

## TERMS:

The price of the Torch will be \$1.00 a year, payable in advance—post paid to any address in Canada or the United States.

## TO CLUBS.

Ten copies one year, in one wrapper to one address. \$10, with extra copy to person getting up Club.

Parties remitting should either Register their letters or send Money Order payable to the order of JOSEPH S. KNOWLES.

## ADVERTISING RATES:

	per inch.	half col.	1 column.
1st insertion	\$1.00	\$4.00	\$6.00
Subsequent	50	2.00	3.00
Per month	2.00	9.00	13.00
Per quarter	5.00	21.00	26.00
Per half year	10.00	40.00	50.00
Per year	17.00	60.00	75.00

★ Cards \$10 per year.

★ Special notices \$1 first ins., 1 line or 1/2.

All communications to be addressed,

"Torch,"

St. John, N. B.

The Torch will be for sale at the following places:

H. R. SMITH, Charlotte street;  
W. K. CRAWFORD, King street;  
E. HANLEY & CO., King street;  
J. E. FROST, Union street;  
F. BLACKADAR, Carleton;  
C. BELYEA, Portland.

Single Copies—Two Cents.

## TORCH

JOSEPH S. KNOWLES,.....Editor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 13, 1878.

## THE HARBOR COMMISSION.

It is a strange fact that in a city like St. John a great undertaking can hardly be brought to the brink of successful accomplishment, without the interference of a marplot. Some self-important individuals must be the head and front of the scheme or they will do all they can to fight it.

This has been the recent history of the Harbor Commission scheme. For several years there has been a growing feeling in the community that while the Harbor property was so valuable a possession to the city, yet the cost of bringing it to the full measure of efficiency was so great, that the City Corporation, with limited means at its disposal, could not undertake the task. While the Harbor remained in this position, of course the trade of the port had to suffer a loss proportionate to the inefficiency of the Harbor. In view of this the Common Council of the city, in accord with almost the entire mercantile community, and assisted at that time by the Board of Trade, made an effort to have the Harbor put into the hands of a Commission, as are the Harbors of Montreal and Quebec.

Representatives from the Council and the Board of Trade valued the public property and the Harbor, and after long and careful consideration arrived at the valuation on the basis of which the Dominion Government lately agreed to carry into effect the Harbor Commission scheme. We should have supposed that so desirable a consummation would have been gladly received—and in point of fact it was so received, except by the people who had helped make the first valuation, but who were dissatisfied because they did not share in the glory of perfecting the scheme. These malcontents now say that the calculation they made some years ago, when the Harbor properties were less valuable than they are to-day, were incor-

rect and placed the valuation at too high a figure—they take the very strange ground that the Corporation are putting too high a price on their property. It is very probable that the scheme will thus be burked, for the Government will naturally say, you should agree among yourselves before you ask us to act. In this matter, at least, if an injury is done to the trade of the port, the blame will not rest upon the Corporation, but upon the obstructionists from the Board of Trade.

JOSH MUTE'S LETTER IN OUR NEXT.

Alderman Kett went up to Fredericton yesterday morning.

Mr. Brough gave one of his pleasing entertainments at the Institute last evening.

A comic paper depends a good deal upon funds for support.

PERSONAL.—H. D. McLeod, Esq., left for Bangor on Thursday morning. He expects to return this evening.

PERSONAL.—Mr. R. L. Patterson, of Messrs. Millar & Richards's Type Foundry, Toronto, is at the Waverly.

All those poems, sent to us, about "Beautiful Spring," are lies.

THE NEW TOWN CLOCK has arrived in Fredericton, and the Celestials anticipate having a "good time."

The N. Y. Herald thinks there is a good deal of bombast in England's demands of Russia. There probably will be some bomb-busting if Russia don't come to terms.

We are thinking of discontinuing our chess column. Does any one say "No?"—Deater Smith's.

You had better pawn-sler over it a Knight or two before doing so. But perhaps you are only cheating.

HOW TO MAKE CHOCOLATE.—Ask any school boy, who will tell you that when he's late in getting to school, the master will chalk-a-late mark against him, which is redeemed after school, when he knows which is switch.

Sad!

Notwithstanding the efforts of the Reform Club, nearly all of our citizens, (male and female) as well as a large number of Commercial Travellers, have appeared on the streets considerably mud-dled during the past fortnight.

THE FIRST THREE FILMS in the "Racy Items" department of last week's North Sydney Herald were taken from the editorial department of the Torch without credit. Now we like our children to be noticed when they go abroad, but, if not asking too much, we should like to have their paternity acknowledged.

JUDGE GILBERT thinks the Candy Lottery is sandy-lous and out to be put down. The small boys evidently agree with him, judging from the rapidity with which they "put down" the candy.

We direct attention to the card of Mr. Norris Best, in our advertising columns. He keeps the best of goods in his line. Nothing ironical intended.

## OTTAWA LUMINOUS LIGHTS.

BY "LUCIFER."

Ornament of the Speaker's Ball—Jette set with Diamonds.

Does Plumb Rhyme—all the time.

A "hard ticket" in the Senate—FLINT.

A good name, among the members of the House of Commons in Ottawa, to make game of—Ro-billiard's.

Has Senator Penny anything to do with Mr. Huntington's Copper mines?

If a LITTLE BABY has the BOWELL complaint give it some PENNY Royal.

A member of the Commons from whom "streams of eloquence" should flow—Brooks.

Would you expect a RAY of light from LA-PLAME?

In the row between Bunster and Cheval what was De cause-o' muss?

There is one member of the House who, though he has plenty of money, strange to say, is always "Short."

A man Met-calf and thought he'd Kill-im, and after the Skinner had taken the hide off he gave it to the Carrier and passed the Flesher part to the Cook to be served up with some Rabbit-taille soup and Plumb jelly for dinner on Easter Sunday.

Is there much of a Frechette on the Ottawa this Spring?

Why can't Dymond get up a "ring" in the House? A sort of Dymond ring.

CONCERT.—The Concert at the Institute on Monday evening was not as well attended as its merits deserved, and it does not speak well for the members of the Reform Club, considering their numerical strength, that they did not sustain it more liberally. The singing, both chorus and solo, was very good. Mr. Akерley sang "Maid of Athens" very sweetly, but had not time to respond to an enthusiastic encore. Mr. G. H. Clarke, who said his time was unlimited, responded to three encores. Mr. R. L. Patterson, a Toronto gentleman, recited "The Charge of the Light Brigade" in a spirited manner, and, in response to a burst of applause, gave "The Church Burning at Santiago" in first class style. This piece, being of a pathetic nature, was in strong contrast to the spirited character of "The Light Brigade." The scene from "King John," by the Misses Denham and Rutherford, was well rendered—Miss Rutherford's part being particularly good. The elocution was almost faultless, and her gestures were in good taste and natural.

A young daughter of Mr. Levi Young played a piano solo very nicely. Mr. G. H. Lee gave two readings, and Miss L. Hughes gave a reading from Mark Twain's "Innocent's Abroad" in such good style as to secure her a recall, when she kept the audience in roars of laughter with a description of "Father's difficulties in addressing his lady." The performance closed with "God Save the Queen."

THE 62ND BATTALION BAND, assisted by a number of lady and gentlemen amateurs, gave a very successful Concert at the Institute on Thursday evening. The instrumental piece, "Pique Dame," by Miss Estelle F. DeVine and Prof. DeVine, and "Gems from the Opera," by the Band, were especially pleasing.

ST. JOHN HOTEL CORNER TO BE RE-BUILT.—The plans of the block of Stores, &c., to be erected on the corner of King and Charlotte Streets are in course of preparation in the offices of Henry N. Black, Architect of this city. The work to commence about May 1st. The building will be very bold and effective in design and substantial in construction.