

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., APRIL 7, 1899.

Our Reply to Mayor Thomson.

We would draw the attention of our readers to a letter from Mayor Thomson which appears in another column of this paper in which he takes exception to some utterances of the ACADIAN in reference to the constitutionality of a town meeting which is not presided over by a chairman of its own choice.

Our critic intimates that if there had been anything irregular about "the meeting"—by which we take him to mean the last public meeting held in the town—the irregularity would have been noted by the Recorder, and he also appears very much shocked that the editor being only a "layman" should have presumed to "run into print" without having first consulted that legal functionary.

In reference to these observations we would remind the Mayor that when he took the chair on the evening in question the Recorder was not present and could not therefore have made a protest. We would further remind him that this "running into print" is a pursuit which the people seem to expect from a newspaper man, and that as the Recorder is not paid by the town to give us advice we do not feel the same liberty in appealing to him for counsel as His Worship deabilities does. We believe, however, that upon a matter so free from obscurity as that upon which we have spoken one may venture to speak even though he be not "learned in the law."

The by-law which the mayor cites to convince us of our grievous error, it seems, does not appear in the printed copies of the by-laws which have been placed in the hands of the citizens, but the Council, doubtless thinking that such matters can be of little interest to the "laymen," have deposited the type-written copy of the enactment in the security of the town clerk's safe. It is not strange, therefore, that we should have been ignorant of the existence of this provision and we are sure that we will be pardoned for never suspecting that our city fathers had so Casarian conceptions of statecraft as would prompt them to usurp powers which properly should rest in the hands of the people.

However, we as gravely doubt the constitutionality of this by-law as we deplore the bad taste and judgment of the Council in thus attempting to clothe itself with self appointed powers. The section quoted by the Mayor as authority for the passing of this very modest provision, and which gives to the Council power to pass by-laws for the "government and procedure" of town meetings under the Act, we think refers only to the making of provisions for the keeping of order, the taking of votes and the like. It certainly cannot mean what the Mayor has construed it as meaning, as in that case power would be delegated to the Council to utterly defeat the object of clause 279, which makes provision for the holding of these meetings, and this would be prima facie absurd.

With power to saddle the meetings of the ratepayers with its own officials, a Council, were it so minded, could match any decision it might wish from the ratepayers, and the safeguard against the extravagance of the Council, which the legislature has provided, would thus be rendered perfectly useless. The Mayor cites the practice in Halifax as justification for the arrangement which he champions, forgetting that Halifax is not governed by the Town's Incorporation Act, but by the City Charter, and consequently its regulations are not authority for us in any sense whatever.

His Worship is in error when he supposes that our observations were aimed at any public meeting in particular. We merely were laying down general principles and we made no more reference to the public meeting which was held on March 22nd than to any other that has been called in the past. However, since the attention of the Mayor reverts with such naturalness to this occasion we would remind him that this meeting was not at all a town meeting within the meaning of the Act, as in this case no proposed expenditure was submitted to the meeting as the Act requires. Hence, even if the by-law were constitutional, which it certainly is not, it could in no wise apply to this meeting.

In conclusion we wish to state that we have yet heard nothing to cause us to depart from the views which we last week expressed, and although we have a very high opinion of the intelligence and sincerity of our Mayor we cannot but feel that in this case he is attempting to defend the indefensible.

At the regular monthly meeting of the town council on Wednesday evening the estimates for the ensuing year were passed, and the rate of taxation was decided as follows: \$2c for general taxes; 45c for schools; and 10c for water. This makes in all a tax of \$1.35 on the \$100 as against \$1.50 last year. This is certainly a good showing. We shall refer to the matter again more fully. The estimate for streets is \$1200.

Mr Davin's Lecture.

One of the very few genuine orators that have ever visited Wolfville was brought to the town last week by the Acadia Athenaeum Society, in the person of Nicholas Flood Davin, M. P. for Annapolis West, and late editor of the once celebrated Regina Leader. Not only an orator in Mr Davin but an extremely highly educated and cultured gentleman as well, and altogether a credit to the parliament in which he sits.

Mr Davin's lecture on Friday evening was not nearly so well attended as it deserved, but College Hall was comfortably filled and the audience was delighted with the entertainment as a audience could be. Mr Ferris, president of the society, occupied the chair in a very satisfactory manner, and Attorney General Longley also had a seat on the platform.

The subject of Mr Davin's lecture was "The English House of Commons as I know it" and the lecturer devoted his attention particularly to the debate on Mr Gladstone's motion to disestablish the Irish church. The speaker had reported this debate for the London press and was consequently perfectly in touch with the subject. The characteristics of such debaters as Lowe, Bright, Disraeli, Salisbury and Gladstone were brought out in a matchless manner, by personation of voice and pantomime. The audience were literally conveyed to Westminster and listened with the vividness of reality to the incisive sarcasm of Beaconsfield and Lowe and the warm eloquence of Bright and Gladstone.

At the close of the lecture words of strong appreciation were spoken by President Trotter, Dr. Keirstead and the Attorney-General. Friday morning Mr Davin delivered another lecture, to which the public were admitted gratis. President Trotter presided. This time the lecturer spoke on culture in its relation to practical life, and although his address was perhaps not so popular as the one of the previous evening, it was even more thoughtful and scholarly. Dr. Keirstead moved and Dr. Jones seconded a vote of thanks to the speaker, to which he very eloquently responded. President Trotter followed with some well chosen words of praise, and the College boys expressed their appreciation by hearty cheers for Mr and Mrs Davin.

The members of the Athenaeum, by reviving the Star Lecture Course this season, have placed the town and vicinity under great obligations to them. The educational value of the lectures which have been given this year has been very great, and Mr Simpson and the other members of the lecture committee are to be congratulated for the judicious selection of speakers which they have made.

A few months ago the newspapers circulated the fact that Mr L. D. Robinson, Principal of the Berwick High School, had been summoned before John Denison, J. P., of Kentville, for inflicting punishment upon one Noble Lomer, a pupil of the primary department of the school, and compelled to pay a fine and costs for exceeding his authority and excessive punishment of the boy. Mr Robinson, not being satisfied with the decision of the Magistrate's court, appealed the case to the County Court.

The interesting question as to whether the teacher has any legal authority or not to administer corporal punishment on pupils under his care was raised at the trial. The decision of Judge Chipman has recently been given. After an elaborate review of authorities the learned judge comes to the conclusion that the power is delegated to the teacher to so punish when necessary; that the burden of proving the punishment unreasonable rests upon him who sets up the charge, and that the control of the teacher over the pupil is not necessarily limited to the four walls of the school-house. He adds, however, that "Teachers imposing corporal punishment should be careful in all cases to bring themselves strictly within the rules of law so clearly and forcibly laid down in the cases referred to, and not punish wilfully, maliciously, or too severely."

It is hoped that Judge Chipman's decision will do much toward convincing parents that it is not wisdom to drag teachers before the courts to investigate their conduct when they have inflicted merited punishment in moderation. Know, in addition, that I have the best authority for saying that in Halifax "It is usual for the mayor to take the chair at all public meetings of citizens called by him." I think you will now see that you had neither law nor custom for your remarks.

I am at a loss to understand your reference to a councillor not taking higher rank than any other citizen present. If you meant that I should not have called upon certain councillors to open up the question for discussion, I think you are again wrong. These gentlemen had given much time and thought to the matter and had collected much information upon the subject and at whose request the meeting was called. Common sense dictated to me that the audience would like to hear the views of men who were familiar with the subject first. I am not aware of any other way in which your town councillors took precedence of any other citizens.

A True Remedy Found for Grippe and its After Effects.

OZONE.

The following well known citizens gave their testimonials as being cured of Grippe by OZONE: JAMES SHAND, Halifax, N. S. ST. CLAIR RUGGLES, Leaman's Branch No. 3, Halifax, N. S. GEO. H. PORTER, Insurance Agent, Halifax, N. S. GEO. STAY AND WIFE, Commercial Restaurant, opposite Halifax Hotel, Halifax, N. S. NEWTON LEE, Proprietor of Victoria Hotel, Truro, N. S., cured of the after effects of Grippe.

The People's Forum.

To the Editor of the Acadian. Mr Editor,—In your issue of 31st March last I find in your article on "Town Meetings" the following paragraph: "A public meeting is essentially a meeting of the citizens as such. At such a gathering a councillor should take no higher rank than a newspaper man or any other insignificant person. All present should be mere citizens and nothing more. Such a meeting is not constitutional unless it is presided over by a chairman who is the choice of the meeting, and the minutes of which is recorded by a secretary, also the choice of the meeting. The Mayor and Clerk cannot constitutionally fill these positions, by virtue of their offices, although they are often appropriate persons for the meeting to select."

Now, Mr Editor, it might have occurred to you that our careful and well informed Recorder, who was present at the meeting, would not allow the proceedings to be conducted in an illegal manner without making a protest. Prudence might have dictated to you that it would be well to ask the Recorder's opinion on this matter before rushing into print. A layman should be slow and very careful in giving his opinion on a legal question. When you have read what follows you will concede that your opinion was not only faulty but more than that, for it followed by the election of any other chairman and secretary than the Mayor and Town Clerk the proceedings of the meeting would have been illegal. Know then that in Sec. 296, Sub. Sec. 64 of Towns Incorporation Act of 1895, under the head of "By-laws," "towns have the power to make by-laws for the government and procedure of meeting of the ratepayers of the town called under section 279 of said Towns Incorporation Act," under which this meeting was called. Clothed with the authority of this Act, by-laws for the town of Wolfville were made and approved of by the Governor in Council. Chap. xxi, Sec. 1 and 2 of these by-laws, under the head of public meetings, reads thus:

"The mayor, or in his absence the presiding councillor shall be chairman of all public meetings convened by the council under the provisions of section 279 of the Towns Incorporation Act of 1894. In the absence of both the mayor and the presiding councillor a chairman shall be elected by the meeting."

"The town clerk shall be the secretary of all such meetings in next preceding section, mentioned, and it shall be his duty to be present and act as such secretary thereat. In the absence of the town clerk the meeting shall elect a secretary."

Know, in addition, that I have the best authority for saying that in Halifax "It is usual for the mayor to take the chair at all public meetings of citizens called by him." I think you will now see that you had neither law nor custom for your remarks.

I am at a loss to understand your reference to a councillor not taking higher rank than any other citizen present. If you meant that I should not have called upon certain councillors to open up the question for discussion, I think you are again wrong. These gentlemen had given much time and thought to the matter and had collected much information upon the subject and at whose request the meeting was called. Common sense dictated to me that the audience would like to hear the views of men who were familiar with the subject first. I am not aware of any other way in which your town councillors took precedence of any other citizens.

In conclusion, I beg to say that with the exception of this unfortunate paragraph the article is well written, and contains many timely remarks and valuable suggestions. GEORGE THOMSON, Mayor. Wolfville, 4th April, '99. Nearly thirty short stories will be published in the four April numbers of The Youth's Companion, and the publishers promise that they will all be first rate. There will be numerous stories, pathetic stories, stories that teach a good lesson in a general way, animal stories and stories of thrilling adventures. There will be stories that will interest men and women; boys' stories that will charm women and delight their daughters.

4 POINTERS FOR THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE.

- I. In buying goods it is better to deal with a specialist, who, on account of having a large stock and the big range to select from, is more likely to suit his customers; he handles nothing else but boots and shoes. II. We buy for cash and are thus enabled to give you the benefit of the cash discount. III. We sell for cash and do not require a larger profit to make up for bad debts. IV. Our goods, both low and high grade, are purchased from the best houses in the trade and customers can rely on getting the best value for their money.

PEOPLE'S SHOE STORE. N. M. SINCLAIR, PROPRIETOR. Nearly opposite the Post Office, Wolfville.

NOTICE! Having bought the blacksmith shop and business of Mr Geo. Tupper, am prepared to do all lines of work in connection with same, and would kindly solicit a share of the public patronage. L. F. BLENKHORN. Wolfville, April 5th, 1899.

DENTISTRY. Dr. C. PERCY HEALES, Graduate of Philadelphia Dental College and Hospital of Oral Surgery. (Graduate of Philadelphia School of Anatomy) Office: at residence, Main St. People's Bank of Halifax

WOLFVILLE, N. S., AGENCY. HAS OPENED A SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT. Deposits of One Dollar and upwards will be received and interest allowed at the current rate. Geo. W. MUNRO, AGENT. Ang. 24th, 1898.

FOR SALE. 5 Horses—Including "Long-flo", 234, private trial, 220%. 1 pair heavy draft horses (will sell one or the pair). Also 1 Tamworth Boar, six months old. J. W. SELFRIDGE. Wolfville.

SHAD and HERRING! I still have on hand a few Half Barrels of Choice No. 1 Shad! ALSO—CANSO HERRING! in Half Barrels. All of which will be sold low for cash. C. W. STRONG. Wolfville, Dec. 29th, 1898.

THREE USEFUL ARTICLES. Are on exhibition in my window. Handy, Compact, Useful. COMBINATION KITCHEN TABLE. TARBOX PILLOW-SHAM HOLDER. BELVIDERE CARPET STRETCHER and TACKER. Housekeepers should examine them. They will be pleased with their construction and convenience. A pleasure to show them. A. J. WOODMAN.

TESTED and TRIED. THE Massey-Harris is scientifically tested and tried before it leaves the factory. I am at a loss to understand your reference to a councillor not taking higher rank than any other citizen present. If you meant that I should not have called upon certain councillors to open up the question for discussion, I think you are again wrong. These gentlemen had given much time and thought to the matter and had collected much information upon the subject and at whose request the meeting was called. Common sense dictated to me that the audience would like to hear the views of men who were familiar with the subject first. I am not aware of any other way in which your town councillors took precedence of any other citizens.

Rockwell & Co., AGENTS, Wolfville, N. S. Illustration of a man on a bicycle and a woman with a suitcase.

NEW GOODS!

We are receiving daily our Spring imports.

OUR REPUTATION FOR CLOSE PRICES WILL BE MAINTAINED. OUR STOCK OF GOODS

will contain many novelties, and intended buyers should scan our adv. from time to time so that they may be assisted in purchasing good goods at close prices.

Port Williams House, CHASE, CAMPBELL & CO.

THE Wolfville Photo Studio IS NOW OPEN. All the time and with increased facilities will try to give even better satisfaction than before. The proprietor himself is to be found there every Monday and Tuesday. W. W. ROBSON, PHOTOGRAPHER. WOLFVILLE, N. S.

DAVISON'S CEYLON TEA. THE BEST IN THE MARKET!

Prepared by modern machinery methods instead of the primitive and less sanitary hand methods still used in other countries. TRY A POUND, 30° AND 40° FOR SALE ONLY BY H. W. DAVISON, WOLFVILLE.

GREAT HARM!! is done by using the eyes if they pain you. Save trouble by having them tested at once. A FULL LINE OF GOLD GLASSES IN STOCK! The latest and finest thing in Rimless Spectacles and Eye-glasses. Wolfville Jewelry Store. J. F. HERBIN.

THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS. of the treatment of Consumption depends altogether on the strength of the lungs. The disease of the lungs might be cured a great many times if the system had the strength to cast off the poisons, and to bear up under the strain of the cough. PARK'S PERFECT EMULSION of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites and Gelsolin makes the patient take on firm, healthy flesh, and strength. PARK'S PERFECT EMULSION is composed of the purest Cod Liver Oil combined with the chemically pure Hypophosphites and Gelsolin, a combination that is being universally prescribed by the foremost medical men of nearly all countries for the treatment of all pulmonary diseases. It is prepared in such a way as to entirely eliminate all bad taste or odor, and can be retained by the most capricious stomach. Price 50 cents. Per Bottle of All Druggists. MANUFACTURED BY HATTIE & NYLIUS, HALIFAX, N. S.

FOR SALE! The house and lot now occupied by Sidney Borden, Port Williams, consisting of 3/4 acre of land set with fruit trees and small fruit. Apply to SIDNEY BORDEN, Port Williams.

FOR SALE. Five swarms of German bees in Italian Longneck hives, at about half the regular price. A. L. DAVISON.

"3 S"

1st. A Ladies Button Boot, black, good fit.

2nd. A Ladies Button Boot, black, \$2.00, our price.

3rd. A Ladies Button Boot, black, as well as our price.

BELL AND SON. THE ACADIAN. WOLFVILLE, N. S., APRIL 7, 1899. Local and Provincial. The various churches in town have usual Easter decorations, and appropriate services were held. The Art Association will meet home of Mrs W. H. Chase next evening, 10th, at half past seven. The steamer Beaver made her trip from St. John this week, calling at Wolfville on Wednesday morning. ROOM PAPER for 3c per sheet. Wolfville Book Store. We would call the attention of readers to the card of Mr L. F. Horn, which appears in another column. Mr Andrew Colwell, of Georgetown, weighed two yoke of oxen on T. that tipped the scale at 2720 and 2650 respectively. We understand that the annual meeting of the Athenaeum Society given in College Hall on Friday of next week. When are the "powers that be" to provide a better fire alarm? Now in use has been pronounced efficient time and again. A large number of the students attending the institution here to partake of the Easter holidays at their homes or other friends. A lot of Hard Nut Coal just arrived. COLWELL & BORDEN. The regular meeting of the "Daughters" will be held in Ten Hall to-morrow evening at 7. An address will be given by Miss Reid. In our description of Duncan's new refrigerator we neglected to state that it was Mr J. M. Toye, of this town, whom the workmanship reflects credit. Mr Toye is evidently a mechanic. ROOM PAPER! 6000 rolls just arrived. Mr J. Hayer, of this place, is a quiet, reliable business man at Wolfville Book Store. Hides WANTED.—Highest prices paid for hides at the Wolfville Tannery. D. B. Shaw, proprietor. Dr. Harold Lawrence, who is a member of the senior class of the Dental College, has sent a handsome gotten up announcement of the commencement exercises held to-day. The class number, Dr. Lawrence will be a short time. ROOM PAPER! 20c per roll. 9 inch Borden's Book Store. Policeman Gelpy has been from his duties before the expiration of his term, and his functions for Cumberland County we understand he will engage Mr William Sutton, of Chatham, to take his place upon his duties the first of next week. There is no need of paying for a wheel this year. We have a special one for \$40.00. Wolfville Book Store. Wolfville Book Store.