

The St. Andrews Standard.

PUBLISHED BY A. W. SMITH.

Esarissimum est optimum. - Cic.

[12.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.]

No 11

SAINT ANDREWS, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1857.

[Vol. 25]

Provincial Parliament.

House of Assembly.

Monday, March 9.

After some routine business had been transacted, Mr. Watters rose, and, reading from a newspaper the reported answer given by the Attorney General the other day with reference to the extension line of Railway between St. John and Woodstock, and Moncton and Miramichi; he wished to know if the answer given was correct, if it was, it was very unsatisfactory to him, (Mr. Watters) and the county which he had the honour to represent; it was a departure from the policy the Government had pledged themselves to pursue, and a violation of the law of the land. He was particularly surprised that the Solicitor General should endorse that answer.

The Hon. Solicitor General would tell the hon. Members for his satisfaction and that of the public, that the Government intended as soon as the weather permitted, to have the survey on the Fredericton and Woodstock line prosecuted, and when the best line was ascertained, to proceed with it. There might be a prospect of the St. Andrews line coming in such a direction, as to render unnecessary two parallel lines.

Mr. Mitchell did not wish to press these extensions upon the country, but would ask why the survey of the Northern extension was forgotten altogether.

The Attorney General thought hon. members had better wait until the Government defined their railway policy.

Mr. Hatheway felt that his colleagues could not have been aware of the answer which was coming from the Government. He thought it quite unnecessary to waste two summers in making a survey.

At 12 o'clock the order of the day—the Election Bill was gone into, Mr. Lewis in the chair.

The Attorney General opened, denying the statement that the Government intended to return to the old system, insisting that the Bill before the House was only a temporary provision to meet an emergency, and that the Government intended to bring in a measure of a broad and liberal character. No law involving the principle of Registration could be carried out short of one year, and, therefore, a temporary measure was necessary. The propositions he intended to discuss were:—Do the returns from the various officers show an existing state of things which demand an immediate remedy; and is the remedy proposed by the present Bill sufficient?

The House separated for dinner, and on its return the Attorney General resumed by going into the various returns, and explained what parishes were competent according to Law to vote. Albert, Restigouche, and Sunbury, were the only three Counties in the Province in which the Law had been fully complied with, in the rest of the Counties it had been but partially carried out.

According to the correct construction of the law over 15,000 persons who voted at the last elections were disfranchised; according to the most strained and, liberal construction, over 11,000 persons were disfranchised. He contended that by the law, in point of fact, York and Carleton were both entirely disfranchised. The hon. gentleman occupied the floor until 10 minutes past four o'clock, having spoken for over three hours.

Mr. Johnson rose to answer.—One strong objection to the Bill was, that it could not be passed without a suspending clause. He would offer an amendment which would cover all difficulties, and by which the country could in ten days be placed in a position to have a general Election. He charged the failure of the Law in many instances, to a disposition on the part of the Government, to thwart its operations, and asked why the Sheriffs in the instances where those officers had failed in their duties had not been removed or reprimanded?

The House adjourned at 20 min. past 5.

THE SMITH OF RAGENBACH.

In the Principality of Hohenlohe, Langenburg, is a small village called Ragenbach, where about twenty years ago the following heart-rending, but also heroic event took place:—

One afternoon, in the early spring, in the tavern-room of Ragenbach, several men and women having assembled from the village sat at their ease, none anticipating what would happen on that eventful day. The smith formed one of the merry company, a strong, vigorous, and powerful man, with a resolute countenance and daring mien, but also with such a good smile upon his lips, that every one who saw him admired him. Every evil disposed shunned him, for the valiant smith would allow nothing wrong in his presence, and it was not advisable to have anything to do with him except in

a proper manner. His arms were like bars of iron, and his fists like forge hammers, so that few could equal him in strength.

The smith sat near the door chatting with one of his neighbors. I know not what about; all at once the door sprang open, and a large dog came staggering into the room, a great, strong, powerful beast, with a ferocious, frightful aspect, his head was hanging down, and his eyes bloodshot, his red colored tongue hanging half way out of his mouth, and his tail dropped between his legs. Thus the ferocious beast entered the room, out of which there was no escape but one door. Scarcely had the smith's neighbor, who was bar-keeper of the place, seen the animal, when he became deathly pale, sprang up and exclaimed with a horrid voice, "Good heaven, the dog is mad!"

Then rose an outcry. The room was full of men and women, and the foaming beast stood before the only entrance; no one could leave without passing him. He snarled savagely right and left, and no one could pass him without being bitten; this increased the horrible confusion. All sprang up and shrank from the ferocious dog with agonizing countenances. Who could deliver them from him? The smith also stood among them, and he saw the anguish of the people, it flashed across his mind how many of his happy and contented neighbors would be made miserable by a mad dog, and he formed a resolution the like of which is scarcely to be found in the history of the human race for high-mindedness and nobleness. Certainly his brown cheek paled a little, but his eyes sparkled with fire, and an elevated resolution shone from the smooth brow of the simple-minded man.

"Back, all!" thundered he with his deep strong voice. "Let no one stir, for no one can vanquish the beast but I. One victim must fall in order to save all, and I will be that victim; I will hold the brute, and whilst I do so make your escape." The smith had scarcely spoken these words, when the dog started toward the striking people. "With God's help!" cried the smith, and he rushed upon the foaming beast, seized him with an iron grasp, and dashed him to the floor. Oh, what a terrible struggle followed! The dog bit furiously on every side in a most frightful manner. His long teeth tore the arms and thighs of the heroic smith, but he would not let him loose. Regardless alike of the excessive pain and horrible death which must ensue, he held down with an iron grasp the snarling, biting, howling brute, until all had escaped! He then flung the half-strangled beast from him against the wall, and dripping with blood and venomous foam, he left the room, locking the door after him. Some persons shot the dog through the windows. But what will become of the brave, unfortunate smith!

Weeping and lamenting, the people around him who had saved their lives at the expense of his own.

"Be quiet my friends, do not weep for I have only performed my duty. When I am dead think of me with love, and now pray for me that God will not let me suffer long or too much. I will take care that no other mischief shall occur through me, for I must certainly become mad."

He went to his workshop, and selected a long chain, the heaviest and strongest from his whole stock. He then with his own hands, welded it upon his limbs and round the anvil so firmly that no power on earth could break it. "There," said he, "it is done," after silently contemplating the work.—"Now you are secure, and I am offensive as long as I live, bring me food. The rest I leave to God; into his hands I commend my spirit." Nothing could save the brave smith, neither tears, lamentations, nor prayers. Madness seized him, and after nine days he died—but truly he died only to awaken to a more beautiful and glorious life at the right hand of God. He died, but his memory will live from generation to generation.

Search history through, and you will find no action more sublime than the deed of this simple-minded man, the Ragenbach. It is easy for noble minds to die like Winkelried, or Martius Curtius, the high-spirited youth, but to go to the sacrifice with the certainty of death, and moreover, being obliged to wait a death so awful, during long, fearful hours and days—that in it is to die, not once but a thousand times. And such a death was that of the smith of Ragenbach. Such a sacrifice the smith of Ragenbach made in order to save his neighbors. May his memory ever be sacred.

A "POINTED RETORT"—Not long since a gentleman was passing up Broadway, New York, quite late in the evening, and when nearly opposite the City Hall, was accosted by a suspicious individual who inquired the time, whereupon the gentleman coolly drew the long sword from his cane, and with it pointed to the time on the City Hall, which no doubt was perfectly satisfactory.

COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor of the Standard.

Sir.—Having read the communications of "Nemo" and "A Native," in late numbers of your paper, feeling somewhat amused at the manner in which "A Native" defends the Magistrates,—"no doubt the shoe pinches tightly,"—"I beg you will favor me with a small space in your columns for my view of the subject under discussion; namely, public nuisances, and inability of the Magistrates to abolish them; and while I avow myself also a native, and consequently look upon the arrogance and assumption of some "Old Country people" who have come to make a living among us, with equal disgust as your correspondent "A Native," I must nevertheless agree with his antagonist "Nemo" in the matter of nuisances, and add to the list one or two which he has omitted. First then comes the coasting question, and this amusement few persons I apprehend, beside "A Native," will call harmless. What may be the feelings of the ladies of "Nemo's" household, I know not, but this I can affirm, that I have heard many other ladies say, that they always feel obliged to avoid as much as possible those streets which some boys seem especially to claim for coasting on; not from fear of the sleds only, but of having their ears assailed by language obscene, and awfully profane. Can any one say there is no harm in this? and if the Magistrates are unable to check the evil, why then is the enactment for the suppression of this vice suffered to be a dead letter on the Statute Book. "A Native" also thinks that the danger in coasting "if danger there be" is only to the boys; let me inform him of one fact to the contrary: About two years ago, a young lady of whose own word I can certainly rely, while walking down one of the streets, was willfully run against and knocked down; the boy not even calling out as they usually do, and although not seriously hurt, she was severely bruised. Now I suppose "A Native" is ready to ask, why did not this person enter a complaint, and have the boy brought up? And I answer, what young lady of any sensibility would not suffer even a personal inconvenience of this kind, rather than appear in a Magistrate's court with a rabble of lawless boys.—So much for another stupid enactment.

My next complaint, Mr. Editor, is of the abominable conduct of boys at places of public amusement, concerts, lectures, &c. I have been credibly informed, that many public singers, concert-givers, and others, have purposely passed by St. Andrews, in consequence of the unbecoming notoriety the town has gained through the boys, and this truth they have been told by some of these travellers. Can it be, Mr. Editor, as I strongly suspect, that—allowing these disadvantages to go so long uncorrected—the Magistrates are afraid of provoking the ire of the boys!—probably bearing in mind the treatment the late Editor of the Charlotte Gazette received at their hands, because he dared to oppose them, and improve their conduct. Who then can wonder at the boys continuing evil practices, if the Magistrates cannot or will not enforce the laws which they, in their wisdom, have framed. If there is no evidence here of the inefficiency either of the laws or the law makers, for an able pen than "A Native's," will be required to prove it; and in penning these remarks, Mr. Editor, I believe I am doing the boys a positive good, at least I desire to do so, but I by no means intend them to apply to small boys only, but to those also of a larger growth, many of whom having attained to the stature of men, I would persuade for example sake to behave as becometh men, and wipe off the reproach of "bad boys" from their native place.

Yours, &c.

ANOTHER NATIVE.

PRESENTATION AND ADDRESS

TO THE

REV. WM. BENNETT,

By the Presbyterians of Bocabec.

REV. WILLIAM BENNETT,
Dear Sir.—On behalf of the females of your Bocabec congregation, and a few of your personal friends unconnected with either of your charges, we desire your acceptance of the accompanying sleigh robes as a trifling token of our esteem for you as our Pastor, and as a testimony of our appreciation of your teaching in the Pulpit, in the Sabbath school, and in the family circle.

We trust you will view the tribute of regard as an additional evidence that your labours "are not in vain in the Lord," and that you will thereby be encouraged to continue to manifest that zeal in your Master's service which you have heretofore evinced.

That you have long enjoyed health, bodily, intellectual, and spiritual, and that many be given to you for a crown of rejoicing at that

day when God will number his jewels, is our united and fervent prayer.

SARAH JANE PURVIS.

CATHERINE GLASS.

REV. WILLIAM BENNETT,
Dear Sir.—With truly grateful feelings at the names of the Males of the congregation of Bocabec, we desire to present you with this token of our esteem, and respect for you as our Pastor.—This set of Harness, of which we desire your acceptance, but feebly expresses our estimate of your worth, and of the value of your labours amongst us during the last few months. We trust, however you will receive this as an acknowledgment of our appreciation of your public and private services.

The prayer of all is that you may be long spared to us as a faithful minister of the Gospel of Christ.

JAMES McMillan.

WILLIAM TAGGERT.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CONGREGATION OF BOCABEC.

My dear Friends.—It is almost superfluous for me to say, that by your Presentations and addresses you have given me most agreeable surprises. The extent of the proofs of your kindness has far exceeded my most sanguine expectations. I had, indeed, trusted that my weak instrumentality towards the promotion of your welfare was not wholly in vain; but that I should have received such a united testimony to the acceptability of my services, in so short a time from the first formation of our relationship is unexpected success. Had your gifts been of much less pecuniary value than they are, you would have sufficiently manifested the character of your feelings towards myself, and have laid me under a still deeper debt of your gratitude.

Though your language in reference to my public and private ministrations be so flattering, yet of my imperfections in the pulpit, the Sabbath school, and in the family circle, I am painfully conscious.

Your tribute, I trust, will excite not only to future, but much additional effort, for of the name "zeal" the spirit of my exertions has not been worthy—but the hope and assurance of a constant place, in your prayers at a Throne of Grace cannot fail to furnish a still more powerful incentive.

Thanking you again for your valuable gifts and praying for your temporal and eternal welfare;

I am, my dear friends, ever affectionately,
Your affectionate Pastor,
WILLIAM BENNETT.

Bocabec, 16th Feb., 1857.

U. S. TARIFF BILL.—The great measure of the past four years is the new Tariff Bill. The details of the perfected bill are not yet fully received. The House bill proposed to enlarge the free list without reducing the duties on other articles. The Senate bill, with a more limited free list, reduced the duty of cottons, iron, sugar, and other articles. The Committee on Conference made a compromise. The duty on iron, sugar, cottons, &c., is reduced from 30 to 24 per cent. and ad valorem. The passage of the bill was resisted by Pennsylvania and the high protection interest, but was carried by a vote of 124 to 71 in the House, and by 33 to 8 in the Senate.—State of Maine.

IMPORTATIONS FOR CANADA VIA PORTLAND.—The Montreal Gazette contains, under the heading "Arrivals at Portland on Montreal Account," a list of vessels from Matanzas, Cardenas, and other West Indian ports with Molasses and sugar direct for that city. In calling attention to this fact, the Gazette gives the following article:

DIRECT IMPORTATIONS OF WEST INDIA PRODUCE.—Our readers here and in Canada West will be pleased to see by our commercial columns that, since the commencement of the month, there have been several arrivals of direct cargoes of W. I. produce at Portland for which we are indebted to the enterprise and spirit of Montreal merchants. Some considerable portions of the cargoes of the two first arrivals, we learn, was sold at Portland. Our Portland friends will do well to look closely to their laurels, which this season have been carried away by "Jean Baptiste," the name of the patron saint of Canada, and also of the Brigantine which brought the first cargo of Molasses into that port this season. We are given to understand that the arrivals we publish to day, will be followed by others so that Western merchants may send their orders here under the full confidence that they will be executed at fully lower rates than if they had recourse to the New York market.

The day, we believe, is not far distant when our city, through the energy of her merchants, will be in a position to supply Canada West altogether with those articles which at present form the bulk of her importations from the United States.

Get an Indication of Character.

Observing persons move slow—their heads move alternately from side to side, while they occasionally stop and turn round. Careful persons lift their feet high and place them flat and firm. Sometimes they stoop down, pick up some little obstruction, and place it quietly by the side of the way. Calculating persons generally walk with their hands in their pockets, and their heads slightly inclined. Modest persons generally step softly for fear of being observed. Timid persons often step off from the sidewalk on meeting another, and always go round a stone, instead of stepping over it. Wide awake persons "toe out," and have a long swing to their arms, while their hands shake about miscellaneous. Careless persons are forever stubbing their toes. Lazy persons scrape about loosely with their heels, and are first on one side of the walk, and then on the other. Very strong minded persons have their toes directly in front of them, and have a kind of stamp movement. Unstable persons walk fast and slow, by turns. Venturesome persons try all roads, and frequently climb the fences instead of going through the gate, and never let down a bar. One idea persons and very selfish ones "toe-in." Cross persons are apt to hit their knees together. Good natured persons snap their thumb and finger every few steps. Fun-loving persons have a kind of jig movement. Absent minded persons, often take the wrong road, and sometimes find themselves up to their knees in a mud-puddle, although the side walks are excellent. Dignified men move slow and erect. Fast persons cut across the corner, kick every dog they meet, knock down the little children, run against the ladies, and hit every twelfth man's ribs with their elbows. Very neat men occasionally stop to wipe the dust from their boots—their hands hang by their sides.

THE COLD OF SPACE.—The following facts are furnished by a correspondent of the Scientific American:

"For every mile that we leave the surface of our earth the temperature falls five degrees." At forty-five miles distance from the globe we get beyond the atmosphere, and enter, strictly speaking, into the regions of space, whose temperature is 273 degrees below zero; and here cold reigns in all its power. Some idea of this intense cold may be formed by stating that the greatest cold observed in the Arctic circle is from 40 to 60 degrees below zero; and here many surprising effects are produced. In the chemical laboratory the greatest cold that can be produced is about 140 degrees below zero. At this temperature carbonic acid gas becomes a solid substance like snow. If touched it produces just the same effect on the skin as a red-hot ember; it blisters the finger like a burn.

Quicksilver or mercury freezes at 40 degrees below zero; that is 72 degrees below the temperature at which water freezes. The solid mercury may then be treated as other metals, hammered into sheets, or made into spoons; such spoons, however, would melt in water as warm as ice. It is pretty certain, that every liquid and gas that we are acquainted with would become solid, if exposed to the cold of the regions of space.

The gas we light our streets with would appear like wax; oil would be in reality, "as hard as rock;" pure spirits, which we have never yet solidified, would appear like a block of transparent crystal. Hydrogen gas would become quite solid, and resemble a metal; we should be able to turn butter in a lathe like a piece of ivory; and the fragrant odours of flowers would have to be made hot before they yield perfume. "These are a few of the astonishing effects of cold."

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, a convict lately from Bermuda, was arrested on Thursday last, by Constables Caulfield and Cotter, for having stolen from the hall of John, Whitman, Esq., a Coat, and sold the same to H. Hazel, for six dollars, after which he watched his opportunity and put the same coat on his back with an additional one of Mr. H.'s, worth four or five pounds, and made off with both. He was yesterday sentenced to Bridewell for six months. There was found in his possession a pair of pants, gloves, &c., which the owners can have by applying at the Police Station.

An instrument called Shaw's Garrett's Signalizer, is advertised in the London Times, which, when in action, gives a sharp report, and will strike a powerful blow at the same time. They can be carried in the pocket and are a sure defence against garroters.

There is only one railroad in California. It runs from San Francisco to Folsom, 22 miles, cost \$375,000, and pays an interest of three per cent. per month. The expenditures are about \$7000 per month, and the receipts \$700 per day.