

BORN.
Stacked—The birthplace of Mr. Wm. G. Gamble, a son, born to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Gamble, & son.

DIED.

Chas. C. Thompson, on Thursday, Feb. 1st, Helena Murray, relict of the late Dr. John Murray, died.

The Action Free Press

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1895.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Premier Macdonald promised a temporary adjournment last week that he would introduce a bill at the first session of the legislature providing for prohibition in that province.

Information came from South Africa that Col. Hamlin, M. P., has received the appointment of Deputy Adjutant-General of the British army at Orange River. The influence of General Blücher has evidently waned lately.

The Ontario Government will bring in legislation at the present session for the abolition of staple taxes. Mr. Campbell, the "Good House" official, has received a report from Mr. Bent, asking for the abolition. "The bill will be arranged so as to go into force in two years."

The public accounts for Ontario have been printed, and were presented to the House this week. The receipts in 1895 amounted to \$4,026,042,000, while the expenditure was \$3,710,730,000, leaving a surplus of \$305,374,14. As compared with 1894 the receipts for last year show an increase of \$140,441. The receipts from woods and forests were a little over \$65,150 the previous year.

Particulars of the lead-in Ontario in the campaign against spitting in public. A committee of the town council had recommended the putting up of ornamental signs in the principal streets and parks with the inscription: "In the interest of the people and to avoid the spread of contagions diseases you are requested not to spit on the sidewalk." Detroit put up similar signs last summer.

Business in manufacturing cities in Canada is booming. Factories and mills are running day and night in their efforts to keep up with the extraordinary demand and many have orders on their books that will keep them busy till next summer. There is great activity among electric companies, and one Canadian concern has orders to the amount of \$600,000 on their books—Braids.

The Dominion ballot is to be changed, the smaller ballot for which the Conservative Government, in 1895, paid so dear, proving very unsatisfactory. In the new ballot there will be dividing lines horizontally between the houses, and no cross lines. The mark may be placed anywhere in the space. There will be two counterfoils, one of which will be shown to the candidate's agent at the time of the polling of the voter.

Elsewhere in this issue "Business" discusses in a very common sense some of the proposed establishable measures in action. His remarks are to the point, and will be read with interest. It is true some places have established banks and failed in making them permanent institutions, but as is pointed out, other towns and villages, some of them very impotent, have for years had successful, profitable, and much appreciated marks of operation. The Free Press will be pleased to have further correspondence on the subject from both farmers and citizens.

The Dental Association is circulating petitions throughout the provinces asking the Ontario Legislature to consider the question of the compulsory inspection of the teeth of the rising generation. It is alarmingly on the increase. Out of several thousand children examined in the public schools in several Canadian cities and towns—nearly five per cent had—would—teeth—the average number of decayed permanent teeth per child being six per cent, while nearly twenty per cent of those decayed teeth were past saving.

The Government of Ontario is to be commended for its timely action recovering the tract of 2,000,000 acres, or 8,000 square miles of forest lands, will be set apart as a forest preserve. It is north of Lake Nipissing. The land is unfit for agricultural purposes, but it is covered with a virgin forest of the finest white and red pines. It has already become a tourist's resort and is very popular's paradise. Another tract of 45,000 acres has been set apart in the township of Hilary, forty miles east of Fort Arthur. It was burnt over about thirty years ago and is now covered with young pine and spruce.

In a cause for damages brought against the corporation of Orillia last week by Rev. J. Lawrence, for injuries sustained by being tripped on a load plank in the sidewalk, Judge Hoy awarded \$60 damages and costs. In concluding his charge the judge said: "I may add that from common observation there are few cities, towns and villages in Ontario where similar accidents to this one may occur, but any accident, and where substantial damages will be recovered, is a serious corporation in consequence. The law very strict that when sidewalks or highways are put down or laid out for people to travel on, they must be properly constructed and kept in proper repair, otherwise the corporation are liable for accidents that may be the result of want of proper construction or proper attention after construction."

Our contemporary, the *Georgetown Herald*, will require to exercise close care over its correspondence letters and charges for libelous statements will be preferred. In particular, until the head of the Action Free Press, the following statement is to be made:

"An eastern town school teacher failed to return, and was released of his duties for a short time. The same ought to be practiced in this vicinity."

There was a grave insult to Action and to every school teacher in this vicinity, and an apology is due by the *Herald* and its correspondent for such a libellous statement. The loyalty of the teacher of Action and vicinity questioned! It is absurd. We are personally acquainted with every teacher within a wide radius of Action, and a more loyal, Queen-loving, country-humuring, well-wisher to the Empire do not exist anywhere. They are the worthy principals of our public schools, and a school teacher is like the ploughman who labours in the vineyard of the Master. Will the *Herald* and its correspondent make the amends demanded by the state dignity where the "same ought to be practiced in this vicinity," and not let all the members of an honorable profession,

GEN. CRONJE HAS SURRENDERED WITH 4000 TROOPS

Lord Roberts Gives Our Canadian Contingent Credit for Striking the Finishing Blow—3 Canadians Killed and 30 Wounded.

20 TRANSVAAL AND IN FREE STATE OFFICERS WERE CAPTURED

The Majuba Hill disaster has been avenged on its fifteenth anniversary by Lord Roberts with terrible interest, for compared with the victory at Majuba Hill there was a marked skirmish, though his troops were far reaching indeed.

The surrender of Cronje, the favorite of the Boers of the Transvaal, with a large part of his army and a number of heavy guns, will undoubtedly be a great blow to their cause, but it is too early yet to talk of the end of the war being in sight.

The part taken by the Royal Canadian Contingent in striking the final blow, to which part Gen. Roberts gives generous tribute in his despatches to the War Office, is a matter which must engender feelings of greatest pride for the courage and prowess of our Canadian boys. Their leadership and success under the personal observation of an experienced general such as Lord Roberts insures full of the future of Canada.

For the brave boys who fall in this battle and their dear ones at home we all mourn.

LONDON, Feb. 29.—The War Office received the following despatch from Lord Roberts yesterday:

"Received 11 o'clock, Tuesday morning—Urgent information furnished daily to me by the Intelligence Department, it became apparent that Gen. Cronje's force was becoming more depressed, and that the disposition of the troops and the division among the leaders were rapidly increasing. This feeling was doubtless accentuated by the disappointment caused when the Boer reinforcements which tried to relieve Gen. Cronje were defeated by our troops on Feb. 23."

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THE DOMINION LIFE AS-SURANCE CO.

Annual Meeting—The "Dominion" Reaches the Million Line.

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The seventh annual meeting of the Dominion Life Assurance Company was held at the head office in the town of Waterloo on Saturday, February 17th, at one o'clock p.m. The President, Mr. Jas. Innes, of Guelph, occupied the chair, and shareholders representing 2,000 shares of the capital stock were present.

The Managing Director, Mr. Thomas Hilliard, and the Directors' report and financial statement of which a synopsis follows, and the President moved the adoption which was carried unanimously.

The Board of Directors was re-elected with the addition of Mr. Fred. Colquhoun, Collector of Customs, Berlin.

The Directors' Report, after congratulating the shareholders on the exceptionally successful business of 1894, gave the figures in detail, of which the following is a summary: Insurance issued, \$100,000,000.

Decomitted funds, \$100,000,000.

Assets, \$11,000,000.

Surplus, \$1,000,000.

Dividends paid, \$1,000,000.

Capital stock, \$100,000,000.

Reserve fund, \$100,000,000.

Surplus, \$1,000,000.

Dividends declared, \$1,000,000.

Dividends paid, \$1,000,000.

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