

THE GLEANER.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1884.

VISIT OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

We are informed by the Lieutenant Governor that His Excellency, the Governor General, will pay a short visit to this city on either the sixteenth or seventeenth of the present month.

THE COMING SCOTT ACT ELECTION.

A number of persons who have been engaged in the illegal and surreptitious sale of liquor in the vicinity of Fredericton, being desirous of conducting their business more openly and with greater profit, caused petitions to be circulated asking for the repeal of the Canada Temperance Act in York County, and a vote upon the question will be taken on the 30th day of the present month. This movement neither originated with, nor has it received the support of the leading business men of the county; it is not a demand made by the agricultural sections for privileges which they do not now enjoy; it receives the sanction of no church or organized body of Christians; and its promoters are not the leaders of public opinion nor are they those who would be considered as foremost in the cause of order, good government, or social, educational or material progress. If there are any such who will vote for the repeal of the Act they have not yet, as far as has been made public, identified themselves with the movement against it.

It appears to us under these circumstances that the merits of the Canada Temperance Act itself must be assigned a secondary place in the canvass; because the object of the promoters of the petition is not one with which any large number of the people can be in sympathy, and should therefore be defeated on its own merits. We affirm, without fear of contradiction, that it is not desirable that those who are now engaged in the sale of liquor should have any increased facilities given to them whereby their trade can be increased; for admitting for argument's sake that the sale of intoxicants is so much of a necessity that it will be carried on to some extent no matter what law is in force, not even the most strenuous advocate of the liquor traffic will deny that it is in the interest of morality and general thrift that the sale should be reduced to a minimum. We do not therefore see how any journal can, in the discharge of its duty to the public, ask the electors of the county to give increased facilities to the liquor traffic.

The argument which the promoters of the petition make, and by which they secured by far the greater part of the signatures to it, is that the Canada Temperance Act is a failure, and that mere liquor is sold in the county now that is in force, than was sold before it came in force, or than would be sold if the act were repealed. If this were true it would be open to question whether a concealed sale of a larger quantity is not a less evil than the open sale of a smaller quantity; and we think that those who regard restrictive laws in their proper light, that is as popular educators, would have no doubt which is to be preferred. But it is not true; and the only proof needed that it is not true is to be found in the fact that those who moved in the matter of the repeal and furnished the means to pay for the circulation of the petition are those who are now selling what liquor they can safely sell without detection and punishment. It may be that these persons will spend their time and their money and use their influence to have a change made in the law by which their business will be reduced, but the electors of York will scarcely be gullible enough to believe it. If these persons desire to reduce their sales they have other and readier means of doing so; and we are not aware of any obligation upon them to sell at all.

We shall take occasion in a future issue to discuss the Canada Temperance Act upon its merits; and in the meantime we recommend the electors of York to go to the polls and vote against the petition, and thereby say to those who have promoted it, that in the opinion of this intelligent constituency it is not desirable that any restrictions, however ineffectual they may in some instances have proved, should be taken from the liquor traffic,

and that the cause of those who wish to legalize and make public the sale of intoxicants, and revive the days of bar-room drinking in the county, is not the cause of the public at large.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The need of a thorough reorganization of the Fire Department was again demonstrated on Thursday night. The firemen were promptly on hand with plenty of hose, all of which they ran out. Then they remembered that they had only one hose pipe, so half the hose was rolled up again. This hose pipe they did not seem to know how to put on, and when they got it on it was some time before they got the hose attached to the hydrant. When they got the water at last it was thrown high in the air over the fire. By and by another line of hose was stretched and these got interlocked and there was much pulling and hauling before things were straightened out. Hundreds of gallons of water were thrown over the burning house, but very little on the fire. There was no ladder available, and when the Hook and Ladder Company did arrive they then went to work breaking in windows instead of going up stairs or getting upon the roof where the fire was. Meanwhile the air quivered with official and semi-official profanity.

We think several things are manifest. First, the hosemen need regular fire drill so that they may learn to attach their hose and get a stream of water on a fire in the shortest possible time.

Secondly, Each hose reel should have two branch pipes.

Thirdly, Each hose company should have at least one light ladder.

Fourthly, The orders of the officer in charge should be obeyed by the men.

Fifthly, Some system of fire alarm should be adopted, so that the location of a fire can be learned at once.

The City Council will do well to give these matters their immediate and careful attention.

HIS CRIMES AND THEIR PUNISHMENT.

We used to be treated a few months ago with ponderous articles in the Farmer, entitled "Another blow at the County of York" and so on, wherein Mr. Blair would be assailed without regard to the truth or his feelings. To use a phrase known to the vulgar, our contemporary has "let up on the business," and has not treated the public to a "blow" for some time. And yet how many golden opportunities it has let slip. Under these circumstances we propose to show some of the "blows" which Mr. Blair has struck at this constituency.

Without going too far back, let us begin at the last session of the last legislature. Here we find Mr. Blair showing his disregard of the rights of his constituents by demanding of the Government a promise that \$50,000 should be given towards a bridge across the river here, and before the echoes of this shameless request had died away he had the hardihood to unite in a conspiracy to defeat a high-minded and patriotic effort on the part of some of Mr. Blair's friends to get this \$50,000 to build a \$40,000 toll bridge with. It was not to be imagined that an indignant electorate would permit Mr. Blair thus to trample on their rights, and so they took the first opportunity to condemn him to public servitude in the Legislature for four years more. But the wretched man was incorrigible. No sooner had the House met than he struck the County of York another blow by turning out the late Government; and then having basely accepted the Premiership and brought back the leadership of the Government from Westmorland to York, he took the office of Attorney General and then resigned his seat in the Assembly. But the electors were not to be baffled in their revenge, and they arose by hundreds and condemned him to serve the remainder of his term in the House. One would have thought these lessons would have taught him to respect the rights of York; but they did not. For years the Attorney General had been on receipt of a salary of \$2400; but Mr. Blair corruptly surrendered \$300 of it, thereby having less to spend for his own purposes in the county and wasting it upon great roads and by-roads and in like useless ways. Then again he has departed from the honored plan of employing other people to attend to Crown prosecutions, and maliciously looks after them himself without putting any expense upon the province, whereas under a happier regime government hangers-on were liberally fed at the public crib and some of their money was actually spent in the County of York. Has Mr. Blair ever done anything for York half as noble as his predecessor did for Westmorland when he gave Mr. Hanington his enormous fee in the McCarthy case?

But why follow this melancholy career? What punishment can be too severe for a man who would build a bridge over a Naashwaak for the accommodation of a few paltry thousands of people who will have business at a cotton mill which cost a beggarly million, and a few others who have such wretched taste as to live on the east side of the Naashwaak? But even this is not the full measure of his offence. He has willfully, and against the strenuous efforts of such pure patriots as Mr. Wetmore, Mr. Colter and their fellow malignants, and despite the warnings of the Farmer, the Capital and the Reporter, caused timber and stones to be put into the St. John river and is about to have a bridge built, thereby depriving the people of York for all time to come of their blessed privilege of waiting on the shore for the ferryboat. What shall we say of a man who will strike these repeated blows at his county? Only this that the electors when they get the chance will not only condemn him to four years further public servitude, but if they can find three of those who have aided and abetted him in his villainy, they will send them also to the Assembly to share his punishment with him.

"THERE IS LIFE IN THE OLD LION YET."

Many persons will remember Punc's celebrated cartoon bearing this legend, and the lesson which the events it illustrated teaches ought not to be hastily forgotten. The world has before now heard of the annihilation of England and they have seen it attempted. How it succeeded let Trafalgar answer. The famous signal which went from the flag-ship of Nelson that day has lost none of its significance. "England expects that every man will do his duty." Let the occasion come when these words shall be uttered again as a call to arms against one or more invading foes, and there will go up from the length and breadth of the British Isles and the British Empire such a response as that elicited by the beacon fires which signalled the coming of the Spanish Armada. Jules Valles has read history to some purpose when he calls Englishmen "the silent race, whose voice is heard amid the cannon." The great Napoleon sneered at England; but it was "the nation of shop-keepers" which broke his power and held him a prisoner on seagirt St. Helena.

And so when we read in this despatch or that editorial how England is at the mercy of Europe and how the day of her humiliation is at hand, we wonder if the writers have forgotten or think that their readers have forgotten the lessons of the past. We wonder if they have forgotten that war with England means war with tens of millions of freemen. Anarchists and Communists may threaten the integrity of continental armies, but not a breath of doubt can be thrown upon the loyalty of the British troops, and no conscription would be necessary to fill the ranks. A struggle between England and France would be a universal calamity, but of the issue we have no doubt; even though the whole power of Germany were at the back of our ancient ally. We do not believe there is any danger of such a war occurring, but if it is in the minds of Continental diplomats that one must come, it is written on the hearts of Englishmen that the victory shall perch upon their banners.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It is stated that Sir Leonard Tilley has leased his house at Ottawa for a term of years to begin after the close of the next session of Parliament. This probably means that Sir Leonard is to be the next occupant of Government House.

The moribund Reporter is rather severe upon the Free Baptist Convention, when it expresses a hope that it will catch an inspiration of those "genuineness" and "desirability" it has doubts. It is doubtful if it intended to be severe, or if it really knew what the words it employed signified.

Had Enough.

Mr. Winks—"Jane, have you fed the dog this morning?"
 Mrs. Winks—"No; he doesn't need anything."
 "Why, I have not given him any meat since yesterday morning, have?"
 "No, but one of Maria's fellows called last night."

Almost a Proposal.

(Foot's Son.)
 He considered it a parental duty to see that his daughter kept only the very best of marriageable company.
 "Glenda," said her father, "you have been going with that Mitchell fellow for more than a year now, yet I see no change in you. This courtship must come to a termination."
 "Oh, pa, how can you talk so? He is oh, so sweet and nice."
 "Ah," and the fond father arched his eyebrows, "sweet and nice, eh? Has he proposed?"
 "Well, pa, not exactly," and the girl hung her head down and fingered the drapery on her dress; "he didn't exactly propose, but then last evening when we were out walking we passed by a cute little house and he said: 'That's the kind of a cottage I am going to live in some day, and I said 'Yes, and

then he glanced at me and squeezed my hand. Then just as we got by I glanced back at the house and—and I squeezed his hand pa. "Oh, ah, I see. Well, we'll try him another week or two."

It Must Have Been the Door Shutting.

(Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.)
 "Has he gone, dear?" "Yes, grandma."
 "And what was that sound in the hall, Jessie?" "Why, it must have been the door shutting, grandma." "Your grandma may be old and deaf, Jessie, but the door did not shut with a sound like that when she was a girl." "Did the men wear mustaches then, grandma?" "No, my dear." "Well, that makes the difference probably."

FREDERICTON

Marble & Stone Works
 JOHN MOORE, Proprietor.

I MOST RESPECTFULLY REQUEST you to call your attention to my large stock of Marble Headstones and Monuments.

Being largely in the best markets, I can place them at prices much less than others are doing. And Price, from the cheapest Tablet to the most expensive Monument, furnished with promptness and despatch.

STONE POSTS

And all kinds of stone work furnished promptly. Do not buy before you see me or my agent, as you will save money by buying from us. Our work stands foremost for durability and appearance in any place where it has been set up, as well as being much cheaper.

Write me for prices, or call on my agent before you purchase, or you will waste money.
 Yours Respectfully
 JOHN MOORE.

NOTICE.

I BEG leave to inform the public that I am now prepared to furnish

OYSTERS IN ALL STYLES.

And to accommodate

TRANSIENT BOARDERS.

At my old stand,

Opposite Post Office.

There is also a FISH STORE in connection with the building where I keep constantly on hand all kinds of fresh fish in their season. Providence River, Prince Edward Island, and Bouchette Oysters, in or out of the shell; Labrador Salt, Bay, Kansas and Gibbed Bay Herring; Dried and Boneless Codfish, Pickled Mackerel, Finnan Haddies, Smoked Fish Blenders, Extras, Medians and Delicacies.

Call and Examine Stock and Prices.

All orders will receive prompt attention

J. A. LYNCH.

Fredericton, Sept. 13-3m.

Lime. Lime!

JUST RECEIVED,

EXTRA No. 1

Green Head

LIME,

ALSO:

Calcined Plaster,

ALSO IN STOCK.

Buckwheat Kenell,

Shorts. Bran

and Oats.

LIME & SEED SPECIALTIES,

AT—

W. E. MILLER & Co.'s

FEED AND SEED HOUSE,

QUEEN STREET, OPPOSITE PEOPLE'S BANK

Special Discount

FOR CASH,

FOR 30 DAYS,

—ON—

Watches, Jewellery,

SOLID SILVER WARE,

RICH ELECTRO PLATED

WARE, AND CLOCKS

ELEGANT FANCY GOODS

In great variety,

Selling at Cost,

To make room for New Goods.

My stock is very complete in every department and anyone requiring goods in my line will find it to their advantage to give me a call before buying

S. F. SHUTE,

Sharkey's Block,

QUEEN ST.

Fredericton, March 25th, 1884.

JUST RECEIVED.

ANOTHER CARLOAD EACH

Granulated & Yellow Sugar

...ALSO...

25 BOXES 'PLUCKY' SOAP,

Equal in quality to 'Welcome,' but cheaper.

A. F. RANDOLPH & SON.

Fredericton, Sept. 13.

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And all kinds of stone work furnished promptly. Do not buy before you see me or my agent, as you will save money by buying from us. Our work stands foremost for durability and appearance in any place where it has been set up, as well as being much cheaper.

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Fredericton, Sept. 13.

AUGUST 20th.

Open To-day!

Another lot of Popular Makes in

CORSETS,

—INCLUDING—

BALL'S HEALTH CORSET,

THE CARALINE,

O. K. LILY, MOJESKA,

DR. WARNER'S ETC.

AND A BEAUTIFUL LINE OF

Wool Shawls,

FOR EVENING WEAR.

—

STILL SELLING

Ladies' Rubber Circulars,

All Sizes, for \$1.50.

Sale of Remnants, Summer Dress Goods, Carpets, Clothing, etc., will be continued until they are cleared out.

FRED. B. EDGECOMBE,

Agent for St. John Dye Works,

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