

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., FEB. 15, 1889

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Dr. A. deW. Raras, agent of the People's Bank of Halifax at this place, informs us that his bank has made arrangements with the Ontario Bank by which the notes on either bank are cashed at par by the other. Similar arrangements have been made by other banks of Nova Scotia and the Upper Provinces and must be a great convenience.

The Government at Ottawa is now in session and next week our local representatives meet in council at Halifax. For the next few months the papers will be filled with matters concerning the action of these bodies. Whatever is done by the Dominion lawmakers will be condemned by the Grit papers, while the Tory sheets will severely criticize the action of the Legislature at Halifax. Don't believe all that is said on either side. Both good and bad measures will be placed on our books by each administration. We hope to keep our readers posted on all important measures passed.

Since the late fire the agitation for a water supply is again being canvassed. Three sources are spoken of: one, the Davison Lake; one, the Black River; and the other, the Kentville reservoir. The first thing needed is an act of Parliament to legalize any action that might be taken in this direction, and that we might have without expense to any one. Let our people ask the Legislature, which will be in session next week, for the necessary legislation and after getting that then a public meeting should be held and a vote taken as to whether the people wish to burden themselves with the expense of providing for an adequate supply of water or not.

Sewerage is almost as necessary as water, as the storms of the present month amply prove. There has hardly been a rainfall of late that has not filled the gutters full to overflowing and in many places made travel on foot nearly impossible. Not only are our streets covered with water, but our wells become reservoirs to receive the dirty drainage of the streets, sadly to the discomfort and sanitary condition of the place. If the good reputation of Wolfville as a healthful place is to be maintained, it becomes us as citizens to provide against these growing evils which are becoming more and more apparent every year.

We congratulate the residents of Gasperau on having a daily mail established between that place and Wolfville, which puts them in direct daily communication with the business centres. We believe that two attempts have heretofore been made to establish this service without success and the opinion has been freely expressed by many who considered themselves competent to speak on the matter that it would not be favorably considered by the Government, as the business between these two places was of too little importance to warrant such an expense. However, the matter has been accomplished and will be a great convenience to all interested. We think no person will blame the Government for expending money in this way.

The outcome of the meeting in Witter's Hall on Thursday evening of last week was the formation of a hook and ladder company. This is a move in the right direction and the enterprise should receive the encouragement of our people. We regret that a misunderstanding should have occurred at the meeting and hope it may not prevent our citizens from contributing generously to the support and equipment of the company. We want some means of protection of once and this can be had by a hook and ladder company; while a fire engine and water supply which are equally necessary cannot be procured for a considerable time at the best. We have no guarantee that a repetition of the late conflagration under less favorable conditions may not occur any day; and the band of young men who have volunteered to use their efforts to protect our property from fire should be at once equipped with the necessary appliances for successful work. We have a suggestion to make for raising the funds necessary. Let us have a grand musical, literary and dramatic entertainment and give the proceeds to this object. We have plenty of talent to give a grand entertainment, and fill College Hall (which we have no doubt could be procured for the occasion, as the College people have an interest in the matter) to overflowing. What do you think of our idea? Let us hear from you! Don't let the boys fail for the need of a little money. The next one that loses his property will wish he had equipped the company at his own personal expense.

"In the Midst of Life we are in Death."

"Fixed is the term of all the race of earth; And such the hard conditions of our birth, No force can save us from resist, no flight can save us from alike, the fearful and the brave."

It is a twice told tale that the world is passing away from us. Our knowledge of the fleeting years is impressed upon our minds very vividly by the changes that take place all around us. Death removes from duty one sentinel from the watch-tower of life, but another takes his place and the world rolls on. Change is written upon every page of God's creation, telling us that nothing here can endure forever. Surely man is but a shadow and life a dream, and the world and all that is therein passes as we look at it. The old patriarch Job, sitting in his heap of ashes, lamenting the loss of his sons and his flocks, complained that his days were swifter than a weaver's shuttle. The Grecian warriors before the walls of Troy lean gracefully upon their spears and morose upon the brevity of life. Man enters upon his Heavenly mission, and lo! he journeys as all others before him. No matter how deafening the cry— "Backward, turn backward, oh, Time, in your flight!"— he is still forced along life's pathway, and soon becomes a vanished shadow. "We are such stuff as dreams are made of."

A light has gone out from our editorial sanctum, dear readers; and we now mourn the absence of one whose quiet influence we have so often felt. We shall miss him, both from our list of friends. In his daily life his plans and works for the good of others delineated all thought of selfishness, and revealed a true human character. When we see one taken from us who has expended even in a short life so active qualities which are calculated to benefit his fellow men, we are apt to wonder why he could not be spared, and others taken, who are only parasites on true manhood and counterfeits of the image of the Divine. But he was summoned hence by a call that wealth could not bribe, nor poverty claim exemption from; and we now mourn as those that without hope.

"The light of his bright life went out, As fades behind the hill The glory of a setting sun— Pale suddenly and still."

ROBERTO.

The Check-rein and Its Uses.

MESSRS EDITORS—I noticed in a recent issue of your paper a letter from one signed F., and telling the disadvantage of the so-called bar check-rein. I shall try to show its advantages and its disadvantages. The check-rein has proved to be one of the most useful straps in the whole harness. It prevents a horse getting his head down to the ground while at work. No horse while at work should be allowed to graze grass from the roadside. A check-rein does not need to be tight on a horse while at work, only sufficient to keep the horse's mouth from the grass. Any man that will check a horse tight when drawing is cruel, unthinking and wrong; but this is not the fault of the rein. Any one position is tiresome to man or beast. The over-check has been one of the great sources of success with the American trotter. "Maud S," 2:34, is driven with a tight over-check, and Mr. Turner, the driver of "Edwin Thorne," says that he has proved that a horse will trot ten seconds faster with an over-check than without it, as it extends the nose and prevents the larynx of the throat coming in contact with the valve of the wind-pipe, which, without a check-rein, must come in contact, as soon as the nose is drawn in by a pull on the reins. "Gay," the famous trotting gelding, with a record of 2:12, has been driven with patent pulleys and all kinds of bracing appliances, as he was a bad puller, and the only way he could trot a fast mile was by means of an over-check in the air by means of an over-check to save his wind. But remember, do not mean to keep it on all night. Skating is a fast way of going on foot, but a man cannot keep it on very long at a time without suffering from cramps in his feet and ankles. And so it is with the check-rein. It adds to the trotter's beauty of form while in motion, makes him more easily controlled, and saves his wind, without which he cannot go a mile. I am a friend to the horse, and would do anything to save him from torture and pain, but to put the blame on the check-rein—to save a man that will attach a double over-check to an old chain-curb bit, and let his horse stand half the night with his head strapped up and without a rug—is not fair. Any man who hasn't sense enough to let his horse's head down while standing is not fit to drive a horse with or without a check.

Speed is money, with the American horse, and the check-rein has long been proved to be one of the best appliances for developing it. "Rarus," 2:11, another great American trotter, could not beat 2:20 without an over-check. The check saved his wind, which gave him strength and speed to lower his record and increase his value over \$4,000. These are facts that can easily be proved. In short, there has been money enough made with the American trotter, by means of the check-rein, to buy all the down-headed old plugs in this Province. The check-rein is a profitable and not a cruel rein if used by men of sympathy and understanding. EXPERIENCE.

A Lay Sermon.

"It is twice blest; 'Tis twofold when to give and to receive." —Shakespeare.

The religion of the Scriptures is a kind and merciful religion. An illustration of this position is found in the Divine direction: "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox, when he treadeth out the corn."—Deut. xxv, 4. The way in which grain was threshed, at the time when the Book of Deuteronomy was written, was by driving cattle over it, as it was spread on the threshing-floor. Man's gentle and patient servant, the ox, was to be allowed to eat as much of the grain he was threshing as his wants or inclinations prompted.—1 Tim. v, 18.

Again. When from the nest of the mother-bird the young were taken for food, the merciful requirement was to let the dam go free. She was to be permitted to enjoy a longer lease of life to renew her loves or to lavish her affections on her nestlings.—Deut. xxii, 6. And when in war the foeman's horse fell in the rude encounter, the foeman's antagonist was directed the fallen steed to compassion to assist the fallen steed to rise and thus escape the threatened death. The requirement may indicate more. It may with like reason point to the pain of the humiliation which the proud charger might be conceived to feel at his overthrow, and signified that God pitied and would interfere in behalf of the noble animal. The horse was to be raised from the dust and placed upon his feet, "to rejoice again in his strength and to go forth" in his pride and power, "to meet the armed men."—Job xxxix, 21.

Such are some of the lessons of the Old Testament. Those of the new are as explicit and even more so. The Christian dispensation is peculiarly one of kindness and compassion. The good-which it inculcates embraces not only the whole brotherhood of man but the animal creation at large. It teaches that "not a sparrow falls to the ground without our Father," and that "he holds the fowls of the air" which equally with man are the objects of the Divine attention and regard.—Matt. x, 29; vi, 26. In Britain and her dominions throughout the world the Bible is an open book and the universal heritage of the people. Its sentiments pervade our literature and are inculcated and enforced from every point of view. Examples are scarcely needed, but a few may be adduced. Thus in Goldsmith's well-known ballad of "Edwin and Angelina" we meet with the beautiful lines—

"No boasts that range the valley free, To slaughter I condemn thee, Taught by the Power that pities me, I learn to pity thee."

And Pope, in his "Universal Prayer," expresses a similar thought in the oft-quoted words— "Teach me to feel another's woe, To hide the fault I see, The mercy I to others show, That mercy show to me."

And Cowper, in one of his didactic poems, teaches the same lesson. "I would not enter in my list of friends, Though graced with polished manners and fine sense, The man who needlessly sets foot upon a worm."

And Shakespeare, in his grand eulogy of that "attribute of God himself," in the exercise of which we look for "salvation," conveys the same sentiment in the just and expressive language—

"We do pray for mercy, And the same prayer doth teach us all to do, The deeds of mercy."

The above I have thought worthy of an excellent accompaniment and not an unfitting article in the ACADIAN at the weeks ago on Cruelty. LAYMAN.

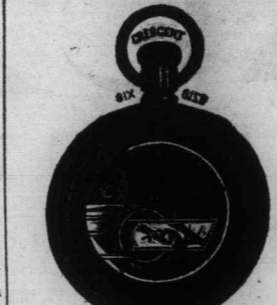
"The Bank of Tragedy" is the title of a serial story of "raggedy" in the title of Mrs. Hatch's "great power, written by 'Sey'," author of "The Upland Mystery" and was published in the "Trove" two years ago, which has since then had a sale of about 100,000 copies in book form. The new serial is a detective story, the plot of which is constructed with remarkable skill. It will exercise the ingenuity of those who are experts in guessing the plots of half-read novels. The scene is laid in northern New Hampshire, but some of the tragic and romantic incidents of a recent famous bank case in Maine are worked into it. The story is being published in the "Portland Transcript," beginning Jan. 24. The publishers offer several premiums for the best guesses at the plot sent in by subscribers before Feb. 20th. Subscriptions, \$2.00 a year, 6 months, \$1.00.

W. A. Payson, dentist, has just returned from dental college and is prepared to do finer work than ever. All kinds of dental work done by the latest methods. Office at his residence, Station street, opposite Acadia Hotel, Wolfville.

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NOTICE!

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