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THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., TUESDAY, APRIL 14 1908

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# ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 14, 1908.

## FOOLED AGAIN.

During the few days preceding an election the public naturally expect fresh conduct on the part of those seeking office; it is not considered remarkable that candidates endeavor to placate all classes and groups of their constituents. But no one in St. John looked for such an aldermanic stampede as took place at the meeting of the general committee yesterday afternoon. These men who a week ago held up the band-stand for further consideration have given it no such consideration, but in a panic over the possible loss of a few votes have tried to railroad the scheme through and endeavor to pacify those few electors who have been promoting it. In their haste to avoid making enemies the aldermen defeated their own ends. The resolution passed yesterday is utterly useless as the general committee failed to report back to the common council, a proceeding which was of course necessary as this committee had no power to act.

All this forenoon the Star's telephone has been kept busy by people who support the stand taken by this paper in opposition to the destruction of the beauties of King Square. There is beyond doubt a very strong feeling against the erection of a band-stand over the fountain and some of the remarks referring to the weak-kneed attitude of the aldermen in yesterday's meeting could scarcely be regarded as complimentary. The Star is not opposed to a band-stand. This paper is as anxious as anyone in town to see a structure erected in a suitable place, but the fountain on King Square is certainly not a proper location. The beauty of the square would be in a large measure destroyed by the erection of such a structure, the fountain would be ruined, and the presence of large crowds of people would without doubt prove fatal to the grassy plots. The latter risk might be guarded against, but it is not at all necessary to deface the square by planting a massive metallic structure right over the fountain.

The question, despite yesterday's meeting, is no further advanced than it was a week ago. The general committee's decision is worthless and there is still time for that "further consideration" which the aldermen have deemed unnecessary. The session yesterday was only valuable in laying bare the weakness of some of the members. It is understood that a number of the aldermen labored under the delusion that the general committee had power to act but in this they were entirely mistaken.

## RESULTS IN LAST ELECTION.

In the civic elections last year there were contests in eight wards, and for aldermen at large. The indications are that more than this number will take place on Tuesday next, as already many candidates are in the field and it is suspected that surprises may develop before nominations close today. At this particular time the results in last year's election may be recalled. The voting was as follows:

Wellington Ward.	339
Christie.	339
St. John.	196
Guy's Ward.	
Baskin.	167
Tilley.	163
Tait.	53
Stanley Ward.	
McGoldrick.	66
Green.	64
Lorne.	191
Holder.	191
McIntyre.	178
Landowne Ward.	
Spragg.	192
Rowan.	172
Dufferin Ward.	
Willett.	181
Cochran.	156
Kelly.	49
Victoria Ward.	
Pickett.	229
Green.	132
Kings Ward.	
Hamm.	153
Jones.	111
Alfredmen at Large.	
Prink.	2580
Kelley.	2538
McGowan.	2028
Lantallum.	1914
Lockhart.	1897
Allan.	1524
Hunter.	732

## COASTWISE SHIPPING.

A few weeks ago an order in council was made by the federal cabinet rescinding the coasting privileges now enjoyed by foreign ships, and particularly by those sailing under the Norwegian flag. This was due to a widespread agitation regarding shipping men in the Maritime Provinces, who represented, with the strongest possible proof, that Canadian coastwise shipping is being destroyed by the foreign competition. Now a movement is on foot, backed by several of the larger coal producing companies of Nova Scotia, in favor of a certain class of Norwegian vessels. Endeavors are being made to secure the continuation of

coasting rights to such of these steamers as are upwards of two thousand tons, the principal argument being that they are particularly adapted for the coal trade, that they alone are able to carry coal at a sufficiently low rate, and that Canadian vessels would necessitate higher prices for coal. The contention is that no British vessels could thrive on a trade which lasts for only six or eight months in the year, and that with even a slight increase in the present cost, upper Canada would be flooded with United States coal. This argument on the part of the coal producers seems to indicate that prices are being kept up by them to the highest possible figure which at the same time is sufficiently low to prevent United States competition. If the coal companies were forced to pay fifty per cent. more than at present for freight, coal would not advance as is stated, but the wealthy producing companies would be compelled to accept a lower percentage of profit. If twenty-five cents per ton additional charges will permit United States producers to successfully compete in the Canadian market, it may be taken for granted that the coal companies will meet any extra charges rather than stand the competition. They can well afford to do so, for the profits on coal, between the mine and the consumer, are excessive. It is apparent that the action now being taken by the coal companies in favor of Norwegian carriers is not due to any great solicitude on behalf of the purchasing public, but rather to protect their own dividends. The question is simply whether Canadian coastwise shipping will be totally destroyed or whether the coal companies will give up a very small portion of their now over-large profits.

## THE INCOMPLETE LETTERIST.

Hubby—Wife, dear, why are you frowning so over that letter you're writing?

Wifey—Oh, I carelessly said everything I had to say before I signed it, and now I can't think of a thing for the postscript.

Mrs. Agor—My husband always takes a day off when he has a birthday.

Mrs. Kutting—When you have one I reckon you take a couple of years off.

Miss Terleap—What keeps you here so late?

Mr. Stopleap—Your glorious eyes.

Miss Terleap—Well, they needn't detain you. I can't keep 'em open much longer.

"I should think a clock maker's business was a very uncertain one."

"Why so?"

"Because it is a business that runs on tick, and one engaged in it is always sure of a strike coming, with the daily prospect of a wind-up."

Some little while ago a popular writer visited St. John in order to take notes for a magazine article on prison life. On returning home he described the horrors he had seen, and his description made a deep impression on the mind of his little daughter, Mary. The writer and his offspring a few days later were in a train together, which stopped at a station near a gloomy building. A man asked—

"The county jail, is that?"

"The county jail," another answered promptly.

Whereupon Mary embarrassed her father and aroused the suspicions of the other occupants of the carriage by asking, in a loud, shrill voice—

"Is that the jail you're in, father?"

Tess—Mad at him? Why, he wrote a lovely poem to her.

Jess—Yes, but she never read it. When she saw the title of it she tore the whole thing up in a fit of anger. You see, he called it "Lines on Mabel's Face."

Pearl—They thought at first they were married in Holland.

Ruby—And what changed their minds?

Pearl—Why, they heard that old shoes in Holland weighed from two to six pounds each.

## The Harder-Hall Stock Co.

A decided innovation in theatrical attractions appearing in St. John will be established by the Harder-Hall Stock Company, the attraction appearing at the Opera House for two weeks, commencing Monday, April 20th. As that day is a bank holiday and school holiday, it was deemed advisable to put in an extra holiday matinee Easter Monday afternoon.

The company will offer at the matinee "A Daughter of Dixie," a play of the picturesquely lazy time prior to the Civil war in the States. This play is a play of great dramatic force, yet it is decidedly a comedy drama, new in theme, idea and construction.

The play for Monday night will be "The Girl and the Gambler," a modern musical comedy drama with six musical numbers introduced in which "The Dancing Damsels," the "Penny Ballet" novelty will appear.

The Harder-Hall Stock Company comes here direct from New York city where this company has created a sensation by its refreshing and diverting novelties in idea and novelty.

## THE MYRLE-HARDER CO.

Commencing Friday matinee at the Opera House the Myrle-Harder Co. will play "The Queen of the Bower," with Miss Myrle in the title role. This play permits of many musical numbers which will be introduced. Friday night a monster combination bill has been arranged including all new vaudeville acts and dramatic sketches. Several feature vaudeville acts have been held in reserve for this occasion. For Saturday matinee they will play that beautiful piece "The Girl and the Artist." This is the play where it rains real rain, never failing to bring four or five curtain calls. Upon Saturday night the vaudeville show will be produced, closing their engagement for this season.

# THE SUN DANCE OF THE CREE INDIANS.

At a lecture recently delivered before the Men's Association of St. Martin's Church, Montreal, entitled "Some Reminiscences of the West," by Mr. Campbell Lane, K. C., there was given a very vivid account of the Cree Sun Dance, one of the most extraordinary and unique ceremonies practiced by the Indians, and in full vogue at the time of the North-West Rebellion of 1885. The account is of especial interest from the fact that Mr. Lane is probably one of the few who has had the opportunity of witnessing these strange rites, which are now said to be a thing of the past. The lecture was founded on his experiences and impressions of the West, and was at the time of the Rebellion of 1885. The following section of the lecture describes the Sun Dance.

When serving with my brigade in the Northwest Rebellion of 1885, I had an opportunity of witnessing a traditional custom of the Indians, which may be of interest from an anthropological point of view. The ceremony was the Sun Dance. It is sometimes known as the "Great Thirst Dance," and not infrequently as the "Torture Dance." By the former name, however, it is more generally known among the white settlers of the Northwest. The dance I attended began at 7 o'clock p. m. on Thursday, May 29th, and was continued till Saturday, 30th, at the same hour. It was Saturday afternoon when I arrived. Chief Pica-Potta, head, together with his visitors from other reserves, were all encamped in tents. Having passed through the line of deserted "tepees," forming the circumference of the camp, we approached a high central tent whence issued the beating of drums, the blowing of whistles and a monotonous drone, which told of some ceremony in progress within. Entering this tent under the guidance of two medicine men, who appeared upon our arrival, we found the chief busily engaged in the ceremony of blowing a whistle and jumping in time to the orchestra of "tom-toms" or Indian drums. After the lapse of a few minutes sufficient to satisfy his sense of dignity, he came forward and welcomed us.

The tent where the dance was taking place was about forty feet in diameter. Formed like an ordinary tepee, it was decorated in the most fantastic way with colored calicoes, woolens, skins, boughs of trees and other articles. There was a large open space at the top of the tent, through which light and air was admitted. In the centre stood a stout poplar tree, the top of which was decorated with a pair of eagle's wings, and from its branches for some distance upwards, known as the "Medicine Pole." The tent was divided into two portions. One was reserved for spectators, consisting of small children, mothers with babes, old men and women and others who took no official part in the proceedings. The two other divisions of the circle were devoted to the braves and the medicine men. The latter followed in the synagogues, were kept apart. Directly opposite the entrance was an orchestra of different instruments. This musical instrument is formed by stretching a skin over a round wooden hoop, about the size of a side-drum, held by two transverse bars of wood, which the musician holds in his right hand, while he beats with his left. The time kept is what is known as double time, or the same as that of a jig. Round the interior border of the tent were two rows of stalls, an inner and outer, in which the participants in the Sun Dance were placed. In front of the stalls there was a wooden railing, or fence, raised high.

When the dance began, on an incantation from one of the medicine men, being two who assumed direction of the ceremony—all those in the stalls jumped and blew whistles, keeping admirable time with the tom-toms. There was also a circle of warriors in full fighting attire, muskets in hand, in the centre. Between each dance, which lasted from ten to fifteen minutes, came an interval of from three to five minutes.

When the tom-toms ceased to beat, the medicine men selected from the line of warriors a brave, who immediately fell out of the ring. With an air of great dignity he paraded before the orchestra, reciting his experiences as a public man. He told with accuracy of detail how many Blackfeet or hostile Indians he had killed, and how many of the rest of the tribe accordingly. In the course of his narrative he frequently adopted the highest tone of exaggeration, and he then fell again into the ring and in a circle they all jumped to the music. The dance commenced, muttering an indescribable, partially suppressed howl. Such are the attendant circumstances to the great event of the festival.

All those engaged in the dance were in war paint, even including the women, but no special pattern was followed and the result was a curious blending of inharmonious colors and

## EYESIGHT!

Sight is one of Nature's blessings. Take good care of your eyes. For eye-strain see D. BOYANER, 38 Dock street. The only optical store in St. John.

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Tuesday, April 14th, 1908.

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TAN CALF, low, easy heel, full toe.....\$12.75.  
TAN CALF, large eye, buckle cut.....\$12.75.  
A splendid Walking Shoe.  
Very dressy and comfortable.

Our Ladies' \$2.00 Tan Calf good year Welt Blucher Cut Oxford is a wonder. STORE OPEN THIS EVENING TILL 9 P. M.

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The bottom stock, insoles and counters will stand the severest tests, and we claim for these \$3.50 shoes "THE GREATEST VALUE FOR THE MONEY."

See Our Window.

# Francis & Vaughan

19 KING STREET.

by a centrifugal tension. The flesh and skin of his breasts were thus drawn out in a pointed shape about half a foot from his chest. He had to continue pulling on the ropes in this way until by degrees the wooden pegs were torn out. When he had succeeded in doing this, the medicine men moistened the ends of their fingers with some hard they were chewing, and applied them to the lacerated flesh, completely staunching all effusion of blood. They then turned the exhausted man over on his face and called for the next novice.

Sometimes, instead of breast-pins, shoulder-pins are driven through the upper arm in line with the collar bone. Another mode is the fastening, by a similar process, of a cord between the shoulder blades, to which is appended a buffalo head and horns. This task is then made to walk about the tent, dragging it on the ground behind. They had just released a youth from the aldermanic test when I arrived. He stood there fainting and trembling from mingled exhaustion and pain.

For those candidates who are initiated at the opening of the dance, the feeling is simply that of intense physical pain. But those who undergo the test after forty-eight hours of fasting, and after taking part in the ceremony day and night without sleep, frequently faint under the agony, and have to be cut down. This involves their going through the torture "de novo" in order to be initiated.

Such is the Sun Dance.

## EGGS

Received direct from the Henery GUARANTEED STRICTLY FRESH CLOVER FARM DAIRY Cor. Queen & Carmarthen Sts. Phone 1508

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## PENNY FOR A PRICELESS BOOK.

A workman once purchased for a penny an aged looking volume bearing date of 1640. The man tried to read it, but threw up the attempt apparently in disgust, and the volume was relegated to the cupboard. A friend of his happened to see the book and took it to the British museum authorities, who promptly made an offer of £30, the highest sum the librarian is allowed to expend without a special vote of the trustees. Had the man known what he was about he would have stood out for more as the authorities would have paid almost any price rather than allow the volume to slip through their fingers. It was, in fact, the first book printed by Gutenberg and was therefore almost priceless—London Tit-bits.

## DRAWING POWER.

D'Auber—Of course not every one can be an artist. One must have imagination to draw. Critick—Yes, I notice that most so called artists in talking about themselves draw on their imaginations a great deal.

# TRY 'EM ON, We Have Lots More if These Don't Fit.

We would sell more \$5.00 Shoes if we didn't have these for \$4.00. Men come in with the intention of paying \$5.00, see the \$4.00 Soes, and it's all up with the \$5.00. Sounds pretty rough on the \$5.00 Shoes, but it isn't; works the same way there—the men who usually buy \$6.00 Shoes get them here for \$5.00. Unless all signs fail, we are going to do an immense shoe business this Spring. People get the best shoe satisfaction here and we get the business.

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The Home of Good Shoes.

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New designs in Oilcloths, Linoleums and Inlaid— all widths and prices.  
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Carpets can be selected, made up and stored until required.

# A. O. SKINNER, At McLEAN'S

Brass Head Tacks, 1c. doz.  
Carpet Tacks, 3c. pkgs.  
Tack Hammer and Tack Puller v'th package of Carpet Tacks, all for 10c.  
Carpet Beaters, 15c.  
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IMPROVED ON SOLOMON.  
In a certain Sunday school a little girl told the story of Solomon and the disputing mothers in this wise: "Solomon was a very wise man. One day two women went to him quarreling about a baby. One woman said, 'This is my child,' and the other woman said, 'No, 'tain't; it's mine.' But Solomon spoke up and said: 'No, no, ladies, don't quarrel. Give me my sword, and I'll make twins of him, so you can both have one.'"

Does not Color the Hair Stops Falling Hair  
AYER'S HAIR VIGOR