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POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING GAZETTE

is published every evening (Sundays excepted) at No. 21 Canterbury Street.

JOHN A. BOWES. Editor and Publisher

THE EVENING GAZETTE will be delivered at any house in the cities of St. John and Portland for a month for thirty-five cents. The subscription may be paid at the office, or to any news agent who sells the GAZETTE.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1889

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers to the GAZETTE, residing in the Eastern part of city, between Union and St. James Streets, who have not received papers promptly, will please bear with us for a few days longer. New carriers have been put on these routes, and as soon as they become familiar with all the addresses, they can rely on regular and prompt delivery.

A FEW WORDS CONCERNING THE TELEGRAPH MAN.

In the article entitled "Reading the Telegraph's back numbers," the present editor of that journal seeks to excuse himself for his numerous recent changes of front, which had been pointed out by the Sun, and in doing so, speaks of the editor of the Sun in the following fashion: "In his recent reading the Sun editor falls into certain errors and misunderstandings quite natural to a novice, and therefore not quite inexcusable." This sort of warfare may seem clever to Mr. J. E. B. McCready, but we doubt whether it will commend itself to the public at large. The experience or the inexperience of an editor is nothing to the purpose, so long as his arguments are sound. But it is not true that the editor of the Sun is a novice; he has been six or seven years in journalism, quite long enough, with his natural ability, to make a far better editor than J. E. B. McCready can ever be. The experience of the latter does not appear to have done him much good, for it is universally admitted that the Telegraph under his management, has lost steadily in circulation and influence and is now of comparatively no account as a newspaper. Mr. Elder, who had tried McCready thoroughly, was well aware of his deficiencies as a newspaper man. Just before his lamented death a movement was on foot to turn the Telegraph into a joint stock enterprise, and in the course of the discussion of arrangements, the question of staff came up. Mr. C. H. Lugrin was then Mr. Elder's assistant, and the name of J. E. B. McCready was mentioned as a suitable person to be a member of the staff. On this suggestion Mr. Elder put a most decided and immediate veto, saying that McCready was useless as a newspaper man and he would not have him on any terms. Yet this discarded piece of journalistic timber now sets himself up as a great editor and sneers at better and abler men than himself as novices."

The Telegraph man makes a desperate effort to explain his recent changes of with the United States. Says this "Admirable Crichton" of editors:

But, says the Sun, the Telegraph at first supported commercial union and now rejects it. The fact is that the Telegraph from the first supported what it supports now, full free trade between Canada and the United States. The term commercial union was for some time used in a very loose and general way, and during the first few months of the discussion was commonly used to express free trade in natural products and manufactures.

The plain meaning of this is that J. E. B. McCready admits, when he was advocating Commercial Union with the United States, he did not understand the meaning of the term, and thought it was something quite different from what it has proved to be. This is a pretty confession for a would be leader of public opinion to make, and fully justifies the unfavorable criticism of Mr. Elder, already referred to.

The very proper dismissal of Collector Ross of Halifax, from the office which he has proved himself unworthy to hold, has caused all the Liberal journals to set up a cry that he was dismissed because he was a Grit. The Halifax Chronicle calls the dismissal "an outrageous step by the Dominion Government to provide an office for some needy Tory in Halifax." The Globe of this city thinks his dismissal was more due to pressure on the Government to get his place than any other cause. There is no reason whatever for such insinuations. Collector Ross was retained in office for more than ten years by a Liberal-Conservative government, and might have remained there for the remainder of his active life, if he had chosen to obey his instructions. But his offence was of so serious a character that it could not be overlooked, and his removal followed as matter of course.

The Globe says. "Everybody knows that annexation is not an issue in this country to-day, that the fullest possible reciprocity could not affect it any more than the reciprocity which we had from 1854 to 1864 could affect it. It is a question that something more than trade relations will enter into." This is a confession that John Valentine Ellis has been a little too hasty in his annexationists utterances, and that he has become frightened at the storm of indignation his proposals to sell this country to the United States has raised. If annexation is not an issue, it is not the fault of Ellis, for he has done his best to make it one.

The statement that Germany has come to an agreement with the United States in regard to the Samoan difficulties, is emphatically contradicted from Berlin. The Germans do not care for Yankee threats and the news that the President has ordered another war ship to Samoa does not affect them in the least. What is more to the purpose is the intelligence that the British Government has decided to uphold the Treaty by which European powers are precluded from obtaining dominance in Samoa, and has sent a cruiser from the Australian squadron to Samoa. Great Britain has four ironclads in the Pacific, two attached to the Chinese squadron, one to the Pacific squadron, and one to the Australian squadron, while no other European nation has a single iron-clad in that great sea.

SIX MONTH'S OLD TO-DAY.

THE EVENING GAZETTE is six months old to-day. On the 23rd of July, 1888, the first number of THE EVENING GAZETTE was issued. It was not a model daily newspaper, but it was as good as it could then be made, and it has been improved with every issue since. To-day it is admitted on all sides to be fearless and honest, and the most readable paper in St. John. It has won for itself a place among the leading newspapers of Canada, and is now more generously quoted at home and abroad than any other Maritime Province newspaper.

It is no small task to organize the staff of a daily newspaper, in all its departments, and while the hardest of this work has already been accomplished, we have still some details to arrange to place THE GAZETTE where we are determined it shall be, at the top.

Six months ago, when THE GAZETTE made its appearance, there was but one evening newspaper in St. John. That paper had been in existence for more than a quarter of a century. Most men believed that it was firmly established and that no power could uproot its hold on the newspaper reading public of St. John. The proprietor of THE GAZETTE believed that, although the Globe seemed to be strong, it was in reality weak. While the paper was read by all classes and the city of St. John has the misfortune to be misrepresented in Parliament by one of its proprietors, still the traitorous sentiments of the sheet, and its open disloyalty to St. John were condemned on all hands. One month after THE GAZETTE started it was evident that some of the people of this city had become tired of the Globe. Now the difference between the circulation of the Globe and THE GAZETTE is but trifling, and it will not be very much longer until the loyal citizens of St. John will altogether refuse to recognize the newspaper that has so long misrepresented them and their interests, and wrecked so many of their industries.

THE GAZETTE in making a way for itself has had many difficulties to encounter. At times its progress has been slow; at others rapid but almost every day has brought with it an increase in circulation. The day after the first numbers of the papers was issued several gentlemen placed their names on its subscription list. Since then this list has been growing until now THE GAZETTE has a larger city subscription list than any other journal printed in St. John. A start has also been made to work up an out of town subscription list, and a very generous response has been made. The large number of names placed on the subscription list the sales of the paper on the streets and by agents. The increase in agent's sales alone between August and December was over fifty per cent, all around, and in the best districts of the City, fully one hundred per cent.

The increase in street sales was even more marvellous. Comparing the first week of August with the first week of December the street sales increased, in one week, *1751 copies*. The first week of January compared with the first week of December shows a still further increase of *424 copies*. The second week of January also shows an increase of *253 copies* over the second week of December. And even now, in the midst of the worst weather of the season, when there is generally a falling off in the street sales of newspapers, the sales of THE GAZETTE still show an increase.

Since THE GAZETTE was first issued it has been once enlarged. This happened three months ago. We have other improvements in contemplation, which will be announced in a few days.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Germans are having a very unpleasant taste of savage warfare on the east coast of Africa. All the Arab tribes along the coast are in arms against them; their missionary stations have been broken up and their missionaries themselves are held as hostages, and will probably be killed unless the Germans agree to evacuate the coast. All this must be very galling to German pride. The Germans will discover presently, as the French have already done, that an army formed as theirs is cannot be made an efficient instrument for a war with semi-barbarous nations in an unhealthy climate.

The London papers seem to be almost as badly served by their Ottawa correspondents as the American papers are. Here for instance, we have the Ottawa correspondent of the London Standard telegraphing to that paper that the Dominion Government, owing to the pressure brought to bear on them by the Knights of Labor, intend to adopt a policy of hostility towards immigration. This, of course, is an absurd falsehood. Sir John distinctly stated to the deputation which interviewed him at Toronto, that there could be no restriction placed on immigration, but that assisted passages would be stopped.

The Boston Herald, referring to the Samoan difficulty, makes the following remarkable confession: "We have, fortunately, in the past been spared most of the dangers and humiliations which such a course of procedure must inevitably bring about, for the reason that almost all of our controversies have been with Great Britain, and, for reasons which hardly now need to be referred to, Great Britain cannot afford to resent slights and aggressions on our part, so that we have been able to "twist the lion's tail" with entire impunity. We have, however, in the Samoan controversy, been brought in opposition to a nation which has no great possessions on this continent that would be lost to it by a war with the United States, and no commercial interests but what might be readily sacrificed, if the occasion called for it. To pull the beard of Bismarck or to affront the imperial pride of the young and warlike German Emperor would be a proceeding much more calculated to lead to serious results than to insult the Chinese or unnecessarily provoke the English government." This is a singular position for an enlightened nation, which calls itself Christian, to occupy, but it accurately defines the attitude of the United States which is that of a cowardly braggart among the nations.

The Yankees have a toy called a dynamite gun with which they hope to be able to defend themselves without the use of heavy ironclads. The so called dynamite gun is simply an air gun, which throws a shell charged with dynamite, and its extreme range is less than a mile. No doubt if an enemy's ironclad would anchor quietly within its range and give the men working the gun time enough to get a good aim, the vessel might be destroyed. But in actual warfare the dynamite gun would be wholly useless. The cruiser would station herself just out of range of the air gun and bring her long range rifle artillery to bear upon it, with the probable result of blowing the gun and everything near it into fragments in the course of a few minutes.

HERE AND THERE.

Rachel Henry, colored, has been arrested at Knoxville, Tenn., charged with roasting a baby. A neighbor passing her house smelled burning flesh and rushed in. Alone in a room on a bed of burning coals, lay an infant roasting to death. The Henry woman claims it was an accident, but the proof against her is strong.

A New Haven physician of the clairvoyant school—not a woman—last year returned numerous death certificates, and among the causes of death, as jotted down by him, were the following: "Malayral fever," "consumption," "aeneumia" (anemia), "disease of cidnes" (disease of kidneys), "exhustion," "brane fever," "old hage" (old age).

At Laurens, S. C. J. L. M. Irby, a member the Legislature, had a fight with Magistrate W. B. Stoddard. No serious harm was done then, but later on Irby and his brother, L. T. Irby, Mayor of the town, approached Stoddard, who at once struck the Mayor. Mayor Irby cut Magistrate Stoddard severely with a pocket knife, and Col. Irby was cut in the face.

Albert Battison, of the British warship Impregnable, has just been given the Stanhope gold medal, the highest honor of the Royal Humane Society. Battison rescued a young girl who had broken through the ice of a pond and disappeared. He went out on the ice, diver under it, grabbed the girl and took her chance of breaking the ice with his head as he came to the surface. He was successful. His feat was a remarkable one, as the water was very deep and cold.

A novel Sunday-school has been organized by the telegraph operators of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad. At 2 o'clock every Sunday morning the school is called to order by the Superintendent, Operator Brambiet, who telegraphs his order from Wartrace. After prayer and the reading of a chapter from the Bible, all of which is done over the wire, questions are asked the class by Mr. Brambiet, and the first man to answer captures the circuit.

The Rev. Dr. William J. Holland, pastor of the Bellefield Presbyterian church of Pittsburg, Pa., has been requested by the United States Government to make a scientific exploration of the West Coast of Africa. He is to be paid $10,000 and expenses. About a year ago Dr. Holland was selected as naturalist to accompany a Government expedition to Japan. He made valuable collections and discoveries in entomology. His report was so able and complete that the Government wishes to retain his services.

The Czar of Russia is an enormous eater. He considers three pounds of meat and two quarts of champagne a very light luncheon. His dinner would be sufficient for three men of ordinary digestive ability. His insomnia is due to his gormandizing, but he prefers sleeplessness to dieting. He smokes constantly and altogether lives an existence which would kill any man devoid of an iron constitution. His health is further menaced by thirteen court physicians, five court surgeons, two oculists, one dentist and four medical specialists.

The list of phenominal horses is continually increasing. Almost everybody now has a horse which for some reason or other is peculiar, which has some characteristic different from other horses. It may be that he has to be put to bed to be shod, or he may reveal some great feats of intelligence or show a remarkably vivid memory. Now we hear of a horse in Minnesota which is considered an infallable weather prophet. His owner, they say, can always tell when a storm is coming by watching the animal's eyes, which turn from a very light color to a dark blue twenty-four hours before a change in the weather.

A most disgusting suggestion is made by a writer in the Fortnightly Review, that the remains of departed friends be converted into "an edible paste," and then eaten by the survivors. He goes on about this new form of cannabalism in this wise: "The living absorb all that is mortal of the loved one, and the latter in dying has the happy assurance that his or her dissolving molecules will not be scattered to the far winds of heaven, but will acquire new being in the old haunts, and amid the attendant circumstances of their former activity." If this is a jest, the subject is certainly ill chosen; if it is serious, the inventor of the scheme had better be sent to Bedlam.

Rev. Father Synnott, pastor of the Church of the Assumption, Ansonia, Conn., in his annual report to the parish stated that there were sixty saloons in town for 8,000 people, and that he would take measures to suppress liquor-selling during service hours on Sunday. Should another application for a license be made he would take measures to prevent its issuance. His assertion that $150,000 is annually spent in saloons by his parishioners caused much comment, and the saloon-keepers are alarmed at his threats. He also said that more immorality exists in the town than in any other place in the State.

The Gazette Grows Every Day.

(Imperial Federation London Eng. Jan 1.)

The Maritime Provinces, we were assured in various quarters, were ripe for annexation to the States a short time back. He would be a bold man who made the same assertion to day. Here is one very significant fact. The leading paper in St. John the Globe, has at least entertained the idea of annexation as within the range of practical politics. A young and energetic rival the GAZETTE has thereupon boldly appealed to the inhabitans whether they are prepared to support with subscriptions and advertisements a "traitorous" organ, and to a considerable extent the appeal has been successful.

BELIEFS OF FIREMEN

SUPERSTITIONS OF THE BOYS WHO RUN WITH THE MACHINE.

How They Scheme to Win the Smiles of the Goddess of Fortune—Mascots Large and Small—Power of the Black Man's Touch—When They Expect Fires.

Superstition, fanaticism, whichever or whatever you please to call it, a belief in a direct agency of superior powers, in certain extraordinary or singular events, or in omens and prognostics, is an inherited trait, peculiar to every child of Adam. Even in this enlighted century of steam cars, steamships, telephones, telegraph and a thousand and one other devices originated for man's comfort and prosperity, a tinge of superstition courses through the blood of the most intellectual. It is almost impossible to find any one, if one will acknowledge it, but has some "sign" or vague act in which they religiously and truthfully believe. This marked feature or common peculiarity is nowhere found so strongly prevailing as in the minds of members of the fire department, and in mentioning this particular calling we speak comprehensively, including every member of the 4,000 departments of this country and like organizations the world over.

For these fearless men, the expression "they carry their lives in their hands" might have been originated. To ascertain if possible to what extent this feature prevailed in our own department a Globe reporter was detailed to visit the several houses and interview the members.

TOUCHING THE NEGRO'S HAND.

The simplest and probably the oldest pretended omen of good luck is the finding and picking up of a pin. The oldest and newest is the rubbing up against or touching the hand of a colored man. This simple process is warranted by "believers" to forever initiate you into the good will and graces of the "god of luck," and through the simple medium of a male colored gentleman your lot can forever be made a lucky, and consequently a happy and enviable one. The engineer of engine company No. 3 would in all probability rather refrain from eating for a whole month, resign from the work which he loves, anything in fact, than be summoned to a fire with the guilty conscience of not having come in direct contact with a darky shortly previous. He has been known to follow a "son of Africa" three blocks in a pitiless downpour of rain for the satisfaction of hitting his hand as he passed him. When a colored man comes into the engine house this fireman would as soon renounce his birthright as to permit that darky to leave the house before counting the buttons on his coat, and woe betide that fireman's peace of mind if the number happens to be "fatal thirteen."

One of the call men of No. 7 woos the "god of luck" by dropping a penny down the back of his neck and watching which pants leg it comes out of.

A former member of No. 6 used to count 16 and then watch the tail of the hose horse; if it went to the right, the man was happy; if to the left he always found some pretext to skip the next fire and thereby save his life.

A member of No. 1 always takes a rainy day to discover his destiny, and the first two consecutive pair of black hose that he sees under feminine skirts controls his fate.

A brave member of No. 2 invariably soothes his peace of mind by crawling into his bed from the foot and rooting up between the clothes like a hedge hog, and never will he allow the top layer of the hose on the reel to remain thirteen, for that means poor luck and disaster.

No. 5, "the pride of the hill," is saved from overlasting ruin by a dutiful member of the same dipping his four fingers and thumb in milk and then watching which digit their pet poodle laps first; each finger represents certain things and the peace of the company is controlled by the result.

A DOG, OF COURSE.

Among the many other signs and symbols connected with this superstitious belief none are more prominent than the so called "mascots," which may consist of almost anything from a white elephant to a suspender button. The hook and ladder company are possessors of a real, live, genuine "mascot" in Isabelle, or "Bell," as she is better known and loved by the department at large. Upon Bell's small but well developed shoulders rests the destiny of the company, and to say that she well cares for her charge is saying little. Seldom if ever does the sonorous voice of the great fire bell tell the waking or sleeping citizens of Hartford that the red destructive fire fiend is abroad, but what this faithful four footed mascot is at her post of duty, and faster than her four white feet strike the pavement would the hearts of the truck boys flutter with dread if her form was not seen through the dusk at her place in front of the noble black and gray which draw the great new aerial truck.

The truck was called to Box 31 for a small and unimportant fire. The rain, which had continued all day, was coming down in torrents; the mud was hub deep, and the great eighty-hundred truck was stalled on Front street. "Bell," owing to domestic duties which at that time were taking up her undivided attention, was absent; had she been there the truck would have passed over the mud like a ball over a waxed floor. Last summer the truck came into collision with propeller No. 4, on Asylum street. "Bell" was absent then, owing this time to her inability to slide down the pole from the bunk room. These instances are only two of many which space forbids us to relate.

There are many more peculiarities in connection with this subject, but the most conspicuous is found in connection with our department, but outside of it. Fires as a fact occur in successions of three at a time, and when one has occurred the remark is frequently and invariably heard, "Well, I wonder when we'll have the second one." The firemen also as a rule believe in this, and after a run are prepared for the second and third. Another strange coincidence is the fact in regard to Saturday night or Sunday runs. Months, sometimes a year, will elapse before a fire will occur on these special days, and then without regard to time fires will rage on several Saturdays or Sundays consecutively.

Whether there really is anything in superstition or fanaticism, whatever you please to call it, we dare not say, but will echo with Job, "It's queer, very queer."—Hartford (Conn.) Globe.

Turkish Cuisine.

Rousseau has said that from the food of a nation you can tell its characteristics. If this is true no better spot for the study of ethnology could be found than Cavalla. Doubtless, if it be desired, an opportunity will occur of dining with many nationalities. By all means accept an invitation to dine with a Turkish pasha, says a writer in Cornhill for August. I had the pleasure of taking a meal with the governor of Drama, who is passing rich for a Turk, seeing that he rules over the plain where the chief tobacco farms are, and his opportunities for amassing wealth are many and varied. Silence and expedition are the chief characteristics of a Turkish meal. The table preparations are few, but the dishes are many; olives, caviare, cheese, etc., are dotted about, and perhaps as many as ten dishes are handed round on covered brazen dishes, consisting of rice or barley, meat or boiled fish, cakes seasoned with vegetables, roast lamb, beans, a species of risole wrapped up in vine leaves, the inevitable pilaf and fruits, and, as wine is forbidden, an intoxicating substitute is found in liquors and brandy. Each person has his glass of sherbet by him, and his piece of unleavened bread, for the Turks love half baked dough. It will comfort the European to see every one wash his hands before the meal, for forks are unknown, and each is expected to dip his fingers into the savory morsel as it is handed to him. During the whole of the feeding process scarcely four or five words will be uttered, and at the most your repast will last twenty minutes, but then afterward, with the coffee and the bubble-bubble, conversation will flow freely. To the Turk eating is a serious gastronomic exercise, which will not admit of any conversation being entered into during its progress.—Good Housekeeping.

"Fire Ladies."

Several of the English colleges for ladies now possess private fire brigades, composed of sweet girl undergraduates. Girton and Newnham have organizations of this kind, and the Royal Holloway College for Ladies is now added to the list. The students there have been put through a preliminary fire drill; and their instructor, Mr. Merryweather, was very much impressed by the alacrity with which they performed their duties, the majority being remarkably quick and agile.

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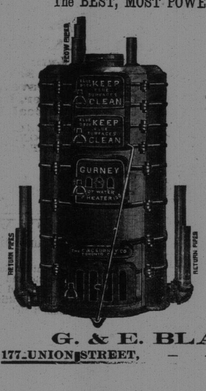

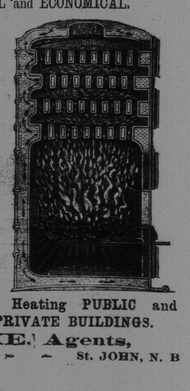

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