

A City to be Sold at Auction.

The city of Altoona, Blair County, is indebted to the State for corporation taxes amounting to \$4,208.10. Proceedings would have been begun against the city some time ago but for the intervention of the Attorney General. The State has a judgment for the amount of debt, and the authorities of the city were notified that unless the judgment was satisfied by to-day the city would be sold. There is no money at all in the city treasury and no means of any, and Altoona with its 20,000 inhabitants will probably be knocked down to the highest bidder within a day or two. Executions for unpaid taxes have also been issued against the city of Lockhaven and the borough of Sunbury.

Upon this the New York World says:—This is a bad year for cities. Memphis is reminded to the condition of a wilderness; Elizabeth is in default, Jersey City is industriously "shining" to avoid a default, and it is now announced that Altoona is to be sold under the hammer for a failure to meet its State taxes. The purchase of Altoona would be a real-estate operation from which we should say that in the present condition of the market the largest and boldest operators might be excused for shrinking, nor is a syndicate likely to be formed to acquire the stock, fixtures and good-will on which the late owners find it impossible even to pay taxes. Municipalities, from a commercial point of view, are among the worst managed of all our corporations, for the reason that they are given over to managers whom the stockholders of any other corporation would employ, if at all, in the most subordinate capacities. There is stringent need of a general reform in this matter.

Provincial.

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.

STRATFORD, ONT., May 5th.—A few minutes before 10, this a. m., the whole town was shaken, as if by a shock of an earthquake. Windows were blown in and even the sidewalks upon which the people were walking were shaken so as to cause the pedestrians to fall. The cause was soon made apparent.

A car laden with dynamite exploded at the Grand Trunk freight yard. The wreck at the scene of the explosion beggars description. Underneath the dynamite car, a hole several feet deep had been scooped out by the explosion. The end of the brick freight shed and a portion of the roof were blown down. Several frame buildings were levelled to the ground, and a long string of freight cars lying in the yard were utterly wrecked. The business part of the town is nearly a mile from the scene of the explosion, but it shared in the disaster. Valuable plate glass windows were broken and many others were blown in, frames and all. The damage done to property is estimated at many thousands of dollars, but there is too much confusion to ascertain anything reliable at present. Two railway employees working in the yard, Frank Lemaire Pigeon, of Montreal, and Thomas Dolan, of Stratford, were blown into fragments, the foot of one of them being found 200 yards off. Others were injured, but the full effects of the disaster cannot be known for some time yet.

There is considerable excitement over the gold discovery in the township of Madoc and large numbers of gentlemen engaged in mining in that region and prominent residents of Madoc are here with regard to it. The rich gold discovery was made by a Mrs. Mumby, near Baanockburn. The specimen is said to be the finest ever seen in North Hastings, excelling anything found during the gold excitement.

Conservatives in Montreal say Mr. Langevin's trip to England is simply to obtain the views of the Privy Council as to whether or not the Dominion Parliament has power to dismiss the Lieutenant-Governor, and has no reference to any particular case.

A young woman named Ellen Fraser, respectably connected, but obliged to go to service, committed suicide by hanging on Saturday night, and the deed was not discovered until yesterday morning. She was hanging from the stair case robed in her night dress, and was black in the face, and the lamp still burning by her side. An inquest was held this morning, and evidence was presented showing it to be a case of unrequited love. It appears she had been engaged to a young man who left her because she accompanied another young man to the theatre.

JOB PRINTING

Of every description neatly executed at the office of this paper.

AGENTS FOR HERALD.

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as our agents; all intending subscribers will therefore confer a favor by sending in their names and subscriptions that they may be forwarded to this office.

St. John's—Mr. W. J. MYLER, Water St. Brigus—Mr. POWERS, School Teacher. Bay Roberts—Mr. G. W. R. HIERLIHY.

We have not as yet completed arrangements for the establishment of our other outport agencies, the names of the various gentlemen will however be announced in due course through the columns of the Herald. For the present all intending subscribers or advertisers at Harbor Grace will please hand in their names to A. T. Drysdale Esq.

THE CARBONEAR HERALD

"Honest Labor—our noblest heritage."

CARBONEAR, N. F., MAY 22.

In laying before our readers the first number of the Carbonear HERALD, we would avail of the opportunity to give expression to our sincere and heartfelt thanks to those kind friends, patrons and subscribers in the metropolis and in Conception Bay, who in the inception of our journalistic enterprise, have cheered us on with the most unmistakable demonstrations of friendship, accompanied by the most generous and satisfactory assurance of their future patronage and support. To the warm-hearted and proverbially generous people of the time honored and historic towns of Carbonear and Harbor Grace, more especially we would as in duty bound, express our warmest acknowledgements for the kindness, courtesy and hospitality of which we have been the recipient at their hands, since our arrival, and we would assure them that the reminiscences of that kindness and hospitality, shall in the future stimulate us to devote our best efforts with untiring zeal and energy to the promotion and advocacy of their best interests, to the warm and independent support of every measure or project tending to the progress and advancement of our common country and to the peace, happiness and prosperity of all classes and sections of their people.

Prospectus.

THE CARBONEAR HERALD AND OUTPORT TELEPHONE—a weekly journal devoted to the encouragement and extension of the fisheries, the promotion of home industries and manufactures, the development and utilization of the agricultural and mineral resources of this country, the improvement and general diffusion of the inestimable advantages of Education amongst all classes of the people; the construction, extension and improvement of Roads, Bridges and lighthouses and public improvements generally throughout the various districts of the colony, will be Printed and Published every Thursday morning from the office immediately west of the Telegraph and Post offices, Water Street, Carbonear.

THE CARBONEAR HERALD AND OUTPORT TELEPHONE being the exponent of public opinion in the district of Carbonear and the warm and zealous advocate and promoter of public interests generally throughout the various parts of the colony will be conducted upon patriotic principles, giving an independent and generous support to the Government whilst its policy continues to be marked by a desire for the promotion and conservation of the public interests.

As the exponent of the wants and wishes of outport districts and the guardian of the public interest of those districts, generally speaking, the columns of the HERALD will be always open to correspondents who

may feel desirous of giving expression to the opinions or views of the people relative to all subjects in any way affecting, or likely to affect the public interests of such districts. All communications must however be accompanied by the real signature of the writer, must be perfectly free from all personal or offensive language or allusions, otherwise they will be liable to rejection at the discretion of the Editor who reserves to himself the right of acceptance or rejection of all communications.

In addition to the foregoing, a portion of the columns of the HERALD will also be devoted to a varied and carefully selected stock of interesting reading matter, culled from the latest and most approved publications, European, American and Provincial, together with the latest and most interesting news from St. John's the various outport districts and especially from the mining districts. The latest Telegraphic, Shipping and Police Intelligence will also be found in its columns, besides a variety of Literary, Scientific and other information. In short no effort shall be left untried to render the Carbonear HERALD in every way worthy of the liberal and generous patronage and support of a free and enlightened people.

THE PRESS.

Its Utility to Public Interests.

UPON no community, particularly upon none boasting of the privilege of free institutions can a greater boon be conferred, than by the establishment of a Press, which can give free and unbiased expression to the opinions, wants and wishes of its people upon all questions affecting the public interests. The benefits derivable from such an institution, well and firmly established upon the broad and comprehensive basis of popular rights sustained with patriotism and zeal, and conducted with independence and discretion cannot be too highly appreciated. Yes, before the enlivening influence of a free and independent press, despotism stands paralysed, corruption and treachery to the public interests in all their hideous deformity are exposed to the public gaze, and the mighty influence of public opinion being once brought to bear upon these evils, they are either speedily checked, or successfully dissipated by the all powerful and revivifying rays of truth and justice through the medium of this powerful engine of progress. Nor are these alone the only benefits to be conferred upon a community by the possession of a free, enlightened and an independent press. Under its beneficent and genial influence increased vitality, is infused into local industry, educational interests are stimulated a salutary impetus is imparted to agricultural, mechanical and commercial enterprise, and a general desire for progress and advancement permeates all sections of society. Having thus briefly summarized the advantages to be anticipated from the establishment of a local press, we would most earnestly assure the people of Conception Bay and of the various outport districts of the colony, but especially those of Carbonear that no effort within the scope of our humble abilities shall be left untried to promote and advance their best interest and most sincerely hoping that we may be amply compensated in the future by the consciousness, of having contributed in no matter how slight a degree, to their increased happiness and welfare.

We understand that there are at present in town, a number of men from the neighboring settlements down the shore, who have left their homes for the purpose of obtaining employment during the ensuing Labrador voyage. We believe they number about one hundred and have been so far unsuccessful. It is most earnestly to be hoped, that our leading mercantile firms will do all in their power to provide the necessary employment for those men, as the loss of the season might prove most injurious to the interests of their families during the coming winter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

St. John's, May 19th, 1879.
To the Editor of the "Carbonear Herald":

DEAR SIR,—It was with great pleasure that I recently heard that you were about commencing a career as Editor of a newspaper at Carbonear; and in wishing you every success, and the most happy realizations, I congratulate Carbonear in particular upon this event—one of the greatest in her history. In you Carbonear will find a redressor of wrongs—a vindicator of rights—a diffuser of knowledge, and equally as much a real gentleman and a true friend; and I would ask you as a *christian friend*, when bestowing benefit, politically, socially and intellectually, not to forget the great branch of civilization. In a word, be a promoter of domestic economy. And in this remark I do not allude to a particular place, for there is a grand truth, and it will hold good everywhere—the more near the fair sex are in Carbonear, the more dear and less dear will they be to their fathers and husbands. With these few remarks I shall proceed to give you the news. At a place called Renewes, (up south,) a Banker arrived, belonging to Messrs. Goodridge & Sons, the first part of last week. Another arrived to Mr. W. G. Bradshaw. The former hailed for 200 qtls., and the latter for 150 qtls. These are considered good trips; and there is every reason to hope, from reports, &c., that the Bank fishery will be fairly lucrative to those, in Newfoundland, who invested in that enterprise this season. On the Southern Shore nothing has been done yet. Towards this fishery there doesn't appear to prevail that feeling which existed some years ago. In the good old times—as we shall call them—fishermen going to Cape St. Mary's, or fishing on the shore, would spurn the idea of taking specific wages instead of shares. Now it is the reverse; you can't get them under any other terms. This fact shows a disbelief in the fruitful results of the voyage; and if this year does not be an average one, there is every reason to believe this fishery—the mainspring and prop of the Southern Shore—the sole maintenance and support of the people—will be less prosecuted, and become, as it were, a thing of the past. There is a report in town that at Distress, in Placentia Bay, they have done well with the fish. Such reports are generally circulated about this time, when the supplies are not equal to the demand, and consequently I cannot certify as to its veracity. It would distress me very much if it turned out an untruth. Two boats that were at Cape St. Mary's before the majority, made two good catches the first of last week,—one 25 qtls., the other 12 qtls. It is a matter to be deplored that some of the "hardy toilers" are so very tardy in going to the place of action. It would appear as if they were not to be taught by experience, which makes good the maxim, "the early bird catches the worm." The Supreme Court opens to-morrow, the 20th. At present there are very few cases on the docket. The lawyers appear to bear this bad state of affairs with remarkable fortitude; but they are so used to bearing, (you know,) I suppose it has become second nature to them to do it with that coolness and serenity so perceptible even in the "Student at Law." Sir Hugh Hoyle is in the steamer due here on the 21st. There is no other important news save and except I composed this in this in the stable. It consequently may be put down as a part of our stable (staple) industry.

Yours very truly,
SENEX.

P. S.—Since writing the above the most interesting event of local interest has been the arrival at St. John's, of H. M. S. *Druid*, from Halifax.

HARBOR GRACE, May 21st., 1879,
To the Editor of the "Carbonear Herald":

DEAR SIR,—It was with feelings of the most sincere pleasure that we Harbor Gracians have heard of the establishment of a new weekly paper in the neighboring sister town of Carbonear. This undertaking we naturally look upon as the harbinger of much future benefit to the interests not alone of Carbonear, whose people we may congratulate on the acquisition of so great a boon, but also to the various districts of Conception Bay whose desires and wants may be made known through it columns. It is true that Conception Bay a ready glories in the possession of a weekly paper, second

to none in the colony; I allude of course to the *H. G. Standard*; but when we consider the extent of territory covered by the important District of Conception Bay, its large population, and the value and importance of its natural resources, agricultural and I may say mineral; for from all I can learn, and I speak from good reasons, Conception Bay is possessed of resources in this latter respect destined in the near future to rank second to none in the colony, is not the establishment of another paper amongst us a move in the march of progress and advancement. In speaking thus, Mr. Editor, I would more particularly direct attention to your previous career as a journalist in the Metropolis, your native city. There, sir, your voice was ever raised, your pen was ever devoted to the advocacy of the best interests of your country, to the improvement of her fisheries, the encouragement of home industries, the development of her great natural resources. Not alone, sir, were your efforts marked by the most sincere and whole-souled patriotism—by an earnest desire to place your native land in the front rank amongst the colonies of Britain on this side of the Atlantic, but you even aspired to a nobler mission—as the earnest advocate of the progress and advancement of your country, you held aloft the "olive branch" of peace and goodwill amongst all classes and sections of her people, fully conscious that by union and patriotism a one, true progress and advancement can be achieved in any community. Knowing, sir, as I do your personal and private worth, I may well congratulate the town of Carbonear, on the opening of a new era of happiness and prosperity for that flourishing little town in the establishment of your new journal, which through its editorial columns a one will zealously advocate its best interests and be the means of conferring peace, happiness and prosperity on its people. In Harbor Grace just now business is rather dull, with the exception of that bustle and stir incident to preparations for the Labrador at this season. Everyone is busily engaged putting supplies on board, preparing nets, seines, &c., and present indications point to an early departure for the scene of action. May the results prove in every way remunerative to the merchant, planter and fisherman.

Yours, &c.,
TERRA NOVA.

Local and other Items.

We would inform our Labrador friends and subscribers that we have made the necessary arrangement for the transmission of their papers by the regular mail steamer visiting the various harbors on the Labrador coast during the ensuing season. We would therefore feel much obliged if all subscribers and those intending to subscribe would leave their names, and that of their intended destination, at this office as early as convenient, that the papers may be duly transmitted by each mail.

We have much pleasure in tendering our warmest acknowledgements to Mr. Hugh J. Dougherty, Mechanical Engineer of St. John's, for the zeal and fidelity displayed by him in the important alterations which he has effected in our Press. The manner in which the work has been executed and the satisfaction which has resulted therefrom in our opinion are alone sufficient to attest his skill. We would most earnestly recommend our friend and countryman Mr. D. to the patronage and support of the public at large.

Great activity is at present being manifested amongst the crews of the various craft now in port, a hands being busily engaged in making the necessary preparations for the Labrador voyage. Judging from present appearances it is probable that the greater portion of our Labrador fleet will leave by the end of the present month.

Some two or three vessels from Montreal laden with provisions for this port are expected to arrive within the next few days. These provisions we understand are principally intended as supplies for the season's Labrador voyage.

It is generally affirmed in diplomatic circles that the Porte will accept the decision of the Powers relative to the Greek frontier. Greece also seems disposed to make concessions.