

NOTES OF THE WEEK

The legislature met at Quebec on Thursday. The speech, read by Chief Justice Casault, the lieutenant-governor being ill, was a non-committal document, its only announcement of interest being that a school-book was now ready for free distribution in the French schools. On Monday the address was passed. Mr Flynn consoled himself by the reflection that if the Conservatives were defeated in the fall, their opponents were adopting their policy.

A conference of delegates from the various provinces was held at Ottawa last week to form an association to fight tuberculosis. Lord Minto presided at the opening meeting. There was agreement among the doctors that consumption is increasing in Canada, and that it is the cause of more deaths than any other disease. The suggestions for the mitigation, if not the stamping out of the disease, were indefinite. Assuming the disease is spread by infection, it was urged that patients be placed in hospitals specially fitted for its treatment, that the public be instructed to avoid the presence of consumptives, and that experiments be made as to the effect of climate and locality in their cure. Dr Roddick declared many healthy people contracted the disease from sleeping in railway berths that had been occupied by consumptives. The fact that a large proportion of the immigrants who come from Russia and Central Europe are affected by tuberculosis was made the ground for a request that such persons be not allowed to land. The conference avoided any deliberation on the moot point whether eating the beef or drinking the milk of cattle affected by tuberculosis will convey the disease. Mr McCrae of Guelph was emphatic and positive that the tuberculin test is a humbug and injures the cattle. On the other hand, Mr Edwards, M.P., who is as large a breeder as the Guelph farmer, declared his experience with the test had been satisfactory. He went on to say that calves raised from diseased mothers had, under treatment, proved free from the disease in 5 cases out of 6. Absolute separation was most desirable, but even without this, clean stables, with plenty of sunlight and fresh air and great attention to the cleanliness of the animals had brought about the desired results. He added that the tuberculin test had been used in all stages without any injurious results at all, and he was satisfied as to its absolute reliability.

Manitoba is making a railway deal that is going to affect it for better or worse. The Northern Pacific branches in Manitoba have not been paying, and the company wants to get rid of them to the province. The C.P.R. offered to take over the lines on what looks like favorable terms, but the Manitobans distrust that big monopoly, and accepted the offer of Mackenzie & Mann, which involves a yearly outlay of a sum that capitalized amounts to nearly 13 million dollars. As Manitoba is in a bad way financially, it must assume this obligation in the expectation that the federal government will come to its relief. The inducement that caused the acceptance of Mackenzie & Mann's offer is low freight rates, ten cents per bushel of wheat from Winnipeg to Lake Superior being promised. The deal is regarded with much doubt, and it is feared Manitoba instead of being dominated by one great company will now have two masters. Mackenzie & Mann are the representatives of the company that expects to parallel the C.P.R. by a line that will run north of it, touching Prince Albert and Edmonton.

The nuisance of mutilated coins has become so annoying to business men in the cities that there is a general movement towards remedying it. A member asked the finance minister if the government, seeing it could do so without loss, would not call these coins in and give new ones in exchange. Mr Fielding's answer was, that the government had no power to do so, and he recommended that mutilated coins should be refused by everybody. This answer is not satisfactory. So long as these coins are in existence, their holders will endeavor to pass them and the evil will be perpetuated indefinitely. Were they got rid of by summary exchange, there would be a chance in the future of the universal refusal of bored and otherwise mutilated coins. There is a stringent law against defacing coins, but like a great many other laws is never enforced. A few years ago, when it was the fashion to have one side of a coin and engrave a monogram on it, the government never prosecuted the jewelers who did the work. The government has been winking at the defacing of the coins

of the country for a generation, and if it has not the power it should get it to collect these coins and replace them by legal money.

It speaks well for the energy of the people of Ontario that when they suffer from a grievance they do not sit tamely under it, but agitate for reform. Their administration of law is better than it is with us, yet far from satisfactory, and there is a demand, the government cannot resist, to simplify the procedure, so that costs will be lessened and cases be decided more promptly. The lawyers have taken alarm at the prospect, and a deputation waited on the attorney-general and the premier to ask that their interests be considered in the proposed changes. One plea was, that lawyers' earnings are small and Mr Strathy alleged that in a county he knew there were 50 lawyers who did not make a \$1000 a year each. The argument was lame, for it showed law costs that particular county at least \$50,000 a year, and the smallness of the salaries was due to the excessive number of lawyers among whom the sum is divided. Another member of the deputation asked for favorable consideration, because of the honesty of the legal profession. In 21 years' experience as a bench he had only known 6 men to be struck off the rolls. "Think of the rascals you didn't strike off!" exclaimed Premier Ross. If lawyers would look at the matter aright, they would see that reforms in the administration of justice are really in their interest. Take as proof of this our own district. Under an inefficient judge, the delays and costs have reached a point that frighten people from going to law. Lawyers may become indignant as they please at the Gleaner, but were the courts reformed, they would get more to do.

When the Conservatives were in office, the Liberals invented the name "reptile press" for those newspapers which received government patronage. We are sorry to say the reptile press still exists, another instance of the readiness with which the Liberals at Ottawa adopt practices which they denounced while in opposition. For the 12 months ending June last, the Montreal Herald was paid \$25,124 for advertising and printing. The Lower Province organs ranged from \$2663 to \$13,236. The Halifax paper that abused the Gleaner so rabidly last summer got \$6735 as its share. The list shows the number of papers that support the government for revenue.

The government organs are exulting over the opening of great melting works in Cape Breton, and tell us that facilities are so great that steel can be turned out for \$6 a ton less than anywhere else. That being so, will they tell us why the farmers of the Dominion should be taxed to pay the company a bonus on every ton produced? It is discouraging to see how many there are who want a bonus from the government for every undertaking, no matter how profitable. There is going to be a demand made for aid to establish converting works to treat silver lead ore. The promoters invite subscriptions, on the assurance that the company can produce lead at a lower price than can be done elsewhere, yet they demand a bounty. Instead of being a profit to the country, Canada's deposits of minerals are really a loss to the general body of taxpayers, who pay the bounties but get no share of the profits.

The Witness favors the movement afoot in political circles to ask Premier Parent to increase the English-speaking representation in his cabinet by appointing Mr Weir a minister without portfolio. Looking at the record of the gentleman proposed for the honor, we fail to see that the minority would be benefited. Since Confederation a succession of members have got into the cabinet on the score of representing the minority, but we fail to recall one who stood up on the floor of the house for the reforms in law necessary for the continued existence of the minority in the rural parts. They got the office, and the minority were none the better. As for Mr Weir, he is one of those superior beings who, as occasion requires, is ready to assure the French Canadians he is no fanatic and that their treatment of the minority is perfectly satisfactory to him. Mr Parent will do well to leave his cabinet as it is. If any change is made, it should be in the direction of reducing its numbers.

It must be discouraging to the gentlemen who want to fasten a standing-army on Canada to see how decisively those who joined the contingents refused to serve another twelve-month. Even the Strathconas, with the enemy within two days' march of Cape Town, turned a deaf ear to the entreaty to stay and help. A year's experience in the glorious British army and of the companionship of Tommy Atkins was quite enough for them. It is stated the regiment raised to garrison Halifax has refused to re-enlist. Their year is about up and they want to go home. They, at least, have not the expense of the hardships and dangers of war for their desire to be relieved. Canadians

are too democratic and independent in spirit to submit to the tyranny inseparable from military service. Were the members of the British Empire League compelled to serve a few months in the ranks they would cease to talk about Canada's creating either a naval or military force.

A crash among the produce-buyers of Montreal is not improbable. The downward tendency in cheese continues, making a blue outlook for the holders of high-priced goods. Added to this is the collapse of the mining-venture in which Chisholm managed to interest so many of the cheese and butter-men, who lose what they subscribed. The produce trade has had many sharp lessons as to the foolishness of buying in expectation of a rise, but the sharpest of all they are now learning.

The retail merchants of Montreal are asking the legislature to pass an act giving power to the city council to impose a special tax of not over ten per cent. on the real estate of departmental stores. The retailers are being pushed to the wall by the big stores, and endeavor to strike back in this way. The departmental stores is the development of the principle at work in every line of business, and we fear the worthy storekeepers who are fighting against them are resisting the inevitable. The big concerns, which buy in quantities no retailer could venture on, and sell for cash, have an advantage that no special tax can overcome. It is not merely the city retailer who is affected by the departmental store. At the express offices in this village it is astonishing to see the number of parcels from Eaton of Toronto and after that great house from Simpson. Somehow, the Montreal big stores have so far failed to capture the country mail-order trade. What is seen here, is to be seen at every country express office, and is a growing menace to the village storekeeper. The universal adoption of the cash system would enable the ordinary merchant to sell cheaper and leave less inducement to his customers to buy in Toronto or Montreal, but they seem unable to get out of the rut which is so serious a drag on their prosperity.

The auditor general's report gives a specimen of the frauds perpetrated upon the people under the name of subsidies. To help to build a bridge across the Richelieu the Dominion government promised a bonus of 15 per cent. on its cost. When the bridge was finished the company sent in a demand for \$31,528, they alleging it had cost \$210,000. The auditor refused to pass their account until reported on by an engineer. One was sent, who, after examining the bridge certified it had cost only \$98,000. Instead of paying the \$31,528 demanded, the government only gave \$14,725. This is not all. The Quebec legislature gave \$50,000 towards the bridge, and Sorel \$25,000, so that had the Dominion government paid what was asked the company would not only have got the bridge for nothing, but had a surplus of \$6000 to divide among its partners.

The preliminary objections in the Deloit case have been argued before Judge Archibald, who is expected to give his decision this week. Mr Lafleur, one of our few French Protestant lawyers, made a strong point when he showed the pretension of the Church of Rome to regulate marriages in this province was not founded on its laws, but on alleged decrees which no statute recognized.

The Palladium gives an interesting summary of the results of the late census so far as regards Franklin county. In the ten years that elapsed since the former enumeration, the town of Burke has lost 186 in population, Chateaugay 343, Constable 173, Westville 189, and Fort Covington no less than 864. In all the southern towns there have been large gains, due to their development by the railways which now traverse them and the revival of the iron and charcoal industries. The town of Malone gained 1018. The population of the village has risen in the ten years from 4986 to 5935. On the other hand the village of Fort Covington has fallen from 870 to 832 and Chateaugay village from 1172 to 973. Saranac village has jumped from 768 to 2594. Considering that these 2594 a large proportion are consumptives seeking health, its increase is hardly to be envied.

The troubles in Spain have been temporarily smothered by declaring martial law. Suspected persons have been arrested without process of law and bayonet and sword used unmercifully when a crowd began to gather. The press is gagged and every line prepared for the papers has to be submitted to a censor. The feeling is, that these repressive measures will only make the inevitable outbreak the more severe.

Of the war there is little to be said. After getting across into Cape Colony DeWet was assailed by Col. Plumer and forced to retreat with loss of part of his ammunition train. Apparently DeWet has since penetrated farther into the colony and been joined by several small parties of Boers. Kitchener is endeavoring to surround him. In the Transvaal

Gen. Smith-Dorrien had an encounter with Botha, which ended in the Boers being driven off, with a loss of 24 killed and 53 wounded on the British side. The Boer loss is unknown.

The Chinese having refused to yield to the terms dictated to them by the Powers, Gen. Waldersee proceeded to organize an expedition into the interior. This so frightened the Chinese court that it yielded.

ORMSTOWN
The circumstance that among the few who received titles at New Year—the last conferred by the Queen—was Hiram Maxim, recalls to the memories of old residents that he was a sojourner in Ormstown for a while. Among those who have a distinct recollection of him is Mr Alex. A. Anderson, the well-known commercial traveller. It was at noon on a summer-day in 1862 that a young man came walking into the village, and addressed a group of whom James Brown, James Smith, and Mr Anderson survive. His appearance bespoke "the skeddadder" and he frankly told them they were having a scrap where he lived and as he had no hand in bringing it on he thought he would come over to Canada until it was over. He was a painter by trade and asked for Mr McNowa. Mr Nowa took him to dinner and afterwards set him to work. Subsequently he worked for Lunan & Brown in Huntingdon and McDowell of St Chrysostome. He was a quiet, humorous lad, exceedingly bright and well-remembered, and a good workman. After a year he was proclaimed to have returned to Brooklyn, N.Y., and began his career as an inventor, taking out numerous patents. The invention which brought him wealth and honor was the Maxim gun, and it is for this he was knighted. Altho' a representative American, he had no objection to being enrolled among the British nobility as Sir Hiram Maxim.

In the Ormstown curling club John Gibson and F. Rapley were finals for the Lockery curling blocks. John Gibson won by one shot, so he now holds them.

Epidemics still exist in this village and vicinity. Measles are seen in several families. The temperance hotel has prospered beyond expectation. Mr James Lockery keeps the house for another year, and repairs on outbuildings are designed for the coming summer, also, another store on the hotel.

The Heather curling club of Ormstown were defeated here on Saturday in the match for the Quebec challenge cup. Following are the scores and players:

ORMSTOWN	HEATHER
John Gibson	P. A. Small
Geo. E. Baird	R. Thompson
F. Rapley	N. K. McDonald
M. Mulvanie	J. H. Smith
Skip—27	Skip—13
Dr McCormick	D. McCallum
B. Smith	D. W. Ross, jr.
J. G. McGerrigle	K. Hutchinson
W. G. McGerrigle	W. B. Hutchinson
Skip—19	Skip—21

Majority for Ormstown, 19 shots
The Lachin curling club is next on the list to play for the cup.
Mr James Cottingham has added to his celebrated herd of Ayreshires on Riverside farm, a fine young imported Ayreshire bull calf, Lord Nelson, of Ste Anne, sired by Lord Nelson of Burnhead, a bull of great breeding and for which \$210 was paid for when he was born. His dam is the \$400 cow Heather Honey, being sired by Burnhead sired Dan of Earl, Polly of Mauchline, bred by Robt. Wallace of Auchinbain, and imported by Robert Belford, along with other 18 head, and considered by all that give his decision this week. Mr Lafleur, one of our few French Protestant lawyers, made a strong point when he showed the pretension of the Church of Rome to regulate marriages in this province was not founded on its laws, but on alleged decrees which no statute recognized.

The Palladium gives an interesting summary of the results of the late census so far as regards Franklin county. In the ten years that elapsed since the former enumeration, the town of Burke has lost 186 in population, Chateaugay 343, Constable 173, Westville 189, and Fort Covington no less than 864. In all the southern towns there have been large gains, due to their development by the railways which now traverse them and the revival of the iron and charcoal industries. The town of Malone gained 1018. The population of the village has risen in the ten years from 4986 to 5935. On the other hand the village of Fort Covington has fallen from 870 to 832 and Chateaugay village from 1172 to 973. Saranac village has jumped from 768 to 2594. Considering that these 2594 a large proportion are consumptives seeking health, its increase is hardly to be envied.

The troubles in Spain have been temporarily smothered by declaring martial law. Suspected persons have been arrested without process of law and bayonet and sword used unmercifully when a crowd began to gather. The press is gagged and every line prepared for the papers has to be submitted to a censor. The feeling is, that these repressive measures will only make the inevitable outbreak the more severe.

Of the war there is little to be said. After getting across into Cape Colony DeWet was assailed by Col. Plumer and forced to retreat with loss of part of his ammunition train. Apparently DeWet has since penetrated farther into the colony and been joined by several small parties of Boers. Kitchener is endeavoring to surround him. In the Transvaal

Gen. Smith-Dorrien had an encounter with Botha, which ended in the Boers being driven off, with a loss of 24 killed and 53 wounded on the British side. The Boer loss is unknown.

The Chinese having refused to yield to the terms dictated to them by the Powers, Gen. Waldersee proceeded to organize an expedition into the interior. This so frightened the Chinese court that it yielded.

mistake, she took another bottle than the one holding her mixture, and this was a poison, which nearly killed her. The doctor, in the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

VALLEYFIELD
The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

The report, given in last week's paper of a meeting of the Montreal Cotton company, is interesting to this town, for the increase of capital from two to four million dollars means much. Though the company is not held to spend a cent of this money in our town, and it is at all liberty to build at any other point which would facilitate its business operations, it lies with the population of this town to encourage the company to extend its already extensive mills in Valleyfield by disconnecting itself entirely from the discordant element, which has surged up and to the assistance of one of the conferees of the doctor, was saved and she is now out of danger.—Le Salaberry.

tainment. The ladies cleared \$11.50, which goes towards paying for an organ they have bought for their Band of Hope work.

TROUT RIVER
The debate of the Trout river club, held at the residence of Thos. Stark on Tuesday evening, on resolved, that the Boers were justified in declaring war against Great Britain, proved to be the most interesting of the season. The affirmative leader, Peter Elder, the negative leader, Jas. B. Cooper, gave some strong arguments for and against. They were well supported by 3 speakers on each side. The vote being taken, it decided the affirmative had put up the best argument. On this occasion our young speakers deserve credit for the able way in which they handled their subject. At the next meeting of the club the pronouncing competition will be held to compete for the prizes offered by Rev A. Rowat.

KELSO
Owing to the unfavorable weather, Prof. Arnold of Roslyn college, Montreal, did not lecture here Friday evening. He conducted the regular service Sabbath and preached a practical sermon.

The rooms in many sections are too hot and narrow for living. Ice has been taken out of the same place, in Gavin's mill pond, 3 times during the winter; the 2nd and 3rd times the quality was excellent.

DUNDEE
The school commissioners visited the schools last week, and were pleased with the work of the teachers and the progress made. They found the attendance at several rather small, but it could be accounted for, to a certain degree, by sickness and the cold, stormy weather existing at the time of their visit.

Several persons from here had to go to Albany last week to give evidence in order to find out if a bill can be found against Wm. Gratton of Fort Covington, in the Chinese smuggling case. It is not supposed that the government would have done anything further in the case but for a Malone newspaper implying "a Fort Covington lawyer." As there is only one who claims the title of lawyer in the Fort there could be no doubt who was meant, and this man of law protested in a way that showed the powers to reopen the case. This will transfer money out of the state into a number of pockets for very little end.

MILK SHIPPERS AND THE RAILWAY COMPANIES.
According to previous arrangement representatives of the Milk Shippers' association and of the C. P. R. and G. T. held a conference in Montreal on Monday at the Windsor hotel, at which matters such as better service, increased facilities, and lower rates were discussed. The C. P. R. was represented by C. E. E. Usher, the G. T. by G. T. Bell. The association was represented by M. Smith, Lachute, W. H. Trenholm, Richmond, W. Graham, Com. and H. S. Tannahill of Trout river. All points in question were thoroughly discussed and the meeting proved the most favorable opportunity yet given to the shippers to present their side of the question. Another meeting will be held about the 1st March, when it is hoped definite conclusions will be reached. Both companies agreed to grant conventional ticket rates to dairymen attending the annual meeting on 5th March.

CIRCUIT COURT, VALLEYFIELD
Angus McIntosh vs Angus McGillis. McIntosh sues for \$199 damages under the following circumstances:
1. That during July the defendant maliciously, and without any reason, accused the plaintiff of conspiring with John Duckett to burn the property of a man called Cameron, a farmer in the vicinity of Dundee.
2. That this accusation was made directly to Cameron by the defendant.
3. That the plaintiff in consequence thereof threatened with a criminal suit, and was obliged to go to Montreal to the advocate of Cameron, on the point of being arrested.
4. That this accusation spread among their mutual acquaintances and created doubts injurious to the character of the plaintiff who has been profoundly humiliated and mentally distressed.
5. That his reputation has suffered because there were between him and Cameron, at the time of the accusation, causes for enmity.
6. For all these reasons the plaintiff has suffered incalculable damage, which, however, he reduces to \$199, which the defendant owes him and refuses to pay him.

By his motion the defendant asks that the case be dismissed for the following reasons: 1. Because the writ and declaration do not contain a statement of the cause of the demand. 2. Because it is not stated in the declaration in what year McGillis accused McIntosh of conspiring with Duckett to have Cameron's property burned. 3. Because it is not alleged where, and how the accusation was made to Cameron. 4. Because the plaintiff does not state in what way the incalculable damage consists, which he says he has suffered. 5. Because the object of the suit is described irregularly, the plaintiff only pleading mental distress and that he has suffered incalculable damage; insufficient allegations, and not such as can be met by defence. 6. Because all these irregularities create a prejudice.

The court declared that some of the preceding reasons were well founded, and dismissed McIntosh's action with costs in favor of McGillis.

FRANKLIN CENTRE
Owing to so many being sick with grip and the continued stormy weather, Mr L. A. Edwards had to close his singing school.

Rev Mr Wells is holding special services, but the meetings have not been attended in consequence of the causes as closed the singing school.

No mall reached Franklin from the east from Wednesday of last week until Monday.

THELSTAN
Professor Arnold of Roslyn college, Montreal, gave an interesting lecture on Sir Walter Scott on Saturday evening in the basement of the church. Despite the bad weather and a gripe, the measuring social at Dr Stewart's Wednesday evening, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., was a decided success. The doctor's hope is an ideal one for such a purpose. Misses McGillis of Huntingdon assisted in the musical part of the en-

WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.
London, Feb. 18.—Gen. Kitchener, telegraphing from De Aar, Cape Colony, under Saturday's date, says: "Dewet's force crossed the railway at Baertman's Siding north of here before daylight, Feb. 15, closely followed by Plumer, Crabbe and armored trains. They engaged the enemy while crossing. The Boers, however, cut the lines north and south of the place of crossing. We captured over 20 wagons, many of which were loaded with ammunition, and also a maxim, 20 prisoners and over one hundred horses. The troops are still in close pursuit."

Fifth Victorian Contingent.
Melbourne, Feb. 18.—The fifth Victorian contingent, 1,250 men all told, sailed for South Africa on Friday.

Will Be Stunk in the Sea.
Lorenzo Marquez, Feb. 18.—The ammunition, guns and shells surrendered by the Boers to the Portuguese at Komatiport will be sunk at sea.

Escaped Boer Prisoners.
St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—Five Boer prisoners who escaped from the Island of Ceylon have arrived at a Ceylon port on board the Russian steamer to which they swam while in the harbor of Colombo. Among them is a nephew of President Steyn, a brother-in-law of Gen. Botha, the Boer commander-in-chief.

TO END BY JULY 1.
One of Gen. Buller's Brigade Commanders as a Prophet.
London, Feb. 18.—One of Gen. Buller's brigade commanders in the Natal campaign asserts with an air of confidence that hostilities will be at an end by the middle of July. The final skirmishes will occur in the Standerton district. This forecast may not be more trustworthy than scores of other forecasts which have preceded it, but a spirit of optimism now prevails among British officers here, and the end of the war is currently believed to be in sight.

They explain that Gen. Kitchener has been massing his infantry along the lines of communication and organizing two large mounted forces, with a flying system of transport for following Buller and Dewet. Time has been required for the various concentrations and equipments, but mobile columns are now available for beating wide districts and driving the game before them. Gen. Buller is clearing the eastern district of the Transvaal, and forcing Botha's scattered commandos back into the Swaziland frontier, and Gen. Kitchener himself is at De Aar directing the series of large mounted columns in pursuit of Dewet.

French's operations, while not decisive, are most harassing, for he has captured a portion of an ammunition convoy and drives of cattle and many horses, and in clearing the country he has cut a wide swath along the Erasmus River, with Plumer's Australian bushmen close behind him, has struck the railway north of De Aar, and lost a portion of his ammunition and supplies. His object in following Cape Colony against Dewet. Old soldiers here do not believe that the Boers will escape, but Dewet is a wily fox.

About 1,200 troops, including drafts of mounted infantry and yeomanry, embarked at Southampton Saturday for South Africa. The reinforcements from England and the colonies will number 30,000 by the end of April.

Broke Through French's Gordons.
London, Feb. 18.—Despatches from Pretoria announce that Gen. Buller's commando has broken through Gen. French's cordon westward.

THE NATAL INVASION
Made Concessions by Britain to the Boers Impossible—Mr. Chamberlain's Warm Speech in the House.
London, Feb. 19.—The first division in the first Parliament of King Edward VII., which took place yesterday, resulted in cutting down to 45 the Government's normal majority of 130. The interest caused by this unexpected event was heightened by Mr. Winston Spencer Churchill's first speech at Westminster, and by Mr. Chamberlain's heated defence of his own policy.

Mr. Churchill in the course of his remarks said that the war in South Africa had been carried on with unusual humanity, and he closed with the declaration of his belief that at no distant date there would be an "Anglicized" loyal, peaceful and prosperous Transvaal.

Sir Robert Reid, Radical member for Dumfriesshire, argued that all this could be accomplished without unnecessary severity, and without withholding terms.

Mr. Chamberlain, springing to his feet, stigmatized the speech of Sir Robert as "devoted to abuse of British officers and the policy of Ministers, and to praise the enemies of Great Britain." He denied that peace with honor was at any time possible before or after the fall of Pretoria. "The policy of Her Majesty's Government," he declared, "has not varied. Before the invasion of Natal we would have accepted the most liberal concessions, but from the moment the invasion occurred the Boers had fired the first shot, the Government determined that not one shred of the independence which the Boers had abused, should ever again be conceded to them."

The Conservatives, cheering furiously, rose to their feet from the Government benches in the assertion and made the Chamber ring again and again.

partially accounting for the long casualty lists. In October there were 569 cases and 98 deaths; in November, 1,213 cases and 207 deaths; in December, 1,665 cases and 246 deaths. The total since the beginning of the war to December 31 is 19,101 cases and 4,233 deaths.

Lord Cranborne, when the debate on the address in reply to the King's speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament was resumed, said of principal interest was Great Britain's financial interest in China. He referred to the road dispute, Lord Cranborne said Russia had assured the Government that the occupation of the Peking-Shan-Hai-Kwan Railroad was only temporary, and that the railroad and materials would be restored at the end of the occupation. Russia's assurances respecting the railroads were purely temporary. Their occupation was purely temporary. Lord Cranborne added: "I am bound to say that in all our dealings with the Russian Government in this matter we have been received in the most friendly and generous manner. I have no complaint whatever to make against the Government of the Czar."

Kruger at Last Seen It.
Amsterdam, Feb. 19.—President Kruger has written a letter to the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce, the State Ambulance Committee, thanking it enthusiastically for assistance rendered in what for the first time Mr. Kruger called the "hopeless struggle of the Boers against their independence and their rights."

Madrid, Feb. 18.—The condition of affairs in Spain is more grave than at any moment during the war with the United States. The extremity of the danger by which the Queen Regent is confronted may best be appreciated by the fact that she has consented to invest Gen. Weyler with powers that are virtually those of a dictator. It is universally believed here that she is about to leave Spain and to take the road of exile in the hope thereby of saving the throne of her son from collapse, the regency until his majority being undertaken by his aunt, the Infanta Isabella, acting in conjunction with the Infanta, who would rule without any regard for Parliamentary forms of Government. The Azarraga Minister has resigned his position as Queen Regent on Saturday.

Carrie and Her Crusaders.
Topeka, Kan., Feb. 18.—At 6 o'clock Saturday evening, Mrs. Nation, followed by 500 men and women, raided and completely demolished one joint and destroyed a lot of saloon furniture stored in a cold storage plant, into which they had broken. During the day Mrs. Nation was arrested three different times on charges preferred by the proprietor of the cold storage plant. She was released each time.

All Dealings Broken Off.
London, Feb. 18.—"The Danish Government," says the Copenhagen correspondent of The Daily Mail, "has suddenly broken off all dealings with the United States regarding the sale of the Hansens' close bodies. This is due to a satisfactory offer made by the Danish East Asian Steamship Company to assist, and in the future to guarantee, the islands. The American Government has been notified as to this decision."

The Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar has signified his accession to the throne by proclaiming a comprehensive amnesty, including political offences.

William Northcote, who was sentenced to Friday, 14 years in the Kingston Penitentiary, has confessed to setting fire to several stores in Peterboro.

With the exception of the mother, the entire Turner family of Shaftesbury, Vt., has been killed by the measles. Eight died in a month, John Turner, the last victim, was buried Saturday.

The Presbyterian Church at Georgetown was on Saturday destroyed by fire. The loss will be pretty well covered by the insurance, which is \$6,000 on the church and \$1,500 on contents.

A case of smallpox has been discovered in Toronto, 78 Concord avenue. The patient is Mr. Eager, and he is supposed to have contracted the disease in the neighborhood of Winnipeg, where he was two weeks ago.

There were 192

