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EQUITY SALE.

There will be sold at Public Auction, in front of the Law Chambers so called, in the town of Chatham in the County of Northumberland, on Tuesday, the Fifteenth day of March next, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, pursuant to the directions of a decretal order of the Supreme Court in Equity, made on the Twenty-First day of December, A.D. 1897 in a certain suit therein pending, wherein Robert C. Boyes and James S. Fairley Executors of the last will and testament of Scott Fairley, deceased, are Plaintiffs and William McDougall is defendant, with the approbation of the undersigned referee in Equity for the County of Northumberland, the lands and premises directed to be sold by the said decretal order and therein described as all that piece parcel or lot of land situate lying and being in the Lockstead Settlement, Parish of Blackville, County of Northumberland, granted by the said William McDougall as by reference to the grant will more fully appear and bounded as follows to wit, Beginning on the eastern side of the road from McLaggan's to Renous River at the northwest angle of lot number one hundred and nine purchased by Isaac Walls, in Lockstead Settlement, thence running by the magnet along the said road north five degrees and twenty minutes, west twelve chains and fifty links to a stake, thence north eighty four degrees and forty minutes east eighty chains, thence south five degrees and twenty minutes, east twelve chains and fifty links and thence south eighty-four degrees and forty minutes west eighty chains to the place of beginning—containing over a hundred acres more or less, and distinguished as lot number one hundred and twelve, in Lockstead Settlement.

Together with all buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining.

Terms of sale—Cash. For further particulars apply to Plaintiffs Solicitor.

Dated the fifth day of January, A.D. 1898.

L. J. TWEEDIE, Plaintiff's Solicitor. — ROBT. MURRAY, Referee in Equity.

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Together with all buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining.

Terms of sale—Cash. For further particulars apply to Plaintiffs Solicitor.

Dated the fifth day of January, A.D. 1898.

L. J. TWEEDIE, Plaintiffs Solicitor. — ROBT. MURRAY, Referee in Equity.

BILL

Public notice is hereby given that application will be made at the next ensuing session of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick for the passing of an act to authorise the Town of Chatham to issue debentures for the sum of twenty thousand dollars in accordance with the vote of the ratepayers of said Town at a public meeting duly called for the purpose and held on the 11th November last.

Dated 5th January, 1898.

WARREN C. WINSLOW, Mayor.

Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Miramichi Telephone Co. will be held in Hon. J. B. Snowball's office, MONDAY, JANUARY 31st, at 3 o'clock p.m.

GEO. E. FISHER, Secretary.

January 4th 1898.

Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Chatham Electric Light Co. will be held up stairs, in Railway office, Snowball Building, MONDAY, JANUARY 31st at 11 a.m.

GEO. E. FISHER, Secretary.

January 4th 1898.

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Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., - JANUARY 20, 1898.

The Lesson of the Charlotte Election.

It is to be hoped that the St. John Globe's declaration that "it submits gracefully to the inevitable, and congratulates Mr. Chipman" on his unopposed election in Charlotte, indicates that it is sensible of its past error in opposing the principle which the Local Government party has, time and again affirmed—viz.—that of refusing to recognise Dominion party politics within its own ranks, or encourage it amongst its followers, as such. The Globe, however, notwithstanding its apparent return to the right path, does not seem to be ingenuous, but rather disposed to quibble for the purpose, no doubt, of letting itself down easily. It says:—

"Although Dominion issues are said not to enter into provincial politics Mr. Chipman owes his nomination to the united action of representative men, Liberals and Conservatives, who selected him to be the candidate of the Local government, and, apparently, both parties in the county appear to be satisfied with the choice. The St. Croix Courier, the Conservative organ, is naturally well pleased, and the St. Andrews Beacon—the Liberal paper—is in a plessantly acquiescent mood. Probably this is the first occasion on which a Local governmemt candidate has been selected in this way. Mr. Chipman is understood to be the choice of the administration itself."

A greater disposition to be candid would, we think, lead the Globe to admit that the course followed by the Local government party in Charlotte in selecting Mr. Chipman as its candidate, was practically that pursued heretofore in nearly every constituency where the government's friends have largely predominated, as they do in the border county.

Dominion party divisions are not nearly so strongly marked amongst the people as they were a few years ago. The reason for this is because the main separating issue has practically disappeared. That issue was the tarriff question, and, whatever may be said to the contrary in times of political excitement, for party purposes, there does not now seem to be any difference between the two federal parties in that regard. The demand, therefore, for the new condition of things in New Brunswick,—the introduction of Dominion party divisions into provincial politics—seems to come from those who are desirous of having the people kept in a state of excitement or concern over matters which are in no way connected with the administration of local affairs. In other words: it means an attempt to bring the voters under the operation of the political machine system, which, as observing people know, is manipulated by the few who may be classed as professional politicians, as distinguished from those who strive to have public administration conducted by the simpler methods which are preferred by those who rely upon their ability and honesty for the people's support. We may be sure that there is no public disposition towards the encouragement of the machine in politics; hence the failure of its recently attempted introduction by outsiders in the case of Charlotte County.

It is worth while to note, as we have stated, and notwithstanding the Globe's intimation to the contrary, that no new thing has developed in the Charlotte election. Representative men of that county realized that the Globe and Sun—speaking doubtless for a class of politicians which unfortunately exists in both Dominion parties—were attempting to dictate a course contrary to the time-honored policy of the Local Government leaders, and they demonstrated their continued adhesion to that policy a little more emphatically than usual as a rebuke of such dictation. Their purpose in doing so was to intimate to all concerned that the meaning of the outcry of the two papers named for the establishment of new complications in politics was understood and disapproved. The fact that no one could be found in so large a county to become the standard bearer of the comparatively new doctrine in an election has, let us hope, convinced its promoters that it is a failure.

That the Globe is not satisfied to accept the situation gracefully, is indicated by its apparent disposition to misrepresent it, as follows:—

"Mr. Chipman has now to regard three interests, the Liberal administration of the province, the Liberals of Charlotte county and the Conservatives of that county. We all know the fate of the man who tried to sit upon two stools, but as there is no adage to warn us of what befell the man who could sit upon three we may assume that no evil befel him, and thus the Globe hopes as regards Mr. Chipman. As for the province it is a secondary consideration under these conditions."

It has been clearly demonstrated that the administration is not a Liberal one. Mr. Emmerson has himself renewed the declaration of his predecessors in the premiership to that effect. He has stated that he does not recognise Dominion party lines as leader of the government. It is, therefore, clear to any candid mind that the Government is no more a Liberal one under Mr. Emmerson than that under the late premier Mitchell was Conservative. Besides, Mr. Chipman was the choice of the Government's friends, both Liberal and Conservative. Why, therefore, does the Globe assert that Mr. Chipman has to regard "the Liberal administration of the province?" And, as Liberal or Conservative politics are not recognised in provincial affairs, any more than in the government of the municipalities, cities, towns, churches or schools, it follows that the Globe's closing paragraph is meaningless and inapplicable. The Globe, however, may be congratulated on having taken a turn in the right direction, and let us hope that it will endeavor to walk in the new light which now seems to at least partially guide it.

Mr. J. D. Chipman Elected by Acclamation.

Saturday last was nomination day in Charlotte county. There was quite a large gathering of electors at the Shiretown, St. Andrews. As the ADVANCE predicted, there was no opposition to Mr. J. D. Chipman, the nominee of the local government party, who was therefore declared elected by the High Sheriff.

Mr. Chipman, in acknowledging the honor done him, declared himself to be a government supporter on the lines laid down by Premier Emmerson in his speech at St. John. He referred to and deprecated attempts that had been made to force Dominion party divisions into the management of provincial affairs. If that policy were ever adopted he said he would, of course, reserve to himself the right to act with the Dominion party to which he belonged.

Hon. Geo. F. Hill, M. P. P., and Mr. Russell, M. P. P. also addressed the electors, approving of the return of Mr. Chipman. He was a Conservative while they were Liberals in Dominion politics, but they knew no federal party lines in the discharge of their duties as representatives at Fredericton, and deprecated the attempts that had been made to introduce federal issues in provincial elections. If the lines were drawn at any time, they, like Mr. Chipman, would reserve to themselves the right to side with their Dominion party. They hoped, however, that contingency would not arise.

Againt the Farmers.

The Moncton Times opposes the Local Government's proposals for the encouragement of wheat-raising, as announced by Premier Emmerson, and a paper nearer home condemns the ADVANCE for giving up a large part of its space for two weeks to a report of the meetings recently held in Napan and Chatham in the farming interests. While no one can reasonably object to the management of any paper slighting the farming interests, as the local paper referred to does, it seems impertinent that it should find fault with the ADVANCE because it does not follow its example. It is much easier not to report meetings, or to half do the work, but, in the case of these farmers' meetings a good deal of the information brought out was of interest to many besides farmers, and we make it public in the general interest. With papers whose managers think farmers are of no account, it is different.

Chatham Customs Appointments.

The appointment of Mr. P. H. C. Benson to the position in the Chatham Custom House vacated by the death of the late Mr. Thomas Crimmen is one that meets with general approval. Mr. Benson's experience in the large business of Hon. J. B. Snowball, with which he has been identified for the last twenty-five years, has thoroughly familiarised him with the importing business in all its details, so that he will be no novice in the duties of appraiser of the port. Mr. Patrick Connors, who it is said, succeeds to the position vacated by the late W. T. Connors is one of Chatham's most competent and respected mechanics, and the intelligence and other good qualities by which he attained to that position will, no doubt, soon enable him to master the details of the work he is to do in his new official position.

An Ottawa despatch of Saturday to the St. John Globe made the following announcement in reference to the appointments:—

P. H. C. Benson has been appointed to fill Thos. Crimmen's place in the Chatham (Miramichi) custom house.

Patrick Connors has been appointed in place of W. T. Connors in the Chatham custom house, now temporarily filled by Geo. B. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser's services have been dispensed with.

The announcement respecting Mr. Fraser was quite a surprise, inasmuch as gentlemen who are supposed to be in touch with the Ottawa authorities stated, when the news of appointments having been made reached Chatham on Friday, that the staff at the Custom House was to be restored to the footing which existed a year or two ago, before the superannuation of Mr. Wm. Anderson, Mr. Fraser to take the duties performed by that gentleman.

Chatham Board of Trade.

The annual meeting of the Chatham Board of Trade was held in the Y.M.C.A. rooms Tuesday evening, W. S. Loggie Esq., president in the chair.

Present—Messrs. Mackenzie, Stothart, Bruce, Watt, McCulley, Barr, W. B. Snowball, Murdoch, Robinson, Nicol, F. E. Winslow, M. S. Hocken.

Minutes of last meeting, with adjournments and specials were read and approved. Treasurer's and auditor's reports were presented and accepted.

The president made a report outlining the past year's work and suggested that some action should be taken about a subsidy for a direct line of steamers from Miramichi to London, and about the proposed action of the Town council in reference to the bye-law re brick buildings on Water street.

The secretary, Mr. J. D. B. F. Mackenzie, read a communication from the Fredericton Board of Trade, asking the co-operation of the Chatham Board of Trade in impressing on the Government the advisability of the purchase of the Canada Eastern Railway, and asking the Board to appoint delegates to go to Ottawa in company with those appointed by the Fredericton Board to press the matter on the Government.

Mr. Alex. Robinson brought before the Board the matter of an increased subsidy for the Chatham steam ferry, as Messrs Haviland had requested him to do so.

Messrs. Alex. Robinson, Geo. Watt and W. B. Snowball were appointed a committee to look into the matter and report at an adjourned meeting.

The matter of construction of buildings on Water street was discussed and it was unanimously decided that it would be detrimental to the town interests to change the present bye-law.

The letter of the Fredericton Board was discussed by Messrs. W. B. Snowball, Alex. Robinson, Jas. Nicol, R. A. Murdoch, C. A. C. Bruce and S. U. McCulley, and during the discussion it came out that there was no record on the books of any meeting of the Board at which a resolution was reported to have been passed favoring the acquisition of the Canada Eastern Railway by the Canadian Pacific.

The officers selected for the ensuing year were:—

Messrs. W. S. Loggie, President; W. B. Snowball, vice-president; J. D. B. F. Mackenzie, secretary; Geo. Stothart treasurer; Jas. Nicol, auditor.

The old council was re-elected with the exception of Mr. E. Johnson, whose place was taken by Mr. C. A. C. Bruce; and the same Board of arbitrators with the exception of Mr. M. S. Hocken, who takes the place of the late Mr. W. T. Connors.

Meeting adjourned to meet Monday the 24th inst.

St. John Letter.

We hear but little of "haunted houses" in this country, and a belief in ghosts is entertained by very few of our people, yet the Liverpool, England, Post in a late issue, tells of a room in Leap Castle, in which one of the princesses of Ely was murdered six centuries ago, that is the theatre of some uncanny manifestations. The castle has been occupied since the eleventh century by descendants of its original owners, the O'Connells of Ely, the present occupants being Jonathan G. Darby and family. The Post says that the solid oak floor of the room where the murder was committed retains the blood stains of the royal victim, and that Mr. and Mrs. Darby, though they do not believe in "ghosts," admit that they cannot account for the extraordinary noises which occasionally come from the room of the murdered princess and which make it hardly possible for them to retain their female servants in their employment. The manifestations take the form of shrieks which resound and reverberate about the building and set the dogs in the kennels whining and barking.

Mudie's Library, in London, has 3,000,000 volumes in constant circulation. Such a library would afford every family in Canada, a week's reading of each of about 1500 volumes a year.

The scheme for building a cold storage depot, a pulp mill and a home for the public library in this city are apparently abandoned for the present.

Dr. Bourinot, of Ottawa, will lecture here on Loyalist history on the evening of the 20th inst.

There were 31 deaths in the city last year from diphtheria, and 19 from typhoid fever.

The total number of deaths in the city in 1897 was 819; in 1896, 734. There were 125 deaths from consumption, 56 from cholera infantum and 66 from old age.

General Booth and his daughter Eva, of the Salvation Army, will arrive here on the 18th inst. They will hold a meeting in Centenary church that evening, over which the Lieutenant-Governor will preside, and in the Mechanic's institute on the two following days.

Green pine, spruce and ash lumber weigh from 8 to 8½ pounds per foot, B. M.; yellow birch and maple from 12 to 13 pounds.

In the police court last Wednesday a city constable was fined $20 for assault on a man against whom he held a lapsed warrant.

A man languishes in jail at Hampton charged with breach of promise to marry.

Walter and Charles Wilson, residents of this city, left for the Yukon valley last Thursday.

Four steamers arrived here last week. There are now in port uncleared three steamers, five barques, one barquentine and 71 schooners.

The flour market is unchanged since last week and the uncertainty with regard to the future of sugar continues. Pork is somewhat higher; clear is quoted to-day at $15 and mess at $13 50. Business generally about the wharves is more active than it has been before at this season for ten years. Messrs. DeForest have employed a third traveler who will give his attention exclusively to the tea trade in this province.

There were 9 marriages, 17 births and 7 deaths in the city last week.

A free excursion to London and return has been won by Northrop & Co., the hustling South wharf grocers from the manufacturers of Sunlight Soap.

St. John, Jan. 17.

Agricultural Meetings.

[*Continued from last week.*]

Col. McCrae, continuing, referred to the necessity of taking good care of farm machinery and implements, which he said should be kept clean and housed; farm tools with which repairs could be made were also of great advantage on the farm. With good care of implements and machinery and repairs made at the proper time, the farm work would be lightened and money saved.

He advised the boys not to leave the farm with undue haste; there is not a great deal of money made on it, but there is pleasure and interest in doing its work and an independence not found elsewhere.

Again referring to the advantage of suitable books and periodicals, he pictured the old-fashioned, wide fire place, with its long back-logs—so long that a boy might sit on one end while the middle was burning, and read by the firelight—and dwelt on old-fashioned home associations, passing on to emphasise the value and duty of kindly and considerate intercourse between members of the farmer's household—

We've a kindly thought for the stranger,
And love for the sometime guest,
But oft for our own the bitter tone,—
Though we love our own the best.

Give a good word to the boy, to the girl and to the wife and thus encourage them. Help them to means of improvement, entertainment and enjoyment when the farm work is done and make of them good boys and good girls, for it is these who make the country. He heard a well known newspaper man, David Christie Murray, tell a story. He said he went by train to report a colliery accident. On reaching the mine where it had taken place, fire and black smoke were coming from its mouth. Hundreds and hundreds of the friends of the men who were down below were assembled, and were pumping water from an old hand-engine. Their work, however, did not seem to have any effect and the crowd were frantic. An old man rushed out of the crowd and said something better must be done and he wanted to know where those things were that they lashed on their backs?—meaning the fire-extinguishers. He then called for volunteers to go down into the mine and soon he had two hundred men who were willing to face what seemed to be almost certain death. The old man went down and soon came up again, and then he got thirteen others to go down. These soon came back—three of them losing their sight in the smoke and fire; but fresh men came forward and went down with the machines, relay after relay, many to be driven back, perhaps injured for life, but there were new men who took their places, and they fought down in the smoke and heat until they had put the fire out. That was an example of bravery and persistence which Mr. Murray said inspired him with admiration for his countrymen and he said "They talk of Old England going down! She'll never go down while she has such men to fight her battles!" [Applause.]

During Col. McCrae's addresses he invited his auditors to ask questions as they might occur to them and he would answer if he could; if not he would say so. Amongst the information elicited in this way was the following:

In the event of tuberculosis being discovered on a farm, a good course would be to thoroughly clean the stable and wash it with solution of bi-chloride of mercury, or of carbolic acid.

Calves of tuberculous cows do not necessarily have the disease. He referred to the case of an eight year old cow which had shown no sign of the disease, although the mother was well known to have had it in a very pronounced way.

The calf should not be allowed to stay with a tuberculous cow.

Sugar beets must be well cultivated in order to make them sugary. You must "hill" them; could not say whether sugar beets were better than turnips for cattle.

They had tried artificial manures on his (Col. McCrae's) farm but could not make them pay.

They generally sowed turnips after wheat—plow in the fall and in doing so just touch down so as to get a half inch or so of fresh soil; let it lie all winter; we take barn manure as it's made and spread it out on top of the snow; we harrow it in the spring; then sow about 300 lbs. salt to the acre; we sow the turnips in drills; salt might not be as necessary in this part of the country as in Ontario; we manure about once in three years—7, 8 or 9 double wagon loads to the acre.

We use a little super-phosphate on turnip land.

We use ashes on orchards, spreading it on the ground—not close around the trunks of the trees—for there are no roots there to be nourished;—put it out where it will reach the roots.

We don't think much of lime in our region. Bog and lime won'd be good.

We don't think much of timothy for cattle; we prefer orchard grass, blue grass, metaphiste and good mixtures; don't think much of Ox eye daisy.

[Mr. Geo Dickson expressed himself favorable to the latter.]

Clover is excellent as a manure to bring the soil up when plowed in; even the roots left in the ground have a germ attached to them which absorbs nitrogen and leaves it in the ground; you get 2 tons of manure per acre by leaving the clover roots in the ground.

The best clover seeds are the cheapest. Get the best.

Corn fodder should be grown until well eared; we put it up in shocks, out of doors convenient to the barn and take it in as we require it; we cut it into about half inch lengths for feeding; use it dry; we don't silo it, although the silo is a good thing.

When cattle go back on the feed you are giving them, change it.

Raw potatoes make good feed for cattle; for pigs it is best to boil them.

Take only one crop of corn from a piece of land; follow corn with oats, then hay.

We feed crushed oats; crushed wheat is also good.

In raising pigs feed them on clover if possible; don't give them much grain until they are big; skimmed milk is good for them; when they are kept up give them fresh soda to work at; don't keep them longer than 6 months for marketing; they should weigh from 150 to 175 lbs.; keep them warm and clean; this is essential.

In reply to chairman Dickson at Napan, as to the feeding value of turnips for cattle, Col. McCrae said, "Give me oat straw and turnips and I'll beat any other feeding with them; I feed turnips whole, excepting for young animals changing their teeth; we have fed thirty bushels of turnips per animal per day.

Don't know the chemical analysis of the water in turnips.

Mangolds may be kept covered up in dry earth and will remain good, but turnips require to be kept in a well ventilated place.

Mangolds and straw are good for milk, but not for beef; turnips are best for beef.

We sow turnips from 15th to 20th June; and I like a good frost before taking them up.

I ridge my land in the fall for mangold; sow with the seeder; we put 400 to 500 lbs. salt to the acre with us.

We sow corn with drill; we mix two kinds in sowing. I harrow corn before it is up and also after; we believe in hoeing it, as hoeing ripens the corn two weeks ahead.

MR. HUBBARD,

editor of the Co-operative Farmer, Sussex, spoke briefly at Napan in reference to pork-raising. He said that the Ratcenbury establishment on Prince Edward Island had a capacity of 1000 hogs a day. They wanted them from 150 to 180 lbs. each, live weight. They paid $4.50 per cwt. for them now. The pigs must be long deep-sided animals. For best English bacon they wanted only about one inch of flesh on the rib. Pigs were easily fed and easily raised in this country. For this class of pork-raising there was no need of cooking the food and it could be carried on advantageously in connection with dairying. He hoped the farmers present would favor them with information and suggestions.

MR. GEO. P. SEARLE,

president of Northumberland Agricultural Society No. 9, said he had grown wheat successfully, raising enough for the use of his own family. He obtained a new seed wheat—Russian—in 1896 and raised it as high as 66 lbs. to the bushel—50 bushels to the acre. The difficulty he experienced was in not having a flour mill convenient. Mr. Richards of Boiestown had about the best that he knew, but it was 60 miles away. At their agricultural society meetings they had talked of trying to induce the government to offer a bonus for the establishment of a modern grist mill, and he thought if that were done it would encourage our farmers to go more extensively into wheat-raising.

He was not quite sure whether our New Brunswick wheat was as good for first class flour making as that of Ontario and the west. He would therefore like to see sample lots collected from different sections of New Brunswick and sent to some first class Ontario mill for grinding, so that the quality of our wheat might be practically tested. He had heard it said that our wheat was too damp to make first class flour.

Another matter had received some attention from the Society—that of obtaining mussel-mud fertilizer. With the diggers now in use very small quantities were obtained and our farmers found it too far to go to the mussel beds, as they could not haul from them at a profit. They would like for the Department of Agriculture to start a steam-digger which would work in summer and by means of scows bring large quantities of that excellent fertilizer within reach of the farmers along the rivers. The digger could be used in many places in the Province and would be a great benefit to the farming interests.—[Applause.

MR. GEO. E. FISHER,

in response to calls spoke of grain-raising. He said he had 40 bushels of wheat to the acre in 1896; for wheat-raising he thought we led the Province on the Miramichi. He had raised oats at the rate of ten to one on poorer land than that on which he raised wheat.

MR. GEO. DICKSON

said he found wheat the most profitable crop he had ever raised; had grown fifteen and twenty to one. Any money put in a good grist mill would be a good investment, for it would encourage wheat-growing. He believed this section was as well adapted for growing wheat as any part of Ontario.

MR. WM. SEARLE

endorsed the mussel-mud raising suggestion made by a previous speaker, and said that lime was good for wheat land and if the government would bonus an undertaking for the production of lime it would be an advantage to the farmers. The government had done well in assisting the farmers to improve the stock of the country; now let them help them to get something to feed the stock with!

MR. A. G. DICKSON

agreed with former speakers as to the advantages of wheat-raising, for which the country was well-adapted. Wheat was profitable because it gave a return in grain and straw, and also in the catch of grass. The straw, with roots, was good for stock. We have mills which make low grade flour, but if we had a first class grist mill it would encourage us to raise more wheat. The mussel-mud question was, he believed more important than that of wheat-raising in this locality. Our farmers do not care to go too far in the use of artificial fertilisers, as they prefer to use the manures they are acquainted with. As the president of our agricultural society said at the meeting the other day, we have some 200 miles of farm-fronts on the shores of our bay and rivers, which could be supplied with mussel-mud by the plan he proposed, and he believed it would be the making of our farms if it could be realised.

HON. J. P. BURCHILL,

who was at the Napan meeting, responding to calls, said he had merely come to meet friends in this section and listen to the visiting gentlemen. He would be remiss in his duty if he did not assist and encourage the farmers in every possible way, for we have a common dependence on the farmer, who, after all, is the back-bone of the country. He had listened with much interest to the addresses delivered, and believed these meetings would have a good effect upon the country. The agricultural interests of this country had, he believed, been injured and their development retarded by so many of our people dividing their attention between farming and other employments, such as farming and fishing; farming and lumbering and in some cases, farming, fishing and lumbering. When men give their sole attention to one object in life, or one employment, they generally succeed, but this dividing up of effort, energy and means in several pursuits was only to invite failure in all. He was much impressed with what Col. McCrae had said in reference to the mistakes made by boys in being allured from the farms to the towns, where they soon learned, in most cases, that they had made a mistake. He believed these meetings would do something towards lifting the life of the farmer from ideas of mere drudgery and impressing him with the scientific side of his calling, which was really an ennobling one. After referring to the important part the farmer had in the affairs of life and in the commerce of the country, citing the great strides made in cheese-exportation in the last ten years, he said he was in full accord with what the government was doing to promote the farming interests and would help the work along in any way he could. [Applause.]

MR. JOHN O'BRIEN, M. P. P.

being called upon for remarks, said he didn't come to make a speech, but to show his good will by accompanying the visitors who had addressed the meeting. This was the first meeting the commissioner for agriculture had attended in Northumberland since he was sworn in, and he was sure that all would realise that he was taking a great interest in the development of the farming interests.

Mr. O'Brien said he was a farmer in a small way, and he gave some particulars of his experience in raising oats, etc. He was an officer of the local agricultural society, and had heard president Searle frequently bring up the subject of mussel-mud and the desirability of having a steam mud-digger. He was in accord with that gentleman's views, and thought the government might give the necessary aid. Lighters would be needed as a part of the plant and while the cost of the whole would be considerable, yet the benefits that would result would be much greater. [Applause.]

MR. ARMSTRONG, C. E.

read an address at the Chatham meeting on the subject of good roads, and showed some magic lantern views of good and bad roads, illustrating different forms of construction, drainage, etc

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY TWEEDIE

was called upon by the Mayor for the closing speech at the Chatham meeting and said that the question as to how best to deal with the subject of agriculture had been for some time under government consideration. They did not claim to have any patent plan, but were desirous of doing that which would, within the means at the government's command, best promote the agricultural interests of the Province. It was true that it had been the policy of all governments for the last forty years to stand by the farmer—especially at election times. [Laughter.] But this government desired to be judged by its acts, rather than by any professions it might make in regard to the farming as well as all other interests. The question was how to spend the money which could be set apart for agriculture so that the greatest benefit to that interest might be secured. It is true that we are nothing without agriculture, although we have a fishing, lumbering and farming country. Such farm products as hay, oats, pork and beef are lumber-camp necessaries. But we don't raise anything approaching enough to supply even our lumber camps. Mr. Campbell, manager of the Beaver Line steamers, had asked him what kind of a country we had down here. He said "you give our steamers nothing to carry." He was led to believe that it was not the fault of the country that farming was not more general, productive and prosperous, but because the attention of the people had not been centred upon it as the great industry of the Province. [Applause.] The boys go lumbering and very often they profit little by it, but he had yet to find a poor man who had stuck to his farm. He could refer to a farmer not three miles from Chatham, who was as well off as any man in the county, who lived well and had a strong bank credit. He had told the late premier Mitchell, when introducing this gentleman—Mr. Geo. Searle—that here was a man who had one of the best farms in the county and that he had raised of cabbages alone, 40,000. He could hardly credit it and asked where he sold them, and Mr. Searle soon informed him of his sales and the returns they brought him. The trouble was that we hadn't Searles, Dicksons and Keatings enough in the country. It had been said that a practical farmer should be at the head of the agricultural department, but that principle had never been set up in regard to the other departments of the government. What the Mayor had said in regard to the heads of the Public Works and Crown Land Departments held good and applied in the matter of agriculture. A man who studied the question broadly and possessed administrative qualities was best suited to administer the department.

For forms of government let fools contest;
That which is best administered is best.

The revenue of the province is a limited one—between $500,000 and $600,000 from the per capita and other federal allowances, and the remainder mainly from territorial revenue, and if the lumber business was lessened, so was the revenue of the province. and, as finance minister, he had to so control the expenditures of the several departments as to make them conform with the provincial revenue. Some had said there should be no debt. But who made the debt, and what was it for? The people demanded railways and subsidies had to be provided for them. The railways were required to assist in the development of the trade of the country. The products of the province had to be carried to their local markets or ports of shipment, and railways were required for this as well as to meet the growing demands for increased intercourse between our people. It was to meet these requirements that the debt had been increased. The city of St. John had more debt than the whole province. Why? Because its people were enterprising. They wanted to make their port "the Liverpool of America." They are doing it, and they are right.

It had been stated in the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association meeting in Fredericton that this government had done more for the farmers than any previous government in the Province, although it was more limited in its resources than its predecessors had been. While former governments did less than this for agriculture, it was but right to say that the restricted revenue of the present government, was mainly due to the mistaken policy of former administrations in the matter of railway subsidies and the public lands. They gave 10,000 acres of Crown Lands per mile to railway companies as subsidies, while this government gives only $2,560 in cash. Those lands were equal to at least $10,000 per mile, and the Province, by reason of that policy, lost fully $1,500,000, and hence the government of today is not in a position to do all it desires to do for the promotion of agriculture. [applause.]

It may be that it will not pay us to raise potatoes for 20 cents, and oats for 30 cents a bushel, but we can raise other crops, which will enable our farmers to make money out of their farms. He believed they could make wheat-raising pay, for we have a good wheat country, although we were sometimes told it was not as good as the west for that purpose. Perhaps we do not raise wheat to the extent we should because we haven't the mills to grind it. If we had these we would have the by-products and these would assist us in raising more stock and more fully developing our farms. [applause.] He might be relied on to do as he had done in the past,—direct his best efforts to the promotion of the interests of the North Shore in this as in other matters. [applause.]

Referring to the subject of good roads he deprecated the bye-road system, which, in a great measure, had put money into pockets where it should not have gone, instead of on the roads of the country. In the passing of the new highway act he saw that it was provided that no money should be appropriated on any road unless it was returned by the commissioner as a public road, and if any commissioner falsely returns a road, he does a wrong to the people. He had also advocated a deputy commissioner of the Board of Works in every county, to see that roads are properly laid out and to look after the expenditure of the money appropriated for them. What would be saved by a more carefully administered expenditure would pay the deputy's salary, and lead to the people having better roads. [Applause.] The bicyclists are responsible for the good roads movement and out of it will no doubt come an improvement in the country's highways.

He hoped the farmers would weigh what had been said at these meetings in their minds and think it over. Their counsel would be appreciated by the government in carrying out its policy. They could practically have what they wanted, for every government was bound to be guided in its administration by the governed, and that was the disposition of his colleagues and himself.

A vote of thanks was passed to Hon. Commissioner LaBillois and the gentlemen accompanying him.

Geo. P. Searle was, on motion of Mr. D. G. Smith, elected as representative of the district at the approaching Good Roads Association meeting in Fredericton next month.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said the Municipal Council was entitled to appoint a representative to attend the same meeting.

On motion of Hon. Mr. LaBillois a vote of thanks was passed to the Mayor for presiding at the Chatham meeting.

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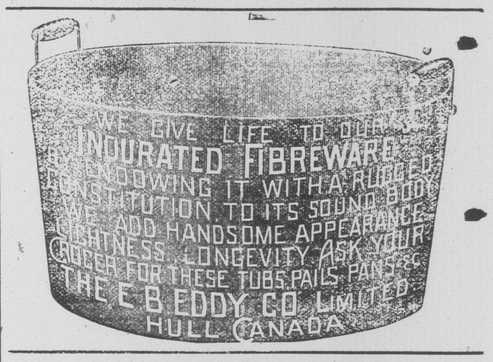

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The Situation in the Yukon.

REPORT OF A UNITED STATES OFFICER.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 15.—The report of Major J. H. Bucker, of the Fourth Cavalry, who was sent to Dyea by the war department to ascertain the condition of affairs in the Yukon, was received by General Merriam at Vancouver Barracks. From his interviews with those who have come out from Dawson recently, and from his observations of the Chilkoot and White passes, Major Bucker concludes:

First—That while there is a shortage of stores in the Yukon Basin a state of famine does not yet exist, nor is it likely to exist in the immediate future.

Second—That large expeditions with quantities of supplies hauled on sledges by horses or reindeer could not proceed down the Yukon further than the foot of Lake Labarge, four hundred miles from Dawson.

Third—Reindeer on such an expedition are no more serviceable than are mules or horses.

Fourth—That if government assistance is conspicuously needed in the Yukon it will be when the stores now in the hands of the people are exhausted, which is not likely from all that he can learn to be earlier than April or May.

He therefore recommends that if the snow locomotive company, which has a contract with the government, do not convey relief into the Yukon during February, the government pack-trains, with sledges, should carry them across the Chilkoot pass and down the lakes and rivers