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POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING GAZETTE

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, NOV. 10, 1891.

OUR GOVERNMENT.

The Telegraph to-day publishes a portrait of Captain W. S. Schley, the captain of the Baltimore who has had some unpleasant experiences in Chilian waters. In connection with this portrait the Telegraph also prints a description of Captain Schley, and winds up by saying: "In regard to the dispute with Chili there seems to be no reason to believe that the junta are not acting in good faith, in requiring time for investigation, just as our own government assumed in the same right our difficulty with Italy in regard to the Italians who were killed by citizens of New Orleans." It will be observed here that the Telegraph describes the government of the United States as "our own government." This is in accordance with what has for some time been suspected, that the Telegraph has gone over bag and baggage to the annexationist party, and that it no longer recognizes the government of Canada, but considers itself as being under the government of the United States. What a comment is this on the attitude of the Telegraph four years ago when it asked Mr. Ellis to resign his seat because he advocated annexation views. Since then the Telegraph has not only swallowed Mr. Ellis, but it seems to have adopted all his principles, and now the government of the United States is "our own government."

THE AUSTRALIAN DEBTS.

Some time ago we took occasion to call the attention of our readers to the debts of the Australian colonies, and contrast them with the debt of Canada. The comparison which we then made was calculated to shut the mouths of those grumblers in Canada who are always complaining of this country as over burdened with taxation and overwhelmed with debt. This morning the Telegraph seeks to mitigate the force of our article by stating that a large part of the debt of the Australian colonies have been incurred for the construction of railways, and that these railways not only pay their working expenses but earn three or four per cent on their cost. This statement may be true enough, but it does not justify any favorable comparison, between the debts of these colonies and the debt of Canada. Nor does it offer the slightest excuse when it says do not pay their working expenses. The railways in the Australian colonies are not subject to any competition whatever by foreign lines or by river and sea navigation, so that the government can make them pay a dividend by the simple process of putting up the rate. It is not so in Canada where our government railways have to take their chances in the competition with other lines and modes of transportation and travel. It is entirely misleading to state or to seek to inculcate the idea that the earnings of the Australian railways pay the interest on the public debt. So far is this from being the case that the burden of indebtedness, after making allowance for railway earnings, is three or four times as great in the Australian colonies as it is in Canada. The debt of Victoria involves an annual charge of upwards of $7,500,000 a year, while the net revenue derived from railways does not exceed $2,800,000 a year, leaving $4,700,000 of interest on the public debt to be paid by taxation on a population considerably less than a million. In other words the charge in Victoria for interest on the public debt, after deducting the net railway earnings, amounts to more than two and a half times as much a head as the entire charge, on account of the debt of Canada. The colony of New Zealand, which has a population of about 600,000, has to pay $8,000,000 a year on account of charges on its public debt of which considerably less than $2,000,000 is paid by the earnings of its railways, so that the New Zealanders have to pay about $10 a head for interest on their debt every year, or more than five times the debt charge on the people of the Dominion of Canada. In the light of such figures as these, the Telegraph's editorial of this morning on Australian borrowings appears rather absurd.

BIRTHDAYS.

Yesterday, the fiftieth birthday of the Prince of Wales, was properly observed in many parts of England and the colonies. As the prospective head of a people whose possessions encompass the world, who have led in the spread of civilization and christianity all over the earth, it was eminently proper that the day should not have been permitted to pass as one passes by on which no particularly noteworthy event is recalled. It was proper, too, because of the attitude which the Prince has maintained during his half century of life. We know that as "death loves a shining mark," slander, envy and uncharitableness direct their sharpest shafts at those occupying a high position, and that the Prince's reported lapses from the narrow path, had they occurred in the career of a lord or a knight, would have attracted little or no attention. Again, how many of the Prince's most censorious critics, had they from the cradle to the present moment occupied his position, would have escaped censure to a greater extent than he? Their number would be few, indeed. Yesterday the birthday of the Prince of Wales, was observed more because of what he is expected to do than because of that which he has already done. May the most brilliant hopes of the Queen's most loyal subjects be amply fulfilled. Today, if Oliver Goldsmith were alive, would be his 163rd birthday. He is entitled to our reverence, not only because of what he has already done but because of that which he is still doing in the world. Poor, sometimes almost forsaken, but never despairing, the victim of bailiffs, the inmate of prisons, he carried about with him a fire that has never been quenched—a fire that has continued to warm the hearts of high and low from his day to ours, and that will never be extinguished. There is no royal road to immortality; had Goldsmith been a prince he might have lived and died as thousands of princes live and die, and had the Prince of Wales been born in a lower walk of life he might have already become distinguished as a scientist or explorer. As it is, his opportunity is before him, and though in the past he has not escaped the shafts of envy and malice, perhaps the sting of merited reproach, it is not doubted but that that opportunity will be wisely met when it presents itself.

"Honor and fame from no condition rise,
Act well your part there all the honor lies."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The land sales in the Northwest have greatly increased over last year, but still they are far from what they ought to be. The hope of Canada now lies in the development of the west as quickly as possible, and the progress of that part of the dominion ought to be rapid during the present decade.

The Telegraph has a despatch from Halifax to-day stating that many of the flour merchants of Halifax find it cheaper to bring Canadian flour by way of Portland than over the Intercolonial, and yet the Telegraph is constantly abusing the government for putting the freight rates on the Intercolonial too low.

Mr. Blair is receiving the compliments of the Boston press on account of his good looks. Certainly Mr. Blair is a gentleman who improves with age, as do all able men, including Sir John A. Macdonald himself, who was far from good looking when a young man, but who grew to be quite an Adonis in his latter years.

The returns of the school board show that there are now, 80 more pupils attending school that there were this time last year. An addition of 180 to the number of school children means an addition of upwards of 1,200 to the population, and yet the Grit papers in St. John are always telling us that our population is steadily diminishing.

We are surprised to see the Sun accepting the name of Tory as properly applicable to the Liberal Conservative party. The Liberal Conservatives of Canada are not Tories but what their name implies, and in New Brunswick at least they include nearly the whole of the Liberal element which fought for responsible government and for other improvements fifty years ago.

The Northwest grain crop is coming out at the rate of two or three hundred car loads a day, and is blocking the Canadian lines of travel, but none of it is coming to St. John. The reason is that St. John has made no preparations for handling grain, and has shown no disposition to encourage the creating of facilities here for that business. Our people take a great deal more interest in a religious fight which ends in smoke than they do in placing this port in a proper position to fulfil its destiny.

Boston Lumber Market.

[From Saturday's Herald.]

The spruce market is quiet. There is a small steady trade, from the yards, without any change in prices to report. Quoted: Mill randoms, $12.50@13; yard orders, $13@14; dimensions, $14@15.50; wide and long, $16@20.

Cargo spruce is unchanged in quotations at: Random cargoes, $12.50@13; ordered cargoes, $13@13.50; dimensions, $13@14; frames, $14@15.

Many of the eastern spruce mills are shut down, or are about shutting down, and though the yards are fairly supplied here for the present, yet the scarcity of cargoes promised will be very likely to render the market firmer.

Boards are well in hand, and the market is steady, with the quotations at: Clear spruce, $19@21; second clear, $16@18; rough, $12@13; refuse, $8@9; hemlock boards, $11@12 for eastern, $10.50@13 for Pennsylvania.

The request is better for hemlock, on the scarcity and the promised scarcity of spruce cargoes. The market is quoted at: Scheduled, $13@16; frames, $14@16; boards, $11@16, as to quality. The above quotations include both eastern and Pennsylvania hemlock.

Clapboards are improved call, with the market unchanged at: Eastern spruce, extra, $32@33; clear, $28@31; second clear, $26@27. No. 1. $21@23; pine sap, extra, $48; sap clear, $45; heart, extra, $50@55; heart, clear, $45@46.

Shingles are selling well, with the market firm: Extra sawn cedar, $3.40@3.50; clear, $2.85@3; second clear, $2.25@2.50; extra No. 1. $1.75@2.25; No. 1, $1.50@1.75.

Laths are reported scarce and firmer at: $2.20@2.25 for car lots, and a $2 for cargo.

A ROMAN FATHER.

Chicago Papa Who Heroically Helped the Young People.

A story is going the rounds on the South side which makes a well known society young man and a millionaire's pretty daughter the principal characters in a rather laughable comedy, says the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The young man, who is noted for his handsome bearing and winning voice, accompained the young lady to her home on Friday evening, and, as all true lovers do, lingered yet a little while at the gate to have a lovers tete-a-tete with his fair companion. The night was beautiful, no one near to intrude, and, above all, he loved! Why shouldn't she kiss him?

With maiden modesty, she refused. He implored. She still withheld from him that which would fill his cup of happiness. The request was repeated several times, and so engrossed did the young man become in wooing he failed to notice the approach of a parental step.

The old gentleman, who had been there himself, and did not care to intrude upon the happiness of the young couple, quietly stepped behind a convenient rose bush, waited, thinking the young man would soon leave. In this he was mistaken. The lover tarried over the request until the patience of the old gentleman was exhausted. A voice the couple well knew aroused them from their happiness in a tone of impatient anger by saying:

"Alice, kiss the young idiot, and let him go home!"

A gasoline tank which exploded in a barn in the rear of the Washburn block, Orange, Mass., Saturday evening, caused a fire resulting in a loss of about $200,000. The Washburn block was completely gutted, the American house, Waits blocks, the Ballou block, and the Congregational church were burned. The burned territory comprises a whole square of buildings, among the largest and best in town. The insurance is about $125,000. The town-clerk's office and a half dozen tenements were burned.

Provincial Points.

M. M. Keaton's planing mill, door, sash and blind factory at Houlton was burned at two o'clock Sunday morning. Loss $2,500, no insurance. The workmen lost their tools. There were many orders in for work and the loss comes in a hard time of year.

The Rev. W. J. Ancient, so well known in connection with the wreck of the S. S. "Atlantic" some years ago on the rooky coast of Sambro, officiated at St. Johns church yesterday both morning and evening.—Truro News.

Annadale, Queens county, can boast of some aged, hale and hearty people. On Mond ay, 2nd inst., Thomas Leonard aged 95 years, and his estimable wife, of the same age, pulled in their field 100 bushels of turnips. The day being extremely cold, the labor performed by this aged couple, is an indication that Annandale must be a healthy place to reside. Coun. John Leonard is the son of the couple referred to.

A find of gold is reported from Peverill's mills, Bedford, and this morning the Heffler brothers took out 36 areas. A find is also reported to have been made at Wagamatkook, Middle River, C. B., and an American gentleman has taken out 150 areas there, other areas having been taken by other parties. Mining operations have been begun there and a large staff of men are at work.

A widow from Preston lodged a complaint at Stipendiary Griffin's office today against her brother-in-law. The latter was a brother of her husband, not long since deceased, and she complains that after her husband's death his brother entered her house and carried off some blankets, quilts and bedding, claiming ownership on account of his relationship to the husband.—Halifax Echo.

Lower Pereaux, sometimes called Rlomidon, is gradually advancing. Nearly every family is now in possession of either a piano or an organ. A. C. Redden teacher of music, is still on the ground. He has composed over 100 pieces for violin and piano during the past three years. He will probably remain there until spring, studying, composing and teaching.

The mother of Mr. Patrick Brown, Summerside, lives with him and will on Christmas Day have reached the extreme age of 99 years. She was born at a place called Digdeguash on St. Andrew's Bay, N. B., her father being a U. E. Loyalist, who fought on the British side in the American war of Independence, and who was afterward given a grant of land on St. Andrew's Bay. Mrs. Brown is in the best of health and to all appearance will live for a number of years yet. Her recollections of the long, long ago time are quite fresh, although, as is natural to old age, she is apt to get confused with more recent events.—Summerside Pioneer.

Yarmouth has six children under 15 years of age, in the county jail for theft. The Times says "we are supposed to be living in a civilized community, yet such an outrage on common decency is tolerated. What is the future of these children to be? An agitation actually started in Yarmouth; opened the Halifax reformatories to the province so that juvenile offenders could be sent where they would be fitted to become useful members of society, yet we find they are still being taught to be jail birds. It is [illegible] and the sooner it is ers and pick pockets reared in our midst to prey upon society."

There is a man in the western part of the province who, it is reported, for several years past has been amusing himself by keeping his wife in constant terror by frequent dramatic threats of suicide. 'At one time he would pretend to take poison, and at another time to hang himself. Several times at midnight he had taken her to the barn and exhibited the rope and noose with which he intended to end his life. Again at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning he had left the house to hang himself in the barn. She had become terrified and followed him, to find him with the noose around his neck. Several times he had drawn a revolver and threatened to kill her and then himself. Then he would go to the barn and she would hear pistol shots. One night in November, 1890, Carr displayed an open knife and remarked that it would do quicker work than a revolver. At another time she found him lying on the floor with a razor in his hand as if he were dead. At length the wife brought an action for divorce against her joking husband.—Halifax Echo.

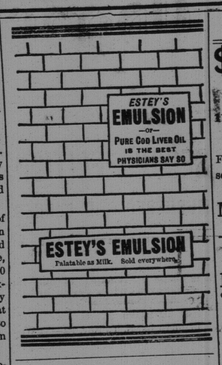
An Agusta man has a spirited horse which at times takes a notion to stop short in the street, and refuses to be persuaded either by whip or by coaxing to 'move on." So he concluded he would, trade the horse away; but of course he knew it would not do to have his fault exposed, and decided he would put a little persuasion into him, for the day at least. He applied a small amount of turpentine to the base of his cadaul appendage, but he would not stir; so he applied a second and much larger dose and calmly seated himself in the carriage expecting the horse to be whirling along at a 2.40 gait in a short time. But mark the result: soon the turpentine begun to warm up and the horse stretched out first one hind foot, and then the other and then both at once, and faster and faster. His owner tried to stop him, but no go, for the unrelenting turpentine cried "faster, faster" and the splinters flew, and things took on a decidedly take-me-to-the-carriage-makers kind of a look. How it ended it cannot be stated for at last reports the horse was still reaching for the carriage.

The Officer Was Excited.

NASHUA, N. H. Nov. 9.—Officer Alfred Jelly, who was suspended for shooting the little Tebbits girl last Sunday night, was given a hearing before the police committee tonight. He testified that he thought he was justified in shooting after the escaping man, as all previous attempts to capture him had proved futile. He was so excited he could not tell how many shots he fired, and did not hear the girl scream or know she was wounded until told.

Marshal Eton said he had repeatedly warned his men not to fire their revolvers except in self-defence. The committee took the case under advisement. The girl is slowly improving.

The British convict settlement on the Anandam Islands, Bay Bengal, has been visited by a cyclone. The government steamer Enterprise, used to convey convicts to and from the settlement, was at the islands when the cyclone struck them. The Enterprise, although a very staunch vessel, was unable to ride out the storm, and was driven on the rocks. Out of a crew of 55 men only six were saved. At the settlement a number of buildings were unroofed. For a time a terrible panic prevailed among the convicts who were in confinement. A number of East Indian convicts, several guards and two officers were more or less severely injured by falling timbers.



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