

Chiquetto Post.

SACKVILLE, N. B., JAN. 12, 1871.

The Late Westmorland Election.

The triumph of Daniel L. Hanington, Esq., at being elected with such an overwhelming majority for the County of Westmorland, is not only a triumph for his return being petitioned against for bribery and corruption. We are acquainted with what specific charges are made against Mr. Hanington, and regret for the sake of all parties—of Mr. Hanington, the member elect, and Mr. Herbert, the petitioner—that any supposed reasonable cause existed for the complaint. There is, however, a law on the Statute Book, to which every candidate is amenable, and of which every voter has the privilege of taking the benefit. We learn Mr. Herbert says: "My election—I do not spend one cent—not cost me one copper: I'll let them repeat say they not buy vote over my head. If there is anything in the law, I spend my little farm to show it up." If Mr. Herbert is aggrieved, he must certainly have a right as a British subject, to appeal to the law for redress; and without doing more than this referring to the petition preferred against Mr. Hanington, we turn our attention to the law as it now stands, and the evils it was intended to redress.

The evils under which the country was laboring, were the bribery and corruption accompanying our elections, and the farcical scrutinies before a Legislative Committee. To speak more particularly of the County of Westmorland, it is notorious that for the last eighteen years there never has been a contested election, but money has been spent to secure the return of the successful candidate. During, and prior to, the agitation for Confederation, the sums paid in open, public buying of votes, and other descriptions of bribery, were enormous; and if became at last perfectly notorious, that no man, however well qualified, could obtain a seat in the House of Assembly for Westmorland, unless he spent a sum more than sufficient to purchase a good farm, or succeeded in forming a joint in the tail of some politician, who bought him and had the benefit of his services. It was a crying evil in the land, making our elections a burlesque on self-government, and a matter of disgust and serious reflection to every thinking man. Practically, seats in the Legislature were bought by him who spent the most money, so that our laws, our liberties, and all we held dear, became subject to a monied oligarchy, who gained power and honor (God save the mark!) by corrupting the constituency, and exercising the patronage they obtained in rewarding their partisans, and corrupting and securing new followers, until the vile trade of politics stunk in every decent man's nostrils. To obtain redress against such corruption, an appeal had to be made to the House of Assembly, and the result of any such application was at once known as soon as the politics of the election committee were known. This state of things had, with a mushroom growth, acquired such proportions, that it threatened to wholly destroy the character of the people and our Government, by corrupting the moral sense of the country, ruin the political character of our Legislature, by proving the inability of the people to carry on responsible Government, and placing the country under a monied compact, more tyrannical than ever existed in the Province, even in the darkest days of the old irresponsible Family Compact.

It was to attack this monstrous and destructive evil, that a Bill was brought in the Legislature, in 1869, by Mr. King, the now Attorney General, for more effectually preventing bribery and corruption at the election of members, and for the trial of election petitions. This Bill was pressed through the Legislature by Mr. King, and became a law of the land; and if this law formed the only act of Mr. King's political career, he could point to it with pride, as worthy the labors of a life-time, and all honor to him for it. This law, which contains seventy different sections, is taken from the English law, modified to suit the circumstances of the country, and strikes at the root of bribery and corruption. By one section, if any candidate, or any other person in his behalf, whether specially authorized for such purpose, or authorized generally to act in procuring his election, give, allow, or offer, or promise to give,

allow, or procure, to or for any elector, any money, present, gift, loan, valuable consideration, reward, office or employment, to induce an elector to vote, or refrain from voting, he shall be deemed to have committed bribery, this seat declared void, and he disqualified for six years thereafter of sitting in the Assembly, or being registered as a voter, or of holding any appointment or office under the authority of the Government in Council; and giving or providing, or paying, wholly or in part, any expenses, or providing meat, drink, or provision, in the nature of refreshment, to or for any person, to vote or refrain from voting at an election, is declared to be guilty of treating, and vacates the seat. The section is very ample in its words, and covers the evil complained of. The remedy for its violation is by petition to the Supreme Court, and the trial is before one of its Judges. We will not go over the different sections, which prescribe the legal proceedings to be taken. They are drawn for the purpose of having a trial of the questions of bribery or treating, as may be alleged against the member complained of, and are calculated to enable the Judge to arrive at a correct decision.

The petition now preferred against Mr. Hanington is the first that has been presented under this new law, and from that circumstance has excited unusual interest. We repeat, we regret Mr. Hanington, who suffered defeat the last summer, and through, we believe, instrumentalities which would have unseated some, if not most, of the successful candidates, should be thus doubly victimized; but if he did not choose to avail himself of the protection afforded him by the law of the land, there is no reason why Mr. Herbert should be compelled to follow his example. We hope there will be in Westmorland, and all over the Province, a thorough reformation in our elections, by which our people may be educated and elevated to a proper discharge of their electoral duties; for upon that depends the character of our institutions. One step in that direction is bringing into operation Mr. King's Bill; for if the law be not acted on, it is worse than useless; and without intimating the slightest opinion about the legal proceedings now in progress—for we know nothing, and have no opinion about the matter—we are glad to see that, like many useful laws, its usefulness is not likely to be destroyed by it becoming a dead letter on the Statute Book.

Cumberland Sessions.

The General Sessions of the Peace met on Tuesday, 9th inst. Owing to the bad state of roads, there was but a limited attendance of Justices. The place of the late Custos—Stephen Fulton, Esq., deceased, was occupied by the newly appointed Custos; John K. Elderkin, Esq., who, for the first attempt presided over the deliberations of the Court with ability. A letter of condolence was presented to the widow and family of the late Custos. An address of congratulation was presented by the Grand Jury to the new Custos. Two Local Acts were read preparatory to bringing them before Legislature. One of them was for changing the time for taking the valuation of property, on which County school, and poor rates and franchise are based. At present the valuation is taken in November, after the farmers have harvested in their crops, and their barns and cellars are bursting with agricultural wealth. Consequently in comparison with other classes, their property is over-estimated. The proposed amendment will change the time of valuation to June, when it is supposed all classes will be on an equal footing. The other Act is one for superseding the Grand Jury and Court of Sessions, appointing to their office a Council of twenty-four Justices—two Justices to be elected from each polling district at town meetings. A great struggle ensued over the question of Licence. On Saturday when the question was put twenty votes were thrown for Licence and thirteen against; many not voting and some having left for their homes. A correspondent writes us that "so determined was a majority of the Justices to grant Licences that they would not have the petitions for Licence examined, to see if the names attached were genuine rate-payers or not, and that the Methodist class-leader and the Baptist Deacon voted side by side for Licence." The sum of \$3,900 was appropriated for County expenses, and \$6,100, for education.

The War in Europe.

The bombardment of Paris commenced on the evening of the 9th, and thousands of shells fell that night in the outskirts of the city, creating havoc, and killing women and children. The guns have reached the Hotel des Invalides in Champ de Mars, and shells fell in Montmartre, and some persons were killed in the Church of St. Sulpice. The bombardment is more and more severe, and becoming very destructive. Vigorous sorties and desperate fighting are of daily occurrence, but resulting in repulses of the French. On Thursday last, the bombardment was terrible; Luxembourg, Hotel des Invalides, and Champ de Mars, were reached by a rain of shells from the German batteries, some weighing 16 kilogrammes, and continued without intermission. A shell fell every two minutes between the Church St. Sulpice and the Museum; the unrivalled works of art in the Luxembourg Palace and Museum are destroyed; hospitals, schools, churches, and private houses suffer terribly. Shocking scenes of death and destruction occur; women killed on the streets and in their beds, and infants in their mothers' arms. Paris is transformed into a battle-field more shocking than Sedan. The continuous explosion of shells, the falling walls, the burning buildings, together with the dead and wounded, present a dreadful picture of the ruin and desolation of war, scarcely equalled the present century; yet the women are as brave as the men, and none manifest any sign of surrender.

The defeat of the Army of the Loire has been confirmed, and the French loss during the three days' fight was about 16,000; the German loss the same. Gen. Chanzy, the commander of the Army of the Loire, is sick, but a further engagement is looked for. The Prussians at Dieppe have extorted a levy of 50,000 francs. The Prussians have captured Peronne, which is regarded in military circles as very important in securing a line of advance, and the French commander there has been summoned by Gen. Faidherbe to appear before a court martial for capitulating.

Latest press despatches say the French Government accuses Prussians of barbarity and violation of the rules of warfare. In return, Bismarck cites violations of Geneva Convention, and says the French have no desire for peace; also that France must herself ask for peace before there will be any cessation of hostilities. The fire of the French forts on the eastern side of Paris falls with destructive power on the Prussian works. Gen. Chusey fought another battle on Sunday, and continues to hold his enemy well in check while retreating.

A despatch from Versailles, 6th, says Gen. Von Werder was seriously attacked yesterday by four French corps in his position at Belfort. The battle lasted nine hours, and at dark was victoriously repulsed at all points.

Cumberland County Accounts.

The following is a summary of the presentment of the Grand Jury for 1871, assented to by the Court of Sessions. The expenditure for 1870 in the items and the general result was about the same as that proposed for 1871. The taxation amounts to about one-fifth per cent. of the property owned; this is exclusive of poor rates, which have to be provided for by each of the twelve polling districts.

Assessors, \$241; Revisors, \$102; Laying out roads, \$24; Land damages for roads, \$248,000; Police Constables, &c., \$79; Examination of Bridges, \$40; Attending Draw Bridges at Pugwash, River Philip and Wallace, \$141; Printing, \$30; Jailors Bill, \$313; Sheriff's do., \$269; Jury fees, 1871, \$275; Clerk of the Peace, Salary, \$250; do. Bill, \$30; Treasurer's Salary, \$125; Lunatic Asylum, \$1,000; Education, \$6,100; Sundries, \$636.91;—Total, \$10,009.00.

Reduction in Telegraphy.

The "Telegraph" says: "After January 1st the tariff from Sackville N. B. to all offices on the Montreal Telegraph Company's Lines in New Brunswick and Quebec Provinces, is fixed at twenty-five cents for the first ten words, and one cent for each additional word."

The above is correct as far as it goes. Telegrams are sent from Sackville to distance of about 1500 miles, for 25 cents for the first ten words, and one cent for each additional word. This is the cheapest telegraphing in the world, and it pays. The Stock of the Montreal Telegraph Company, is now in demand at \$220.

"What Ought a Farmer to Know?"

The first Monthly Club Meeting of Sackville and Westmorland Agricultural Society, this season, took place on Thursday evening last at the Hall of Westmorland Point. The meeting was well attended and the discussion on the subject "What Ought a Farmer to know?" was spirited and interesting. The President of the Society, Mr. Sharpe, presided. The speakers were Messrs. Pickard, Howard Trueman, Calvin Trueman, Jno. Cahill, Harmon Humphrey, Jno. T. Carter, Robt. Bell and Thos. Vickery.

Mr. H. Trueman contended that Agriculturalists, as a rule, were the most hard-worked class in the community, and that they had not the time for much mental culture, nor the means to highly educate their children.

Mr. Harmon Humphrey dissented from this, and thought that farmers had a much easier time than the hard-worked professional men or trader, and that the returns for his labor were more sure and remunerative. He drew a picture between the farmer tending his sheep before the fire of a long winter evening, and enjoying his Agricultural paper, and the Doctor, hurried out in the cold and wet to attend a patient, or a Lawyer harassing his brains over some puzzling case.

Mr. Vickery held out a warning to young men who, desiring to lead a life of ease, deserted the farm for the shop, and the plough for the yard stick. In a Merchant's life there was no time for that rest and ease, and no chance for that solid independence, there was in a farmer's.

The opinion generally expressed was that a farmer could not study, and know too much about his business, and that too much ignorance existed.

Mr. Calvin Trueman gave a statement of an account he had kept the last season with a three acre field. Charging for all the labor, hauling manure, cultivating and harvesting the crop, and crediting the produce at what he considered a fair valuation. "Two-thirds of the field was in roots—potatoes, carrots and turnips and one-third in oats. Debts \$103.00; Credit \$263, leaving a balance of \$159.40 for the manure, rent of land and profits."

Loss of Brig. "Afton."

The brig, "Afton," Capt. Blanche, owned by M. Wood, Esq., which sailed a few days since from Sackville for the West Indies, went on Seal Island, off Machias, last Monday week, in thick weather. The crew made their escape to the land, supposing the vessel would be a total loss. She, however, floated off, and drifted to the Nova Scotia coast, where she was picked up a derelict and towed into Yarmouth harbor, where she now lies. The Captain is sick at Seal Island; the rest of the crew have reached Eastport on their way home. There is no insurance on the vessel or cargo, and it is feared the vessel will be a total loss.

The following are the crew: Thos. Blanch, Master;—Bent, Fort Lawrence, first mate; Elijah Chase, Sackville, second mate;—Cockier, Wood Point; Wm. Hicks, Fairfield, and two colored men.

Who that has seen a dangerous disease arrested by an able physician or a good medicine but values both? Be it your family physician to whom you owe so many escapes from aches and ails, or Dr. Ayer's inimitable remedies:—his Sarsaparilla that renewed your vitality or Cherry Pectoral that cured a painful cough, or his Ague Cure that expelled the freezing ague and burning fever from your blood. Who that has been relieved by any of these agencies but feels grateful for them all? [Buzzer Times.]

"PIONEER DIVISION."—The following are the officers of "Pioneer Division," No. 15, S. of T., as installed by Pro. Dep. C. E. Knapp, on the 11th instant: W. B. Wallace, W. P.; E. V. Tait, W. A.; J. A. Dickson, W. S.; A. T. Hicks, W. P.; J. Weldon, Treas.; J. McMillin, Con.; G. Davis, A. C.; W. Weatherly, L. S.; A. McMillin, O. S.; W. M. Ross, P. W. P.

LIFE has few charms for the Dyspeptic, which is not to be wondered at when we take into the account the amount of bodily and mental suffering that this distressing malady generates. The Peruvian Syrup (a potent and safe remedy) has cured thousands who were suffering from this disease.

DROWNED.—A correspondent at the Shubenichuan sends us the following:

"Drowned in Shubenichuan River, on the 25th ult., another Brownish, son of Mr. Timothy T. Brownell. The body was recovered on the morning of the 25th. The parents were from home and it is supposed that after dinner he went on the river to skate—when the ice gave way on the channel. He had broken the ice for forty-five feet in his desperate struggle to escape; but poor boy, all his efforts were in vain and he at last sunk. J. M."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Dorchester.

To the Editor of the Chiquetto Post: On Wednesday evening, 11th inst., with a view of re-constituting "Pioneer Division," No. 15, S. of T., pursuant to a resolution passed at a meeting previously held for that purpose, quite a number of persons assembled at the Temperance Hall. Mr. John Weldon was nominated chairman, and after the necessary motions were carried, Charles E. Knapp, Esq., having been deputized by the Grand Division to officiate at the ceremonies, duly opened the Division—initiating officers, &c. This Division is one of the oldest in the Province, having been organized in August, 1848, and for some years after the commencement numbered between 100 and 200 members. The prospects for keeping it in good working order are at the present time very favorable, and if the members can only be impressed with the knowledge of the good accruing from the example set by them, and not manifest that apathy, alas, too often indulged in by those belonging to former societies in this place, I trust it will flourish.

Speculation is on the tip-toe of excitement, awaiting the revelation of the facts in the scrutiny case against our lately elected Local Representative, Mr. Herbert—bolstered by Mr. Gilbert, his attorney, so much so that the chief actor in this despicable comedy. Such an in-act has never before been offered to the independent electors of this, or any other county in the Province. To say that the suffrages of the major part of the voting inhabitants of Westmorland County were bought, when by such an overwhelming majority it was undisputedly shown in what channel public sentiment flowed, is indeed so insulting a character as to demand a heavy censure against those connected with this transaction. Any man considered worthy to be trusted about with a silver ring in his nose? * * * If the electors intend maintaining their independence, let them take the very first opportunity of showing how highly they are respected and complimented they are by these insinuations. The costs of this petition will be enormous, not only to the losing party, but to the Province, which has to bear the expenses of the Judge, Sheriff, and a properly constituted Court. Our ex-Member, Mr. Landry, was about correct when he said, "We must look out for the man who promises too much," and here we have a striking instance in these parties, who, if they had to delay the expenses of Court, would not perhaps be quite so eager in proceeding with this matter.

Yours, &c. JONADAB.

Dorchester, Jan. 16, 1871.

Whom Can We Trust?

To the Editor of the Chiquetto Post:

Referring on your honesty to at all times, as far as in you lies, check falsehood and duplicity, especially in all places, I venture to ask you to publish the following. The death of our venerable Custos for Cumberland County, Stephen Fulton, Esq., left a blank not easily filled. He was a man of candor and ability, and would not swerve from the path of rectitude. His place had to be filled; a number of the Confederate party, well enough qualified, would gladly have accepted the position; but this could not be tolerated by the Antis. The leader of the Government was in Amherst, and naturally enough, inquired who the Party wished to fill the vacancy. The present Custos was spoken of, among others—and let me here do him the credit to say, he did not at all acquiesce, saying he was not fit for the office. Accordingly, after the departure of Mr. Amund, a caucus of the Anti leaders was called; the present Custos came at once to the front, urging his claims in the strongest terms. A difficulty here arose. There had been charges against the Clerk of the Sessions, which made it necessary in the minds of some to have a change. Whether these charges were true or false, I know not. * * * After a sacred promise from him that if he were appointed Custos, he would have the Clerk removed, it was agreed to sign a requisition to the Government to have him appointed. The Sessions, however, and the inquiry went forward, is the Clerk to be removed? Nobody knew. A resolution was handed the Custos against the Clerk, but no action was taken thereon. * * * If action had been taken, the Custos was to appoint a young man, a partner in the Clerk's establishment, who was ready, in case those "wile Antis" got a vote to displace him. Now, sir, in conclusion, let me say that hitherto the present Custos has been considered a man of honesty and truth. I write in no angry spirit, but to set his Worship seriously thinking over, how in an evil hour he was tempted to falsify his position, which every man should respect, under all circumstances.

Yours, &c.

ONE WHO RESPECTS TRUTH.

Pugwash, Jan. 16th, 1871.

WANTS TO BE MARRIED.—The following from a Cumberland Correspondent:

"A gentleman of L—r, N. S., has been for some time, attempting a matrimonial alliance, but owing to the apathy of the Rev. Gentleman who is to officiate, and the very unfavorable state of the weather and roads, the poor widower has been seriously disappointed."

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