry del Val, will not down "Curses, like chickens, come home to roost."

While the discovery of coal deposits near Winnipeg and the construction of the Crows Nest Pass Railway will develop the Northwest, the result of the Hudson Bay Expedition gives little hope of a competing route to Britain. The meeting of the British Association at Toronto and the Medical Association at Montreal will bring Canada prominently before the literary and scientific men of the Mother Country, while the magnificent gifts of W. C. McDonald to McGill will tend to fit Canadians to hold their own with the professional men of the Empire.

The interminable Behring Sea Conference has advanced a stage and the Dominion has secured an award in its favor of nearly half a million. It is possible that the gride of the United States has been smoothed by some concessions; but Uncle Sam will be much lighter in pocket than if he had loyally accepted the judgment of the first arbitration and paid his bill promptly. Even the Liberal leaders are being forced into the dignified attitude with regard to Washington which the Conservatives assumed. The winning of the Seawanhaka cup by the Canadian yacht Glencairn, was one of the pleasing features of the year's aquatic contests. It is less satisfactory to note troubles among the militia in Halifax and Montreal, and the alarming epidemic of murder which seems to have visited our Dominion in the later months of the year.

In the sister province of Newfoundland the political feature of the year was the overthrow of the Whiteway Government. Sir James Winter has inaugurated a system of economy and retrenchment and has applied to Great Britain for an expert examination into the finances of the Colony. It is to be hoped that, in this way, the entrance of "Ye Ancient Colony" into the Dominion may be facilitated. The railway has been completed, and pending the erection of suitable piers at Port au Basque the magnificent steamer Bruce is making semi-weekly trips from Sydney to Placentia. When the route is complete, a six-hour sea trip will connect Newfoundland with the Dominion, and the oldest colony may yet become the stepping-stone in the ocean route between Europe and America.

Looking across the water, the year began with trouble in Beain where a sable monarch treacherously massacred a British expedition. The usual result followed: an expedition, the hanging of several chiefs, the captivity of the king, and the annexation of the country. In India, famine and pestilence, have devastated far and wide; but the distress of the dusky Hindoo has shown how true are the bonds which bind the Empire together. From all quarters came relief, our own Dominion responding with \$200,000. In South Africa, uprisings have been a feature of the year—all put down without much difficulty; while in West Africa disputes in the Hinterland of Lagos have threatened to imperil friendly relations with France. On the Nile, the Khartoum expedition has moved steadily, though slowly, until Metemneh is in our hands, and the smoke of the camp fires may almost be seen from Khartoum. Meanwhile, the Berber-Suakim Railway is being pushed ahead and its completion means the transport of a flotilla which will speedily command the Nile right down to Uganda. Cecil Rhodes has opened his Railway to Bulawayo, and steadily rail and telegraphs are pressing on both from north and south to the realization of his grand plan. A mutiny of the Soudanese troops in Uganda at one time threatened serious trouble, but the firmness of British officers promptly quelled the disturbances. The most serious task which Britain has had to attempt was the chastisement of the Border Tribes between India and Afghanistan. Sheltered by their mountain ramparts, well supplied with arms and ammunition, they have fought desperately in defence of home; and though the campaign has brought out instances of

British dash and daring which have never been surpassed, and has proved the undying fidelity and wonderful soldierly qualities of the Sikhs and Ghorkas, it can hardly be said to have terminated satisfactorily. Far too much treasure has been spent and far too many valuable lives have been sacrificed for small results. But this is the price we pay for empire.

At home the failure of the Irish potato crop and the disastrous strike of the Amalgamated Engineers may be looked upon as national calamities. The first has been promptly provided for; but it is difficult to estimate the far-reaching consequences of the second. But the year has not been without its sunshine. The revenue showed a surplus of \$12,000,000 and the Jubilee celebration will make 1897 a year long to be remembered. As we glanced over the year, drawn from all lands to do honor to our Gracious Queen, we could not help recalling Kipling's poem, rough, perhaps, but true:—"Take 'old of the wings of the moroin.' Aad flop round the earth till you're dead But you won't get away from the tune that we play To the bloomin' old rag overhead."

Both at home and abroad it is becoming more evident that the great British Empire is no longer a number of fragments but one great solid body, each part linked to each, and all to the mother land by the strongest ties.

The visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Ireland was a hopeful sign of the prevalence of better feeling across St. George's channel; while the tour of the King of Siam is another instance of the awakening of the East from its long slumber. The Venezuelan question is drawing to a settlement which, if forecasts be at all correct, will give Britain about all she claimed.

Across the channel, France has been pushing her way in Africa evidently aiming at drawing a line west to east as Britain from north to south. President Faure has visited the Czar,—result a great outpouring of gush, but nothing tangible. Meantime the revolutionary forces do not seem to have died out, and disquieting rumors circulate from time to time. The Dreyfus affair has caused unpleasant feeling between France and Germany.

Spain has been fighting with Cuba abroad and discontent at home. Weyler the man of blood, though not of iron, has given place to the milder Blanco, and the Cuban insurgents are being tempted with autonomy. It is difficult, amid conflicting rumors, to form an accurate idea of the situation, but it is clear that Spain has not reached the end of her work.

The Kaiser has posed on the stage, as heretofore; but his heavy tragedy does not affect Europe as it once did. He has bullied Hayti into reparation and apology for an insult, heedless of the great American Eagle, and as the year closes his warships are on the way to China, compelled to rely upon Britain for the supply of coal needed to carry them thither. Russia has pushed her trans-Siberian railway well-nigh across the continent of Asia, and seems desirous of entering upon a career of conquest in the far east. She looks longingly upon Korea, and would not, it is believed, object to a slice of China. Italy has been fully occupied with her financial affairs and domestic difficulties.

Interest in Europe centred in the Levant, where the reckless haste of Greece precipitated a war with Turkey in which her presumption was severely chastised. Say what men may, the Turk is a first-class fighter and Elhem Pasha was equal to any demands made by the Greeks upon his generalship. The European concert prevented the Turk from seizing Greek territory and forced him to be content with a money compensation. Strangely enough Kaiser and Turk developed into a mutual admiration society.

The composite Austro-Hungarian Empire seems to be rudely shaken. Disgraceful scenes in the Reichsrath reveal internal weakness. Only the influence of Franz Joseph holds things together. After him, apparently, the deluge!

To-day the eyes of the world are on China, and the year closes darkly amid the prospect of trouble in the East, which may involve Europe in a general war. German missionaries were murdered by a Chinese mob. To enforce her demands for reparation, Germany seized Kiau Chau Bay. At once Russia hastened to the scene and Japanese and British warships were promptly on hand. Partition of China is in the air. But China is no Poland, and she will not fall without a desperate struggle. Hasty action means a European war. Meantime, Britain and Japan seem to be acting together, while China leans toward Russia. France, and even the United States, talk of taking a hand, while Italy is looking in the same direction. The future is dark and uncertain. On the American continent, our neighbors across the border have been trying

protection ad absurdum. The result of the Dingley Bill is not satisfactory so far as revenue is concerned. An alien labor law marks their jealousy of Canada, and their annoyance at the result of the Behring Sea arbitration found vent in a tall-talk despatch from Secretary Sherman. The dignified contempt with which it was received in Britain, where the game of bluff is getting to be understood, has quieted matters. Dreams of foreign conquests are floating before the minds of the jingoes and a determined effort is being made to annex Hawaii against the will of two thirds of its people. Sober-minded men see dangers ahead, and the fate of the annexation bill is uncertain. The rejection of the Arbitration Treaty by the Senate was a distinct attempt to turn the hands backward upon the dial of progress in defiance to the wishes of the mob. The first election for Mayor of Greater New York resulted, after a hot contest, in the election of Van Wyck, and the control of the municipality fell into the hands of Tammany. Combines have flourished under the McKinley regime and the industrial future of the United States is not without dark clouds. The usual crop of murders and lynchings has accentuated the imperfect administration of justice in the Great Republic.

Mexico, on the whole, has progressed, an unsuccessful attempt upon the life of her President calling the attention of the world to the stability of her government.

South and Central America had their usual crop of disturbances. In Brazil, there was heavy fighting resulting finally in favor of the government. Guatemala passed through another revolution.

Among the scientific achievements of the year, we note Peary's return from Greenland bringing with him the big meteorite of Cape York, and Andree's balloon attempt to reach the North Pole. The fate of the daring aeronaut is still a matter of conjecture, with the chances heavily against him. Among the disasters, were the fire in the public buildings at Ottawa, the terrible conflagration of the Charity Bazaar, Paris, where 148 persons perished, the forest fires of Ontario and bush fires of the Northwest, the catastrophe on the Hudson River Railway, the destruction of the town of Windsor, Nova Scotia, and the great fire in London. To these must be added the earthquakes in Japan and the Phillipine Isles, accompanied with tidal waves and volcanic eruptions causing immense loss of life and property, and the destructive storms which raged on both sides of the Atlantic.

The death roll of 1897 removes from the ranks of literature Mrs. Hungerford "The Duchess" and M. Daudet, among novelists; Charles Dana, of the New York Sun distinguished for his Anglophobia; Henry George, the Social Reformer; Henry Drummond, one of the prophets of the century; Francis W. Newman, the Philosopher; Jean Ingelow, the poetess, and Dean Vaughan the well known clergyman. The British public service has lost Sir Hercules Robinson, one of the ablest of Colonial governors; W. F. C. Robinson, remembered as the last governor of P. E. Island prior to Confederation; and Sir William Maxwell, Governor of the Gold Coast. Canova, the talented Premier of Spain, and Borda, President of Uruguay, fell before the assassin's dagger; while only one, Duke d'Aumale, son of Louis Philippe of France, Neal Dow, the veteran apostle of prohibition, Pullman, of sleeping car fame, Barney Barnato, the diamond king of South Africa, and A. J. Mundella, once one of the lights of British Radicalism, joined the great majority.

The last roll call summoned Bazarbaki, once the hope of the armies of Republican France, after the disaster of Sedan, and Admiral Warden, U. S. N., remembered by our older readers as the hero of the Monitor-Merrimac fight in Hampton Roads. The Royal family mourn the loss of the kindly-philanthropic Duchess of Teck. Sir Joseph Hickson will be missed on both sides of the Atlantic, and New Brunswick's premier, Hon. Jas. Mitchell, has left a blank in our sister province. In the narrower circle of our Island we have parted with Henry Lawton,—late of British Columbia, but long identified with our own press; James Gourlie, the veteran town clerk of Summerside; R. B. Stewart, of Strathgartney; J. W. Morrison, so long and honorably identified with our public service; Lewis Carvell, once General Manager of the I. C. R., later one of our foremost merchant; J. G. Cameron, the indefatigable minister; Charles Hertz, an old and respected citizen; Senator Arsenault, of long and unstained Parliamentary career and William Scott the warm-hearted, devoted pastor.

Looking forward to 1898, THE EXAMINER, appealing to its past record and promising that no effort will be spared to make its issues bright, newsy and readable, wishes its patrons and all others A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

FOR 2 HOURS TONIGHT

7 Till 9

We will meet and beat all competition on Ladies Jackets and lots to choose from.

See Window for Samples.

Sale of Midwinter Outer Garments

Starts to-day, Monday, morning—with a grander variety and greater values than any of those famous offerings, of former years, which have made this yearly event memorable to Charlottetown's close, correct buyers. It's that opportune midwinter occasion when every garment bears a new price—a price below all competition. Take these two lots of Jackets for instance: Your choice of all those chic \$10, 12, 15 and 18 jackets for \$5 and \$7.50. There are two big tables loaded with the season's most fashionable coats, in boucles, Persian cloths, kerseys, Irish Friezes, and beavers—new tans, browns navy and black—most of them faced with fancy or plain silks—a superb showing of all this season's correct effects, the new sleeves—the new fronts—the new backs—the new collars—all tailored and finished, as you see them only at **HALF PRICE \$10 coats, 12 coats, choice Half price; they may not last after Saturday. Ladies' Furs,—Midwinter garments are to go in the same manner, radically reduced**

HALF PRICE
HALF PRICE \$15 coats 18 coats

- Ladies' Fur Jackets \$35.00 quality for \$28.00.
 - \$30.00 quality for.....\$25.00
 - 28.50 quality for..... 23.00
 - 25.00 quality for..... 20.00
- One lot of Fur Capes at Clearance Prices.
One lot of Fur Lined capes, one lot of black and colored capes.
One lot of Ladies' Felt Hats.

JAMES PATON & CO

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—The Monroe Doctrine is sometimes inconvenient. According to it, the United States cannot take a hand in the partition of China.

—There is no postal clerk on the mail train from Georgetown—that is why there is such a long wait at the post office that letters cannot be possibly answered by return mail. Was it for this that we gave Sir Louis Davies his majority?

—"A Liberal," writing to the Summerside Journal, implies that the Hon. David Laird has had some communication with THE EXAMINER regarding his claim to the Senatorship. This imputation is as erroneous as it is mean. So far as we know, Mr. Laird has not at all pressed his claim; and this we think an additional reason why it ought to be recognized at Ottawa.

—December 31st; a mild day, soft snow falling at times; temperature considerably above the freezing point; ferry boat crossing between Charlottetown and Southport; hundred of thousands of dollars worth of freight to be carried to and from Pictou—the Stanley does not come to Charlottetown but remains at Georgetown where the Princess would do just as well. It was not for this that Charlottetown voted for Sir Louis Davies.

—One of our seven first prizes taken at the Provincial Exhibition was for the Sovereign Flavoring Extracts. They win on their merits.

Ottawa Citizen: The latest remark attributed to Mr. Tarte is, "Poor Laurier, he lacks backbone!" No one can say the same of Mr. Tarte himself. His backbone reaches down to his pocket.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

List of Ratepayers for the City of Charlottetown

In default for Assessment due on Real Property, for the year ending 31st December, 1897, containing names of all such defaulters, and the amount due from them respectively, with a statement of the Number of the town Lot, Water Lot and Common Lot upon which or any part thereof such assessment is in default.

Name of Ratepayer in Default.	Statement or Description of Property upon which Assessment is made.	Amount of Assessment due & unpaid.
McArthur, Sarah	House & Land on Common Lot No. 22.	\$ 4.50
Birch, John	House & Land on Town Lot No 72, 3rd hun.	3.37
Coyie, Stephen	House & Land on Town Lot No 3, 2nd hun.	5.75
Carmichael, Est. of Jas	House & Land on Town Lot No 73, 3rd hun.	10.12
Careron, Edmund	Vacant Land on Town Lot No 72 & 73, 2nd hun.	6.75
Campbell, Hugh	House & Land on Common Lot No 24.	2.87
Dockendorf, Chas. & Jas	Vacant Land on Town Lot No 10, 4th hun.	1.12
Egan, Joseph	Vacant Land on Common Lot 23.	1.60
Griffith, John A.	House & Land on Town Lot No 64, 1st hun.	7.87
"	House & Land on Town Lot No 88, 1st hun.	10.13
"	House & Land on Common Lot No 32.	4.50
Gardiner, Frederick	House & Land on Town Lot No 91, 3rd hun.	19.60
Hollman, John	House & Land on Common Lot No 21.	10.11
"	House & Land on Common Lot No 22.	6.71
Hughes, Peter	House & Land on Common Lot No 23.	4.50
Hughes, Bridget	House & Land on Town Lots No 5 & 6, 4th hun.	21.37
Lowe, Walter	House & Land on Town Lot 49, 4th hun.	16.88
"	House & Land on Town Lot 98, 4th hun.	6.00
"	Vacant Land on Common Lot No 31	2.60
McNeill, Duncan	House and Land on Common Lot No 22.	8.44
"	Vacant Land on Common Lot No 22.	1.57
Purdie, Jane, Estate of, W. A. O. Morrison and Leslie S. McNutt, Trustees	House & Land on Town Lots No 97 and 98, 1st hun	33.75
McQuaid, Dennis	Vacant Land on Town Lot 100, 1st hun.	5.00
"	Vacant Land on Common Lot No 20.	1.00
Reid, Richard B.	House & Land on Town Lot No 95, 2nd hun.	3.37
Redmond, Daniel	House & Land on Common Lot No 27.	3.19
Steel, Robert	House & Land on Town Lot No 20, 3rd hun.	8.44
Trainor, Patrick	House & Land on Town Lot No 83, 2nd hun.	6.75
Turnbull, Estate Andrew	House & Land on Town Lot 55, 4th hun.	3.37
Thorne, Charles E.	Small house & Land \$390, Vacant Land Corner Lot, \$300, on Common Lot 23.	6.75
Thorne, Charles E.	House and Land on Common Lot 23.	1.12
Thorne, R. & Geo. S.	Large House & Land on Common Lot No 23.	16.87
Williams, John	House & Land on Common Lot No 24.	7.25
"	Vacant Land on Common Lot No 27.	4.00
Ward, Estate Robert	House and Land on Common Lot No 25.	5.62

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of the Statute 51 Victoria Cap. 12, Section 91, after 30 days publication of the above list, being a list of the Ratepayers of the City of Charlottetown who have failed to pay within the time prescribed the Assessment severally levied upon their Real Property in said city, I will make an application to His Honor, the Stipendiary Magistrate of said City, for Judgment against each and all of the lands above described, for the respective amounts so levied against them, and then to pay, and that upon such judgment being entered, I will further apply for a warrant for the sale of such lands.

Dated this 28th day of December, A. D. 1897.

ROBERT VANDERSTINE, City Collector

December 28, 1897, 1 mo.