



ROYAL
BAKING-POWDER

Makes the food of maximum quality at minimum cost

Municipal Matters.

THE COUNCIL'S EXCUSES.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—It is easy to pardon a Municipal Council which fails to embrace a good opportunity of doing the city a service, for we are not exacting in the demands which we make upon its efficiency or public spirit of our servants. It is not, perhaps, so easy to forgive a wanton injury inflicted upon the public without excuse and in mere recklessness of our interests. We, therefore, do not so much blame the Council for neglecting the opportunity which offered for purchase of Mrs. Torphy as for allowing that person to protect herself from ever being bought out in future. It is reasonable to complain when the elected guardians of our rights sacrifice them without necessity, without compunction and, apparently, without shame or remorse. These Councilors found themselves confronted with an admitted evil which cried aloud for redress, yet so far were they from amending it that they gave it a wider scope and made it eternal. And now when they have done us this injury they do not think it worth their while even to excuse themselves or plead for an intelligent judgment upon their conduct. They disdain or fear to publish the reasons which guided their action, but they do NOT disdain to allow others to publish excuses on their behalf whose falsity and absurdity they know, or could discover with the least possible trouble. The first excuse which was urged for their conduct was that, though the Council had power to prevent any new erection going up, it had no authority to interfere with an alteration to a building already erected. This excuse was promptly abandoned when it became known that the old building was being almost wholly removed, and that a new one was being erected on foundations of wider extent than the old ones. When the Council itself

forbade Mr. Gosling to alter a building standing on the Golf-links it was seen that THIS excuse had no longer any vitality in it. For days and weeks the Council found itself in the unenviable position of being censured by every one of the newspapers of the town and by a great majority of the citizens without having the least rag of an excuse to offer on its own behalf. Then the "Herald" good naturedly made a suggestion. This suggestion was evidently made quite gratuitously and without the smallest pretence of authority, for a moment's investigation would have led to the discovery that there was nothing in it. The suggestion was that the Torphy property stands on Water Street, over which the Council has no power of pre-empting land for street-widening purposes. Here is a famous excuse indeed and one to be hugged to the breast of these gentlemen in trouble. It does not matter much, either, that this excuse never entered their minds when they came to the decision which has caused them so much perturbation. It does not matter much, either, that the excuse should be a valid one. But it curiously enough happens that an opinion sustaining this suggestion should be offered to at least one Councilor. That decides the matter—whatever idea of re-opening the question or even of giving an explanation to the public in official form is now abandoned, and we are to believe that the Municipal Act itself prevents this property from being dealt with because it is situated on Water Street. One would think that before such an excuse was accepted some one would take the trouble to enquire whether it could hold water, but nobody apparently did. It is worth while seeing that this precious excuse is groundless. The words in the Municipal Act which define the boundaries of Water Street are as follows:—"Water Street shall extend from the Eastern side of Temperance Street on the East to the JUNCTION OF THE TOPSAIL AND WATERFORD BRIDGE ROADS on the West." Now

the junction of these roads is, as everybody knows, at the point where they meet several yards to the Eastward of Torphy's house. Water St., therefore, ends at the point of the jib where the fence stands, and the land which was sought to be pre-empted stands upon and between the Topsail and Waterford Bridge Roads, and not on Water Street at all. If this land were on Water Street, the junction of the roads should be at the rear of Torphy's, which is so evidently an absurdity that nobody should be taken in by the contention. Besides, if evidence of the fact that Water St. ends at the jib were wanted, it is furnished by the action of the Council itself, which some few years ago took land belonging to Mr. John Ayre and Mr. C. P. Ayre exactly opposite Torphy's and threw it into the public road. So much, then, for the validity of the excuses which members of the Council are willing to pawn off upon the public.

This whole business has been an unfortunate one for the city up to this date, but perhaps a moral or two may be drawn from it which may be of value to us in the future. With your permission, I shall endeavour to point one or two of these morals in a future issue.

Yours truly,
REFORM.

\$50,000 for a Violin.

Late George Haddock's Sale Will Reveal Some Beautiful Instruments.

The announcement that the collection of violins which belonged to the late Mr. George Haddock, the famous musician, is to be sold has aroused the keenest interest amongst dealers and collectors. The Haddock fiddles are reputed to be the finest private collection in existence, the gem being the "Emperor Stradivarius," pronounced by Joachim to be the finest violin he had ever seen, and which is stated to be worth \$50,000. It is nearly two hundred years old, and notwithstanding its great age looks as fresh as if it had been but yesterday left the hands of Antonio Stradivari, the famed violin maker of Cremona.

This is a somewhat exceptional value to be placed on a violin, the price of each of the 600 Strads which are known to be in existence ranging from \$2,500 to \$6,500. Perhaps the only violin which can be compared with the "Emperor Stradivarius" of the Haddock collection is the one which Paganini left to the city of Genoa, for which as much as \$50,000 has been offered. The Strad presented to the late Dr. Joachim on the occasion of his jubilee cost \$6,000, while that presented to Lady Halle by the Duke of Edinburgh, the late Earl of Dudley, and the late Lord Hardwicke cost \$5,000.

When Sarasate's will was proved two years ago it was found that he had bequeathed \$20,000 and a Strad each to the Conservatoires of Paris and Madrid, the money being for the purpose of founding prizes bearing his name. Each of the violins were valued at about \$10,000, one of the instruments having been discovered in a very romantic manner. At one time it was the property of a Genevan blacksmith, to whom it had been given by a traveller who could not pay for the shoeing of his horse. For years it hung on the wall of the blacksmith's house, until after many years another horseman, M. Boissier, who was also a violinist and a collector of violins, came along. The blacksmith asked M. Boissier to buy the violin from him at his own price, or else to find him a purchaser. M. Boissier carried it away, cleaned off the smoke, discovered the Strad mark—and did not defraud the blacksmith.

Twice at least \$10,000 has been paid by private treaty for Strads, and \$7,000 was paid for a "Betts" Strad," the title which it gained from the following incident. Betts was a music seller in London some sixty years ago, and one day a stranger entered his shop offering a violin for sale at the low sum of one guinea. The dealer at once jumped at the bargain, put down his guinea and secured the instrument. He retained it in his family for a number of years, and, after changing hands several times, it was bought at the figure named by a foreign nobleman.

Five years ago \$3,000 was paid for a Strad which for years was played upon by a strolling musician in the Notting Hill and Marylebone districts of London; while some time ago \$8,000 was paid for a fiddle which had previously been knocked down at an auction sale to a laborer for \$1.50. Fortunately for him, the dealer knew something of the value of fiddles, and a few days later sold his treasure to a dealer in curios for \$3,000. Ultimately the latter sold it for \$8,000—truly a record bargain.

DOROTHY BAIRD HERE.—The schr. Dorothy Baird arrived here yesterday molasses laden from Barbadoes to Jas. Baird, Ltd., after a run of 25 days.

CROPS GROWING WELL.—Vegetation on the West Coast beats all previous records. Potato vines are over ground and the grass will be fit to cut in three weeks' time.

College Cricket.

The second inter-collegiate cricket match took place yesterday. The players were the Pelidians and St. Bon's teams. The former were sent to the bat first and made 59. The St. Bon's team in their innings scored up 28 when the rain came pouring and it was deemed wise to put an end to the game for the time being. It will be continued to-morrow and played to a finish, weather permitting. The batting and fielding gave promise of a lively season amongst the College boys. Tait scored 19 runs for the B. F. C. team, and Smith for St. Bon's made 12; Leseman 7 and Crawford 7 not out. The bowling of Knight, Rawlins and Keough was very fair, and J. Fox did beautiful wicket keeping. The umpires were C. W. Ryan and C. S. Pinsent.

Sports on 22nd.

The C. E. L. C. L. B. Sports Committee met last night and decided to have their annual sports on the 22nd inst., the date on which the walking match will take place. This was the only day available. It is hoped that an arrangement will be made by which the race will finish on St. George's Field. This will be suitable to all concerned.

Here and There.

WILL NOT MEET.—The members of George St. choir will not meet for practice this evening.

CITY COUNCIL.—The regular weekly meeting of the City Council will take place this evening.

CAPLIN TAKEN.—A few buckets of caplin were taken again last evening at Holyrood and Harbor Main.

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.—George St. Young Men's Association will have a meeting at 9 o'clock to-night.

Menthol in the form of Davis' Menthol Salve is the best application for mosquito and insect bites and stings, old sores, etc. 25c. a tin at druggists.

LAWN TENNIS CLUB.—At 8.30 this evening the annual meeting of the Tennis Club takes place in the offices of Messrs. A. J. Harvey & Co.

Special Clearance Sale of Dry Goods.—You should take advantage of our Genuine bargains. Big reductions on every line. — SIMPSON'S, Rawlin's Cross.

EMIGRATION AGENT HERE.—Mr. Yeoman, an emigration agent of Halifax, N.S., is on the Tobacco bound for the Nova Scotia capital. He had been on a vacation to the Old Country.

BICYCLES

BICYCLE SUNDRIES
DISC RECORDS BICYCLE MUNSON
at Cut Prices 249 Yonge St. TORONTO
Send for Cut Price Catalogue. April 18, 11.

WILL BE ORDAINED.—At the C. of E. Cathedral next Sunday morning Mr. Gordon Templeton, of Twillingate, and Mr. William Courage, of Garnish will be made Deacons, and Rev. W. H. Bayley, curate of Heart's Content, will be priested. The service will begin at 11 o'clock. Rev. Edward Jones, late Rector of Bay Roberts, will deliver the sermon on the occasion.

FRESH SALMON

By Rail To-Day.

We will have regular shipments each week now while the season lasts.

By S. S. Bornu.

N. Y. Chicken.
N. Y. Corned Beef.
Bananas.
Cal. Oranges.
Cal. Apples.
Strawberries.
Celery.
Cucumbers.
Cauliflowers.
New Potatoes.
New Cabbage.

WHITEWASH LIME, 12c. Tin.

5 Roses Flour—14lb. sacks.
Verbeena Flour—14lb. sacks.
R. Household—14lb. sacks.

P. E. I. Butter—In 2lb. blocks.
Country Eggs, 20c. doz.

Only a few boxes of Cigars left at \$3.00 per hundred. Former price \$5.00 per hundred.

T. J. EDENS.

WORKING MEN, Have You Heard It?

THAT FOR

35 CENTS DRAWERS

YOU MAY SECURE A GOOD PAIR OF

IN LIGHT WEIGHT, FLEECE LINED,
SUITABLE FOR SUMMER WEAR, WORTH 45 CENTS.

REMEMBER, it is the time to buy when price advantages like these confront you.

S. MILLEY

Dandy Bank Clerks.

Those of a Century Ago Were Beau Brummels Gloriously Appareled.

Some interesting reminiscences were given by Mr. Baberley Phillips in an address before the Institute of Bankers. In the old picturesque days bank clerks were gloriously arrayed in knee-breeches and silk stockings. They wore tail-coats and white neckties, and their shoes were adorned with silver buckles. Strict orders from headquarters for many years forbade the wearing of beards or moustaches.

Nearly everyone walked to and from business at that time, three, four or five miles being no uncommon distance, said Mr. Phillips. He knew one gentleman who lived in Friday Street, Cheapside. He used to saunter down to the bank about half-past eight in dressing-gown and slippers, sign the "appearance book," and then return home to shave and breakfast at his leisure. Personally, he did a "four miles' walk." Add to that a heavy morning on the out-telling, by twelve or one o'clock one could eat anything. Political economy had to be called in, and where to get the best food at the smallest cost was the problem. In his opinion, nothing surpassed a butcher's shop somewhere at the back of Cophthall Court; here one purchased a grand chop or steak for 5½d. or 6d., that was sent to the public-house next door, and beautifully cooked for 1d. Potatoes (in their jackets), bread, half of stout, and waiter, each another 1d. For 11d. one got a capital meal.

Tradition had it that at one time a notice was posted outside the Bank of England saying that clerks were wanted—Inquire within. When his father entered the Bank of England in 1818 the examination was to count 100 pounds of silver. The money was spread out in front of him, and he diligently started to stack it up in single pounds. After he had labored some little time the kindly examiner whispered to him, "Never mind, my lad, so long as you have twenty shillings in the last pound."

Some uniform plan of examination prior to election was now adopted by many of the London joint stocks, but a local bank manager, recently said to him: "A new junior is a perfect terror. He has a smattering of Latin, French, and German, can do a simple sum in algebra or a problem in Euclid, but he cannot write a decent hand, he cannot spell, he cannot add a column of figures correctly, he has doubts whether Berlin is in France or Ireland, and he has no idea how to address an envelope."

LABRADOR SERVICE.—The Invermore will sail for Labrador on Tuesday, the 9th inst., taking mails and passengers.



BOVRIL

Don't forget to order BOVRIL

Better to be sure you've got it in the house than sorry you haven't.

Ottawa, May 29.—Posses of Dominion Police under orders from Col. Sherwood, acting on information laid by the Ottawa Humane Society, today descended on several men from Hull and Ottawa gathered at a cocking main near Chelsea, several miles north of Hull. The police arrived just after the main got well started. No arrests were made, but the names of some fifty spectators were secured and prosecutions will follow in the Hull Court.

LARACY'S have just received direct from the manufacturers per "Dronning Maud," from Antwerp, Tumblers, Glasses, Decanters, Goblets and Fancy Glassware. Selling at our usual low prices at LARACY'S, 345 and 347 Water Street, opposite Post Office, May 14, 11.

NFLD. LADY'S SUCCESS.—The closing exercises at Mount Allison Ladies' College of Sackville took place on Tuesday last. Miss Flora Curtis, daughter of Dr. Curtis, of this city, was the winner in a \$20 prize essay.

A CALL TO OUR

SPECIAL SALE

OF WHITE SEAMLESS

Pillow Cotton.

40 inches wide... Collins' Price, 15c. per yard.
42 inches wide... Collins' Price, 15c. per yard.
44 inches wide... Collins' Price, 17c. per yard.
46 inches wide... Collins' Price, 18c. per yard.
48 inches wide... Collins' Price, 19c. per yard.

The above goods are in Remnants of 1½ yards to 10 yard lengths.

P. F. COLLINS, THE MAIL ORDER MAN,
340 and 342 Water Street.

MARITIME DENTAL PARLORS.
176 Water St., St. John's, Nfld.

SATISFIED PATIENTS.

When People who have had dentistry done come back again and bring their friends, it is pretty good evidence that they are satisfied with the treatment they receive—this is an every day occurrence at

DENTISTRY AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.
Phone 62.

The Maritime Dental Parlors.

What has been done for others can be done for you. If you have any kind of **TOOTH TROUBLE** skilful dentistry will replace your suffering with comfort. You can have

USELESS TEETH EXTRACTED,
DISEASED TEETH TREATED,
FAULTY TEETH REPAIRED,
MISSING TEETH REPLACED.

At The Maritime Dental Parlors.

Good Dental Service will improve the **PUBLIC HEALTH.**

At our prices it will increase the **PUBLIC WEALTH.** If you have never been to a dentist about your teeth call at **THE MARITIME DENTAL PARLORS**, and talk it over. Consultation is **FREE** and first-class dentistry, with best materials, at these prices:

Teeth extracted without pain.....**25c.**
Teeth extracted and full upper or lower sets (\$18.00 value) supplied.....**12.00.**
Gold Crowns \$10.00 value.....**\$6.00.**
Bridge work per tooth.....**\$6.00.**

All other Dental work and operations at correspondingly reasonable prices.

The Maritime Dental Parlors, J. W. Shilker, D.D.S.
176 Water St., St. John's.
(Opposite Mark Chaplin's Tailor Shop.)