

General Business.

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AND

Agricultural Warehouses.

\$85.00. - \$95.00.

The '97 Model.

MASSEY, HARRIS BICYCLE



Beautiful in Design!

Faultless in Construction!

The standard equipment of this bicycle is like the

most used, the best that can possibly be

Dunlop Tires, Perry Chain, Christy Saddle.

ALSO

FEATHERSTONE BICYCLE

'97 MODEL.

CONVENTION TANDERS.

The Price \$80; The Dobbies \$90; The Price \$80; The Dobbies \$90.

ALSO

DRS. G. J. & H. SPROUL

BURBON DISTILLERS.

Best Scotch Whisky for sale by the

Wholesale and Retail. Also

Miramichi Advance.

OCTOBER 7, 1897.

Politics and Cattle.

Political partisanship has done

a good deal of times in the way of

public injury, and even papers of

considerable pretensions do very

small things to gratify party prejudices.

We all know the sentiments of the

St. John Sun towards the local govern-

ment, and are always prepared for

manifestations of its antipathy in that

direction, but hardly anticipated such

an unwarranted attack as it made upon

them in connection with the recent

cattle importation. As everybody

familiar with the subject knows, the

matter was a superior job. The proof

of this is the fact that our farmers at-

tended the sale in large numbers and

the prices realized fared up just about

what was paid for the stock in the

upper provinces. The Sun, however,

criticized the government for importing

from Ontario instead of buying up

animals already in the province. As

the object of the importation was to

improve the stock of the province, it is

not easy to understand how it could

be done without increasing it by bring-

ing in additional pure-bred animals.

After slurring the importation in its

usual style it concludes as follows:—

"At this stage we do not say much

about the awful blunder of bringing

diseased stock into the province. There

is no longer any doubt that this has

been done, but yet it is not known

how many animals are affected, or what

number of previously healthy ones

have been exposed to the contagion. This

state of affairs is alarming enough,

but before much is said about it one

would like to be fully informed as to

how far this apparently criminal care-

lessness has involved the whole im-

portation."

It would be much better if the Sun,

instead of hinting about the "awful

blunder" etc., had informed itself more

fully and then stated the facts. That,

however, would not suit the purposes

of those who employ that paper to

carry on its crusade against the govern-

ment.

It might have given the government

some credit, the fact that the recent

importation was the first ever made

by the province in which the tubercu-

losus test was made a condition of the

purchase. It might also have ascer-

tained the fact that the ten Jerseys, of

which seven were said, after arrival, to

be unhealthy, were not mixed with the

other cattle in transport, but brought

along by themselves because there was

no time to test them according to the

government's instructions and the

commissioners deemed it undesirable to

leave them behind and make a second

shipment of them, especially as they

were at the owner's risk and the govern-

ment was not committed to their

purchase until they passed the test.

The Sun might have learned, had it

desired to be correctly informed, that

until the Jerseys were submitted to

the test, they were kept by

themselves and not offered for sale,

but remained subject to their owner's

order. If the importation had been

made under the conditions of former

ones, there would have been no test

and no discovery that these seven

were affected by tuberculous disease.

The Town's services under the law and

within the scope of the Council's powers,

to take charge of town affairs and put

them on an honest business basis. The

present Council has displayed either an

ignorance of its powers or a disregard of

the statutes under which it is constituted.

It has seemed to assume that because it

was elected for a period extending a year

it was authorized to expend the revenues

of more than two years. It is remark-

able, and a poor outlook for the road ser-

vice for next year, that although the

sentiments of the constituency fund have

been improperly directed to lessen the

over-expansion of the street fund there

will be comparatively nothing left for the

streets and sidewalks next year, unless

the assessment is very much in excess of

that first shown by the chairman of the

Finance Committee for this year. Every

property holder in Chatham knows what

the increase of his assessment has been

this year. We warn the ratepayers that

unless they ask our most competent citi-

zens of the business class to take hold of

town management, the errors and high

taxation which have characterized the

inauguration of Chatham's incorporation

will be continued. All political differ-

ences should be laid aside and an effort

made by requisitions to secure the aid

of Town Council, which will address itself

to the work of placing civic affairs on an

honest and non-descriptive basis. Men

should be chosen who will not be afraid

to present the obligations of the Town,

just as they are. They should be men

who cannot be deterred by personal

friendships, or any other influences, from

placing before the ratepayers an honest

statement of the obligations both

legally and ethically entered into by the

first Town Council, not only direct but

indirectly. They should be men who

will require that their specification of

the public building work under construction

was of the best quality, of first price, of

economical and many of the building's

most important requirements eliminated

when tenders were asked. The gentlemen

of the present Council, so many of whom

pretend that they do not wish to seek

re-election, ought to have the honesty to

state whether they, personally, consented

to having the items referred to omitted from

the contract requirements, with the view

of deceiving the ratepayers as to the

probable cost of this building. If they

did not do so, they should state whether

they were, themselves, deceived by their

associates and voted blindly to commit

the Town to a debt of at least \$5,000,

for which there is no legal provision.

Ratepayers should carefully read the

reports submitted to the Town Council on

Monday evening, as published in another

column. It now appears that since the

ADVANCE placed what could be ascertain-

ed in reference to the probable cost of the

new building before the public, the gen-

tleman of the Council have concluded

that they should show some disposition

to let the ratepayers know something in

reference to the magnitude of the under-

taking. There are signs also that they

would prefer to see separate schools estab-

lished rather than continue the system

now in operation. My own idea is to

incorporate religious instruction with

the public school system would be

preferable to establishing voluntary schools

as they are now called."

Chatham Town Council.

The regular monthly meeting of Chatham

town council was held on Monday evening

last, the Mayor presiding. The Mayor

read a letter from the Hon. J. B. Fraser,

Minister of Agriculture, in relation to

the importation of cattle from Ontario.

The Mayor reported that he had

received a letter from the Hon. J. B. Fraser,

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