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TUESDAY, MAY 13th, 1884.

BETTER TIMES COMING.

When the Marysville cotton mill is running at full force, when the Miramichi and the Central Railways are completed, and the coal fields of Grand Lake developed, when the fertile lands on the head waters of the St. John are occupied, why should not Fredericton be a smart and thriving town? Of course when we say Fredericton we mean its suburbs as well. Really the future does seem hopeful, that is to say there are elements of prosperity out of which the enterprise of our citizens may evolve something greatly to their advantage. And if, as is more than likely, the United States markets are opened, free of duty, to our lumber and farm produce, our little city ought to be able to hold up its head with the best of them. We have already demonstrated the advantages of the city as a distributing centre for trade, and as a site for extensive manufacturing industries, and if our people will only keep pace with the progress which the country will make in spite of adverse circumstances, some of the hopes which have been cherished as to the prosperity which the future has in store may yet be realized. There is a better time coming for Fredericton, for even now influences are at work which must give an impetus to the business of the place. Let the people cultivate a spirit of hopeful confidence, let them remember that the source of our present and prospective business lies in the development of the St. John Valley, let them be as enterprising as their means will permit, and brighter days will not be long coming.

Confederation, it has been said, enlarged the ideas of our people. It certainly did so thus far that it led them to overlook everything near at hand, and to trust to the great things which were being done far away. We have seen a railway being built across the prairies and through the mountains, and without stopping to think what benefit it could be to us, we have said it was very good. We have seen millions spent in the Northwest, and have grown enthusiastic over it, never waiting to take in the fact that our share of the business consisted in paying our share of the cost. We have been looking to the distant and to the future, rather than at home and to the present, for the springs whence prosperity would flow. This has been a mistake and people are generally beginning to see it. The more they appreciate the fact that Confederation did not alter a single geographical fact and that now as much as ever the future of the province depends upon the utilization of its internal resources, the sooner will better times come.

MARITIME UNION.

Our Ontario contemporaries are booming Maritime Union. The Ottawa Free Press is the last paper to speak of it, and it says:—
The Lower Province papers are again discussing the question of Maritime Union. This is an epidemic which breaks out among them every two or three years; but which so far has never produced any result. Why this should be the case it is somewhat difficult to see, for looking at the matter from this distance it would appear that a legislative union of the Maritime Provinces would conduce greatly to their benefit. Their interests are identical, and it looks like a farce for less than a million of people trying so closely together to support three legislatures, and three civil services.
So far as we can judge, not many persons in New Brunswick have given the subject anything like serious consideration. We are told that in some parts of Nova Scotia there is quite a strong feeling in favor of a Legislative Union of the three provinces; but if any such idea has a foothold in New Brunswick; it has yet to make itself felt. We are far from saying that under no circumstances would such a Union be desirable; but we do say that it would be a difficult matter to persuade the people of New Brunswick into it. They do not know as much about Nova Scotia as they do about Massachusetts, and confederation has not developed the slightest feeling of fellowship between the two provinces. The people of neither province know the

public men of the others, and they know even less about the local peculiarities of laws and methods of administration. This is perhaps exactly as it ought not to be yet so it is, and there is no getting over it. If we have any apostles of Maritime Union amongst us, they are making slow progress in the way of converting the people, and if they hope to even bring the matter about, the first thing they ought to do is to tell the people of New Brunswick something about the people of Nova Scotia.

The great point which the advocates of the Maritime Union make is the expense of maintaining three separate legislatures, but that to our mind is the most unimportant consideration involved. Of course it is well to save money; but economy may be practiced to the sacrifice of more important interests. Nature made the three provinces separate, and as at present advised, we would say let them remain so. The Bay of Fundy and the Straits of Northumberland are fixed facts, and for the purposes of local administration it is useless to pretend they can be ignored.

We can assure the Free Press that the "epidemic" is of the mildest possible type, and that the probability of a Maritime Union being formed is as remote to day, and indeed very much more so, than it has been at any time since 1867.

FRANCE EXCITED.

The Paris press anticipates a return of the Commune. The Republic has in some respects been a failure, the malcontents have obtained the upper hand at the Municipal elections, and the result, it is thought, will be confusion. Why the Commune should come again, what is to be gained by burning public buildings and wasting private property, why the populace should seek to replace even a poor government with anarchy, we do not pretend to know. We only know that the best informed French journals say that danger is ahead, some of them even saying that it is to take the form of a revolution. "It is no use to look for a noon at two o'clock," says one of them, meaning that the hour, in which the rising influence of Communism could be checked is past and the era of confusion is inevitable. The Empire was a failure, the Monarchy was a failure, and now the Republic is proclaimed a failure, and indeed they all have been in one sense grievous failures. "What then remains," ask the Communists, "but anarchy? We have tried all kinds of governments and they have failed; let us have no government, it cannot lead to anything worse than failure." The peril of France seems to lie in the fact that there is no man who is qualified to guide the state in this crisis. Out of the last reign of the Commune, Thiers led the nation, and when death called him away, Gambetta's strong hand kept the helm steady. But Gambetta has gone and in the weak hands of his successor the Republic has been drifting, and if we are to believe those who ought to know, is already caught in the currents whose certain course is towards the breakers of confusion, violence and bloodshed. Time was when the representative of the Bonapartists would have seized the opportunity to restore the fortunes of his family; but Prince Jerome is unequal to the occasion. He now and then delivers himself of platitudes about Republicanism, but what the French people want is not an adviser but a leader. They get plenty of advice from men who mean what they say, and their meaning is full of mischief, but the advice of the Bonapartists is words and nothing more. As for the Bourbons they seem to have dropped out of the nation's memory. They certainly have not justified their adherents' hopes. And so it is said that the Commune must come. Not that any one really wants the Commune, except the turbulent spirits who lead the revolutionary party. The five million farmer voters do not want it. The hundreds of thousands in trade do not want it. The upper ten thousand know it means untold suffering for them. Yet they all see danger ahead, and all await welcome it, so unprepared and unable are they to resist it. Perhaps knowing that the crash is inevitable they are anxious to have it over as soon as possible.

Not France alone is interested in the impending outbreak. Spain is honey-combed with socialism, and so are Germany and Austria. The fire that is kindled in Paris may spread to Madrid, to Berlin and Vienna. One cannot tell. The long deferred struggle between

Imperialism and Socialism may be nearer at hand than we think, and the mutterings of the storm, which are now heard in Paris, may be only the beginning of a tempest which will envelope all Europe in its black destructive fury.

THE RELIEF OF KHARTOUM.

And so after all England will send an expedition for the relief of Khartoum. A force of 8000 men, part of which will be from the Indian Army, will start for the Upper Nile in July. England seems to be borne along in this matter by an irresistible current of events, and one is tempted, after recalling all the circumstances which have led up to the determination to undertake military operations at Khartoum, to believe that there is a destiny in the Egyptian problem which no statesmanship can avert. Indeed with Stanley penetrating by way of the Congo into the heart of the Continent, and a British force to proceed up the Nile, it looks as though the hour for the opening of Africa to the world had struck.

Much complaint has been made as to the hesitation which Gladstone has evinced in ordering an expedition to relieve General Gordon; but it ought not to be forgotten that Gordon went to Khartoum expressly for the purpose of rendering an expedition unnecessary. His mission was emphatically to be one of peace, and he inaugurated it by a series of proclamations, justifiable only on the supposition that they would prevent any necessity for bloodshed. But he seems to have either misconceived the character of the situation which he was called on to deal with, or overestimated his own influence and ability. Perhaps he erred in both ways. He has done good by going to Khartoum, because he has unquestionably saved that city from falling into the hands of El Mahdi; but the question is, now that he has got there, how is he to get out again? The plan for the evacuation of the Sudan has so far been a complete failure, and it remains to be seen whether it will be any easier to abandon the country after a British force has occupied Khartoum than it is now. It may be that the result of the despatching of this expedition will be the construction of a railway up the Nile Valley, and the maintenance of a British garrison in the interior long enough to quiet the country, and that an effect will be permanently. While the task of controlling the Sudan would be much more difficult than that of subduing India, it is by no means impossible. No one can fully grasp the full significance of the order that Khartoum is to be relieved.

FREDERICTON'S CENTENNIAL.

The proper centennial of Fredericton will occur next year although it was not until 1788 that the Capital of the Province was removed from St. John to our city. It was in 1785 that the town plot was surveyed and the Ackerman grant issued, and during the Summer of that year the grantees began to enter into possession of their lots. Of the terrible hardships of their first winter, when many of the settlers were simply housed in tents, scarcely a recollection remains, so careless have our people been to preserve memorials of the past. But these pioneers founded Fredericton in that year and in 1786 the work of erecting buildings proceeded rapidly. The old Fisher house on Negro Hill was built in 1785 or 1786, and the old Ackerman House at the lower end of Queen Street was put up in 1787, as near as we can learn. A story is told that when Ackerman was building the house some one asked him what he was putting up a house so far away in the woods, most of the settlers being located at the lower part of the interval. His reply given in jest was "I am building it for the Governor;" and within a year his words were justified. There were houses on the town plot before 1785. The house adjoining the Bishop's residence and overlooking the Cathedral Green was built several years before, and is shown upon the oldest plans of the city extant, and a house stood down near King Street ends, and there was another house and an old clearing near where the old windmill used to stand at the west end of Queen Street. Military officers had houses on the town plot also; but these formed only the settlement at St. Ann's point; Fredericton did not begin to be until 1785.

Clearly, if we are to celebrate our Centennial, next year is the time when we ought to do it. Who will take the lead?

Can any one suggest a better name than that of Mayor Fenety? If so, let the name be told. For our part, His Worship seems to be the right man in the right place, the very man to head the celebration movement. Let the good work begin as soon as possible, for there is much to do to secure a successful occasion. What says our indefatigable John H. Reid? Will he undertake to put up an Exhibition Palace? What say the Local Government, will they help us to hold an Exhibition? It is time to be moving if anything is to be done. A year is not a long time in which to get ready.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Sir Leonard Tilley is following up his scandalous advance of \$300,000 to the Exchange Bank, when he knew it was bankrupt, by insisting that it shall be paid as a preference claim. It is said that this will reduce the dividend of private depositors and note holders to ten cents on the dollar.

Canada is interested in the fact that while the export of wheat from America to England is decreasing, that from India, Russia and Australia is increasing. Protectionists in America have made it so expensive to raise and haul the wheat crop that the eastern countries can pay a higher freight and drive American wheat out of the market.

The contract has been signed by Messrs. Erastus Wiman and Norwin Green for the construction of that portion of the Short Line Railway between Oxford and New Glasgow, N. S., and Canso and Louisburg. The subsidies are equal to \$20,000 per mile. The contractors also receive the Eastern Extension Railway lately acquired from Nova Scotia by the Federal Government.

The United States Government finds itself in a very undignified position. It has had a difficulty with Turkey about the punishment of some persons who murdered American citizens. The American Consul demanded that the murderers should be punished; but Turkey treats the matter with indifference. The U. S. naval squadron was then ordered to Constantinople, but the Sultan says that he will not let the vessels pass the Dardanelles, and as they are nothing but old wooden ships and the Turkish navy is very formidable, the American Admiral will probably stay where he is. This is a different story from that which was told when Disraeli ordered the British fleet to pass the Dardanelles and anchor in the Golden Horn.

Paris supports seventy newspapers, some of them having a very large circulation. At the head of the list comes *Le Petit Journal*, with a circulation of over 593,000. Its next competitor is *La Petite République* which boasts of 198,000 circulation. *Le Moniteur*, called sometimes the Paris Thunderer, issues 25,000 copies, and the *Journal des Debats*, the real leader of the French press circulates only 10,000. *Figaro*, the most enterprising paper of them all, issues 80,000. It is interesting to compare these figures with those of the New York press. The *Herald* claims a daily circulation of about 120,000 and the *Sun* about the same. The other papers are away in the rear. It would therefore appear as though the Parisians were greater readers than the New Yorkers.

At the top of the list in circulation stands the *London Telegraph* with over 600,000. The *Times* falls very far short of this. In Canada the *Toronto Globe* claims the largest circulation, about 24,000 copies daily.

Our rose-colored neighbor has discovered that the Opposition in Parliament is weak in debating talent. No doubt our neighbor believes this. It is so deliciously fresh that it will believe anything. But what are the facts. The Opposition contains Blake, who is unquestionably the finest orator in Canada, Cartwright, a master of financial questions, and a powerful speaker; Mackenzie, who if his voice is restored, is the keenest debater in Parliament; Charlton, Paterson, Gillmor, Weldon and others who might be named, all able to do yeoman's duty in any discussion which arises. Now take the Government side, and what sort of a showing does it make now that "Lupper is gone"? Sir John is not a debater, Tilley is not, Langevin is not, Costigan is not, Thomas White can give some hard blows and take them very well; but who else have they? Not Foster, with his winy harangues, not

Wood, not even Temple. The truth is that for so large a party the poverty of speaking talent in the ministerial ranks is phenomenal. They have scarcely a man left who can defend them against a spirited attack, and no one who can carry the war into the enemy's camp.

The *Moncton Times* feels compelled to say that, "it will be well for the country if Mr. Blake is never called upon to 'take office.'" That settles it. Mr. Blake will at once retire into private life. The *Moncton Jupiter* has shaken his ambrosial curls and given a nod, and there is the end of the matter. Readers of the *Times* will appreciate with what regret it has promulgated this opinion. "We cannot close this article without expressing the opinion that it will, &c." This is the language of a man who has striven hard to be merciful; but finds at last that he must permit the blow to fall. There is one thing which strikes us as very singular about this business. Notwithstanding the fact that the *Times* and its fellow Tories have between them made out that Mr. Blake is useless, foolish and politically dead and buried, they keep on belaboring with leading editorials as though their salvation depended upon it. The truth of the matter is, they see that Mr. Blake is gaining a strong hold upon the public mind every day, and their only hope of retarding his success consists in raising all manner of false cries and making all manner of false representations about him. But they will have their labor for their pains.

Yesterday's Despatches.

New York, May 11.—The New York *World's* despatch says that preparations for a relief expedition to Khartoum are being accelerated with new vigor. It is now decided that the expedition will start in July. The strength of the force has not yet been determined, but will probably number 8,000 men, including an Indian contingent. The intelligence department of the war office has instructed the authorities at Cairo to send a survey, the office to report upon the relative advantages of the routes by way of Suakin and by way of Massowah. From this it is inferred that there will be two lines of operations; that the main expedition will proceed up the Nile and the other up the Red Sea. A camel depot has been established at Assuan, and camels are being collected in considerable numbers. Col. Arden is at the head of the committee at Cairo, to which has been intrusted the storage of water for the desert routes.

A cablegram to the New York *Tribune* says that Gladstone's two statements in the Commons respecting the European conference have created grave apprehension. They are believed to indicate the readiness of the Government to abandon the original purpose to confine the conference to Egyptian finance, and to allow France to open the whole Egyptian question and submit a proposal for England and the responsibility and shifting the burden upon European shoulders. This is regarded as an invitation to France to push her pretensions. It is certain that France has not withdrawn her claim to protect her own interests of every kind in Egypt before the conference, yet Gladstone announces that every power except Turkey has accepted invitations. It implies that he himself, acquiesced in the French conditions.

Cairo, May 10.—Government messengers sent to Gen. Gordon from Dongola have returned to that place, having been unable to enter Khartoum.

Cairo, May 11.—Attempts are now being made to send messengers to Gen. Gordon by all routes, including Massowah, with Earl Grantville's message of April 24, asking Gordon how many troops he requires, but not positively promising assistance. Outbreaks between the soldiers and natives are of daily occurrence. On Friday, a fight including a number of English soldiers and a number of Bedouins from Lake Mareotis, in which several were killed. The Arabs around Assuan have received a message from El Mahdi and threaten to revolt. Osman Digma has received an order from El Mahdi directing him to capture Dongola and then march into Upper Egypt. It is stated that Zobeir Pacha has declared that he will not rest until he has killed Gen. Gordon. It is rumored here that Gen. Gordon had under consideration the propriety of abandoning Khartoum on the 15th of last month.

CONTRACT FOR SCHOOL BUILDING.

TENDERS will be received at the office of the Board of School Trustees, Fredericton, until noon on **WEDNESDAY, 24th inst.**, for the

ERECTION OF A BRICK SCHOOL HOUSE,

On Charlotte Street, Fredericton, according to Plans and Specification to be seen at the office of Messrs. J. C. Dumaresq and H. H. Mot, 51 Prince William Street, St. John, and the office of the Trustees, Fredericton. Satisfactory security will be required for the due performance of the contract. The lowest, or any tender, not necessarily accepted.

CHAS. A. SAMPSON, Secretary.
JULIUS L. INCHESTER, Chairman pro tem.
Office Board School Trustees, 13 ins.
Fredericton, May 9, 1884.

OILS!

Just Received and in Stock.
LARD OIL, Lubricating Oil, Heavy Machine Oil, Fish Oil, Wood Oil, Pale Seal Oil, Fish Oil, for sale at the lowest wholesale rates by
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HOT AIR FURNACES!

Always in stock. Furnaces fitted up in the most thorough and workman-like manner.
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For Horses, Cattle, Sheep & Swine.



It has no equal in curing Horses of the several ailments to which they are subject. For COUGHS, COLDS, ROUGHNESS, THE HAIR, BOTTS SCURVY, &c. It is palatable, and administered in smaller doses, acts as a Tonic, resulting in a healthy condition and fine appearance of the animal. It is also equally beneficial to CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE. For sale everywhere.

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EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

FREDERICK P. THOMPSON, of the City of Fredericton, in the County of York, Merchant, have by the last Will and Testament of the late JOHN PICKARD, Esquire, deceased, been appointed Sole Executor, and have only proved the said Will. All persons indebted to the Estate of the late JOHN PICKARD are hereby notified to make immediate payment to me at my office in Fredericton, and all persons having claims against the said JOHN PICKARD are requested to present the same to me, and to be paid within two months from this date. Dated the 25th day of March, A. D. 1884.

FRED. P. THOMPSON,
Executor, &c. of John Pickard, deceased.



YARMOUTH, N. S., Oct. 15th, 1882.

To Messrs. BENNETT & HEBBORN, 43 Horsefield Street, St. John.

Dear Sirs,—I desire to express my feelings of profound gratitude to you who have helped me so much by the use and application of your wonderful medicine. I was sick about two years and spent a large sum of money, but received very little benefit, until I tried your medicine. When I commenced using it this summer I could scarcely walk across the floor. I had such a weakness across me, and now I can walk a mile at a time and attend to household duties, and feel only too glad to recommend this truly great treatment to any person or persons who may be afflicted as I was. You are at liberty to use any disposition of this that you may deem proper.

MRS. R. HIBBARD.

Remedies can be bought any time from GEORGE H. DAVIS, who is the agent at Fredericton.

REMOVED!

JOHN RICHARDS & SON
HAVE REMOVED THEIR
Railway Ticket Office
AND INSURANCE ROOMS TO
RICHARDS' BUILDING,
THREE DOORS ABOVE GEO. HATT & SONS,
Fredericton, April 22, 1884.

STEEL PLOUGHS.

I have 200 Steel Ploughs which I will sell at a liberal discount to close the lot out.

April 16, 1884.
JAMES S. NEILL.

GEO. W. SCHLEYER,

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Is prepared to attend to the wants of everybody wanting a Good Picture. Call and be satisfied.
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A one and a half story framed Cottage, situate in St. Mary's, below mouth of Nashwaak, on the river bank. The house is new and finished throughout, all necessary out buildings. There is a large garden (freedhold) attached. Apply to
J. H. BARRY, Barrister.
Fredericton, May 8th, 1884.

Jeremiah Harrison & Co.

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Wholesale only at Nos. 11 & 12 NORTH WHARF
OATS, CORN, BRAN, SHORTS AND
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St. John, May 8th, 1884.