mittee be David Ritchie, Robt. Moffat and H. A. Johnson, Esqrs.

A very complimentary resolution was passed in reference to the services rendered to the Council by the retiring Auditor W. S. Smith, Esq. Members spoke warmly in praise of Mr. Smith's services, not only in connection with this Municipality but in public affairs generally for very many years.

Council adjourned *sine die.*

Municipality of Gloucester.

JULY SESSION.

The semi-annual meeting of the Municipal Council of Gloucester was commenced at Court House, Bathurst, on Tuesday, 2nd July, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

Present: The Warden, Councillors Young, Ferguson, Walsh, Degrace, Blanchard, Foley, Poirier and Roy.

The Warden brings to notice of Council the insolvency of John E. O'Brien, Councillor, whose seat thereby becomes vacant.

Moved by Coun. Young, seconded by Coun. Walsh,

That Whereas, John E. O'Brien, elected as one of the Councillors for the Parish of Bathurst, has become insolvent within the meaning of the Insolvent Act,

Therefore Resolved; That his seat at the Council be hereby declared vacant and that a new election be ordered. Carried.

The Warden thereupon issued his warrant to the town Clerk, for the election of a Councillor to fill the vacancy thus created.

The Warden informs the Council that it will be necessary, in accordance with the Assessment Act of 1875, to appoint three Valuators during the present session of the Council.

The Warden appoints the following standing Committees:—

County Accounts — Messrs. Young, Poirier Walsh, Blanchard and Roy.

Returns of Collectors and Collecting Justices—Messrs. Foley, Walsh, Ferguson, Degrace and Roy.

Petitions for abatement of Taxes—Messrs. Walsh, Poirier and Ferguson.

The Sec.-Treas. submits return of Auditor and himself on accounts of Collectors and collecting Justices.

Council adjourned until to-morrow at 10 a. m.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd July.

Council met pursuant to adjournment—Present: The Warden, Councillors Roy, Foley, Poirier, Blanchard, Walsh, Ferguson, Young and Degrace.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

The Committee to whom was referred the petitions of those asking for abatement of taxes report that in accordance with Consolidated Statutes, chap. 100, sec. 51, they find that it is beyond their jurisdiction to take any action in the matter.

Committee on returns of Collectors and Collecting Justices, submit report. Adopted.

Committee on County Accounts submit their report, which is adopted.

It is moved by Coun. Young, seconded by Coun. Poirier, that the following be added to the Bye-Laws of the Municipality of Gloucester:—

That any Councillor who may absent himself from any meeting of the Council without assigning some good reason to be approved of by the Council, shall pay a fine of two dollars per diem for every day that he may be absent. Passed.

It is moved by Coun. Poirier, seconded by Coun. Foley, that in accordance with chap. 100, sec. 35, of the Consolidated Statutes, Mederic Bourgeois, Wm. Theriault and John E. Baldwin, be appointed County Valuators.

Moved in amendment by Coun. Walsh, seconded by Coun. Degrace, that a Committee of five be appointed to recommend to the Council fit persons to be chosen as Valuators.

The amendment was lost on the following division:—Yeas, Councillors Walsh, Degrace and Young. Nays, Foley, Poirier, Blanchard, Roy, Melanson and Ferguson.

The original motion was then put and carried. Council adjourned *sine die.*

JANUARY SESSION.

The Council of the Municipality of Gloucester met at the Court House, Bathurst, on Tuesday, the 21st day of January, 1879, at 10 a. m.

The Secretary Treasurer laid on the table the following Roll of the Councillors elect with his certificate that they had subscribed the necessary oaths of office.

Beresford, John Chalmers, John Aube.

Bathurst, John E. O'Brien, Samuel Melanson.

New Bandon, John W. Lowe, Ubald Landry.

Caraquet, Joseph Sewell, Prospere E. Paulin.

Inkerman, William Walsh, James Barry, Jr.

Saumarez, John Young, Justinian Savoy.

Shippegan, William Taylor, Adolph Achie.

Councillors present, Chalmers, Aube, O'Brien, Lowe, Landry, Sewell, Paulin, Walsh, Barry, Young, Savoy, Taylor and Achie.

It is moved by Coun. Walsh seconded by Coun. Paulin, that John Young, Esq., be Warden of the Municipality of Gloucester. Carried unanimously.

The Warden appointed the following standing Committees:—

County Accounts, Messrs. O'Brien, Taylor, Lowe, Walsh, Chalmers, and Paulin;

Parish Accounts, Messrs. Savoy, Barry, Sewell, Achie, Landry, Aube and Melanson.

Collecting Justices and Collectors returns, Messrs. Walsh, Sewell.

Committee on Road Accounts, Messrs. Aube, Landry, Achie, Melanson, and Savoy.

Committee on Petitions, Messrs. Taylor, O'Brien, Sewell, Lowe and Achie.

Petition in reference to cows going at large in Town and Village of Bathurst read and referred to Committee on Petitions. Petition of Messrs. Chas. Robin & Co., Caraquet, complaining of over valuation of their property by Assessors read and referred to Committee on Petitions. Petition of Dominique Aubie, asking for abatement of taxes, read and referred to Committee on Petitions.

The Committee on Collecting Justices and Collectors returns report that they find the account of Collector Jerome Godin of Beresford unsatisfactory, and ask that a warrant be issued to bring him before the Council. It is ordered accordingly. Council adjourned until to-morrow a 9.30 a. m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 22nd, '79.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. Present:—The Warden and all the Councillors. Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

On motion of Coun. O'Brien, seconded by Coun. Taylor, Messrs. Paulin and Aube are added to Committee on returns of Collectors and Collecting Justices.

The Committee on Collectors and Collecting Justices' returns report that they find the account of Daniel Sisk unsatisfactory, and recommend that a warrant be issued to have him brought before the Council. It is ordered accordingly.

Petitions of James Raitt and George Sutherland asking for refund of taxes read, on Motion referred to the Committee on Petitions.

It is moved by Coun. O'Brien, seconded by Coun. Lowe, that the Clerk of the Peace be authorized to issue execution against John Foley for amount due by him to Municipality of Gloucester. Carried.

Moved by Coun. O'Brien, seconded by Coun. Lowe, that the Secretary-Treasurer take the necessary steps to collect all amounts due the Municipality of Gloucester.

Retail liquor licenses granted to Orphise Dufour, Caraquet, and William Theriault, New Bandon, Council adjourned until to-morrow at 9.30 a.m.

THURSDAY, Jan. 23rd.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. Present—The Warden and all the Councillors. Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

Moved by Coun. Lowe, seconded by Coun. Taylor, that Messrs. O'Brien, Achie and Melanson be added to the Committee on the returns of Collectors and Collecting Justices. At the request of the Council the Clerk of the Peace is heard in reference to whether the Council have power to change the County scale of valuation, and gives his opinion that the law makes the scale binding for five years and that it would not be advisable to make any change.

Applications for retail licenses made by Henry White, James Mehan, James H. Wilbur, Jacob White and Thomas Leahy, Jr., and granted. Coun. O'Brien draws attention to section 4, Chap. 105 of the Consolidated Statutes and moves that the Sec'y Treasurer advise persons getting license of the existence of this Section.—Carried.

The Parish lists of New Bandon, Shippegan, Beresford, Bathurst, Caraquet and Saumarez read and passed.

Inkerman list being read Coun. Taylor moves, seconded by Coun. Achie, that the name of Michael Finn be substituted for Laurent Brideau as Ferryman in said list. Question taken. Yeas—Councillors Taylor, Achie. Nays—Councillors Walsh, Barry, Lowe, Landry, O'Brien, Paulin, Melanson, Aube, Chalmers, and the Warden.

The adoption of the Inkerman list as submitted by the Councillors for that Parish is then moved and carried with the previous vote reversed. Coun. O'Brien moves, which was seconded, a resolution authorizing the issue of bonds for the erection of an Alms House in the Parish of Bathurst in accordance with chapter 102 of the Acts of Assembly passed in 1878, said issue not to exceed in the whole the sum of three thousand dollars. Passed.

On motion John Kerr, James Mehan and Marin D. Doucett are appointed Commissioners for the purpose of this Act.

Coun. O'Brien moves an amendment to the Bye Laws that no cow be allowed to go at large within the town or village of Bathurst, between the first November and 1st May, and at no time in the year between sunrise and sunset. Passed.

Report of Committee on petitions, read and passed. Application for retail liquor license made by Richard Blackhall, Caraquet. Granted.

Council adjourned until to-morrow at 9.30 a.m.

FRIDAY, Jan. 24.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. Present—The Warden, Councillors O'Brien, Lowe, Paulin, Sewell, Walsh, Chalmers, Aube, Savoy, Melanson and Taylor. Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

On motion of Coun. Walsh, the Warden and Coun. Landry are added to the Committee on County Accounts.

Coun. Lowe, seconded by Coun. Walsh moves the following resolution:

Whereas, At the last session of this Municipal Council, Mederic Bourgeois, William Theriault and John E. Baldwin were appointed County Valuators, and whereas the appointment was illegal inasmuch as the time had not arrived by law for such appointment.

Therefore Resolved; That the said appointments be now rescinded, and that Jos. Sewell, Sr., Juste Hache and John Hornibrook be County Valuators under provisions of chap. 100, sec. 35 of the Consolidated Statutes of New Brunswick. Passed.

The Committee on returns of Collectors and Collecting Justices submit their report. Adopted.

On motion it was ordered that a warrent be issued against Collector M'Mahon, on account of balance due by him to the County.

Committee on County Accounts submit their report. Adopted.

Committee on Parish Accounts and Road Accounts submit their reports which are adopted.

Moved by Coun. Landry seconded by Coun. Achie, that the salary of the Auditor be twenty dollars per annum. Carried.

Moved by Coun. Walsh seconded by Coun. Landry, that the Salary of the Stipendiary Magistrate, Bathurst, be no longer a County charge. Carried.

On motion it is ordered that the sum of two thousand dollars be assessed on the County of Gloucester for County Contingencies, besides expense of assessing and collecting, to be apportioned as follows:—Bathurst, $646; Beresford, $320; New Bandon, $280; Caraquet, $350; Inkerman, $84; Saumarez, $170; Shippegan, $150.

On motion it is ordered that the sum of one thousand dollars be assessed on the County of Gloucester towards redemption of loan and interest thereon besides expenses of assessing and collecting, to be apportioned on same scale as County Valuation.

It is ordered that the following sums be assessed for the support of the poor.

Beresford, $533.18; Bathurst, $1,466.36; New Bandon, $208.94; Caraquet, $112.35; Shippegan, $71.59; Inkerman, $46.21; Saumarez, $59.75.

It is ordered that the sum of one hundred and thirty dollars be assessed on St. Peter's Village Water Company district for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight.

Moved by Coun. Walsh seconded by Coun Lowe, that the Secretary have the proceedings of the session of last July and the present session published in the *Union Advocate* and *Moniteur Acadien*. Carried.

Council adjourned *sine die.*

JOHN SIVEWRIGHT, Secretary.

The Municipal Council of Kent.

We append a synopsis of the proceedings of the Kent County Council held in the Court House at Richibucto, commencing on Tuesday, Jan. 28th and terminating on Saturday, Feb. 15th.

Pending the election of a Warden it was unanimously agreed that the Secretary-Treasurer act as Chairman; whereupon, after the reading of the election returns from the different Parishes, Messrs. John C. Ross, Charles Y. Walker, Daniel O'Leary and Urbain Johnson were nominated. Messrs. Johnson and O'Leary declined nomination, and the vote being taken it stood:—

Ross,	11
Walker,	6

The newly elected Warden on taking his seat thanked the Council for the honor conferred on him, and trusted with the assistance of the Councillors to carry on the business of the County in a manner satisfactory to all.

Thomas Frecker was appointed constable to attend in the Council Chamber and see the room was kept heated and in order.

The Warden appointed the following Committees:

On Public Accounts—Councillors Walker Dunn, Caie, Grady, Livingston, Landry, and Joseph L. Richards.

On Bye-Laws — Councillors Johnson, McDonald, Girouard, John B. Richard, O'Donnell, Babineau, Belliveau and the Secretary.

On the Jail — Councillors O'Leary, Hutchison and Cormier. A motion was passed that the fee for tavern license be $12 for 6 months instead of $10. (The motion was rescinded the following day.)

The Jail Committee submitted their report which was anything but creditable to the management of the institution.

The Bye-Law Committee submitted their report accompanied by a code of bye-laws, the further consideration of which was postponed until other business was disposed of.

The Committee on Public Accounts reported having had before them a large number of accounts, some of which they recommended to be paid and that others be deferred for consideration of the Council. The Treasurer's accounts showed a balance in his hands of $2,499.95, and the Committee called attention to two supplementary statements furnished them by the Treasurer of *omissions* in his receipts, viz.:

From Collectors in Wellington,	$771.00
" Collector Powell in Weldford,	195.03
Total,	$966.03

This would make the balance in Treasurer's hands $3,465.98 and not $2,499.95 as at first reported by that officer. The Committee's report was finally adopted by the Council.

The Assessors' commissions on several parishes were reduced from four per cent. to three; and the collectors' rates were reduced in many of the Parishes.

Several persons were nominated for Valuators. The vote was taken by ballot and stood:

Theo. Bilodeau,	9
W. A. Black,	8
George Raymond,	6
Ephraim Wheten,	5
James McDougall,	4
O. Legere,	5
P. L. Richard,	2

Messrs. Bilodeau, Black and Raymond, were declared elected.

Additional polling places for municipal elections were established as follows:

Parish of Richibucto—(1) at or near Temperance hall, Kingston, (2) at or near the school house, Lower Village.

Parish of St. Mary's—at or near Johnson's mill.

Parish of Weldford—at or near James Carruthers'.

Parish of Carleton—at or near Peter Muzarall's.

It was ordered that the Secretary take legal proceedings against the lessee of the Public Wharf, at Richibucto, to recover arrearages of rent; and it was further ordered that the amount when collected be handed over to Mr. Richard English, on account of his claim for balance due on contract.

The Fire-Wards for the district of Richibucto furnished their report showing balance in hand of $225.94. The report was referred to a Special Committee and the Fire-Wards were ordered to place the money in hand in the Savings Bank Agency at Richibucto.

A committee, consisting of the two Councillors for Richibucto and the Secretary-Treasurer, was appointed to rent the Public Wharf for 1879.

It was ordered that all constables file two bonds of $100 each with the Secy. Treasurer within fifteen days after the Parish lists are posted, otherwise the appointment will be cancelled.

John T. Caie, Esq., J. P., was appointed Inspector of Taverns for the County.

The list of Parish Officers for the several Parishes were handed in and approved of.

It was ordered that the Overseers of the Poor for the Parish of Richibucto be guided by instructions from the Councillors for that Parish regarding the purchasing of supplies for the use of paupers.

LIQUOR LICENSES GRANTED.

Parish of Richibucto,—		
Dan'l. McAlmon,	Kingston, Tv'rn	12 mos.
W. H. McArthur,	" "	6 "
Wm. Wheten,	Richibucto, "	6 "
W. F. Hannay,	" "	6 "
Donnelly McDermott,	" "	6 "
James Grogan,	" "	6 "
Eugene Viers,	" Wh's'le	6 "
Martin Flanagan,	" "	6 "
Parish of Wellington,—		
Thomas Roberts,	Buctouche, Tv'rn	6 mos.
John Hutchison,	" "	6 "
Patrick Grattan,	" "	6 "
Parish of Dundas,—		
Hugh Dysart,	Cocagne, Tavern,	6 mos.
Parish of Harcourt,—		
Duncan McDonald,	Tavern,	6 mos.

ASSESSMENTS FOR POOR RATES ORDERED.

Richibucto,	$800
Wellington,	500
Weldford,	400
St. Mary's,	400
Dundas,	220
St. Louis,	200
Carleton,	150
Harcourt,	100
Acadieville	70

The salary of the Clerk of the Peace was reduced from $100 to $80.

A motion was made that the salary of the Secretary be $200. An amendment was moved that it be $300. The amendment was carried,

A motion to adjourn was decided by the Warden as carried without a division of votes, although some of the Councilors protested, on the ground that there was much business on hand not disposed of.

The Council adjourned without having elected a Secretary-Treasurer and Auditor. The reports of several committees were not disposed of, and some of the yearly assessments were not ordered to be made.

The affairs of the County are in a worse state than ever—thanks to the determination of a few obstructionists to burke an enquiry into the accounts and the doings of the more important of the County's officers.

It is claimed that *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment* is almost infallible in the cure of diphtheria, pneumonia, influenza, bronchitis, congestion of the lungs, and hard dry coughs. This maybe all true. We know it will prevent diphtheria and that it will cure croup instantly.

We will wager a year's subscription that a 25-cent package of *Sheridan's Condition Powders* contains more pure ingredients and costs more money than a bushel of any kind put up in *large* packs. Sheridan's powders are absolutely pure.

CALL at the first Drug Store and procure a bottle of Gray's Syrup of Red Spruce Gum for coughs, colds, &c. We recommend its purchase at Drug Stores of respectability, as there is an attempt to place in the hands of the public an article under a similiar name, put up in a similar style, but of a white milky appearance—the genuine being of dark brownish-red colour. It is a wretched imitation, and should be as once rejected.

The U. S. Signal Service.

Gradually, the wild ungovernable forces of nature are, through science, made of use to man. Following in the wake of the ingenious inventions for the use of steam and electricity, comes the organization of the U. S. Signal Service. Is it not wonderful that a system could be originated and perfected whereby an operator can accurately predict the weather of a distant locality? And yet experience proves our "storm signals" to be reliable. Equally great are the advances made in the science of medicine. Step by step uncertainties and doubts have yielded to *absolute certainty.* The discoveries of Harvey and Jumer have been succeeded by the Golden Medical Discovery of Dr. R. V. Pierce. No longer need people despair because some physician has pronounce the lungs unsound. Hundreds of testimonials are on file in the office of Dr. Pierce from those who had abondoned all hope, and had been given up to die by physicians and friends. Incipient consumption, bronchitis, and scrofulous tumors, speedily, surely, and permanently yield to the healing influences of the Discovery. If the bowels be constipated, use Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets. For full particulars see Pierce's Memorandum Book, given away by all druggists.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, - - - - FEBRUARY 13, 1879.

Railway Matters.

To those who are accustomed to "see through their own spectacles" the use that is being made of the different railways projected is laughable. There are several proposed lines which should be built and which ought to have been under contract long ago. One of these is the Richibucto line, running from that town to Weldford, but a certain agency set at work through the instigation of the Westmorland friends of the Government is agitating afresh the Southern line for the express purpose of giving the Government a pretext for deciding not to make a contract for either. It remains to be seen whether the representatives of Kent are going to allow the wool to be pulled over their eyes. They ought to test the Government's sincerity by requiring the contract so long deferred to be completed for the line already undertaken.

Dalhousie is entitled to its branch from the Intercolonial, but, it seems, the Caraquet Railway is to be associated with that undertaking in such a way as to defeat it, while the Government will be relieved of any serious trouble in connection with our Miramichi Valley Line by the course pursued by our smart "Provincial Directors," who went over to Fredericton a month or two ago and were "mesmerized" by Mr. Gibson and his associates in the Central interest. Appearances indicate that the old game of using railway promises to catch and hold Legislative support, and then, working behind the scenes to play one interest off against another is to be one of the strong features of the policy of the coming session.

The Subsidies and Our Ferries.

It is said that the owners of the *Andover* are seeking employment for that steamer in Kent County, and we hope they will succeed. They realize that public opinion on the Miramichi would not justify a renewal of the subsidy for the up-river service and do well to seek a route where the boat can be made more useful than she has been to the trade of the Miramichi. The Government being relieved of the charge involved in that annual grant, on account of our river, will, we hope, show the consideration for our ferries which was witheld last year, by granting the subsidies suggested by the Municipal Council and a continuation of the *New Era* subsidy, also. It unfortunately happened that the benefits which it was hoped the *Andover* would confer upon the people of the river could not be realized for several reasons, the principal of which were that the natural obstructions of the river rendered its navigation by so large a boat impracticable for the ordinary purpose of traffic, while the trips, on even the very short Southwest route, were interrupted during the part of the season when they were most required, by the blockades at the Southwest Boom. The reasons, however, for continuing and increasing the ferry subsidies are greater than before, because the ferry steamers are an absolute necessity for the accomodation of certain sections of the river, while the support formerly derived from the carriage of mails and waggon traffic, now diverted to or obviated by the Intercolonial and Chatham Railways, is lost. The owners of the boats which ply between Chatham and the opposite side of the river and between Newcastle and Coughlan's, have given citizens interested notice of their inability to maintain the ferries as heretofore unless they receive support beyond the direct traffic income, and it seems only reasonable that an effort should be made both in Chatham and Newcastle to induce the Government to do what is necessary and right in the matter.

Another Blunder.

The *Advocate* appears to have a left-handed way of assisting its political friends. Whether it is because, as we are told one of the proprietors alleges, they do not pay their printing bills, or from sheer stupidity and blundering, we do not know, but the fact is patent and the political friends, aforesaid, to be pitied. A few months ago, when the Dominion elections were pending our short-sighted cotemporary published a wordy article intended to show that Hon. Mr. Anglin should not be returned for Gloucester on the ground that he was a non-resident and that Mr. Burns was just the man who ought to be elected because he was a good business man and resident of the County. When the ADVANCE reproduced the article, substituting the names of the candidates for Northumberland for those proposed for Gloucester, it is said somebody told the *Advocate* people to go and drown themselves. They did not do so, however, but lived to assist in swamping their candidate. Now, they have undertaken to carry the Surveyor-General through his political tergiversations and in last week's issue there was an article intended to have the effect of warding off the condemnation which awaits the Government for the inconsistency and chicanery which have characterised it since Mr. Adams entered its ranks. A part of the article is given below and we interpolate certain explanations in brackets which, being omitted by the *Advocate*, tend, by reason of their absence, to withold from the public the source of the experience on which the borrowed article is founded:—

"There is no denying the fact that a good Opposition is actually necessary; but while admitting this, we cannot see that any good purpose can be served by a number of men arraying themselves against the Government before they know whether the measures to be brought forward are such as to merit their approval or opposition." [We admit that in 1871 the present Surveyor-General, then first elected a member of a new House of Assembly, arrayed himself at the famous "Brayley House Caucus," against the Government, before he knew whether the measures to be brought forward were such as to merit his approval or opposition.] "It is simply pronouncing the verdict before a fair and impartial trial has taken place—the said party constituting themselves both judge and jury. Men who thus sound for the tocsin of opposition are possessed of a factious spirit, a spirit born of a desire to enjoy the "fat things of Egypt," their whole ambition being to displace the Government, no matter how, in order that they may handle the reins and enjoy the legislative patrimony." [It is true that these remarks are copied, nearly word for word, from editorials of the St. John *Telegraph*, written at the time Mr. Adams arrayed himself, as aforesaid, at the Caucus aforesaid, but what is sauce for the goose ought not to be sauce for the gander. *He* was, it is true, factious, *he* abandoned party to enjoy the "fat things of Egypt" and "the legislative patrimony" but all who cannot admire his "lightning changes" on the political trapeze must be prepared to meet with the disapprobation of Mr. Adams and the *Advocate*, notwithstandidg the "Brayley House Caucus," aforesaid.]

Read "in the light of history" the *Advocate's* effort is a very awkward one—for Mr. Adams.

What the "Printed Reports" say.

The *Sun's* fishery-editor, referring to the editor of the ADVANCE says:—

"When he insinuates that Inspector Venning is ignorant of the fisheries of this Province," of the mode of conducting them and of not keeping pace with their development, he is presuming too much upon the credulity of his readers. The printed reports of the Inspector furnish the best refutation of such slanders and prove very clearly that he needs no assistance from the *Advance* man in understanding our fisheries and their needs."

When the Editor-in-chief of the *Sun* left St. John for Ottawa, he ought to have charged his assistant to be careful in preventing the fishery-editor from singing his own praises in the paper and he ought to have warned the latter not to allude to his "printed reports," for on turning to the last Report of the Fisheries Department we find the Inspector referred to by an officer who is his superior in official rank, as follows:—"This envious and quarrelsome disposition on the part of Mr. Venning has "of late become very conspicuous"—and referring to the Inspector's ability, knowledge, etc., when he had charge of the Miramichi Hatchery the same officer in his Report said—"I am compelled to "say that incompetency, added to mis-"statements of the number of ova and "of other facts have produced results," etc. In consequence of "incompetency" and the "misstatements" made by him the Inspector was relieved of his charge of our Hatchery. And we may add that whenever official investigations have been held in matters of dispute between the Inspector and ourselves that officer has been proved ignorant and unreliable, so he ought not to court reference to "Reports." The people of the Miramichi generally will not, willingly, tolerate the Inspector of Fisheries among them, and the strongest friends of the present Government—and especially those, who, like ourselves, desire to see our fisheries intelligently managed—look upon his mode of dealing with the great interest in his charge as unfortunate for the fisheries, the people and the Department. When the *Sun*, therefore, becomes champion of Inspector Venning, it will find us prepared to meet it, in the public interest, for we do only our duty in exposing a person whom we believe to be a public imposter and fraud. We may feel pity for him, personally, while doing so, but private feelings and tastes ought not to be too closely regarded when public duty requires them to be held in abeyance.

Lumbermen and the Tariff.

An Ottawa press despatch of 7th inst. says:—

"The convention of lumbermen next Tuesday at the City Hall promises to be one of the most important bona fide industrial meetings which have taken place for years in the Dominion. It will be much larger and more influential than the recent meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade. Representatives from the Maritime Provinces and all parts of Ontaria and Quebec are expected to be present, and no doubt a strong protest against the proposed tariff increases will be formulated."

"A prominent lumberman a few days ago stated that the slightest increase on the articles used by lumbermen would cause the collapse of the whole interest. Mr. J. C. Miller, M. P. P., will represent Parry Sound, Messrs. Byrd and Irwin Peterboro, and Mr. Mather the Lake of the Woods district. Other delegates are being daily reported. The Ottawa district will be fully represented."

THE LAZARETTO:—A letter from a very reliable correspondent on the above subject is published in another column and is calculated to invite the attention of the Government and public to the management of that institution.

PARLIAMENT is called together at Ottawa to-day. It is expected that the opening ceremonies will be more brilliant than on any occasion since Confederation. We shall give our readers carefully prepared reports of the proceedings of the session which are arranged for both by telegraph and the mails.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS:—We publish, this week, summaries of the business done at the Gloucester, Restigouche and Kent Councils, which; together with the report of the Northumberland Council's proceedings in the three previous issues of the ADVANCE embrace the doings of the January sessions of the Municipal Councils of the four northern Counties. We take the Restigouche report, by request, from the *Advocate*, as two copies were not prepared and, as a correspondent informs us and the report itself shows, the Gloucester Councillor who moved for a publication of the doings of that body omitted the ADVANCE because it published some letters enquiring about his official disposition of certain public monies. We, therefore, copy the Gloucester report as we find it furnished by the Sec.-Treasurer to our cotemporary. Our friends in Gloucester will thus understand that the late appearance of the report is due to its being officially withheld from us.

EXCURSION TO OTTAWA.—It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns that excusion tickets are issued by the Intercolonial Railway for Ottawa and return, good for two months. We observe the Moncton *Times*, which admits that Dr. Tupper controls the Intercolonial, claims the main credit of the excusion. It says "that though the *Telegraph* and other papers recommended the excursion, weeks ago, nothing was done until the *Times* sanctioned the proposal." In other words that paper says it is true Dr. Tupper controls his Department, but, then, the *Times* controls Dr. Tupper. The Doctor must feel flattered, considering the source of the ridiculous claim.

The Miramichi Marine Hospital.

The immediate friends of the new Minister of Marine and Fisheries have given much encouragement to those who are interested in a more intelligent administration of local affairs under the control of those branches of the public service, by intimating that he will bring to the office a large experience in matters which are within the province of his Department and a self-reliant industry which will overtake and remove many causes of complaint that have, heretofore, been allowed to exist undisturbed. We are quite sure that the administration of the affairs of that important Department under such a head cannot but prove satisfactory to the public, and we are glad to observe that up to the present time, under his *regime*, there has been evinced a disposition to fairly consider all the interests involved in taking action upon Departmental matters in this locality. We do not know whether the Minister has yet been officially informed of the bad condition of the Miramichi Marine Hospital at Douglastown, but if he has not, there has been a neglect of duty somewhere. The Institution has been a subject of local criticism and complaint, as we are informed, for quite a long time and judging of it, after a personal visit last week, we are convinced that no efficient Minister made aware of its actual condition would be content to permit much time to pass before effecting a change for the better.

We have frequently visited the Hospital of the Hotel Dieu, Chatham, and come away convinced that in the treatment of patients, cleanliness of surroundings, care in the preparation of food and attention at the bedside were there looked upon as essentials in promoting a return to health. Our observations at the County Alms House, from its kitchen, through all the departments to hospital wards, have been such as to lead to the conclusion that the Commissioners were fortunate in having the services of persons who kept the institution in the safest sanitary condition. A person accustomed to observation, passing from either of these institutions to the Marine Hospital of the Dominion Government at Douglastown, could not experience any sensation but one of disappointment and disgust. The latter building is large enough and there are no faults of construction which interfere with making it as pleasant, artificially, as it is in point of natural surroundings, in which it has many decided advantages, but from the very entrance of the grounds there is the impress of slovenliness, dirt and neglect. The entrance is from the main road of Douglastown and it requires careful driving to get from it to the door without upsetting a sleigh. Before entering the door the eye—informed by the nose, even on a day in February—is directed to an unsightly blotch, resembling the miniature crater of an extinct volcano, and the *debris* in the vicinity, together with the locality of the filthy deposit, gives assurance that this is the place where the household and Hospital "slops" are hurled by persons more or less vigorous, but too lazy to go beyond the door. Medical authorities can well understand the sanitary effects of such a deposit, which, having spread over the icy ground all winter and sunk into the soil by the operation of the spring thaw, will be subjected to the afternoon sun and high temperature of our Miramichi summer. But we pass this point, so suggestive of maleria, and enter the Hospital through an ample door which is wide open, notwithstanding the cold. To the left, through another open door, the visitor gets a glimpse of a large room of nondescript character, judged by the litter which encumbers it. In the middle of the confusion there appears a pump through which it is to be hoped the water supply of institution is not drawn, for the "surface indications" around it are bad enough, while the reservoir is within only a few feet of and in the line of drainage from the "slop crater" outside at the door. To the right there is a dirty-looking hallway which appeared to stand in great need of being washed. Enquiry elicited the fact that the kitchen was situated at the end of this and from what we subsequently saw of a dish prepared in it, there, is little room to hope that it is conducted in a manner more cleanly than its approaches indicate. Opening a door opposite the entrance the visitor passes into a roomy corridor extending to what is, doubtless, a front entrance in summer, with a branch running to the right as far as the end of the building. Off the main portion of the corridor to the left is the entrance to the room at present occupied by the Hospital patients, while there is a larger room at the opposite end of the building, which is used as a ward for patients during the navigation season. Looking along the western corridor one sees a dirty floor littered with soiled and ragged articles which resemble cast off bed clothing, and personal apparel abandoned by discharged patients.

In passing to the ward that is occupied, similar unsightly litter is hanging about a stack of wooden bedsteads not in use and lying upon the floor. In these days of advanced ideas one might ask with propriety what business wooden beadsteads have in any part of such an establishment, but when they are kept in a most uncleanly condition, like gibbets for the exhibition of tattered clothing, which, in all probability, has covered bodies sick with the ills incident to Marine Hospital patients, they are indicative of carelessness and ignorance in reference to sanitary requirements which would be inexcusable if discovered in places where pauper farming is reduced to a sickening science.

In the patients' ward the same order of things prevails. Nothing looks clean or tidy. The floor is dirty, the bed-clothing dirty, the oil-cloth covering of the table by the front wall, dirty and in tatters; old bottles, jars, boxes, etc., evidently not in use, disfigure the mantle-shelf and find a resting place on every available projection, and these, with the deadly atmosphere, suggest the necessity of disinfectants.—On a chair beside the cot of a patient named McCready—a Glasgow sailor—was a vile, watery compound, which was given to him as gruel. It was of a clay-brown color, relieved, when stirred, by the appearance of white lumps of meal nearly as large as marbles. This patient said he was told that he had inflammation of the lungs. However doctors might differ on that point the man's voice and appearance called for nourishment, which, we were told, had not been administered to him, and he complained that a bottle of port wine, furnished by a lady who visited the Hospital, had been taken from him and given, after being well watered, to another inmate. McCready said, also, that milk had been given to him in his tea only once since he came to the Hospital. This patient, though very sick, was inclined to talk too much. He is evidently what is termed by sailors, a "forecastle lawyer." Were it not for that, we might give some other facts of which he spoke and which we pass over, as we have no wish to depart from what is well established truth in connection with this subject. Esias Ketola, a Russian sailor who entered the Hospital with a broken leg, some 8 months ago; Harry Koops, a Hamburg sailor, and Thomas Roach who entered the institution last April, and is quite as able to do sailor's duty as the average healthy man, are the other occupants of the patients' ward at present. In view of the fact that Roach is engaged in hauling wood and takes a run to Newcastle now and then, it might be well for the Minister to enquire at what stage of convalescence a patient of the Miramichi Marine Hospital ceases to become a charge upon the Government. The condition of the floor led to enquiry as to how often it was scrubbed. The patient, Koops, replied, "only twice since I have been here," and further enquiry elicted the fact that he had been there two months, and he also said it was he who had done the scrubbing. Referring to the manner in which the Hospital is conducted, one of our informants said that a living patient had been put into a bed from which a dead one was taken, without the bed clothes being changed. The statement seems almost incredible, but if any of our readers were to examine the hospital and see it as we did, they would rot, while amid such surroundings, think it surprising.

We make the above facts public in the hope that they will become known to the Minister, in whose reputed fitness for his position we think there is a guarantee of reform. It is not his fault that the Hospital is now so badly conducted, but it will be if the causes of complaint exist at a reasonable time hereafter.

The matter is one which directly affects our port, as well as the reputation of the Government, which cannot too soon enter upon the duty of investigation to be followed by prompt and effective action.

The Miramichi Smelt and Bass Fisheries.

The following letter appeared in the St. John *Globe* of Tuesday and is self-explanatory:—

To the Editor of the St. John Globe.

DEAR SIR:—I fear it will be a waste of time as well as of your space for me to attempt the task of convincing the *Sun* that it is greatly misled by those who have undertaken to inform it in reference to the smelt fisheries of the river Miramichi. The *Sun* can have no interest, so far as I know it, in wilfully misrepresenting the facts as they exist, and I, therefore, judge that it has too much confidence in the statements of those who wish to convey erroneous impressions to the public and Fisheries Department. What I object to in behalf of the interests affected—and it is a very considerable one—is the partial and exaggerated treatment which is given to the subject of our smelt and bass fisheries by the *News*, *Telegraph*, and *Sun*.

The latter paper refers to your synopsis of my letter as reading like an *Advance* editorial on the same subject, and it occurred to me that if the *Sun* were disposed to treat the matter fairly it would not confine itself to extracts from the *Advocate* and *Gleaner*, which are both assisting the Inspector for the Province in his war upon the bag-nets, but give the other side of the story from the *Advance* as well. The *Sun*, however, not only re-produces the statements of the *Advocate* and *Gleaner*, but fully endorses them, after having "taken the trouble to learn their truth." The partizan spirit of the *Sun* is thus confessed by itself, and after it is so fully committed to the errors of the papers referred to, it would be unreasonable to expect anything but partizan statements from it.

It would occupy more space than you can well give to me to show up the "true inwardness" of the smelt controversy, so I must confine myself to a few salient points. It is about two years ago that the Inspector for the Province discovered the fact that the Intercolonial Railway was developing the smelt fishery and that the catch was increasing very fast. He was under the impression that the large quantities taken would practically annihilate the fish in our waters. He called at my office and expressed to me his convictions. He asked me to go with him a distance of some six or seven miles and witness, with my own eyes, the proof of what he stated. He procured for me a team, and a driver in the person of his *fides Achates*, Overseer Wyse of Chatham, since dismissed for creating trouble for the Department. Overseers Hogan of Newcastle, Hickson, of Bathurst and Mowat of Restigouche, (the latter a sensible and fair-minded officer) were of the party. Arriving at the fishing-place where I was to witness the wanton destruction etc., we found nothing of the kind. Some disputes had been taking place in reference to the positions of certain nets and at a meeting of which I was chairman, everything was satisfactorily arranged. At that meeting the Inspector told the fishermen, who were present in large numbers, that they must apply to the Department for licenses for the bag-nets they were using, but he did not say a word about his intention to have them prohibited. An hour or two after, however, he said to another gentleman and myself that he had prohibited the bag-nets in Bathurst and intended to have them prohibited in Miramichi also. After a little time the prohibition was made in Bathurst, but though recommended by the Inspector, it was prevented in Northumberland. The Inspector was very angry at the time because his advice was not taken and he blamed me considerably for taking an active interest in the matter against him. So vexed was he that he came to my office and used violent and profane language. I ordered him out and he even went so far as to push his person against me and dare me to strike him and as he left he threatened that "the d—d down river fishermen would yet find he was master." Samuel Wilmot, Esq., the Chief of the Fish Culture branch of the service was in Chatham on the day the Inspector behaved so badly and he will, doubtless remember that I refused to have any personal intercourse with that officer after his unbecoming behaviour towards me, and I may say here