

..The Planet..

S. STEPHENSON, — Proprietor.

THE CITY ENGINEER CASE.

At the meeting of the civic Board of Works, held last evening, six "complaints" against the late City Engineer were submitted in response to the advertisement of the chairman, Ald. W. S. Marshall. These six embodied five specific errors alleged against Mr. Shackleton, viz.:— that the catch basin at the corner of Head and Baldoon Sts. was too high to successfully do its work; that the sidewalk on St. Clair street was built on too high an embankment; that the Sheldon Ave. drain was faulty and defective; that the sidewalk on Lorne Ave. was below the boulevard and that the sidewalk on King St. East was built too high.

Five of these "complaints" were made out upon the printed forms, which have been hawked around for the securing of signatures to alleged grievances.

As against the five "complaints," the Board of Works has also submitted to them one of the most largely signed and representative petitions ever presented to a council, professing conviction in the competency of the late engineer and asking for his reinstatement.

The "complaints" are being investigated by the Board of Works to-day. In the statement that this matter should be dealt with entirely apart from sentiment, The Planet concurs most heartily—unless all other things prove equal, in which case it has always proved the policy of this journal to earnestly advocate the advancement of home labor. Again—and we are confident that the members of the Council themselves will agree with us—we do not believe that Mr. Shackleton has received justice, not even a pittance of that British fair play in which we are all wont to pride ourselves. No specific charges were brought against the official; he was given no opportunity to put in a defense to any the aldermen might have in mind; he was simply dismissed.

Summarily without official cause. This we regard as regrettable and deplorable, yet whatever argument might be based upon it in Mr. Shackleton's behalf—and certainly it would be a sound one to address to Canadian citizens—must perforce, largely partake of sentiment.

The problem before our civic representatives is simply this—Would the re-engagement of J. W. Shackleton as city engineer be a profitable investment for Chatham? The Planet solicits the conscientious consideration of our aldermen to this question alone.

Chatham must possess a city engineer. The ratepayers have issued their mandate thereof by law and no one doubts the wisdom of their edict. The first duty then of our civic representatives, we take it, in view of the heavy tax rate from which the citizens suffer, is to secure a satisfactory incumbent at the most reasonable remuneration. Providing, then, that Mr. Shackleton does meet the qualifications, he is certainly the choice. Civic engineering experts are not often picked up begging by the wayside, and to bring one from the outside to serve in our city—one thoroughly efficient—we would find it necessary to pay him his price, a price which comparison with other cities possessing satisfactory engineers is shown to range from \$2,500 to \$7,000 per year. Chatham paid Mr. Shackleton for his services \$850.

An outside engineer commencing operations here must necessarily work at a serious disadvantage for some time—a disadvantage which in all likelihood would prove both costly and troublesome to the city. The re-engagement of Mr. Shackleton would avoid this. He knows our town, understands its somewhat intricate drainage system, is thoroughly acquainted with the outlay of its sewers and is master of the hundred and one internal details that would keep an outsider hopelessly guessing. The expense and annoyance of necessary experiments and unavoidable initiatory mistakes can be done away with by his re-engagement.

Mr. Shackleton has served the city for two years. During that time thousands of dollars' worth of permanent improvements have progressed and been completed under his supervision. These works have proved satisfactory and the city, during his tenure, has suffered from no lawsuits, injunctions and what-nots thereupon. This should prove the test of competence.

With regard to the "complaints" last evening it is not within our province to deal at present. They are in the hands of the Board of Works for investigation. But have not even these "complaints" their message of endorsement, even allowing that as yet we have no right to question them? It speaks well for the engineer that, after two years of arduous service, covering a vast amount of civic work, and the busy and energetic peddling of several hundred "complaint" blanks by parties eagerly interested themselves in his downfall, but five could be secured for presentation to the Board of Works.

The citizens' petition expressing confidence in Mr. Shackleton's competency and asking his reinstatement

HOLE IN THE LUNGS

There are thousands of men and women, as well as ever, with holes in their lungs: consumption stopped.

Consumption stopped is consumption cured. What does it?

Some change in the way of life and Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil.

With the emulsion, give some attention to circumstances: change from a dark damp close room to a sunny dry airy one; from city to country; from hard to an easy life; indoors to out.

A hole in the lungs once healed is no worse than a too-tight waist or waistcoat.

Take the emulsion, and give it a chance to heal the wound.

We'll send you a little to try, if you like.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Toronto, Canada.

is deserving of the fullest consideration. It is signed by gentlemen who, to a large extent foot the city's bills and will assist materially in paying Mr. Shackleton's civic remuneration in event of his re-appointment. They are men who have made their own business a success, men with whom sentiment cannot stand in the way of the best business interests, and men to whom—as heavy taxpayers—the city's business interests are identical with their own. Surely this petition should deserve to have much weight with the representatives of the city's business interests in the council.

The Planet has sought to be fair in this matter. It has certainly been conscientious. It is only actuated by what it believes to be the city's best interests. It has not been able to see the force of the convincing argument, advanced by Mr. Shackleton's only and apparently interested traducer, that "in our opinion he is a poor investment," which opinion the public was assured it could back up with "scores" of complaints if only opportunity were afforded, but which—when that opportunity was furnished by Ald. Marshall—it failed to embrace, even to the small extent of one "complaint." Does it strike the citizens of Chatham powerfully with its unsupported "in our opinion" libels upon the man whom it seeks to crush?

Ald. Marshall took a manly stand at the meeting last evening. "I do not desire to favor Mr. Shackleton or any one else," he said, "and I trust no questions of sentimentalism will affect us. I am here as a representative of the whole city, petitioners and complainants, and I desire to be fair, thorough and impartial throughout this investigation. My finding, whatever it may be, shall only be made upon the conviction that it is right and in the best interests of the city."

These are manly words. May our Council adopt the same high standard in dealing with the case.

Users of Fuel

Do you know that

..Gas Coke..

is the cheapest and best fuel you can use in your furnace, range or stove, particularly at this season of the year?

It is easily kindled, burns well, and is trouble-free.

You can get a full cart load of 30 bushels, delivered promptly, for \$3.75. Try it.

The Chatham Gas Company Limited.

..For Sale..

Dwellings on West Side Victoria Avenue, Consisting of

1st—2 Story Frame House, with modern conveniences, bath, on part park lot 15, 54 feet front, 288 feet deep, \$1800.

2nd—2 Story Frame House, on part same lot, 54 feet front, 180 feet deep, \$1500.

3rd—2 Story Frame House, hot water furnace and all modern conveniences, on East part park lot 15, 156 feet front, 288 feet deep, \$3500.

Apply to
Mrs. R. O'Hara

Wanted—Good, reliable salesman, to sell complete line of lubricating oils, greases and paints. Experience unnecessary. Exceptionally liberal terms. Special inducements to parties owning teams. Jewel Refining Co., Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A. 6d1w

THE TRUE RECORD.

With its policy to brag and bluster the Ross government has been making a brave endeavor to cover up the record of the past, to cause the people of the province to forget the thievery and corruption practiced by "the machine" to keep in office the men who could not poll a majority of the free and independent vote, to make the province believe that they are progressive and are not responsible for the neglect and mismanagement which has been characteristic of the past. Therefore, when the Ross combination is making this brave effort, it is not surprising that the leaders became irritated and ill-tempered when the true state of affairs is unveiled and the government exposed to its true colors. The other day when Mr. Whitney was convicting the government of having stolen its policy, Mr. Ross lost his temper and actually told Mr. Whitney to "sit down." Needless to say, the order was not obeyed until the leader of the Opposition had concluded his speech.

The Ottawa independent publication, Events, thus comments on this scene and its cause:

"It is evident that the government are far from comfortable under the charge that their saw log policy, of which they have boasted so loudly, and which has been such a gratifying success, is plagiarized. It was while smarting under this charge, driven home by Mr. Whitney, that the Premier lost his temper. But what is the use of denying it? The evidence that the policy was stolen from the Opposition is public property and is absolutely conclusive. Some fourteen years ago Mr. Meredith, then leader of the Opposition, proposed what is practically the present saw log policy. On several occasions the opposition have embodied the policy in resolutions and offered them to the Legislature, but always to be strenuously opposed by the government. Mr. Ross is himself on record as declaring that the true policy is to sell the timber to the highest bidder without imposing manufacturing conditions calculated to frighten away American millionaires. He denounced the proposal to impose manufacturing conditions as a policy of 'No American need apply.' Up to 1897 the most honest government could be coaxed or driven to adopting the Canadian policy was the passage of an order-in-council in September of that year, requiring that all lumbermen's supplies should be purchased in Canada, and that only Canadians should be employed in the lumber camps. Even this was only done after the government had been assured by the deputation of 'Michigan' lumbermen at the celebrated 'secret conference' that such an order-in-council would entail no hardship upon them, as it only required them to do what they were in the habit of doing of their own accord, for business reasons. Even a few days before the government finally decided to adopt as their own policy, that which for twenty years, they had been antagonizing and denouncing, they rallied their followers to vote down Mr. Macdougall's resolution declaring in favor of that policy, both Premier Hardy and Commissioner of Crown Lands (now Attorney-General) Gibson, making strong speeches in opposition to the imposition of a manufacturing clause."

400 to 5.

Good for Halliday and North Bruce!

Who settled for the printing of those "complaint" blanks?

Sir Richard Cartwright is the political contortionist of the century.

Did the other 495 "complaint" blanks go begging. Some should be saved as mementos.

It is evident from his latest utterances that Sir Richard, of blue ruin fame, will never be himself again.

"There is a lot of dry humor in De Wet jokes," remarked the Bright Contributor; "by the way, I see if he is caught De Wet will get soaked."

If such a noise is made over a few feet of land for a railway siding, what a row there would be over the division of the whole of China.

It would tend to make dueling unpopular if the code could be altered so as to limit the choice of weapons to lyddite hand grenades at ten paces.

Mr. Whitney's educational declaration was such good public policy that the Toronto Globe took care not to print it. By suppressing every proposition that a leader makes the pretence that he is without a purpose is the more easily kept-up.

Did the same party who supplied the motive for the attack upon Mr. Shackleton also supply the price for the printing of those "complaint" blanks which were so eagerly peddled from house to house throughout the city? You have the floor, Banner, old boy. It's up to you.

THE NORTHWAY CO., Limited

THE BUXY CASH STORE

THE NORTHWAY CO., Limited

Our Daily Store News

Is a simple story of facts. Our statements are made with an accurate knowledge of goods and prices. People look to these columns for daily information about this store and its goods. It's why we are so careful about the matter we print. You will always find it reliable even if it may not always interest you. Your money will be cheerfully refunded if your purchase is not as represented. These special lines will attract crowds of shrewd cash buyers Saturday.

Table Linen, grass bleached, pure linen, 2 yds. wide, in coin spot design, special per yd. 50c

Extra Quality Double Damask, rich satin finish, pure, silver bleach, 68 in. to 72 in. wide, choice new patterns, special at \$1.25, \$1.00, 90c and..... 75c

25 doz. Napkins, a special purchase, fine pure damask, 3 size, pretty designs, at per doz. \$1.25, \$1.00, 90c, \$2.25 and..... \$2.50

Black Roman Satin, 2 special lines, 32 in. wide, rich, bright, silky finish, warranted in color, suitable for waists or dress, special at 25c and..... 30c

Towellings, heavy, firm Irish and Scotch Crash, 14 in. to 20 in. wide, all pure linen, at per yd. 5c, 7c, 8c and..... 10c

Shirtings best Canadian gingham shirtings, heavy twill, warranted Indigo dyes, in checks and stripes, extra value at per yd..... 12 1/2c

Dress Gingham, fine imported quality, range of choice colorings, in checks, plaids and stripes, very special at 12 1/2c and..... 10c

Imported Gingham, fine quality, 34 in. wide, in plaids and block checks, warranted fast colors, at per yd. 15c

White Muslin, a choice lot in stripes and cross bar patterns, extra values at per yd. 5c, 10c, 12 1/2c and..... 15c

Ladies' Chalmers Hose, 10 doz. fine imported quality, full fashioned, seamless feet, reg. 35c per pr., Saturday 25c

Ladies' Cotton Hose, fine German make, seamless feet, Hermsdorf dyed, special at per pair 12 1/2c, 15c, 18c and..... 25c

Ladies' Print Waists, in handsome new stripe patterns, prettily made, colors warranted, special at 60c and..... 50c

Ladies' Wrappers, fine prints, percales and muslins, lovely new colorings and patterns, made up in latest styles, all with fitted waist lining, at 80c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 and..... \$1.89

Dress Goods, Hohenheim Suitings, a fine new material in soft satin finish, made from finest wools, 48 in. wide in all the new spring shades, costume weight, warranted not to spot or shrink, special per yd..... \$1.00

Kid Gloves

The best makes and newest styles, every pair guaranteed, at per pair \$1.00, \$1.25 and..... \$1.50

Venetian Broadcloths, fine all wool, smooth finish, 44 to 54 in. wide, in black and all fashionable spring shades, at per yd. 50c, 60c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, and..... \$1.40

Black French Poplins, firm all-wood cords, bright clean finish, medium and heavy weight, warranted in wear, matchless values at per yd. 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and..... \$1.25

Dress Goods at 25c—New stripe Poplins, Camels Hair, Homespuns and new Tweed Checks, 42 in. wide, in large range of spring shades, special at per yd..... 25c

Black Taffeta Silks, the best value you ever saw, rich bright finish, pure silk, 23 in. wide at 50c, 65c, 75c, 85c and..... \$1.25

Colored Taffeta Silks, rich heavy quality, in about 40 new spring colorings, the best value in Canada at per yd..... 75c

The NORTHWAY COMPANY, Ltd. CASH ONLY AND ONE PRICE

The Woolen Mills Ordered Clothing Department

NOW is the opportune time to place your order for a SPRING SUIT. Do not leave it until the Rush—

Be The First

We are now in a better position to serve you in every way. You will have FIRST-CLASS CHOICE of our NEW SPRING GOODS of which we carry the LARGEST and BEST selected Stock of any in the City. OUR CUTTER, Mr. Williston, is a thorough mechanic and has none but first-class Men Coat-Makers under his direction. We guarantee to SAVE YOU money on Ordered Clothing and make them First-class and Up-to-date. We also carry a small stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING. We have the best \$1.50 and \$2.00 Ready-made Pants in Canada. Try US FOR A PAIR and at the same time LEAVE YOUR MEASURE FOR A SPRING SUIT.

The T. H. Taylor Co. Limited

Phone 1.
Beaver Flour the Best.

Botha has rejected the terms of peace. He will probably not have the rejection of the next term that is offered him.

The Klondike is proving a valuable source of income to the Canadian government. Last year the revenue of the Yukon territory amounted to \$1,251,816.

For a genuine, interested, persistent and unprincipled persecutor, commend us to the genius who designed, printed and hawked those 500 "complaint" blanks.

It was certainly amusing to watch the eyes of the gentlemen on the Board of Works bulge when the dray arrived last evening with those "scores" of complaints the Banner didn't have after all.

Of the 500 city engineer "complaint" blanks that were struck off and handed around the city only five were forced upon the citizens. A large quantity of waste paper can now, it is understood, be purchased at bargain prices.

Perhaps our contemporary has some explanations it would like to give the Board of Works. The aldermen appeared quite interested in the few specimens of those 500 "complaint" blanks they got their eyes on last night.

When the Ross Government made a grant of land to the Canadian heroes of the South African war, there was a string to it, and the string was attached to all three was in the proposition worth having. It is stipulated that the recipients of the grant shall not own an inch of the timber or an ounce of the ore, if any should be found in or upon these lands. The Government is willing to grant the heroes the earth, but it wants to hang on to the fullness thereof.



The three civic representatives on the Board of Works hastened to assure each other and the press last evening that they knew nothing of, and had nothing whatever to do with, the secret printing and peddling of those "complaint" blanks. They were not desirous of being in any way identified with the "enterprising" deal.

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Mr. I. L. Davis

offers his Wellington St. West residence for Sale, exceptionally well built and finished. If not sold will be rented for a term of years. Apply to

Powell & Davis,
Druggists, Garner House, Chatham.

FOR SALE OR TO RENT

TO RENT—Two large front rooms, nicely furnished. Apply to Mrs. C. J. O'Neil, Third Street, 1010.

FARM FOR SALE OR RENT—100 acres in good locality. Price \$5000. Apply to F. Mayhew, Thameville, Ont.

FOR SALE—House on Baxter St., in good repair, city water and good drain, will be sold cheap on reasonable terms. For further particulars apply on the premises. R. A. Hughes, 72 Baxter St. 1md

FARM FOR SALE—60 or 120 acres, fine, Prince Albert Road, between seventh and 10th, Oshawa, a good frame house and good stables, well supplied dairy, good orchard, apply to Joe. (in file on p. 10) or address Chatham P. O. 10w

FARM FOR SALE—30 acres, being part of Lot 5, Con. 14, Township of Chatham, all under cultivation, good orchard, comfortable house, and out-buildings in good repair, plenty of water. For further particulars apply to John Greaser, Chathamville.

SEVEN LOTS FOR SALE—One on Victoria Avenue and 5th on Maple Street. For full particulars apply to A. STEPHENSON, Piano Office.

HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT—A 7 room cottage on Park Ave., with all modern improvements, good wall, clean, etc., with either one or two acres of land. Terms more than, Apply to JAMES GARNSWELL, Architect.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—100 acres of land in good farming district, 65 acres cleared, balance under pasture, fine young orchard bearing steadily, good house, barn and other out-buildings. Plans \$1000.

FARM FOR SALE.

Farm for sale very cheap and on easy terms of payment. About 45 acres, lot 11, Con. A. W. C. R. Harwich, about one-half mile north of Cedar Springs. On the farm is a good frame house, good barn and drive-barn and other out-buildings in good state of repair, first-class artesian well, good orchard of peach, pear, plum, cherry, quince and apple trees, and an abundance of small fruits. The place is well tile-drained and is conveniently situated to school, church, postoffice, butcher shop, blacksmith shop, two general stores and railroad station. For further information apply on the premises or address box 402, Chatham.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the House.