

THE ACADIAN

Calendar for October

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

WOLFVILLE, N. S., OCT. 30, 1885.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

Our readers will remember that the matter of Compulsory Education came up before the annual School Meeting in 1884 and on motion it was resolved to adopt the same in this section. We at the time expressed the opinion that, at least so far as this section is concerned, it would be useless to adopt such a resolution and gave our reasons for thinking so. In referring to the Treasurer's Report of the last annual School Meeting we find no reference whatever to the subject and there appears nothing upon the minutes of the meeting to show that the matter received any consideration whatever, so the section is in complete ignorance as to what has been done in the matter.

Perhaps the trustees would inform the newspaper through our columns whether they had endorsed the law in any one case. If so, how many? if not, why not? or if they found any occasion to do so.

THE JOHN KING AFFAIR.

As we anticipated, the trial of the cause of King vs. the Municipality of King's Co. has resulted in a verdict in favor of King, and proved the wisdom of the action of the municipal council in refusing to accept and adopt the report of their committee, who made investigation in the matter, as well as the legal opinion so freely expressed at the meeting of council. The council, acting upon their own judgment, and taking such a view of the case as any reasonable and sensible person would take, who was not actuated by interested motives, decided that rather than pay damages sustained by persons who were reckless enough to venture into unsafe localities without taking the least precaution to protect themselves, they would allow an action to be brought against them, so that the courts might decide the justness and legality of such claims. In the above cited cause the court has confirmed the opinions of the council, and the country has been saved some thousand dollars thereby, which should be a sufficient guarantee to the newspaper that so long as we have as efficient a council as we have at present, it will be quite safe to entrust the welfare of the county in their hands.

READING ROOM.

An institution much needed in Wolfville is a Reading Room, and we see no reason why it could not be had. The expense would not be large, and those are, we think, many young men who would willingly subscribe to a fund for that purpose. If somebody would only care to do the matter. Now that the cold weather is coming on and the evenings are growing longer among young men, and older men too, who have no occupation for the evening, will need some place to spend their time, and by a trifling expense a room could be provided and fitted up, and now the reading matter of all kinds is so cheap, books, magazines, and papers could be obtained by a trifling cost to individual persons. It is to the interest of parents who have sons growing up to see that they have some place to spend their evenings where they will not only be out of harm, but will be receiving at the same time a great deal of benefit. Newspapers are acknowledged to be the best educators of the people, and much information could be thus obtained by reading and discussing the different topics of the day. A debating club could also be formed in the same connection. We hope something of this kind will be started, and we will be only willing but pleased to do anything in our power to help it along.

BELIEVED ERGO BELIEVE.

Probably the most ridiculous practice prevalent in this part of the country is the carrying of revolvers. Almost any one you meet on the street can supply you with one, from the boy's 15 cent pistol, along through the school boy's \$1.50 "Robin Hood," 22, nickel plate, buck action, peep-sighter, to the more dignified "Red Jacket," 22, self cocker, patent throw-off, adjustable impression, compensating balance wheel, such like, combined water and steam gun; or perhaps a little worse, the "Zoll Dog." Old and young carry these playthings and upon the slightest provocation they are produced, loaded and cocked, and gaily flourished with the standard phrase, "Stop, or I'll bore you." This would'st noster so much of the things always missed fire, but people will feel with them till some day one of them will go off and poke some body's eye out or a nail some

glass, and the man who owns the gun will be in for a bill of damages. So long as the good old-fashioned custom of going away back in the woods where nothing can possibly get harmed (save that perhaps a hulless percentage now and then may start to get out of the way and run against the shot) is kept up it is all right, but when it comes to playing around the public streets with revolvers when it is the done season for humans it is time something was done.

PRESIDENTIAL.

A very pleasing event occurred in our school last Tuesday. Miss Carrie E. Parsons, the popular teacher in the intermediate department of that institution, was made the recipient of a handsome silver case-hatbox and a dozen silver knives—the whole amounting in value to about \$13.00. This must be very gratifying to Miss Parsons, and from what we know of the recipient we can truly say she richly deserves it. She has taught in our school for five years and a half with marked ability and satisfaction to all concerned. Her retirement from the position which she has so worthily held will cause a vacancy not easily filled. Below is the address presented by her pupils:

Dear Miss Parsons—We are with great regret to learn that you are about to leave us. During the years you have been with us, we are truly sorry that we have been largely benefited by your instruction and your kindness. The zeal and earnest endeavor you have shown to promote our well-being will never be forgotten by us, and should we have appeared careless and disinterested to your commands, we feel that we will never have another teacher like you.

We cannot allow you to get away from us without bidding you a fond token of our regards. We would respectfully ask you to accept the accompanying present as a small expression of the estimation we have for you, and would humbly ask that you would accept it as a token of our esteem. They are an unhappy kind of people. They grumble all day, and even in sleep you will hear them shouting. Grieffully discontented with everything, or grumblers to that effect. Nothing pleases them. They don't see any beauty in the world, nor any good in man. They want to be Christians, because some people tell them to be. And they are as particular in keeping account of the inconsistencies of other as Heaven's errant angel was ever on earth.

They are fond with anything from 1877 to the last spike on the Canada Pacific Railway. They like grumblers and I hope I always will. If the experiences of this life will be repeated in the next, we can anticipate some of the entertainment of an unhappy world for us that grumblers must grumble still. But there is no need of grumbling. Compensations are as plenty as afflictions. You may not exactly and yourself, but who does? If your eyes are not a fashionable color, or your nose low-down your chin, or up into your hat, you needn't be afraid, for there are lots of people haven't eyes, and their noses look something else, and have enough besides. If you are homely, your mother loves you. The winters may be frosty, but they always have a Christmas. The think of what you have, and not about what you haven't. You need not take the small-pox while it's in town; get vaccinated and convalesced and wait it comes. Death is not the worst thing that can happen to you anyway, but doctors will not let you die if they can keep you languishing. It is wicked and mean to grumble. It isn't nice indulgence, as not to feel it, and your mind will change if you do. It will not take you to heaven or to parliament, nor keep your friends from joyfully welcoming morning for you. If it had been intended for people to grumble, they would have been constructed with a faculty for improving more delightfully and interestingly.

W. K.

A lecture by the celebrated Joseph Cook was announced for the 26th instant. As a natural result the public were for some time on the tapis of expectation. Monday evening at length came and Assembly Hall was soon filled with a large, appreciative and intelligent audience eager to hear the deliverance of so noted a man upon a subject in which no man can fail to take a lively interest—"God in Natural Law."

Whether all in this assembly expected to be able to follow the lecture through the thread of his high argument, we do not pretend to determine. Certain it is that the man's enthusiasm was manifested as Mr. Cook took his seat upon the platform. He was the cynosure of all eyes, and there was no one so sluggish as not to feel a deep interest in him who, with so fine a reputation, was about to discourse on a theme so high. The opening sentence of the lecture, "The north star stands above Brandon, where is scope?" caught the attention of one, and for an hour and a half half-a-dozen people had, perhaps, no thought but the sound and nervous periods of the lecturer.

We do not propose to criticize either the matter or the execution of the address. There is something about the man that deserves criticism. His theme lives and burns within him. His words coming as they do from the heart find the deepest passage to the heart. His thoughts almost always clear and strong as a consequence of his training. His mind, piercing and analytic, leads weaker and less cultured minds through paths leading with syllogisms to the high ground of conviction and reality. At times when he turns aside from the main subjects to touch upon some beautiful vocabulary his language and thoughts become intensely elevated and spiritual.

When he indulges his imagination the listener is glad to the extreme. He carries you with him above the valleys and mountains into scenes of infinite beauty. His thoughts almost always clear and strong as a consequence of his training. His mind, piercing and analytic, leads weaker and less cultured minds through paths leading with syllogisms to the high ground of conviction and reality. At times when he turns aside from the main subjects to touch upon some beautiful vocabulary his language and thoughts become intensely elevated and spiritual.

In judging of Mr. Cook's efforts we should not forget that a man ought not to stand or fall by one lecture, and that the theme is often greater than the man. We may add, too, that metaphysics is not the palladium men crave most. Almost without exception those who heard Mr. Cook on Monday night heard him for the first time, and upon

stand of applauding with the hands and feet, quietly rose and bowed their approbation, which we acknowledged in the same manner.

The next morning we spent in visiting Rosedown Palace, which contains a singular collection of the kings of Denmark, from the fourteenth century to the present time. It is a complete royal museum and contains many quaint and valuable articles, including portraits, arms and jewelry of the Danish monarchs. The contents of this building are said to represent more wealth than all the rest of the city. The few hours we spent in viewing this palace were among the most interesting I had spent since leaving home. The afternoon and evening we spent to Good Templary, the order in whose interests we crossed the Atlantic.

The next day we secured passages on the good Daniel S. H. Stevens, and about 5 p.m., having said our goodbyes to our kind Danish friends, we were steaming toward the Sound, and before dark had passed the day of Elsinore, which contains the well-known castle of Kronborg, in which the Princess Caroline Mathilde, sister of George the Third of England, was incarcerated for a short time. Near the city the Danes, with their uniform pageants, have planned the tomb of Hamlet. The gallant representatives of the nations for King, who made our steamer, laughed heartily when he told us about it and said that we English were easily humbugged. Early Sunday morning we passed through the English fishing fleet, and about 7 p.m. were safely anchored in the Thames, abreast of Greenwich. Next morning we steamed slowly up the river, and shortly after noon were safely quartered in the comfortable hotel of our old friend, Mr. Samuel Hunt, whom we had met in Halifax in '83, and whose kindness during the forepart of our cruise in him, I will ever greatly remember. While in London, through the influence of Mr. E., I was invited to visit the House of Commons, and had the pleasure of hearing the famous Charles Stewart Powell address the House at some length. The Inventor's Exhibition was the principal attraction while I was in the City, and I spent part of three days in viewing it, and regretted that I had not more time as my disposal to see it more thoroughly. During each evening the buildings and grounds, including the fountains, were beautifully illuminated by electric light. The effect of the many lights of various hues thrown on these fountains surpassed the finest physical exhibition I had ever witnessed.

On the 30th August I left Liverpool in the *Sovereign* for Rangoon, at which place, after a pleasant passage of some nine days, we arrived about 2 a.m., on the morning of the 6th of September, and now began the most unpleasant part of our cruise. About 9 o'clock we found ourselves in a contemptuous apology for a first class inn, through the windows of which smoke and candlelight abated freely and very soon the air was in a stifling state. In this our both first and second class passengers were accommodated, if accommodation I can call it. Most of our passengers had but little sleep the night before and would fain have enjoyed a nap of an hour or so in the early morning, but were wakened by a drowsy attendant, who, with his two under-sleepers, entered the car, opened the window opposite the smoke and fume of their pipe, and proceeded to enjoy themselves. Our lamps were not much improved on finding a fourth class inn which composed our train, two others one of which was occupied by Sir Charles Tupper and family, and the other by a prominent official of the I. C. R.

At Campbelton we got rid of our fare and our conductor, and for the rest of the journey the train officials were courteous and obliging. Sir Charles Tupper had a visit during the morning, and seeing the discomforts of the passengers, kindly invited the first class passengers to share his cabin, to dinner in his car. We arrived in Madras about midnight, tired, sick, dirty, and complained that the charges of management against the I. C. R. were not unfounded.

After dinner our old friend and guide took us in charge to show us the sights of this truly beautiful city; first taking us to *Thackeray's Museum*, which is at once the museum and museum of the world renowned antiquary, General Thackeray. Here are stored many of his best works and the original plaster models of most of the remainder. There also may be seen many of his personal effects, including his art gallery and collection of curiosities. The building, which is quadrangular in form, encloses a court yard, in the center of which the artist is buried; his tomb bearing the simple inscription: "General Thackeray, born Nov. 27, 1811; died Sept. 24, 1863." After leaving the museum we visited the Faubur Kirke (Our Lady's Church), for the purpose of examining the status of the Jewish cemetery, excavated in marble, and the plaster models of which we had seen in the museum. These, like all the works of that eminent artist, are well worth a visit. The remainder of the afternoon we spent in strolling through the city, and walked steadily by the door of the King's Palace without being challenged or disturbed, or questioned. Late in the evening, however, came a moment of misunderstanding. I entered a hotel for the purpose of getting shaved, but the manager, with a rather ungracious "No," declined to perform the operation. I went out in somewhat of a fury, and the scene was often greater than the man. I soon found a true knight and the minor and major stepped into the same bath, the operator using a sponge instead of a brush.

The evening was spent by Right Worshipful Temple Lane and myself in visiting a Lodge of the I. O. G. T., at which I noticed a custom which might be adopted with advantage in this country. We both addressed the members, and at the close of each address the members, al-

most all applauding with the hands and

feet, quietly rose and bowed their approbation, which we acknowledged in the same manner.

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