

THE SATURDAY GAZETTE, ST. JOHN, N. B.

THE SATURDAY GAZETTE

Published every Saturday Morning, from the
Office No. 24 Chatterbox Street.
JOHN A. DOWNS, Editor and Manager.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JAN. 14, 1884

The SATURDAY GAZETTE is the only Saturday
paper in the Maritime provinces, devoted ex-
clusively to family and general matters.It will be sent to any address in Canada or the
United States, on receipt of the subscription price,
\$2.00 per annum; 20 cents for six months.Contributions to all subjects, in which Cana-
dians are interested, will always be welcome. Cor-
respondents will be obliged to make their articles
as brief as the subject will allow and to send them
particularly requested to write on one side of the
paper only. The writer's name and address must
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will be returned to the writer.We want agents in every town in New
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your name and address plain on a postal card
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cellent medium for reaching their customers in all
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GAZETTE is TWO cents a copy, and it may be
had at that price from all Booksellers and News-
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Publishers on the street on the day of publication.Address all communications to
THE SATURDAY GAZETTE,
ST. JOHN, N. B.Advertisers desiring changes, to ensure
insertion of their papers in THE GAZETTE
of the current week, will be obliged to
have their copy at the office of publication
by Thursday noon.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Breton Mills which we will
commence next week is one
of the most interesting tales of
American life ever written.
It should be read by all.During the year 1887 nearly 13,000
miles of railroad were built in the United
States. This is about five times the dis-
tance from here to San Francisco. In
1880 there were built only 23 miles, and
as many miles of rails were laid last
year as were laid from the year 1880 till
1884.The government of Quebec has re-
ceived a loan of \$1,000,000 in France. It is
about time that Quebec and her loans
were shut down upon. It seems to make
very little difference whether a Conser-
vative or Liberal administration governs
this province, loans are always in en-
dang. By and by repudiation will come, and
the credit of the whole of Canada there-
by injured.The following brief note from the Bos-
ton Courier shows how our civilization is
progressing: "What with the electric
wires, the gas pipes, and the lines of the
Steam Heating Company, the streets of
Boston are certainly hideous with a
sufficiently formidable combination of
forces. It is pleasant to reflect, as one
takes his walk abroad or sits quietly at
home, that power enough to blow the en-
tire town into the air is rushing to and
fro a few feet under the surface, and that
a slight accident may turn any point in
the streets into a miniature volcano.
However, such considerations are of no
consequence as long as the corporations
make money."The New York Epoch calls attention
to some of the dangers attendant on our
modern way of living in the following
paragraph: "A horse belonging to the
Fourth Avenue street car line was killed
the other day by coming in contact with
the broken ends of a telephone wire at
Fourth street, and several persons
narrowly escaped the same fate. A curious
feature of the case is the fact that it
was not the original current in the tele-
phone wire that did the damage, but the
current from an electric-light wire which
was deflected to the telephone wire be-
cause the latter, presumably, cut through
its insulating cover in falling. Such ac-
cidents are likely to happen so long as
wires for all sorts of electrical purposes
are strung promiscuously overhead. The
current in the wires that supply arc
lights is the most dangerous, because it
is the most powerful, but all danger will
not be obviated until the wires are un-
derground."It was the Telegraph which threw out
the insinuation three months ago, dur-
ing the printers' strike, that the GAZETTE
was about dying because its editor chose
to use plate matter in its columns. The
statement was not made in so many
words, but the contemptible insinuation
was there all the same. The GAZETTE
did not use plate matter because it was
cheap, but because it was better. The
GAZETTE was poor and its editor did
what any other sensible man would have
done under similar circumstances, bought
what he wanted where he could buy it
cheapest. The GAZETTE did not recognize
as the Telegraph, in its local columns,
seemed to do any heaven-born right of
the printers of the city to prevent him
doing this. At all events the GAZETTE
with the noble assistance of the Sun andGlobe fought the issue out and won.
Had its editor so wilted if the right had
easily evaded trouble by following the
footsteps of the Telegraph and filled the
extra space with dead "ads," but the
GAZETTE was not run on these lines. The
advertiser got what he paid for and the
reader got more reading matter by the
use in the columns of the GAZETTE of
plate matter. And just a word about
plates. There are good, bad and indifferent
plates, mostly indifferent. The GAZETTE
in selecting a firm to buy from chose the
best and bought from an association
whose reputation is as far ahead of any
other maker in the excellence of the
matter produced as a New York studio
paper is ahead of enterprises of a country
weekly. The Telegraph on Saturday
last commenced the use of plate matter,
but following the usual course of the con-
cern in other matters they have bought
their plates from the cheapest producer
to be found. We do not know why the
Telegraph has commenced the use of
plate matter, but one thing is certain
they are not giving any increased read-
ing matter to the GAZETTE by using
them. If the GAZETTE chose to be as
mischievous as the Telegraph did, but
also insinuate as the Telegraph did, but
the GAZETTE is not mischievous.The crusade against tall hats in the
theatre having been carried to Paris,
there is some hope for the future. Even
Sarcey, the great French critic, is jump-
ing after those selfish monsters who per-
sist in making others as wretched as
they are themselves when crushed be-
hind a sort of millinery, but, at pre-
sent, one must still take in the play
through a sort of leaning tower of Pisa.
There is a certain bright woman passing
the winter in Boston who, says the
Herald, has outwitted the tall bonnet
nonsense. She makes her husband, when
he buys tickets for any performance, get
them, not side by side, but one behind
the other. The gentleman, who is even
conveniently bald, with not a hair where
it can interrupt the view, occupies the
seat in front of his dear spouse. By this
means she, at least, is able to see the
stage, and so peace and good will to men
and women reign in that family circle.
This artful little dodge wouldn't work
with couples who desire to be as near to
each other as possible, but for well
reasoned married people it seems to be
an admirable way of settling a very dis-
agreeable alternative.There is a great deal of rubbish under
the name of news telegraphed daily from
the Upper Provinces to the rest of the
world. The persons who compile the
press despatches in Ontario and Quebec
seem of the opinion that everybody is
interested in their minor affairs, events
of only local significance. Perhaps the
worst specimen of the inferior class of
the news sent out by the Associated
Press agent in Ontario is displayed in the
following:BELLVILLE, Ont., Jan. 10.—The 16-year
old son of William Kerr, Grand Trunk
conductor, died suddenly to-day.
No doubt Conductor Kerr feels very
deeply the loss of his son, but pray Mr.
Associated Press agent what interest
have the family concerns of Conductor
Kerr to people 1,500 miles away, who
are made aware for the first time that
there is such a person as Mr. Kerr. The
item would possibly be a good one for
the local paper at Bellville, but for tele-
graphing it is absolutely worthless. That
such stuff is telegraphed goes to show
that newspaper men are born not made.
We reserve for the present our opinion
of the man who allowed such "news" to
be printed, but would imagine that the
copy must have been very short, when
this despatch was "given out."

CIVIC MATTERS.

The meeting of the common council
last Wednesday was the most important
held for some time. Its principal fea-
ture was the report of the bill committee
which contains a synopsis of the proposed
legislation. This report contains refer-
ences to several important matters all
of which goes to show that the leading
men of the council are working in the
right direction and have a clearer con-
ception than their predecessors of the
science of municipal government. Too
little importance has been attached to
municipal government in the past and
too much to general affairs. Columns
after columns of space is devoted by the
daily newspapers to criticising and de-
fending the acts of the general and local
governments, but it is a rare thing to
read an intelligent article dealing with
civic affairs. Candidates for election to
the Dominion or Local Parliaments are
selected with great care and during elec-
tion contests their characters, conduct,
reputation for honesty and political
principles are constantly under review.
The most trivial expenditures are fully
dealt with by the newspapers of the dif-
ferent shades of political belief. But
anyone has been good enough for an
alderman. No matter how incompetent
a man may be no St. John newspaper
will point out his incompetency or criti-
cise his previous career. He contests
the election and often of two men the
most incompetent proves the choice of
the people. The effect of this policy of
silence on the part of the press has op-
erated unfavorably to the credit of the
city. Men who, had the newspapers
done their duty, would have never re-mained in private life have succeeded in
getting seats in the common council
where by their incompetency and reck-
less administration a huge debt has been
piled up until it has become a burden to
the rate payers. But still the press, the
voice of the people, is silent. The citi-
zens themselves, however, have arisen to
the importance of the question of civic
government the result is a great improve-
ment in the personnel of the common coun-
cil which is shown in the work done by
the members in the past five or six
years.The recommendation of the committee
to amend the charter in the matter of the
election of aldermen is a most important
question and a step in the right direc-
tion. At present two aldermen are elect-
ed from each of the nine wards of the
city. The change proposed by the bill
committee would reduce the number of
ward representatives to nine, six from the
east side and three from the west side,
or one alderman from each ward. The
remaining nine aldermen would be
chosen six by the entire electorate of the
east side and three by the entire elector-
ate of the west side. The reasons for
making such a change are obvious to all
who have given consideration to the
question of municipal government. The
most important of these are that the
choice of one half of the aldermen being
in the hands of the entire electorate fair-
er representation of the views of the citi-
zens would be obtained and with it a
better administration of civic finances.
Experience has demonstrated that ward
representatives are always desirous of
securing as great an expenditure of pub-
lic money in their respective wards as
they possibly can. There has been a
good deal too much of "you scratch my
back and I'll scratch yours" in the ex-
penditure of the taxpayers' money. Thou-
sands of dollars have been spent on
unnecessary works at the behest of some
aldermen who were anxious to secure
votes when the time for holding the an-
nual elections came around. Such works
were often done at the expense of works
of far greater importance to the citizens.
Take the street work for instance. When
it was directly under the control of ward
representatives and separate accounts
were kept for each ward. As a general
rule the accounts were overdrawn at the
end of every year. While the work might
be of the most unsatisfactory character.
In short a large percentage of the street
expenditure was wasted. The placing
of the work in the hands of a committee
of the council seemed a better adminis-
tration of the affairs of the department
and while we are still far from perfec-
tion in our street management it is only
fair to state that for the money expended
in the past year we have got better
value than ever before. The election of
aldermen at large would still further less-
en the influence of the wards and en-
sure the performance first of the most
needed works. We would be spared the
annual "letting" at all events and its con-
sequent evil.There is some difference of opinion as to
the desirability of making the term of
office three years instead of one. A
compromise on this question might
easily be arranged. The term of office
might be made two years and the alder-
men at large elected one year and the
ward representatives the next. This
would give the people an opportunity of
expressing their views on the policy of
the council every year and would also
prevent any too radical change being
made in the membership. There is much
to be said in favor of lengthening the
term of office in the common council.
There are so many laws governing the
actions of the council that it takes an
ordinary man a year to familiarize him-
self with them and often familiarity with
the law is necessary for them to express
an intelligent opinion on some important
matter before the board or to cast an in-
telligent vote. But on the other hand
the importance of the people being held
always in a position to express an opinion
on the doings of the aldermen is appar-
ent to all. By a single vote the value of
property in the city may be increased or
diminished. The choice of men for two
years and the election of one half of the
council every year would be much better
than the present system. It is a com-
promise that the majority of citizens
would be willing to accept and which if
accepted would be a decided improve-
ment on the present plan. The report of
the bill committee has been rejected by
this year's council, but it will carry in
time and the change is bound sooner or
later to be made. Although debated in
the council for some years this is the
first time it has been formulated into a
report. Now the question is carried to
come up every year until it is bound.All persons will favor the proposed
bill compelling parties who have claims
for damages against the city to give
notice of the claim within reasonable
time after the occurrence of the accident.
St. John has been swindled by design-
ing persons on more occasions than one
who sued for damages they never sus-
tained or whose injuries were merely of
a temporary character and sometimes
more the result of their own carelessness
than the carelessness of the city or its
officials. If the proposed bill becomes
law the citizens of St. John will no longer
be "disqualified in serving on juries
where the corporation is plaintiff or de-
fendant. There are strong reasons why
this amendment should pass the legisla-
ture.

ENGLISH THEATRE.

Some Customs That Prevail in the Lon-
don Show Houses.LONDON, Dec. 18.—There is one feature
of London theatrical management which
always looks odd and strange to an Amer-
ican, even when he has been a resi-
dent for some time in London. This is
the refreshment bar, where people go be-
tween the acts for a drink or a short
smoke. I do not know of a single pro-
fessional theatre in America, except the
Casino, where the bar is under its own
roof or where it is directly connected
with the theatre management. Here it
is always in the theatre, and is generally
upon one of the upper floors, on a level
with the boxes and dress-circle seats.
The bar itself, very much like ours in
style and shape, is always presided over
by barmaids. They are as respectable
and well-mannered as any salaried person
of the best shops. They have alert busi-
ness manners, and are not given to say-
ing much, unless a golden youth insists
upon a bit of "what he calls a chat" or
he orders. In the large rooms where
drinks are served there are always small
rooms or alcoves where ladies from parts
of the theatre, with their escorts, come to
drink a glass of wine or a cup of coffee.
It is similar to the impression
that would be made upon the mind of a
stranger, who, entering the Hoffman
House bar for the first time, should find
himself in the hands of business-like barmaids,
with ladies and gentlemen sitting at the
little tables as customers. The presence
of women in these places appears to have
the effect of eliminating the element of
rowdiness. You hear no loud conversa-
tion, no vulgar or coarse expressions. The
talk and manners are the same as those
you would find in a refreshment room at
a private entertainment. The barmaids
generally dress in black. They are much
given to having their hair cut short and
then curled tight over their heads. They
are always supposed to be youthful
and to wear a merry expression. This
merry expression is a little wearing at
times, but in the main the careless cus-
tomers are content with mechanical
smiles and cast-iron laughter at the tradi-
tional British joke that comes in with
every order.

The London Times and its Owner.

T. C. Crawford writes to the New York
World about the London Times and its
proprietor as follows: "The Times news-
paper is rapidly departing from its for-
mer position of a newspaper. Understanding
that there is some talk of reducing its price,
the management is adapting itself more
and more to the line of modern news-
paper methods. The solemnity and
ponderous dignity of its editorial pages
are passing away. In their place there
is a light vein, which often descends to
what the English would term flippancy.
I have heard a number of English gentle-
men express surprise at what they call
the "degradation" of its editorial pages.
From an American standpoint the change
is much for the better. An argu-
ment, to my mind, does not lose weight
if it happens to be expressed in light
and effective satire. The paper is very
often a more effective weapon than the
methods employed by the Times
against the Irish party belong to modern
newspaper management. It has expended
great sums in the way of personal in-
vestigation, and has shown great enter-
prise in gathering together material to
be used against Parnell and his associ-
ates. The newspaper is planning to con-
nect the leaders of the Irish party with
the new dynamite conspiracy, which it
alleges it has unearthed. It has in its
employment a number of Irish informers.
The paper may be considered to-day the
strongest enemy in England to the Irish
National party. It is much stronger
than the ministry in its collection of
material to be used. This is a strong
employment of money and its advantages
in such a way that it has come to be re-
garded as the leading element in the present
ministerial government in the campaign
against Ireland. Its editor and proprie-
tor, Mr. Walters, will probably receive a
peerage as a reward for his skill. He is a
gentleman above medium height, and
inclined to be spare. He has a face not
unlike that of the late Charles O'Connor,
with the exception that his features are
larger and his face longer. His nose is a
decided Roman hook. His eyes are
dark and deeply set under snowy-white
eyebrows. His mouth is thin-lipped and
large. His face is smooth-shaven to the
line of his ears. Arched under the jaw
is a thick growth of white whiskers,
which pass up from the throat in front of
his ears, and then joining his hair, make
a frame of white for his long, fresh-
colored face. He is not given to saying
much, but is well liked by those who
come in contact with him. The ponder-
ous sleigh-hammer force of the Times
comes, however, from the dominant and
masterful management of Mr. McDonald.
T. C. CRAWFORD.White and gold is the popular combi-
nation for evening wear. White tulle
lace by thick gold braid that comes
made up in patterns. White satins and
silk are embroidered with gold in the
material and some charming London
gowns of silky white cashmere are richly
edged with their lustrous borders with
deep gold thread embroideries in arab-
esque designs. One handsome opera
cloak is of a heavy white cloth brood
with gold leaves. The border is of white
curled Persian lamb, and it is lined with
yellow silk. One of the most attractive
of these white and gold gowns has a
foundation slip of golden yellow tulle
French, and over it is draped many
yards of white Indian tissue, that filmy
silk stuff which Miss Eastlake introduced
here and of which she wore fifty-three
yards in one dress as Helie.Breton Mills is the title of a
Serial story to be commenced.
It is the best story we have
ever published. Read it.See that you get the Gazette
next week with the opening
chapters of Breton Mills, a
splendid story of American
life.Burdock
BLOOD
BITTERS.WILL CURE OR RELIEVE
BILIOUSNESS, DIZZINESS,
DYSPEPSIA, DRIPSY,
INDIGESTION, FLUTTERING
OF THE HEART,
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OVERCOATS, ULSTERS AND
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These goods are first-class in quality and will
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used, and satisfaction guaranteed every time.
You should call and examine my fine stock of

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IN WHITE SHIRTS, REGATTA SHIRTS,
FLANNEL TOP SHIRTS, Fancy Vests, COT-
TON JACKETS, WOOL GLOVES, COT-
TON MITTS, COLLARS, TIES, WHITE LINEN
HANDKERCHIEFS, SILK HANDKERCHIEFS,
SHAWLS, STRAPS, BRACES, TRUNKS,
VALISES, &c.100 dozen all-wool Shirts and
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T. YOUNGCLAUS.

NOTICE

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next Sunday for an Art to
dian Gas Light and Heat
works of making one from
mination and heating p
ages in public Street
and for each other p
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also in thorough working order in
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cate, Rev. Dr. Talnage, of the Brooklyn T

JAMES L. A

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All to whom it may concern:

This is to certify that the Brooklyn
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has proved a decided success. It
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where we before used four small
two large ones, we now can only
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