

Earnings of Politicians.

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Paper called attention to the enormous sums that are paid into the capacious pockets of New York officials in the shape of fees; and it urges a change to fixed but liberal salaries.

In this country, \$50,000 is considered a competence, and a fair and full return to a man of fifty years of age for the honest services of his many years.

Our City Councilors.

The problem of getting something for nothing has never been so satisfactorily solved to the present day, and the results of speculators and philosophers all tend to the one opinion, that good men in any case command money for their time.

What a promising gathering! His Honor Recorder Hanson gave upon from his throne, and what changes he has seen during his occupation as Counsel to the Corporation!

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The son of lake. The family went into the fish Stronberg, where the name he came corrupted into Blake. Ap Blake was one of the knights of Arthur's Round Table.

From this we infer that a forefather of Premier Ap Lake, like the immortal Ap Toffee, was a Welshman at some very remote period of the World's History; and in the fact that Wales has ever been a mountainous country and given to stone quarries, we have a satisfactory explanation of Mr. Blake's position as a clear gift.

If Morgan Blake's theory we should like to hear from him.

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An Eminent Expert—A New Aid to Justice.

Of late years, a new and curious profession has come into vogue. We allude to that of "experts" in handwriting.

These gentlemen's services have for some time been repeatedly called in request in England, especially in disputed will cases, but they seldom made much impression either on Judge or jury until there arose a master in the craft, Mr. Chabot.

It was through a case which occurred a few years since in the London Probate Court, that this gentleman was brought into the first rank of his very limited profession, of which a Mr. Netherfield had up to that time been the chief.

When Mr. Chabot's evidence to the will of a wealthy old man was given, the other side claimed that the will was genuine, the other that it was a forgery.

When the turn came for Mr. Chabot's evidence to be given, the counsel for the will gave a contemptuous smile at the expert assembled the box, and my Lord looked back in his chair in a manner which indicated "I know how much this sort of testimony is worth."

By degrees, however, matters underwent a change. Counsel for the will became particularly assured in his bearing. Counsel for the will edged in his seat, and what was more important, my Lord arched himself and began to take notes.

Mr. Chabot descended from the witness-box had broken the will. The Judge, in summing up, said that he must confess that previous experience had not disposed him to place much reliance on testimony of this description, but the present case was an exception.

Mr. Chabot's evidence was certainly most remarkable. The point which this accomplished gentleman drew special attention to was the fact that he had examined page after page of writing, which was admitted by either side to be that of the deceased, and in no case had he found the vowel "O" connected with the other letters in the word in which it occurred; whereas, in the document alleged to be forged, "O" sometimes stood alone, sometimes was joined on to the neighboring letters.

Mr. Chabot's services are now in constant demand, and he ought to be making a very large income. The Tietborne case must alone have put a great many pounds in his pocket.

Quite recently he has been employed in two notable suits. One of these—"Erickson vs Erickson and others"—is a divorce case. A mail-servant, as often happens in such suits, is a prominent witness. She, it appears, kept a diary, in which she recorded suspicious circumstances.

The other case was one of libel, in which a lady named Dilks was plaintiff, and the defendant was Mr. Shephard. The effect of her testimony was to weaken the case of the plaintiff.

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School Meetings.

We give below the names of the School Trustees elected yesterday so far as heard from and their various districts.

St. John's County: No. 1—Sand Cove—Trustees, Dr. John Waddell, E. D. Jewett, and Wm. Kane, and A. H. Demill Auditor.

St. John's County: No. 2—Fairville—Trustees, Joseph Murray, Dr. McFarlane, John Mely, Assessment \$9,000.

St. John's County: No. 3—Manawagonish—Trustees, Oscar D. Wetmore, James Quinton and John Lord, and Thomas G. Olive Auditor. Assessment \$300 for current expenses, as they have a good school room already.

St. John's County: No. 4—Maquah—Trustees, C. F. Clineh, J. E. Knight and John Dunn. Assessment for all purposes \$1,400.

St. John's County: No. 5—Sparr's Cove and Misquito Cove—Trustees, Michael Evans, James Pagan and Oliver Emery. Assessment \$1,000.

St. John's County: No. 6—Marshall Road—Trustees, Edward G. Scovill, T. City Crookbank, Gilbert Ross; Auditor, Geo. G. Gilbert. \$4,000 to be borrowed.

St. John's County: No. 7—Little River—Trustees, Thomas Curry, James Davidson and Thomas Lee, and James L. Dunn Auditor. \$500 to be assessed for teachers.

St. John's County: No. 8—Penobscia; Trustees, Robert Pugsley, Wm. Stone and Gideon McLeod; Auditor, George Morton. An assessment ordered of \$2,000 for teachers' support and erection of a suitable building was ordered.

St. John's County: No. 9—Central Norton; Trustees elected. An assessment ordered of \$4.00.

St. John's County: No. 10—Parish of Hampton; Hampton Station. Trustees elected, and an assessment of \$4,000 ordered.

St. John's County: No. 11—Hampton Village; Trustees elected. An assessment of \$200 was ordered.

St. John's County: No. 12—Rothsay; Trustees, Stephen S. Hall, M. F. Manks and R. Titus, Trustees, and N. T. Perkins, Auditor. Assessment of \$800 was ordered, with \$500 additional to pay the interest and \$4,000 to be borrowed.

St. John's County: No. 13—Long Island; Trustees, John Redmond, and John D. Green. For general school purposes, \$275 was voted, and \$475 for a building.

St. John's County: No. 14—Charlotte County; St. Andrews; Trustees, Charles O'Neill, Robert Stevenson and Charles Hatheway, and N. T. Grant, Auditor.

St. John's County: No. 15—St. George; Trustees: A. H. Gilmer, St. George, Trustees, and J. E. Lynott; Auditor, St. Johnson. For school assessment, irrespective of County Fund, \$11,100 was ordered.

St. John's County: No. 16—Milltown; Trustees, Charles Todd and Messrs. Harned and Daly. For school purposes, \$12,000 was voted, \$8,000 of which to be raised by loan.

St. John's County: No. 17—Bay Verte—Trustees, C. A. Black, M. D., Godfrey Liddell and James Scott; Trustees, and J. E. Lynott; Auditor, St. Johnson. For school assessment, irrespective of County Fund, \$11,100 was ordered.

St. John's County: No. 18—Kent County; Richibucto—Daniel O'Leary, James D. Phinney and William Brown were elected Trustees. For school purposes, \$900 was ordered to be assessed.

St. John's County: No. 19—Westford; Trustees, Anthony Roach, David Lawson and Wm. Clair. Assessment of \$130 for general school purposes ordered.

St. John's County: No. 20—York County; Canterbury—Trustees, York County, Trustees, Robert Robinson, M. P. P., and D. H. Badger; Auditor, A. Bennett. A teacher is engaged at \$600.

St. John's County: No. 21—Westmorland County; Salisbury—Trustees, F. S. Stevens, A. L. Wright and James Bentley, and E. N. Kay Auditor. \$2,000 was voted.

St. John's County: No. 22—Moncton—Trustees, C. B. Record, John McKenzie, Edward Mcweeney, Furland, school houses, 46, 60, 69; for teachers \$1,450, for rent and fuel \$150.

St. John's County: No. 23—Dorchester—Trustees, D. L. Haington, S. W. Palmer and Palmer Palmer, for district No. 2. An assessment of \$775 for two teachers and \$2,500 for a school house was ordered.

St. John's County: No. 24—No. 3—Sackville—Trustees, Thomas Pickard, William Morrice and John Ford. For general school purposes \$2,000 was voted. A loan of \$5,000 for buildings for three graded schools was authorized.

St. John's County: No. 25—The "Valuable Mill" Property. This valuable property situated on Salmon River near the dividing line of St. John and Albert Counties, was purchased last year by an American Company, of which Mr. Eastman is the Manager.

St. John's County: No. 26—The Moncton Times informs us that the Company have since erected a new store and high across Salmon River, and erected the frame of a large mill. It is said that works will be in operation in this mill early next season, and many teams are now in the woods getting timber.

St. John's County: No. 27—A Drawback to Honest Industry. The late steam distillery a considerable amount of injury to the ship building interest it did not, like the Sackville factory, destroy the forest trees of which spars and timbers are constructed, nor did it wreck the wharves. At Red's Point wharf there with the utmost exactness it covered the frames and timbers of vessels on the stocks with an icy coating that has considerably retarded work on most new vessels. So our correspondent writes us, and we presume the statement applies to vessels building in the suburbs of St. John as well.

Repairing Telegraph Wires.

In no department of business has there been more marked improvement, in our Province, in recent years, than in that of Electric Telegraphy. Since the days when Mr. James Mount, at present of the Bank of New Brunswick, consulted the Staff of the St. John office, what strides have been witnessed! The St. John Staff now includes a dozen persons; five wires, instead of one, run to the westward and up river, and nearly as many eastward; the office is itself forming a large force of employees.

The repairing of Telegraph Lines is now an anxious and responsible duty,—at times very harassing and arduous. Subsequent to the recent storm, the labors of the repairs in the vicinity of St. John were remarkably onerous. Men were obliged to work at night as well as day, with the thermometer lower than it had been at any date since the winter opened. The breaks were almost unnumbered. Between the Yorkshire Tavern and Justice Robinson's, on the St. Andrew's Road, the weight of sleet broke the wires in two hundred places in a distance of two miles! No man could run the wires in the snow, and the men were obliged to descend from the sleet covered poles; for in one instance, Mr. Williams, a resident repairer, fell from the top of a pole to the ground, a distance of 40 feet, and was severely injured. It is likely the case will be finished to-morrow.

Shipping Notes.

The schooner "Rough Diamond," Patterson, Master, which stranded on Hampton Beach 4th inst., as previously reported, was sold at auction on Saturday last to J. W. Picher of Boston, for \$415.00. Mr. Picher is now making arrangements to get her off if possible.

Amongst the list of International Code of Signals, piloted by the Registrar General of Seamen, at London, during the week ending 13th ult., we find two St. John vessels, viz: bark "Sarnia," W. R. D. G. and bark "Etina," W. R. D. G.

The schooner "Vincent White" is at Liverpool, N. S., having been obliged to put in there leaky, with loss of sails and mainmast. She was on a passage from Halifax to Yarmouth, coal laden.

The following new vessels are lying in our harbor almost ready for sea:—The ship "Stokeman," 1,400 tons, built by Nevins & Fraser, and owned by Messrs. Novis, Burpee and others. She has on board a cargo of deals and birch for Liverpool, and is expected to sail for Liverpool on Wednesday. Her length of keel is 152 feet, breadth of beam 33 feet 8 inches, depth of hold 19 feet 9 inches. She is built of bay spruce and pitch pine, copper fastened and thoroughly iron keel, and is classed in the Register as a 3rd class. Her construction reflects great credit on Mr. Kennedy, the foreman of the yard, to whom is due the extra fine finish which gives her an appearance of grandeur. Her owners intend her for the general trading business. She is chartered to load deals for Stranraer.

The new bark "St. Andrew," registered about 280 tons, built at Yarmouth by Messrs. Robert Lovitt, and owned by Messrs. Hall and Fairweather, Luke Stewart, Magee Ross, Messrs. Gadsde, butchers, Charles Turnbull and the Captain, Mr. Malcolm McLean, came into port on Wednesday. Her length of keel is 152 feet, breadth of beam 33 feet 8 inches, depth of hold 19 feet 9 inches. She is built of bay spruce and pitch pine, copper fastened and thoroughly iron keel, and is classed in the Register as a 3rd class. Her construction reflects great credit on Mr. Kennedy, the foreman of the yard, to whom is due the extra fine finish which gives her an appearance of grandeur. Her owners intend her for the general trading business. She is chartered to load deals for Stranraer.

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