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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 8 1899.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

DEMANDS FOR A CHANGE.

SONS OF THE BARONS WET A NEW COMMISSIONER WANTED

There are indications that a change will be made in the near future—Chairman Knodell has on March 27th announced that he will resign his office as Commissioner of the Alms House.

The article in last week's Progress respecting some proposed and probable changes in the liquor commission seemed to meet with the approval of a good many people. The facts as stated were few in number but they have had the effect of bringing in anyone to light and making the reasons for the change even more imperative than appeared at the first glance. There are plenty of supporters of the local government who claim that chairman, George A. Knodell, has no right to so much patronage. It is quite true that at one time he was a candidate for a few hours but that did not cost him either time or money. He is, as Progress has stated, the chairman of the Alms House commission and it can readily be imagined that he is not a loser by this fact. The management of the Alms House has been criticized from time to time and as Mr. Knodell is the active man on the board it must be apparent that he is largely responsible for what occurs. The other gentlemen on the board, Mr. Barnhill, Mr. Hilyard and Mr. Furlong take but little interest in the affairs of the poor. Mr. Coll does take some but the greater part of the work falls upon Mr. Knodell. The superintendent, Mr. Woods, does as he is told and he is credited with being an obedient officer.

Now government supporters say that there should be a division of patronage and as Mr. Knodell is not the most agreeable chairman of the commission that there might be they are glad to see some move made to make a change.

Mr. John B. Jones, the inspector, has, it is understood, been acting as secretary as well as inspector. The duties of secretary are not very onerous it may be supposed as the commissioner does not meet very often but yet there must be some work in connection with the additional task assumed by the inspector, whose duties are, as Progress understands, to see that the law is enforced, to prosecute offenders and keep such a record that he may be able to advise the commissioners to whom to grant licenses. The office of the inspector is in the Jardine building. There was a rumor some time ago that the chairman wanted the office in his own building where he had a room to rent that was in his opinion suitable for the purpose. But whether the other commissioners objected to such a proceeding or whether on account of the inspector not being willing to make the change the office remains where it is.

There is without doubt much truth in the fact that the office appears to have been utilized to the best interests of the chairman and his friends. Progress referred last week to the fact that the first Christmas after the commission was appointed the liquor dealers were called upon to advertise in a holiday sheet called "Christmas Calmes" which one of his sons issued and which was printed in his office. The saloon men were also canvassed for printing and as one of them told Progress this week "I did not feel like refusing because he is on the commission you know and might make it unpleasant for us."

"How can that be done?" was asked. "You observe the law, shut up at ten o'clock and do not sell Sunday. How can he make it unpleasant for you?"

"Do you see that door there?" he replied pointing to a rear entrance. "I get my ale in through that and use it for bringing in coal and carrying out ashes. It is also a short road for a few of my customers to come in and have their glass of ale, but it is contrary to the law and the chairman of the commissioners could make it very unpleasant for me. Do you see?"

"Yes, but that is never done surely?"

"Oh, but it is. You remember the front of the old Furlong store on Charlotte street, as it used to be. Well, there were two doors with a window between in front. One of them was seldom used and as both of them led into an outer office, they were for the purpose of the law practically one entrance. The chairman of the commission thought that discreet and he put Messrs. Crowley & M. Williams to the expense of tearing one door down and replacing it with a window. They must have been out of pocket \$50, to say the least.

"Then you remember how troublesome it was made for William Clark of the Cafe Royal because he had a restaurant as well as a bar on his premises. For weeks he had a board fence on the bias to shut off the view of his restaurant from the street. Finally it was torn down and the place is the same as before but he was put to a lot of trouble and expense just the same.

The same is true of M. A. Harding. His restaurant was in front and his bar in the rear. He wanted the bar put in front and the oyster saloon in the rear. That would have cost Harding hundreds of dollars. He didn't do it but in order to get his license had to cut a door through in another place which doesn't comply with the conditions of the law any more than his previous arrangement did.

"So long as I am upon this subject let me tell you something else which will give you a fair idea of how things went at one time. Chairman Knodell's son applied for and got a position with Messrs. Jones, the brewer, and he began to sell the trade for his employers from the city dealers. This went on for a time until the rival brewer Mr. James Ready began to think it rather unfair that the son of a man whose position gave him such a pull on the trade should be soliciting business for a firm opposed to him. Whether it was at his suggestion that the son was called off is not known for certain but the fact remains that he was."

These are some of the reasons why the trade is getting tired of one member of the commission and why there is a demand for his retirement. Progress understands that the government has the matter under serious consideration and that pending their decision some minor matters connected with the issuing of the licenses are at a stand still.

POLICE FUND HEARD OF.

AND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS OF IT GIVEN TO CAPT. JENKINS.

No Detailed Statement of It Given However—No Figures of What is in the Bank or What the Interest has Amounted to—An Excursion Proposed.

Something has been heard of the police fund at last. The chief of police has made a move in regard to it and donated \$100 of it to one of the trustees, Capt. F. W. Jenkins. The proposition was submitted to the different sections of the force and, of course, they approved of it. They might not have done so had not Capt. Jenkins lost his wife a few days ago and they had much sympathy for the little motherless children that she left.

The donation was generous, some of the policemen think larger than the funds on hand warranted but as it would not look well to object to amount's at such a time there was no question.

According to the chief the fund amounts to \$500 not including the interest that has accrued for the past few years. There was an impression that it amounted to more than that but perhaps that was erroneous. There were no figures given in detail but the amount was stated in a general way. It would have been much more satisfactory had the chief read the record from the saving bank book which would have told in the first place just in whose names the account stood, when the first deposit was made and how much it was, also the date of the second deposit and the amount of that as well as the third and what sum that was.

Then every year the interest would be added to the principal and the whole would draw interest for another year when the interest would be added again, and so on for the few years that the fund has been in existence. So long as nothing has been heard of the fund for years such a statement as that would have been satisfactory. But it stands, in somewhat general terms, the information is given to the men.

While no one has been found to object to Capt. Jenkins receiving some benefit from the fund it is pointed out that there have been a number of policemen who have deserved a share of it since it was in the saving bank. Some of them have been unable to earn more than half pay and that was given by the generosity of the council and they had much larger families than the Captain and yet no move was made to assist them.

These are matters that are talked over now among some of the men. There are others who care nothing about the fund. "Let them do as they please with it," said one officer to Progress "I am not going to bother my head about it but it will be a long time before I assist in any similar scheme as this has turned out to be."

Still there is talk already of the force having an excursion on the 24 of May to make up the \$100 drawn from the fund to give to Capt. Jenkins. If they do so they will no doubt begin to sell tickets at once for the holiday trip. Had there been information of the fund every year as there should have been; had the men met and talked the matter over at least once a year they would have had some interest in increasing the amount and with the facilities they have for getting a large attendance at anything they may promote the police fund to-day might have been thousands of dollars instead of hundreds.

CURREN WAS NOT IN IT.

But He Got Over One Hundred and Thirty for His Work Against Fenton.

"Billy" Curren is a favorite member of the Rose's base ball club and there were many of his admirers as a ball player who thought he could go up against "Paddy" Fenton in the ring. He tried it last Monday night before one of the largest audiences that ever sat in the institute and by means of somewhat unusual sprinting and clinching tactics stayed until the sixth round when his stomach went back on him and the referee gave the fight to Fenton. This raised quite a storm of objections from those of Curren's friends who thought he could fight even with a sick stomach but those who did not want to see the man knocked out after he had been game enough to go up against such an experienced and clever man as Fenton were thoroughly satisfied with the referee's decision. George and the Loch Lomond Cyclones fought themselves to a stand still in four rounds and McLeod proved himself the hard and clever hitter his friend thought

him. There was hardly a bruise and but one bleeding nose in the whole programme. The house was worth nearly \$400. The expenses, including hall rent, printing and the smaller purses were \$128 leaving each of the principals and their backers something over \$190 each.

Fenton and his trainer Mullin will not have much out of it after their expenses are paid but the match with Little John is to come off May 1st and there will be much interest in that bout.

TO START A PRINTING OFFICE.

The Bank of Nova Scotia Have Engaged Mr. Lawson to Manage The It.

The Bank of Nova Scotia proposes to make a departure that may be an important bearing upon the printing trade. There are many branches of this institution all over the country and it is continually reaching out for new business in busy centres. The home office and the agencies use an enormous lot of printing of all kinds, much of which has for many years been furnished by an English firm. Now the bank proposes to have it done in Canada—in Halifax—but for this purpose it is going to equip a printing office of its own. They selected Mr. Lawson, foreman of the Globe job printing office in this city, to take charge of the bank printing office and he starts in a few days for the United States where he will select the type and presses and other machinery necessary. If the venture should result in saving the bank money there are other banking institutions in Halifax that might follow the example, such as the Union, Peoples, Merchants and Halifax Banking company. Some of them do not have many branches and consequently the quantity of printing required is smaller but all of them together use a lot of it.

From this city alone it is estimated that last year some \$80,000 worth of printing was got from Upper Canada. The amount may appear large but there has always been a large amount sent from Montreal and Toronto and last year the quantity was greater than ever. One traveller had no hesitation in saying that he took \$8,000 worth of orders in one trip. In some cities such a thing could not be said because the merchants would not encourage outside industries at the expense of our own but St. John is different. The "broad spirit of Canadianism" as understood by many of those who use large quantities of printing induces them to encourage the greatest freedom of trade between the upper and lower provinces. It is a poor rule that won't work both ways. St. John buys a good deal from Upper Canada. How much does she sell the merchants there? The balance of trade is the wrong way.

WHO ARE IN THE FIELD NOW.

Aldermanic Candidates who Appear and Disappear Weekly.

W. C. Radman Allan has his card out to the electors for Kings ward and his canvas—what he is able to make while busily engaged in moving his drug store to Charlotte street—is most successful. His probable opponent Oct. Armstrong has not made any sign as yet that he proposes to come.

Mr. J. A. Dawson this week told those who wanted him to be a candidate in Wellington that he would forego the pleasure this year and at present it looks as if Ald. Macrae would have no opposition.

The aldermen at large in the field are Capt. Kest, James Kelly, Ald. Haman, and Harris Allan. This will be the contest of the year.

Mr. Wallace's friends are working with earnestness for him and Mr. Storey is confident that he will have a large vote. Mayor Sears has not apparently given the matter much attention as yet.

There is a three cornered fight in Carleton where Mr. Belyea and Mr. Colwell are both opposing Mr. Smith.

In Lansdowne Dr. Smith is ill and unable to make a canvas but his friends are doing all they can for him.

Mr. Armstrong has not issued his card for Dufferin, and it is not known whether there will be a fight in Stanley or not.

To Assist Mr. Cassidy's Family.

The City Cornet band minstrels deserve a good deal of credit for this offer to assist the family of the late E. W. Cassidy so well known through his connection with the Canadian Pacific railway. There are nine children and the eldest is but seventeen years of age. The minstrels gave such enjoyment to a large number of people this week and this offer shows them as willing to give as to receive.



THE CLOSE OF THE SKATING SEASON.

From a photograph taken in the Victoria rink Saturday morning April 1st showing the Manager E. J. Armstrong, Payson Davidson, Mr. B. Stewart, the skater and many of the youthful ice flyers of the city.

To the Electors of the City of St. John,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

At the solicitation of a large number of the free and independent electors, including the managers of our largest and most popular banking institutions, owners of real estate, merchants, clerks in all branches of business; retired aldermen and members of the Common Council; ministers of the gospel, parish priests, to permit myself to be nominated as a candidate for the office of Mayor, for the ensuing year; after due consideration I have decided to accept their request and if elected, I will endeavour to start right, and pledge myself not to antagonise the council by sending in petty bills, for their consideration, for anything (such as shoe-blackening or the like) procured solely for my own personal use, and if I should personally invite any distinguished visitor to the city, to partake of my hospitality, I will do so at my own expense, and not embarrass the council by asking the overtaxed citizens to pay for my treat, more especially when the major part of such bill is for wine and cigars, as I am not partial to either myself.

If I am honored by an invitation, in my official capacity, to our next Exhibition, I will be pleased to accept and will not stand on my dignity, but will do all in my power to boom anything and everything tending to the advancement of our noble City by the Sea and if the admiralty should send one or two of the fleet to assist in celebrating the opening of the Exhibition (or my ascension to the Civic Chair) and I should make an official visit to said ship or ships, I will not slight the members of the council or any respectable representative citizen who may evince a desire to be present on that occasion, but will hire a boat or boat's large enough to accommodate the whole party, pay the bill and not worry the council by asking them to deliberate over such small matters, but will consider it a privilege and a pleasure to add to the pleasure and enjoyment of my fellow-citizens.

Yes.

There'll be music in the air,
There'll be music everywhere,
When I'm elected Mayor.

(Original.)

To fill this honorable position, the gift of the people, which, in my opinion, should never be begged or bought by any candidate and if any difficulty should arise between the council and myself, I will not vacate the chair or run away like a baby, but will endeavour to prove by ocular demonstration the power vested in the chair, and, thus will not upset the whole equilibrium of the council and which might be the means of defeating some important measure, such as appointing School Trustees or the like thus creating an unnecessary feeling of animosity in this otherwise peaceful community. But I will keep my place and take the consequences I by doing my best for the citizens generally, and will give the minority fair play in every case. I will do everything in my power to contribute to the comfort and pleasure of my fellow-citizens, in fostering, encouraging, promoting and extending that good feeling, at present existing, to a large extent, between all classes and orders in this community.

I am now in the hands of the electors and will be perfectly satisfied with the verdict whatever it may be.

JOHN K. STOREY.