

That Sidewalk.

The Finance Committee Wrestles With It and Other Matters.

The Proposal to Collect Taxes in the Treasurer's Office Is Against the Statute.

The finance committee of the City Council last night wrestled hard with the petition of the ratepayers interested in the York street concrete sidewalk, which has already been before the committee several times. The walk is between William and Adelaide streets, on York, and the ratepayers contend that when they signed the petition they did so under the impression that the city was to pay one-third the cost. When they ascertained that they were paying the whole thing they objected. Investigation proved that the city did not do the work under the Local Improvement Act, and pay one-third the cost. In 1894 the council passed a special bylaw in each of the cases of the sidewalk, which was to be paid by the corporation, including that portion of the cost which the city would be liable. At the Tecumseh House, in 1894, north King street, from Waterloo to Main, the west Park avenue, from Queen's to Dufferin avenues; west Waterloo, from Queen's avenue to Dundas street, in 1894.

Ald. Winnett favored the payment of one-third the cost by the city. Ald. Rumball said he was, too, under the proper method. He said Ald. Winnett's remarks at the council meeting applied to all other cases. That if the present sidewalk were not aware of the circumstances surrounding work done years ago it was their own fault.

Ald. Bennett opposed any interference in the matter. He thought that should one-third the cost of this be assumed by the city, there was nothing to prevent other people who had petitioned for walks taking a similar course. On motion of Ald. Winnett, a recommendation will go to the council that \$132 be applied to the sinking fund from the taxes collected from the parties concerned.

Ald. Nutkins' motion in the council was then taken up, regarding the advisability of collecting taxes in the city treasurer's office. A report on the question read as follows:

"There are on the collectors' rolls for 1896 20,917 assessments, 15,000 in the northern, and 15,917 in the southern parts of the city. These notices have to be written and delivered personally by the collectors. The following table shows what is done during the rush of payments of taxes on the first, second, and third instalments:

NORTHERN DIVISION.

	Receipts given.	Pages of cash book covered.	Amount collected.
1st	1,608	130	\$ 77,969 76
2nd	729	49	17,299 49
3rd	595	29	14,941 09
Totals	2,932	212	\$100,210 34

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Receipts given.	Pages of cash book covered.	Amount collected.
1st	1,449	146	\$ 84,622 72
2nd	664	42	12,369 98
3rd	438	31	12,085 96
Totals	2,551	229	\$109,078 67

The above figures are confined to the days of the rush of payments immediately before the time limited.

The cash book entries have to be made up after the rush from the duplicate receipts stub, and the assessment on the roll to be credited with the payments made, which are barely sufficient before the next instalment falls due.

Mr. Pope referred the committee to section 12 of the Consolidated Assessment Act of 1892, which states that no assessor or collector shall hold the office of clerk or treasurer. This settled the matter, and the memo was filed, as the committee had no power.

The matter of opening up Lorne avenue to Charlotte street, and the consideration of the compilation of a history of the county of Middlesex were also on the agenda.

Mrs. H. A. Boomer's request for grant to Convalescent Home was laid over until the proper time.

Mrs. H. H. Shuttleworth asked that the grant to the Protestant Orphan Home be increased to \$500 this year, as the home is used by the Children's Aid Society as a shelter for their children. This was allowed to stand, as also was Mrs. M. M. Pattullo's request asking for \$250 instead of \$200.

W. H. Fitzsimmons' petition came up. It was for the refunding of a fine imposed on him by the police magistrate for obstructing the sidewalk on Talbot street. He claimed there was no other means by which he could get the hay into his stable lot. Ald. Rumball will look into the matter and report.

QUEBEC HEARD FROM.

Henry C. Carroll, M. P., for Kamouraska, Que. Sounds the praises of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

It will be noticed by those who have studied the testimonials for this wonderful catarrhal remedy, that they are thoroughly unsectional in character. Every province in the Dominion, through its members of Parliament, and most prominent citizens, has told of the peculiar effectiveness of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. It is of a character that overcomes any local or climatic conditions, and as with Mr. Carroll, it is a most effective remedy for catarrhal troubles, in whatever shape, not omitting hay fever, where it works like a charm, and in every case is speedy in effect. Sold by C. McCallum and B. A. Mitchell.

Light Talk.

Principal Merchant Delivers a Lecture About X Rays.

Numerous Experiments, Illustrating Nature's Wonders,

Performed Before a Large and Intensely Interested Audience.

For some time past Mr. F. W. Merchant, M. A., principal of the London Collegiate Institute, has given considerable attention to the marvelous discovery of Prof. Roentgen. He has used the X rays in many cases for discovering foreign matter in and abnormal conditions of the human body, and in this way greatly assisted medical men. The knowledge gained in these experiments, combined with his wealth of scientific lore and ability to lucidly describe and explain nature's phenomena, eminently fit him to deliver a lecture on this most interesting subject. A cultured audience filled the upper assembly hall at the Collegiate Institute last night, when Mr. Merchant lectured under the auspices of the Institute Literary Club. The proceeds were to be devoted to furnishing the school with X ray instruments.

Mr. Andrew Greenleaf, chairman of the Board of Education, occupied the chair, and in opening referred briefly to the literary society and their laudable objects. The lecturer, he said, needed no introduction—his ability and expert knowledge were well known.

ORDINARY LIGHT RAYS. Mr. Merchant led up to his subject proper by dealing with the two realms of the sensitive world: matter and energy. Then an experiment to prove that ordinary light is a form of energy was made. A radiometer, which is a glass tube containing a wheel carefully poised on a wire, was placed in front of a dark lantern, and the image cast upon a large screen. The image showed that the wheel was made to revolve by the action of the light. The spectrum was then thrown upon the screen, and the composite nature of light with respect to the different colors explained. To illustrate other properties of light, the lecturer said an alum solution placed before a light would admit the light rays to pass, but stop the heat rays. A contrary result is obtained by an iodine solution. By means of sensitized paper still further peculiarities are learned. Rays not active in producing light will produce chemical changes. By this action of light photography is possible.

ELECTRICITY. Electric light was dealt with. The origin of the electric currents was explained, and the different means of transmitting it into radiant energy illustrated by one of the most interesting experiments of the evening was with the arc light. By means of the lantern the light was projected on the canvas and the carbons, greatly magnified, were vividly pictured.

Electrical discharges in vacuo were illustrated by means of a vacuum tube.

Minard's Liniment Cures Gargot in Cows.

Illustrated by the incandescent light, Geysler tubes and the Crookes tube. The latter was fully described and the action of the X rays illustrated.

COUNTED HIS BONES. A fluoroscope—an instrument with a chemically prepared screen at one end and an opening through which to look at the other—was produced. By means of this a young man in the audience was able to tell the contents of a closed wooden box placed between the Crookes tube and the screen in the line of the X rays. A shadow of the substances, differing in intensity according to the extent the substances prevent the rays from passing through, is visible on the screen to the eye of the person looking through the fluoroscope. The young man also counted the bones in his arm. Radiographs of Master Harvey Rice's hand and a box containing a key, button hook and pair of scissors, were taken, and the photographic plates developed by Mr. Merchant. There was a great difference in the action of the rays on the different stones. Truth came to light. Diamonds are not in the least opaque to the rays. The last two negatives were by Prof. Morton, of New York.

As to the theories of X rays, Mr. Merchant said the one that they are waves of ether like ordinary light waves, but much shorter, was growing in favor. Prof. Roentgen favored the theory that the waves were longitudinal like sound waves. There was a third also, that they are little particles thrown out.

ENVELOPES NO PROTECTION. The audience were delighted and astonished by the projection of lantern slides made from X-ray negatives by Mr. Merchant. One, very distinct, showed a needle located in a lady's hand with a bullet located; a letter in a child's body; a fish; a fractured arm; two hands, showing the action of rheumatism—in the affected hand the bones were closer together; a knee-joint, showing an osseous growth which forced the knee-cap out of position; the upper part of the body; teeth in a man's mouth, showing fillings; a hand with a bullet located; a letter in an envelope, showing the writing on the inclosed paper; healthy and diseased kidneys; a hand with two rings on the fingers—one ring was set with diamonds and the other an imitation diamond.

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AYER'S

Half truths are more dangerous than outright lies. The most cunning counterfeit is that which is over 50% genuine metal; which looks good and rings true. It's so with medicines. The worst of all are the half genuine. "This is sarsaparilla," we're told—but not how much of it is sarsaparilla and how much chemical adulterant. Such a sarsaparilla is a far worse fraud on the purchaser than an utter counterfeit. You pay your dollar and you get fifty cents worth—and that fifty cents worth burdened with fifty per cent. of worthless or injurious adulterants. Ayer's Sarsaparilla has been on the market fifty years. Its record is written in countless cures. It's 100 per cent. strong and 100 per cent. pure. It's the safe sarsaparilla; the sure blood-purifier.

Ayer's Curebook. A story of cures told by the cured. Free. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

Sarsaparilla.

DEAR MONEY.

A Man Sues for Interest at the Rate of 1.325 Per Cent and Gets It.

Montreal, March 12.—Judgment was rendered by Judge Gill in a note case, in which the principal was \$150 and the interest \$39.80, being calculated at 5 per cent per day, according to the terms of the note from maturity of the same up to the time of the entering of the action. Judge Gill, in rendering judgment for

the full amount, with interest to continue at the same rate until full settlement, said that the law gave him no discretion in the matter, but he thought it was high time that the matter of usury should be brought to the attention of the Legislature.

HAMILTON RATTLED.

Hamilton, Ont., March 13.—Citizens living in East Hamilton felt an earthquake shock at 2:30 yesterday morning, which was of sufficient strength to awaken them out of their sleep. It jarred several houses, and could not be attributed to natural causes.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

Quebec, March 12.—A man named Vermette, of St. Sauveur ward, an itinerant cobbler was found frozen to death on the main road to St. Augustin. Two bottles of whisky were in his possession. It is thought he was overcome by drink and died of exposure.

"Worms cause feverishness, moaning and restlessness during sleep. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator is pleasant, sure and effective. If your druggist has none in stock, get him to procure it for you."

FROM BRANTFORD, THE HOME OF GOOD MANUFACTURES.

BRANTFORD RED BIRDS

Best Today and Good for Years.

THE '97 RED BIRD is a bicycle that Canadians generally may well be proud of. Built of the best material that money can buy, every detail of its manufacture looked after with the greatest care and with nothing left undone to make it a perfect bicycle, it is destined to be immensely popular during the coming season. Every improvement that Canadian skill and ingenuity can suggest will be found in the '97 models. They will be superbly finished and so constructed that time and wear will prove them to be not only best today but good for years.

'97 Red Bird Strong Points

- The following are some of the special features of the '97 Red Bird:
- Narrow tread and wide hubs, the greater width of hub giving additional strength.
- Large tubing all round, which, while adding nothing to the weight, increases the strength and rigidity.
- It is absolutely dust proof, the bearings being protected by four different protectors.
- The new patent ball oiler, with which this wheel is fitted, is the best oiling device ever put on a bicycle.
- The finger washers, with which it is adjusted, are most sensitive to the touch, and make a model means of adjustment.
- Solid steel center pedals with corrugated ends and side plates, that add 200 per cent to their strength. The dust proof oilers of these pedals are located in the side screws and are invisible to the casual observer.
- The axle being feathered prevents its turning in adjusting.
- Straight bottom fork tubes give greater strength.
- Large balls in crank hanger add to the ease in running.
- Additional strength is gained by using new fork sides tapered from end to end.
- The new crown plates are lighter in weight, but the greater distance between them adds considerably to their strength.
- Red Bird Bicycles are fitted with Electric Pebble Tread Tires, the most easily adjusted, the most durable and highest priced tires in the world. They cost more than other tires, but first cost is last cost.

GOULD BICYCLE CO. LTD.
BRANTFORD, ONTARIO.



Their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen, our most distinguished patrons.

Red Birds in Australia.

THE success of the Red Bird in Australia in competition with the best wheels of Great Britain and the United States has been phenomenal, their superiority on both road and race course having been proven time and again. In this connection The Australian Wheelman says:

"C. B. Kellow, the winner of the Australian wheel race, has ridden a Red Bird for the past two weeks, and during that time has won over £500 and covered himself with glory, and made his name famous throughout the cycling world. The St. Kilda Wheel Race, Melbourne Plate and the Australian Competition Records for the half mile and mile at Melbourne, in which he defeated all Australian cracks, are among his Red Bird successes during the past few days. As Kellow only required about fifteen minutes to win £500, it is not a bad business and goes to prove that, although the Red Bird costs more, it pays to ride the best."

In a more recent number the same paper says:

"The success with which the Brantford Red Bird Bicycles are meeting in Australia is phenomenal. No other machine which ever came into the market has been taken up so enthusiastically by the public, and no other wheel has had such a succession of marvelously brilliant wins. One would have thought that the securing of a double win and two competition records at Melbourne, and then the St. Kilda wheel race at £50, and later the great Austral double, would have been about a fair share of the season's wins for one machine, but the Red Bird goes right on carving its victorious way, and now has added the scalp of Parsons in another great challenge match and two new Australian records to its brilliant list. The records are the five and ten miles, and Bill Martin has put them down where they will be difficult to get at. On Saturday Martin rode a light Red Bird geared at 104. This is an enormous strain to which to subject a wheel, and that the Little Red Bird came triumphantly through is a tribute to the splendid quality of the workmanship in the machines."

Write Today for Our Handsome '97 Catalogue.

BRANCHES:

Toronto, Ont.; Montreal, Que.; Winnipeg, Man.; Sydney, Australia; Cape Town, South Africa; St. John, Que.



THE '97 NAME PLATE.