

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., AUG. 26, 1887.

Gold.

Of all the studies of modern times, geology probably affords its votaries more real interest than any other. Every rock and every strata of the earth's crust is to him a field for observation, and he finds such evidences there as will enable him to judge very accurately of the earth's history extending for thousands of years back. This study has been applied not only for the information of man, but often for his financial benefit; but it, like all other sciences, sometimes fails, and for this reason sceptics are loth to take for granted anything that does not commend itself intelligently to their understanding. And fortunately it is so, otherwise possibly we should have no gold-mining carried on in this Province and our coal products would be of much less extent.

Some thirty years ago it was reported that signs of gold had been found in the eastern part of this Province, and the excitement became intense; but shortly after this was made explorations and pronounced in so emphatic a manner as to give the possibility of gold being found in any part of this Province in sufficient quantities to pay for mining it, that for the time being, all prospecting in that direction ceased. Some few years after the fever again broke out in such strength that the opinions of the wise ones against the possibility of gold being found in paying quantities in this Province were not sufficient to prevent prospecting in many places where indications of gold were to be found. Shortly after, their labors were rewarded by finding gold at Isaac's Harbor, then at Tangier, Lunenburg, Montague, Mount Uniacke, and many other places, and not only in paying quantities, but of so rich a character as to place Nova Scotia to-day among the richest gold-mining districts known. Immediately after the discovery of gold in the above-mentioned places, prospecting became general throughout the Province, and in a number of places gold was found in this county, in fact throughout the whole southern part of the township of Horton gold in small quantities has been found.

Some twelve or fifteen years ago quite a sensation was created by the finding of gold at Grenfield, about six or seven miles to the south of this town, and during the whole of one summer a number of parties were engaged in searching for the precious metal, which was to be found in the bottom of a small brook leading into the Halfway river, in such quantities as would pay from 25c. to \$1 per day per man. This amount was considered too small to warrant further expense, and the place was abandoned. From that time to the present prospecting has not been carried on in this county to any extent, other than the operations near White Rock which have been in progress for the past two or three weeks, with what success we know not. For the present we learn that operations there also have been discontinued.

Baptist Convention.

Representatives of the various Baptist churches of the Maritime Provinces met in annual convention in Charlottetown, P. E. I., on Saturday last. After the usual formula of opening, a most excellent address was delivered by the retiring President, F. H. Eaton, on the duties of pastors towards their congregations. The report on obituaries was read by Rev. S. McO. Black, of Kentville, and the report on the state of the denomination by Rev. G. Goodspeed, the latter showing that 1,768 persons had been added to their numbers during the last year, bringing the total membership of the 325 churches belonging to the denomination in the Maritime Provinces to 43,253. The financial agent, Dr. Day, reported that the sum of \$23,172 had been received during the year, being an increase of \$4,200 over that of last year, and the sum of \$10,000 was put into the estimate for missionary purposes. The following were appointed officers for the ensuing year:—

Prof. R. V. Jones, Ph. D., of Acadia, President; M. McDonald, Esq., Rev. J. J. Skinner, and F. H. Eaton, Ph. D.—Vice Presidents; J. P. Desbriay—Treasurer; and Rev. E. M. Keirstead, of Acadia, Secretary.

We had expected to receive a report from some of the delegates attending from here, but have been disappointed. We hope to receive it for next issue.

REMARKS.—We understand that Rev. Walter Bess has resigned the pastorate of the church in Victoria, B. C., in which he has been laboring for over two years, on account of ill health. He is coming west, and will spend a year at Rochester, N. Y.

How Is It?

Toronto, Aug. 23d.—The price of coal in Ontario and Quebec is a question not discussed by Grit papers this year. Last autumn the Government had to face the cry that they were wringing taxes from the shivering widows and orphans by taxing their fires. The Government abolished the duty, but the price has not diminished. On the contrary it is higher than last year.—Special despatch to the Halifax Herald.

Opinions here in unison with the above have been pretty freely expressed, and not only has it been alleged that the price of coal has been affected, but the price in everything else has been raised on account of duties. Whether the price of coal has been lessened to the consumer since the taking off the duty on anthracite coal, is best known to himself. We understand that it has not. And the reason given by the parties who are selling hard coal in this market to-day at a price nearly the same as last year, is that the price has increased at the mines. It seems a little singular and quite unfortunate for the disciples of free trade that such should be the case so soon after the remission of duties, for it is only reasonable to suspect that the taking off duties of any other article would be attended with like results.

Breach in Dyke.

It was discovered on Sunday morning last that some person had on the night before attempted to make a breach in the Wickwire dyke, which, had he been successful, would have been attended with serious damages, as a large area of grain was upon the dike ready for the harvest, and as the tides were high it is probable that had the attempt to flood the dike not been discovered when it was the whole level would have been flooded. Fortunately however by the merest accident Mr. Reid, immediately notified, who procured assistance and had the dike repaired forthwith. It seems that the party whoever he was intended fully to make a clean breach in the dike, and had he understood his business a little better would probably have succeeded. What the motive could have been to influence so dastardly an attempt to injure is hard to conceive. An investigation into the matter should be had and the guilty party brought to justice.

Yarmouth Notes.

(Correspondence to Acadian.)

The weather here has been very dry this season, everything in the way of vegetation was being parched, and dried up. Feed in pastures was short; cows refused to give their usual quantities of milk; the price of butter was raised, until about a week ago, when the drought was broken by a heavy rain. The earth has been refreshed since with frequent showers.

Mr. Lovitt, the member for the House of Commons, was unveiled here a short time since, by some of his agents using unlawful influence to secure votes. Probably there will be another election at an early date to fill the vacancy.

Samuel Killam, aged about 84, died very suddenly on Sunday, while sitting in his chair reading. He was one of Yarmouth's oldest and wealthiest business men. He leaves one son, who is in business in Philadelphia, and five daughters. Some twelve or fourteen years ago, before the depreciation in value of property, he was estimated to be worth three-fourths of a million dollars.

Aug. 23, '87. Com.

Sir John A. Macdonald.

Sir Edward Watkins, in his "Recollections," a work recently published in England, says of Sir John Macdonald:— "Mr. John A. Macdonald entered the Governor General's presence with a manly confidence. I was at once struck by an odd resemblance in some of his features and expressions to Disraeli—dark curly hair, piercing eyes, aquiline nose—mouth sometimes firm, almost stern in expression, sometimes so mild that he seemed especially fitted to play with little children. I soon learned that, in fact, fixed purpose and resources, he was ahead of them all. And, after watching his career for a quarter of a century, I have seen no reason to alter that opinion. He is the statesman of Canada—one of the ablest men on the continent. I wish he administered the colonial relations of the whole empire. Had he done so for the last ten years we should have escaped our mistakes in South Africa and the everlasting disgrace of Dabha Hill. Why is it that such men are excluded from office at home."

The Picnic Season.

BY BEN ZEEN.

Summer is the most popular season of the year. And it ought to be; it has every advantage. If for no other reason it ought to be just on account of its being the season of the year when picnics are in vogue—the picnic season. Picnics belong to the summer, and in no other season could they live and thrive. They would be a poor thing to go to in the winter, and in the spring and fall it would be kind of disagreeable even if it wasn't for the muddy roads and wet feet and colds that are catching at those seasons. It is not known positively just when the first picnic was held—whether it was on the thirty-first day of December or along in dog-days—but the probability is that it was in the summer

some time. If it had been in any other season the chances are that the custom would never have lasted till this day. It would probably have sunk right down into oblivion, and never known why.

Picnics are a great invention and the season for them is always hailed with delight. To the person that invented them we owe a debt of endless gratitude. It was a shrewd invention, and it will be a long time before they will go out of date. Every year they seem to take a firmer grasp on the minds of the populace, and more picnics are called for. It's surprising what a quantity one person can stand in a season after he has his hand in. The picnic season is a time that everybody enjoys. The person that stays home and works away just as he would on ordinary days takes a delight in it as much as the person does that goes. He knows, as he sees the carriages draw up and the picnickers pile in, and then watches the team drive off and the flags flying, that he has missed a day of rare fun. He knows that while he'll be working away at home, others will be doing all the pleasant days of their lives. But he glances out with a sickly smile towards the dull, leaden west and views Wiggins-like the lowering sky, and then, as the cold glitter in his gray eye gives way to a placid grin, he says, with the grim assurance of one who has been there, "They'll be a sick crowd before they're home to-night!" And anon, as the day brightens up and it comes out warm and fine he changes his mind, and from the bottom of his manly heart he pities the people that are destined to roam about in such weather, with the hot sun pouring down upon them and the mosquitoes in their elements. You see he's been a picnic before and knows all about it.

But say what you like, picnics are a good idea. They are a good thing to go to, and I for one will be sorry when the season for them is past. The season has been well taken advantage of this year, and a great many different picnics have taken place, off and on. But the season has not ended yet by a good deal. There will be a good many more days yet favorable for picnics—days just intended for picnics—and more picnics must follow. The picnic season is the pleasantest season of the year, and it mustn't fall below its standard this year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.)

Straightening the Street.

A newspaper should be a leader and former of public opinion—this is its chief value. We do not need the scraps of gossip that are the staple of some so-called newspapers—the professional gossip can perform that service, and will be glad to do so, and that without charge.

The ACADIAN has suggested an improvement in the Main street of Wolfville. It is to straighten the street at the bridge which crosses the creek. The only difficulty about the matter is to find the funds necessary. The commissioners of streets can probably remove this obstacle. They are a very wise and able body of men. Some of the exploits performed by them, even this last season, have proved them to be the most original and extraordinary individuals that ever were. It is to be hoped that the ACADIAN, or the suggestion of the ACADIAN, may call into exercise some further portion of the great powers of these great men who have conferred such vast benefits upon the village.

In straightening the street the first duty of these eminent officers will be to provide the "sinews of war"; but men of such resources will find no difficulty in raising the sum needed, or in spending it either. The work will be a fine one, that is, if we may judge from what we see. We can form an opinion of the good sense of the men, their taste and public spirit and faithfulness and regard for their oath of office by observing the condition of the bridge as it has become under their administration and manipulation. It is most desirable that these persons should be set at work without delay, for they will soon be going out of office and there are no other men like them in the community to take their place! Consequently the street will never be straightened if they do not straighten it.

While the money is being collected, it would not be amiss for the commissioners to repair the damages that have been done to the bridge since they have been in power; to prosecute the individual who tore down the railing, destroyed the ornamental trees of the sidewalk and who has often dangerously obstructed the Queen's highway, contrary to law or to the custom of all civilized countries; and to make that part of the village as respectable and decent as it was under the rule of their predecessors. If money is needed, let them utilize a part of the large amounts which have been paid in by the citizens for the last ten years, of which no account has been rendered by some of the officers, and a grossly false one by others. If all such moneys could be recovered, it would go far towards straightening the street, and otherwise improving the village—as particularly recommended by the ACADIAN. Nor need the commissioners fear that their services will not be duly recorded. They cannot have escaped their memory, that after waiting three months and they at last had a wheelbarrow load of coal-shoes "dumped" into a gully on the side-walk, the grateful paper made honorable mention of the good work, and proclaimed the merits of it to all its widely-spread constituency. The gully was a particularly dangerous one; so dangerous that

if even a commissioner of streets had stumbled and broken his neck, he could not have recovered damages! and besides he would scarcely have liked to "enter an action" against himself!

Wolfville, Aug. 20, '87. TAX PAYER.

To the Editors of the ACADIAN:

GENTLEMEN: If you could prevail upon the officers of Grand Pre dike to enlighten the proprietors of that level on the cause of this extraordinary commotion at present prevailing, it would be a relief to many interested. It is rumored that one individual, not an officer, is directing a movement that will eventually lead to a judicial tribunal that means more taxes on proprietors without corresponding benefits. The secret meetings that have been held by a few proprietors and officers the present and past year with fraud and dishonesty recorded on the commissioners' books (perpetrated by them) should be a warning to those interested not to allow those unjustifiable acts to be repeated. The dike books will show any person looking over them that an irresponsible body, designated a committee, usurp powers that the Sewers Act does not give them. A continuation of these illegal acts should be put a stop to. The commissioners have sole charge of Grand Pre dike, their powers are defined, a unanimous vote of proprietors cannot absolve them from what is considered by a few, and "a precious few," a solemn obligation. An inordinate thirst for here causes men to be absent-minded occasionally.

A PROPRIETOR.

P. S. For the benefit of those concerned a copy of a commissioner of sewers' oath previous to acting in that capacity is appended:—"I, A. B., commissioned by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, and selected by a majority in interest of proprietors subscribed under their hands, do swear that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of commissioner of sewers for Grand Pre dike to the best of my skill and ability. So help me God."

Give Them a Chance!

That is to say your lungs. Also all your breathing machinery. Very wonderful machinery it is. Not only the larger air-passages, but the thousands of little tubes and cavities leading from them.

When these are clogged and choked with matter which ought not to be there, your lungs cannot half do their work. And what they do, they cannot do well. Call it cold, cough, croup, pneumonia, catarrh, consumption, or any of the family of throat and nose and head and chest obstructions, all are bad. All ought to be got rid of. There is just one sure way to get rid of them. That is to take Boschee's German Syrup which any druggist will sell you at 25 cents a bottle. Even if everything else has failed you, you may depend upon this for certain.

Card of Thanks.

The committee in charge of Catholic Bazaar held on the 17th and 18th insts., beg to thank the public in general and the people of King's county in particular, for the very generous patronage extended to them on that occasion, and to the ladies and gentlemen of other denominations who so generously assisted them in their undertaking, they feel that they owe a debt of gratitude not soon to be forgotten. They also have to thank the St. Patrick's and Kentville Bands, for their kindness in furnishing music.

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Wolfville, July 26th, '87

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The Steamers of this Line will leave St. John at 8 o'clock, a. m., for Boston, via Eastport and Portland, every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY, and at 7:30 every SATURDAY NIGHT for BOSTON DIRECT.

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For tickets and further information apply to your nearest ticket agent, or to D. Mumford, Station Agent, Wolfville.

K. A. CARDER, Agent, Annapolis.

May 6th, 1887.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING!

-THAT-

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Wolfville, August 26th 1887

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