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ST. JOHN WEEKLY SUN.

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HISTORY OF THE ROCKWOOD BOG.

An Interesting Paper by Dr. Matthew on the Subject.

(From Daily Sun, November 4.)

At the Natural History rooms, on Tuesday evening, Dr. Matthew gave an account of the peat bog back of Rockwood, and the history of its growth. The bog is on the line of an old winter road running in a valley from the lower end of Lily Lake to the Drury farm on the marsh. The bog is at the summit of this valley. A description of the present vegetation on the bog was given and an account of the work of the park commissioners in digging peat there last winter, and later in cutting a drain to draw the water off the bog.

The cutting of this drain has revealed the structure of the bog and the processes through which it has reached its present condition.

When the glacier, which once covered the country had melted away, and when this district, then left mostly below the sea level, began to rise, this valley among others was raised above the sea, and the little hollows in it were occupied by ponds of brackish or fresh water. Beavers discovering this pond, resorted to it, and built a dam at the outlet. This raised the water, which, overflowing the flat land around, formed the foundation on which the bog afterward grew.

The beavers occupied this pond for a long period of time, until finally it became choked with decaying vegetation, due to the growth in the pond and the sticks and cuttings brought into it by the beavers. Either from the filling up of the pond or some other cause the beavers abandoned it, the dam fell into decay and the bottom of the pond became a marsh, covered by grasses and heath plants. This by degrees turned into a peat bog, and bog moss grew over its surface, and continued to build up the body of vegetation on the site of the beaver pond for many ages.

Suddenly from a change of climate or other causes the mosses ceased to grow and a forest of evergreens took its place. This of course indicated drier conditions than had existed before. After a period of years the forest suddenly disappeared and the growth of moss began again, indicating the return of a moist climate. The bog continued thus to grow for a considerable time, but the return of drier seasons brought in the forest again, and this continued, with occasional slight return of mossy vegetation, well down to the present time. The last few centuries, however, have been moist and cool, as is shown by the way in which the mossy growth of the open peat bog in the centre of the flat has invaded the forest growth along the margins.

The question arises as to what length of time was consumed in the accumulation of this mass of vegetable debris, which fills the little valley back of Rockwood. A rough estimate of this period may be obtained from the age of the trees which grow on the surface of the bog. At a point near the drain which the park commissioners had cut, grew an old cedar tree, which was overthrown by a gale this autumn. G. F. Fisher, one of the commissioners, was so obliging as to make sections of this tree so that Dr. Matthew was able to count the number of annual rings or layers, showing the growth of the tree since it first sprung up on the surface of the bog. The tree proved to be about 400 years old, yet its roots spread only to a depth of six inches in the top mould of the bog. If it be assumed that the rate of increase in depth of the material which forms the bog was uniform (and there seems to be no reason to suppose that on the whole it varied very much), a term of 6,000 years would have been required to build up the eight feet of peat which fills this valley. In this estimate we have assumed that the six inches of peat at the top is as dense as that below; but this is by no means the case, for on weighing the peat a foot down from the surface it was found to be at least a third heavier than that which covered the root of the cedar tree, and for this a proportionate increase in the number of years of growth of the peat deposit might be claimed.

It is evident that the growth of the trees in the cedar swamps is very slow, and is in keeping with the dwarfed condition of spruces, larches, etc., which grow out along the margins of the peat bogs, but their damp situation gives them immunity from the forest fires which sweep through the woods in this country, and enables them to outlive the brethren of more vigorous growth on the hills.

The relation of these trees to the bogs enables us to appreciate the great lapse of time which has occurred since the glacial period; and the record in the bogs themselves tells of the very considerable changes of climate that have occurred from time to time during these thousands of years, which to geologists are known as the recent period, and of which this bog-deposit marks a very considerable portion.

"Women are naturally incredulous," remarked the whist player. "That's contrary to the common impression." "I don't care; it's true. You never can make one believe you the first time you tell her what are trumps."—Washington Star.

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TAMMANY WINS.

VanWyck Elected Mayor of Greater New York.

Marcus A. Hanna to Serve as a Senator from Ohio.

The Contest in Massachusetts—The Republicans Carry Baltimore.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—Tammany's victory in the first municipal election in Greater New York is a sweeping one. The only question remaining to be settled at 11 o'clock is the one of the plurality by which the entire ticket, headed by Robert A. VanWyck, has carried the gigantic municipality. It can scarcely be less than 60,000 and may be larger than that.

VanWyck has polled a vote which falls possibly 40,000 under the combined vote of General Tracy (rep.), and Low (citizen's union).

The total number of votes cast was not far either way from half a million. The indications are that VanWyck received 210,000; Low, 145,000; Tracy, 100,000; and George, 15,000. The aggregate is swelled by a few thousand votes cast for Gleason, independent dem.; Saniel, socialist; and Wardwell, prohibition.

On the city ticket with VanWyck, Bird S. Coler is elected comptroller, and Randolph D. Guggenheimer, president of the municipal council; Chas. S. Fairchild, who was secretary of the treasury during Cleveland's first presidential term, and whom the Citizens' union put up for comptroller, did not hold the pace with Low. Abel P. Fitch, originally a republican and afterwards a democrat member of congress from a Tammany district of this city, was the republican nominee for comptroller. He is defeated by about the same vote as the head of his ticket.

The legislative branch of the city government is Tammany-democratic. It is a double headed body, one branch being the municipal council, consisting of the president and twenty-eight members, and the other, the board of aldermen, comprising sixty members.

The precise number of democrats chosen cannot be rated at the present writing. There appears to be a strong probability that the democrats have won a majority of the county and borough offices along with the municipal places.

The vote of VanWyck in New York county is approximately the same as was cast for Bryan in 1896, which was 135,624. General Tracy, republican, polled approximately 55,000 against McKinley's vote of 156,359 in New York county, while Low (Citizens' union) polled approximately 77,000, and George (Jefferson democracy), 12,000.

In Kings county, which includes the city of Brooklyn, the Bryan vote was 76,882, while VanWyck's will be almost the same.

Against McKinley's vote of 109,135, General Tracy polls approximately 35,000, while Low's vote is approximately 65,000.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—Rain, which prevailed generally all over the state, had the effect of keeping a great many of the country voters away from the polls. The result is apparent on the reduced majorities given in concededly republican districts to Wm. J. Wallace, the republican nominee for chief judge of the court of appeals, as compared with the pluralities by which the same districts were carried last year. In many instances the pluralities of a year ago are reduced nearly one-half, and in a few that have been reported is the falling off less than 25 per cent. Conceding to Judge Parker (democrat) the majority of 100,000 in Greater New York, it is probable that he has won in the state.

The returns for assemblymen are entirely lacking in the Greater New York district owing to the large number of candidates whose votes must be counted before the assembly nominees are reached and the results here will probably not be known until tomorrow. Outside of Greater New York, with thirteen districts to be heard from, despatches to the Associated Press show the election of sixty-one republicans and seventeen democrats. This, it is believed, insures the continuance of republican control of the the assembly, whatever may be the result in the Greater New York districts.

NEW YORK, Nov. 2.—It is estimated, upon the basis of the ballots already counted that VanWyck's total vote will be from 146,000 to 148,000 in Manhattan and Bronx, 78,0000 in the borough of Brooklyn, 8,500 in Queens, and 1,900 in Richmond, or, approximately, 231,000 votes in Greater New York. Low's vote will not be far from 152,000; Tracey's, 100,000, and George's, 16,000. The total, 499,000, will not be materially altered either way.

Gleason's vote and that of the socialist and prohibition nominees for the mayoralty will send the grand total above the half million mark.

VanWyck's plurality according to the estimate given above, will be 79,000. His vote in all the boroughs will be about 21,000 less than the combined votes of Tracy and Low. Judging by the vote in the presidential year, the adherents of the Citizens' Union candidate were drawn in the main from the republican party.

Perry Belmont was seen tonight and expressed unfounded joy at Tammany's victory. He said: "The democrats of Greater New York are to be congratulated. It is a triumph for the American rule of 'government by party' this time by the democratic party.

"It speaks for government by the plain people and for them. It declares for home rule, fireside rights and the freedom of our great city from intermeddling at Albany not peremptorily demanded by the state legislation. It reaffirms that faultless platform of measures and purposes asserted by your city convention and the perfect exposition thereof by Judge VanWyck in his letter of acceptance, both of which were not appreciated and emphasized during our campaign as they deserve to have been.

"The hour of triumph is for brave men, the hour of magnanimity. Notions of resentment and revenge are then swallowed up in victory. We are not tonight conquerors of our fellow citizens in the sence of subjugation by force; 'who overcometh by force hath overcome but half the foe.'

"The democracy has happily surmounted silly misconceptions, prejudice and passion. Mayor VanWyck has a gigantic task in hand. He will need the help of every well meaning democrat, some of whom were misled to vote for George or Low. They must and will be won back into the democratic organization. We have had enough and more than enough of misnamed democracy during the last half dozen years. With tomorrow's sun will dawn a new era—the democracy of Jefferson, regarding the rights of the many against the few who by legislation have usurped for themselves the wealth that belongs to all."

NEW YORK, 2.15 a. m.—Complete returns of the vote for mayor in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx give VanWyck, democrat, 142,958; Low, citizens' union, 77,120; Tracy, republican, 56,022. In the borough of Richmond, VanWyck's vote is 4,871; Low, 2,705; Tracy, 2,787. The net result of the changes in these figures as compared with earlier estimates is to reduce the plurality of VanWyck on the total vote in Greater New York to about 77,000.

BOSTON, Nov. 2.—At the annual state election today the republicans as usual swept the state by a substantial majority, electing their entire ticket, as well as three-quarters of the members of both branches of the legislature.

Last year the republicans after a vigorous campaign on national issues rolled up a vote of 258,000, but such was the lack of interest this year that the vote fell to 156,000, a plurality of 68,000 over Williams. The democrats, pursuing a more vigorous course, received 78,000 votes as compared with 103,000 last year, while the national democrats not only came within 1,000 of their vote of 14,000 last year, but actually made a gain of 1 per cent in ratio to the total vote of the state, and obtaining more than the necessary three per cent, will continue to hold a place on the state ticket. The prohibition and socialistic candidates split up the balance of the total vote.

There will be four less republicans in the 1898 house than in 1897. As the republican majority will be about 175, the few defeats will make no difference. The senate, however, will remain unchanged, thirty-five republicans and five democrats. John H. Sullivan in this city regained his seat as a member of the executive council, which has been occupied this year by Isaac B. Allen, the colored member.

The council thus returns to the old state of seven republicans and one democrat.

There was one congressional contest in the first district made necessary by the death of Hon. Ashley B. Wright, and here again the republican candidate, Hon. Geo. P. Lawrence, was successful.

CLEVELAND, O., Nov. 2.—The Leader says: Governor Bushnell has carried Ohio by a majority from 20,000 to 25,000. This insures the election of a republican majority in the general assembly and the return of Marcus A. Hanna to the U. S. senate. In this city and Cuyahoga county the republican ticket has a majority of from four to five thousand, and the three republican senators and republican representatives in the legislature are elected.

LINCOLN, Neb., Nov. 2.—Nebraska today renewed her allegiance to Fusion by electing three candidates on that ticket by pluralities ranging from ten to twenty-five thousand. Nothing like complete returns have yet been received.

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 2.—Today's municipal election resulted in a decisive victory for the democratic ticket, Mayor Mayburn. The official returns up to midnight, with but three precincts lacking, give Mayburn 2,100 plurality over Black, republican.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 2.—The republicans have elected their entire municipal ticket in this city and will control both branches of the city councils. They have also carried all three of the Baltimore legislative districts and the seat in the United States senate now filled by Arthur P. Gorman now hangs in the balance, so that a few votes may turn the scale. The contest for the legislature is close.

The republicans having nine "holdover" senators, their total on joint ballot would be 66, while the democrats would have but 63. The only chance then apparently left for the democrats is to elect 9 out of 14 new senators, in which event they will control the legislature and elect a United States senator by one vote.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 2.—Returns from the state are meagre and unofficial at this hour. These show that Shackelford, silver democrat nominee for clerk of the court of appeals, is leading Bailey, republican. The national democratic vote was light. Trustworthy figures will be late. A conservative estimate at 11 o'clock tonight places the majority of Charles P. Weaver, democratic candidate for mayor, over George D. Todd, the present incumbent, at from 3,000 to 3,500. The entire democratic ticket is undoubtedly elected with him.

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—Complete returns from all the counties of the state show a plurality for Alton B. Parker, democratic candidate for judge of the court of appeals, of 49,197. Parkers plurality in Greater New York is 127,133.

In the third congressional district, where a vacancy was occasioned by the resignation of Representative Wilson, republican, to become postmaster of Brooklyn, Edmund H. Driggs, democrat, has been elected over W. A. Predergast, republican, and H. C. King, independent democrat.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 3.—Kentucky wheels into the democratic column again by a majority of over 25,000. Reports from all over the state show that James E. Shackelford, silver democraticic nominee for appellate court clerk, will have fully 25,000, if not 30,000 majority, and that the silver democrats will have a majority of over twenty in the two houses of the general assembly. Louisville, that has not gone democratic for some time, gives Weaver, democrat, for mayor, about 2,500 majority, and with three exceptions the whole municipal ticket has been elected.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3. — The complete vote of Pennsylvania is as follows: For state treasurer, Beacom, republican, 334,537; Brown, democrat, 240,215; [illegible], prohibition, 116,153; Thompson, [illegible] dependent, 13,292. Beacon's plu[illegible] 124,281.

For au[illegible] general: McAuley, republican, [illegible]; Riter, democrat, 240,161, [illegible]hrop, prohibition, 55,889. McAuley's plurality, 140,531.

The total vote for state treasurer is 734,259, as compared with 767,807 in 1895 and 1,194,355 in 1896.

Dr. Swallow, the prohibition candidate, has a plurality of ten of the sixty-seven counties.

RICHMOND, V[illegible], Nov. 3.—The latest returns fr[illegible] yesterday's election in Virginia [illegible]ives the democrats all the senators elected and 94 and perhaps 95 mem[illegible]ers of the house. The republicans g[illegible] four, perhaps five, members of th[illegible] house, and the independents one member. The republicans made heavy gains in the southwest and in the valley.

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 3.—At both the republican and democratic state headquarters figures are being substituted for the claims of last night and today. Chairman McConville of the democratic state committee concedes the defeat of his state ticket, but states that they have reduced the republican plurality of 51,000 of last year by over one half.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—The Times says of the elections: "The victory of Tammany must be considered in connection with the great reaction of public opinion against McKinleyism. * * * It is not unlikely that Croker will now go in boldly for an alliance with populism, silverism and all the other forms of socialistic subversive diotrine which are spreading rapidly."

The Standard says: "To a disinterested spectator the manner of the contest conducted by the municipal reform party savors of sheer lunacy. Whether General Tracy or Mr. Low been unselfish and patriotic enough to retire, Tammany might have been defeated."

The Daily Mail, referring to the alleged deal between the New York republicans and Mr. Coker, says: "In our old fashioned English opinion the whole business is inconceivably mean and dirty; and the explanation is that America has not yet grasped the outlines of the meaning of patriotism."

BALTIMORE, Nov. 3.—The legislative situation in Maryland, as indicated by returns received up to midnight shows 43 democrats and 43 republicans in the lower house, with doubtful ones as follows: Montgomery, 1; Carroll, 1; Talbot, 1; Calvert, 2. The senate stands, 16 republicans to 9 democrats, with one Calvert in doubt.

BENIN CITY

Is No Longer the "City of Blood," for Things are Greatly Changed.

A despatch from Benin City, dated September 1, says: During the past few months an extraordinary change has taken place in the Benin country owing to the energy of Sir Ralph Moor and the protectorate officials stationed here, notably the late Captain Turner, Captain Roupell and Captain Carter. The country is entirely pacified, and this place—known only a few months ago as the City of Blood—is so safe that anyone can move about without escort. No trace now remains of the crucifixion trees and execution pits which were so conspicuous when the English expedition reached here last February. Instead, we have a British residency, a council of chiefs, and a regular postal service. The council of chiefs will in future administer local affairs. It will meet at regular intervals, and will be presided over by the British resident. As soon as the country settles down a big trade ought to result from the work of the past few months, especially in such commodities as palm oil, gum, copal, and rubber. The king never allowed trade in any article other than palm oil, a fetish juju being placed on all other articles. The reign of terror ceased the day the city was taken, and now there is every prospect of a very improved order of things. The matter has, however, been a most difficult one to handle. The garrison here consists of 100 Hausas with Maxims and 7-pounder guns and a rocket tube. Captain Roupell has been acting as resident since the death of Captain Turner, and Captain Carter commands the troops. We now have a fortnightly English mail, regular communication being kept up by runners between Sapele and this place. Golf links, too, have lately been established. The rainy season has begun, and bush travelling is very difficult and unhealthy.

THE BIG ASHLAND MILL.

(Fredericton Gleaner.)

As stated in a recent issue of the Gleaner, there is a probability of the large Ashland lumber mill being transferred to Fredericton. This mill is operated by a corporation composed of wealthy American capitalists. About 20,000,000 feet was the cut last year. That amount will be equalled if not exceeded every season, so it will be seen that the establishment of the mill in Fredericton will be a most valuable acquisition to the industries of the place. A Gleaner representative was informed on Saturday last by several well known lumbermen, among them a couple who lumber for the Ashland corporation, that the plant would be moved here in the near future, the site chosen being on the Simond's property, just below Upham's mill. It is no secret that operations in Ashland last year proved too expensive. There was a scarcity of water, which is the case every season in the vicinity of Ashland, and as a result most of the logs manufactured had to be twitched, which entailed a large outlay not calculated upon. By this process sand and small stones became imbedded in the logs, which ruined the saws. It is conceded by all lumbermen that the St. John river in the vicinity of Fredericton is one of the best streams in the country on which to build a saw mill. This fact was realized by Donald Fraser & Sons, who were not slow in procuring the site they now occupy, and unless the Ashland concern change their mind next summer will probably see them commencing building operations here.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure

GOVERNMENT DEFEATED.

The Newfoundland Opposition Carries the Colony.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Nov. 2.—The result of the election in Twillingate shows the contest there to have been one of the hottest ever held in the ancient colony. The government carried the constituency at the last election with a majority of 574, yet on this occasion they were able only to elect two of their men, and that by a liberal use of railway work and money. The vote stands: Bond (gov.), 1865; Brawnlin (gov.), 1683; Goodridge (opp.), 1674; Roberts (opp.), 1615; Morine (opp.), 1606; Tavener (opp.), 1447.

Morine will have a place in the new government and will be elected for one of the Bonavista seats.

Fogo goes to the opposition with 300 majority. The parties now stand: government, 13; opposition, 23.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Nov. 2.—Returns in the general elections have been received from all but two legislative districts. They show that the opposition party, headed by Sir James Winter, has carried 21 seats, the government candidates holding only 13. Hon. R. Bond, colonial secretary, has been re-elected in the Twillingate district, but his majority has been greatly cut down. The result for the remaining two districts will probably be known tomorrow; but, in any event, the Winterite opposition has won a sweeping victory.

The long deferred trial of the directors of the defunct banks was begun today before Sir David Patrick Chalmers, former chief justice of British Guiana, who came from England to conduct the proceedings, as the local judges were ineligible, because more or less interest in the defunct institutions.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Nov. 3.—Further returns in the general legislative elections show that the opposition party has carried the Burgeo district, thus winning twenty-two seats, as against thirteen by the government.

Today Sir James Winter, the opposition leader, waited upon Sir Herbert H. Murray, governor of the colony, to arrange for taking over the control of public affairs. Sir William Whiteway and his colleagues in the present ministry will probably resign within the next ten days.

The general feeling is that the financial status of the colony both at home and abroad will be strengthened by the change of government, the maladministration of the Whiteway party having damaged the colony greatly in all financial centres.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Nov. 4.—All the returns from the general assembly election are now in. The district of St. Barbe, the last to be heard from, has been won by Mr. Bradshaw, a member of the opposition party, by a majority of 256 over Mr. Parsons, editors of the Telegram, the government organ. This places Sir James Winter, the leader of the opposition party, at the head of a following of against thirteen followers of Sir Wm. against thirteen followers of Sir Wm. Whiteway, the present premier.

Fish has appreciated in value twenty cents per quintal in the local market, and a further advance is in prospect. This will tend to make the new government still more popular with the industrial classes.

There will be an immense demonstration tomorrow evening to welcome the victorious candidates on their return to this city.

PATENT REPORT.

Below will be found the only complete report of patents granted this week to Canadian inventors by the Canadian and United States governments through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, solicitors of patents and experts, head office 185 St. James street, Temple building, Montreal:

57,712—David A. Taylor, Black Cape, P. Q., bicycle brake.

57,765—Paul Hereng, Bruxelles, carburator.

57,833—Ed. Gaboury, Quebec, cabbage cutter.

57,844—Oscar Legros, North Bay, Ont., fare box.

57,845—J. E. Hutchinson, Montreal, paper file.

57,848—Jules Lacroix, Alexandrie, Ont., milk sterilizer.

57,852—Jos. Beauregard, St. Ple, P. Q., wire stretcher.

57,854—Victor Allard, Montreal, door stop and catch.

57,856—Michel E. Bernier, Montreal, smoke consumer.

57,867—John Bean and al, Montreal, churn.

57,868—Jos. B. Martel and al, Montreal, door step.

57,885—Wm. R. Boisvert, Quebec, ruler.

American Patents.

591,140—Jean Naud, Montreal, hydrant coupling.

591,888—J. B. E. Rousseau and al, Quebec, leather measuring machine.

592,440—Jos. Ouellette and al, St. Hyacinthe, stop motion for knitting machine.

He—My friend is opposed to everything English. She—Yes; I noticed that in his conversation.—Yonkers Statesman.