

DIED.
Mrs. At Grimsby, Ind., on Tuesday, Dec. 16, General Knox is believed to have him as secure as Cronie at Perryburg.
KITCHENER'S QUIET PLANS.
London, Dec. 12.—The *Kitchener Standard* says the battle between General Knox and General De Wet continues, and that the "former change ground" has been left in definite information on the subject. It is due to the absence of telephone communication with the scenes of action.

While the War Office is most reticent on the subject, there are indications that the officials have received news suggesting British successes and that his successor is assured.

Lord Kitchener has already fulfilled his forecasts of a quiet winter. He has adopted a hostile style in his battleship despatches have declined in importance by day since he assumed the chief command, and a single sentence suffices for his official announcement that the last batch of British prisoners had turned up at Bathurst. Experts are pleased with the economy of words. They assert that Lord Roberts undeniably dignified the guerrilla warfare by devoting a long bulletin to it daily, and that Lord Kitchener is taciturn, but fully as safe in his operations as was every trooper in General Knox's army.

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Mr. and Mrs. John H. Barber were in Chicago on a brief visit during the week. Miss Mabel Grant has been busy enjoying a visit with friends in Toronto.

With sufficient enterprise the English League have engaged the Valley Glen Club and Mandolin Club for an entertainment next Tuesday night at the Town Hall. This will be the event of the season.

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The Action Free Press

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1900.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A special despatch from Shanghai announces that Li Hong Chang's Manchus Imperial Yild will be arrested by order of Field-Marshal Count Von Waldersee, on the charge of "communicating with the Japs."

Notwithstanding that the last meeting of the Council of State will be held Saturday evening the result is yet little indeed. Good men will no doubt present themselves to take the place of the present members who intend to decline to serve the public longer.

A number of existing electric railway companies and a number of companies intending to apply for incorporation at the coming session of the Provincial Legislature will ask for exemption from the statute prohibiting the running of the cars on the Lord's Day. These requests will be fought by the Lord's Day Alliance.

Mr. H. V. MacKinnon, whose name is very familiar in this country, has joined with a couple of other business men in Toronto, and offers the City Council, under the name of the Toronto Gas Co., to supply gas for lighting and illuminating at a price not to exceed 60 cents per thousand feet, and the quality of the gas to be prescribed by law. Toronto is now paying nearly double that figure.

Ontario has arranged to make a splendid exhibit of fruit at the Pan-American Exposition to be held in cold storage, these business men who intend to exhibit goods at the Buffalo exposition will be interested in knowing that the U. S. authorities neglected duty on the Ontario fruit exhibit. Exhibits for the Chicago World's Fair were entered free of duty.

The Canadian Magazine for December appears some interesting information and speculation as to what the population of Canada will be shown to be by the census of next March. Figures, which we are told were carefully prepared, are given showing growth in the Canadian cities during the past ten years to have been from a total of 500,000 to 1,000,000, or in other words, a gain of about forty-five per cent. "A rate of increase," the writer proceeds, "the total population of Canada in 1901 would be 6,031,549, the figures for 1901 having been 4,832,259."

The Imperial authorities have expressed a desire that Sir Wilfrid Laurier should attend the ceremonies in connection with the opening of the Confederate Australian Parliament, and it is now regarded as almost certain that the Premier of Canada will visit the antipodes. The Australian Parliament will be opened on May 1st by the Duke of York, and if Sir Wilfrid goes he will probably leave early in April, which would give him ample time to reach Sydney by the desired date. The Canadian Premier will probably return to Canada in company with the Duke of Edinburgh of York, and will thus be the first to welcome their Royal Highnesses to Canadian shores.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The Government is strong as when the House adjourned.

The elections in Huron and Yale-Cardiff completed the members of the House of Commons. The standing of the 215 members of the House of Commons is as follows:

Ottawa—Liberals 56, Conservatives 55; MacLean, South Huron, 14; elected as Liberal. McCarthy was selected against a Conservative and gave the Government support last session. Robinson, West Elgin, and Thoroton, West Durham, as Conservatives.

Quebec—Liberals 57, Conservatives 8; Nova Scotia—Liberals 16, Conservatives 6.

Prince Edward Island—Liberals 8, Conservatives 2.

Manitoba—Liberals 3, Conservatives 5; Manitoba—Patterson and Richardson.

Northwest Territories—Liberals 4, Conservatives 0.

British Columbia—Liberals 2, Conservatives 2; Independent 1, Ralph Scott.

The total showing is therefore as follows:

Liberals 129, Conservatives 81. Independents 3, total 212. The Liberal plurality over the Conservatives is 48. The Liberals have majorities in six of the eight provinces, the exceptions being Ontario and Manitoba. In Manitoba the case is doubtful, as the Conservatives have but one majority over the Liberals, while the two Independents will not often vote against the Government.

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