POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

VICTORIA COUNTY FARMERS' VIEWS ON AGRICULTURE

The programme of the agricultural commission in Victoria County was carried out with meetings at Andover on Monday, Plaster Rock on Tuesday, and New Denmark and Grand Falls on Wednesday. Leading farmers from the different districts attended and manifested considerable interest in the work of the commission.

At Andover, David Currie presided and there were present: J. E. Porter, Jos. Porter, Wm. Hartt, Judson Corey, Alex. Walker, T. H. Manzer, F. E. Henderson, D. Wetmore Pickett, Senator Baird, Jas. A. Scott, Donald Innes, J. C. Manzer, Geo. E. Baxter, S. P. Waite, F. Pickett, J. Williamson, C. Jenkins, Harry Beveridge, and many others. A considerable number of vacant farms were reported, though just how many were for sale was not accurately ascertained.

The meeting, on motion of J. E. Porter, passed a resolution recommending the government to alter the assessment law permitting all unimproved lands to be assessed according to the increase in their value, due to the improvements of other lands in the same district. Mr. Porter said that under the present assessment arrangement as soon as a man improved his farm he was immediately taxed to its utmost value, thus discouraging improvements. He thought the change as proposed would prevent capitalists and others from holding lands for speculation and give some encouragement to the actual settler. The Western fever and C.P.R. harvest excursions were thought to be the principal causes for so many men leaving the country.

J. E. Porter said that he knew of one settlement entirely vacated, due to the rum and bad government, both provincial and municipal. He, himself, had been greatly impoverished on account of rum, although he never drank a glass of liquor in his life. He thought another reason why many New Brunswick farms had been vacated was on account of the restricted market. We were limited to the Montreal and Toronto markets, outside of the local demand, and in Victoria County were at the mercy of the C.P.R., although he gave the C.P.R. credit for doing all they could to promote the shipment of potatoes to the Upper provinces. He thought if the government could in some way secure the American market for New Brunswick farmers that it would do more to encourage agriculture than any other factor.

Says Farmers Are Badly Treated

Judson Corey said the farmer asked for least and he got the least. A farmer was entitled to the widest possible market the world affords and the cheapest possible transportation. The reverse of this condition was the position of the farmers of Victoria County. He found the market very much restricted for all kinds of products. A short time since he had tried to sell a hundred pounds of butter and was unable to get 15c in cash for the lot. The only way he could sell it was to take out the value in store goods. Local buyers of beef tried to beat the farmer down to the lowest price, instead of paying fair market prices. The reason farmers sold hay and oats and potatoes instead of more live stock and dairy products was that a cash market had been developed for these raw products. He also thought the government, if they wished to encourage the keeping of more live stock in remote districts, should place these districts in as favorable a position to sell live stock products as those close to market.

Referring to Farmers' Institute meetings, he said the class of speakers that had lately been sent to these meetings made the farmers "very tired." The Ontario speakers sent here did not know New Brunswick conditions and they did not try to find out.

Donald Innes had no fault to find with the market. He was able to sell all he could produce at a fair price. The reason he thought that beef did not sell better was because the farmers did not have enough of it to bring in buyers. In this connection, it might be stated that P. Heffernan, of Perth, told one of the members of the commission that he had outside orders for beef cattle which would require 500 head to fill between now and the end of the year, and that he was simply unable to get the beef. Large quantities of beef were being imported from the West to supply the men working on railway construction.

Mr. Innes, continuing, said the dairy industry had been largely bonused and in fairness bonus might in some way be given to encourage beef production.

Several men present thought that the holding of special market days would assist in the disposal of farm products. Mr. Porter and others thought that such markets would not be supported and would soon drop.

Alex. Walker told of the market days in the Old Country and how he had missed them here. He believed that such an arrangement would be a great benefit. He thought there should be a Fair in Andover at least twice a year and at the Spring Fair a specialty made of the sale of seeds, when one farmer could sell to another and much benefit result.

Jonathan Brown said he always had a good market for his products and the government could not be expected to build big cities here or to regulate the tariff of other countries.

Potato Business.

A discussion then ensued upon the potato business, and J. C. Manzer pointed out how the potato market had grown. He had done what he could in this direction. Twelve years ago Victoria county did not ship potatoes, and they were then worth about 40 cents per bbl. of 165 lbs. He and others had tried to open up outside markets. They had sent trial shipments to Liverpool, England, and lost money. They had sent them also to Montreal and Toronto. W. W. Hubbard, then connected with the C. P. R., was entitled to some credit in assisting to open up that trade. The result of placing New Brunswick potatoes in the Upper Province market had been that the year before last Victoria county potatoes to the value of $200,000 had been sold in Toronto and Montreal. Of this amount the farmers got about $135,000; about $50,000 was paid in freight and the balance went to the shippers for their expenses in handling and shipping. These shippers had now eighteen frost proof potato houses in the county, and there was scarcely a farmer in the county who was more than eight or ten miles away from one of these houses and with a cash market for all the potatoes he liked to bring in. One result of the growing of potatoes was that the cultivation and fertilizing of the land necessary to the growth of that crop enabled it to produce the ordinary amount of grain and hay in the two years succeeding. He thought is was most important that the government and the railway company should make every effort to extend the potato market. New Brunswick potatoes were of the highest quality, and would win their way in competition in any available market. He thought something might be done to assist in placing potatoes from the St. John Valley in the West Indian market and perhaps elsewhere. Two years ago he had had an enquiry from Norway for a shipment of thirty cars of potatoes at a price which would net the farmer about $1 per barrel. At the time the order was received it was impossible to fill it, but it showed that when the product of a country had obtained a reputation there was a possibility of making sales sometimes where one least expects.

He thought one of the most urgent needs of the farmers was better roads to enable them to get their products to the points of shipment. The C. P. R., he thought, had done all they could in regard to rates and facilities to encourage the shipment of potatoes.

A number of those present complained that Andover was discriminated against in freight rates, Harry Beveridge stating that there was no point on the line, whether above or below, which paid the same rates as were required from Andover importers and shippers.

Mr. Manzer suggested to the commission that a thorough enquiry should be made into the starch business. The establishment of starch factories would be a great safeguard to the potato growers.

Labor Question.

The labor question was discussed and a great shortage reported. A motion was passed recommending that the Government try to secure additional farm labor. A motion was also passed asking that steps be taken to procure a supply of heavy brood mares and good breeding stock for dairy purposes. A preference was expressed for Shorthorn and Ayrshire cattle. Another motion asked that if the government continues to give grants to exhibitions that such grants should not be charged against the agricultural appropriation, as in the opinion of the meeting the exhibitions were for the benefit of the places at which they were held and were of practically no benefit to the farmers.

In the discussion upon immigration, Mr. Masters, a late arrival from England, pointed out that Eastern Canada was scarcely ever heard of in the Old Country. All the available information was in regard to the West. For his part, from what he had heard from friends in the West and what he knew of the country here, he thought this province to be the better place.

Mixed Farming.

Geo. E. Baxter presented his recommendations to the commission in the form of a short paper, in which he pointed out that if mixed husbandry and stock raising was, as he believed it to be, the sheet anchor of successful farming, that the rising generation must be given instruction which would show them the possibilities of such a course. The farmers at present on the land did not take kindly to stock raising and he doubted if they ever would. He recommended that courses in agricultural work should be available at the University and perhaps elsewhere in the province. Teaching of this nature must be given in the rural schools and high schools if our coming farmers were to be more successful than those now on the land. He recommended the abolition of the duty on fertilizer and that the users of fertilizers should be informed upon how to buy the fertilizing ingredients and mix them themselves, nearly eighty per cent. of the bulk of commercial fertilizer being merely filling material, and it should be possible to procure much more cheaply at home than to buy it abroad and pay the freight on it.

He also strongly recommended that the government should continue the work started by Prof. Robertson for the promotion of the poultry industry, under which chickens were fattened and placed on the English market, thus opening up an almost unlimited demand for our poultry products. This work had been discontinued by the Dominion department because the Canadian market for poultry had so developed that it was almost impossible to supply it. If, however, farmers and their sons and daughters would develop this business, as they might, the foreign market would be essential and this should be secured. If, he said, our 50,000 farmers would each raise on an average 50 chickens for sale, it would give an output from the province of 2,500,000 chickens, and bring an income of over $1,000,000. Up-to-date poultry plants, illustrating how chickens could best be reared and fattened should be established at Fredericton and elsewhere, where not only could an illustration of business methods be given, but they might be made the centre from which the best classes of stock could be distributed throughout the country.

Speaking on agricultural education, he thought the money devoted to Farmers' Institute work could be better employed in providing short courses of instruction on various agricultural matters. The considerable amount of money annually given to exhibitions he thought of little practical benefit to the average farmer, but as the hotel men and other city dwellers, as well as the railways, wanted them, and the farmers liked them for a sort of a national holiday, he thought it should be the aim of the managers to make these exhibitions as educative as possible. He paid tribute to the C. P. R. for appointing an industrial commissioner, and hoped that that gentleman would be able to bring capital in touch with our undeveloped resources.

Donald Innes' Views.

Donald Innes, at the request of the meeting, told of some of the work he had been doing in the hand selection of seed grains. He simply had a quarter of an acre for his seed plot for each variety, from which he selected enough of the longest and best heads to seed a quarter of an acre the following year, the crop of that quarter of an acre being used to seed his general crop. As a result of three years of this work in wheat, the number of grains in the average head had increased 25 per cent. and the weight had increased 30 per cent.

At Andover, as elsewhere, farmers complained bitterly of the ravages of dogs among their sheep, but the opinion was divided as to how the matter could be remedied.

Plaster Rock Meeting.

At Plaster Rock, Hon. Dr. Landry and H. P. Timmerman joined the other commissioners and a very interesting session was held. Miles E. Flanders was chairman, and among those present were Geo. Ridgewell, Watts Cox, Wm. Saddler, Craig Williams, Harry Harris, Donald Fraser, Jr., Robert Knowlton, Duncan McGinnis, George Morey, T. H. Porter, Washburn Turner, H. P. Giberson, Alley Turner and others. Farmers from the upper sections of the Tobique, while they acknowledged a fair market in the lumber woods, stated their greatest need was the extension of the Tobique Valley Railway. Those on the south side of the river also urged some assistance in providing suitable crossings either by ferries or bridges. A great deal of unoccupied land of the very best quality was reported, which would, no doubt, be utilized if additional facilities for transportation were provided. A continuous highway was needed along the south side from Plaster Rock up.

J. C. Manzer, who was present, stated that so far as much of the province was concerned, agriculture would be benefitted by devoting the whole agricultural appropriation to providing the farmers with better roads. If this were done for five years it would be of enormous value to the province.

The need of an agricultural society for the Upper part of Gordon and the Parish of Lorne was pointed out by many of those present and steps will no doubt be taken to form one, the society at Arthurette being, in the opinion of up river residents, too far away to be of service.

There was an extended discussion upon stock raising and the dog nuisance was again in evidence as a preventive of the extension of sheep raising. George Ridgewell said he would like to keep a flock of a hundred, as he had found sheep the most profitable stock he could keep, but he could not undertake it when he was liable to lose them all by dogs. It developed that there would be a good market for heavy brood mares along the Tobique river as well as a demand for some breeding stock in cattle, sheep and swine. Evidence was given to show that the men who had left lumbering alone and devoted their attention to their farms were in practically all cases the most prosperous. Sporting and lumbering were the principal causes of the backward conditions of agriculture. Most of the farmers present united in claiming the soil along the Tobique as among the finest agricultural land in the world.

New Denmark.

On the morning of the 1st July, the commissioners, accompanied by Mr. Timmerman, and J. C. Manzer, journeyed through the woods from the Tobique to New Denmark, and were greatly pleased with the appearance of the land, which is a portion of the block of 50,000 acres acquired by the government for settlement purposes from the New Brunswick Land Company. Were a passable road constructed through this section, the land would no doubt be rapidly taken up and the farmers of New Denmark brought within short driving distance of Plaster Rock. At New Denmark a considerable proportion of the farmers of the district gathered at the Patrons Hall to meet the commission. A. J. Jensen presided and among those present were H. J. Hansen, John Brinkman, Peter Carlsen, H. P. Rasmussen, Jorgen Hansen, H. Carlsen, Hans Hansen, Henry Brinkman, Akim Neilsen, Anton Johnsen, Peter A. Hansen, Rasmus Andreasen, Rev. E. M. Skagen, T. A. McCain, and others.

It was urged by those present that means of communication with the C. P. R. were urgently required at the mouth of Salmon River, a proposition which was warmly seconded by Mr. Timmerman, who said his company would no doubt be willing to join in the expense of the undertaking. Representations were also made by Geo. Hansen and others as to the need of a new road leading from the centre of the district to the proposed station on the G. T. P. Evidence was given showing that considerable land cleared years ago by the N. B. Railway Co. was unoccupied, and the clearings still existed. This land, they thought, should be made available for settlement. A Clydesdale stallion was much needed in the district and would be purchased if opportunities were provided. It was pointed out by Chairman Jensen that there was considerable Jersey stock in the neighborhood descended from cattle registered in the New Brunswick Herd Book, but through somebody's oversight it could not be registered in the National Canadian Herd Book. This caused a serious loss to farmers owning this stock and discouraged the importing of purebred Jersey bulls. It was shown that the cows kept in the district were all fairly well bred Holsteins and Jerseys, and were giving good results. The cheese factory was running and giving good returns for the cheese season. As yet not much had been done in the way of winter dairying. The returns from the cows for the cheese season were, however, fairly satisfactory. A. J. Jensen last year had received an average for eleven cows of $35 each for milk sent to the factory. John Brinkman had averaged $28 per cow for four months. Hans Hansen for eleven cows $31 per cow and had made sufficient butter during the summer to average $2 per cow additional. The best returns received were by a neighbour of his who in five months had received from the milk of two cows $79.20. Out of 100 families in the district forty-two of them sent milk to the cheese factory; the average price paid at present was $1 per hundred pounds.

It was shown that sheep were not largely kept as a good deal of attention was given to cows, and on most farms there was not sufficient pasture for both classes of stock. Last year, between 150 and 200 lambs were sold at from 5½ to 6½ cents per head. The Shropshire breed was the most popular. Swine were quite largely kept and were considered profitable, the Grand Falls market taking the output. Not many turnips were grown for winter feeding, as the farmers were giving more attention to potato raising.

Rev. Mr. Skagen said there was a movement on foot to start a co-operative store and asked for information. It was pointed out by the commissioners that this movement had not progressed very much in Canada as most of the stores started by the Grange and in other ways had eventually been absorbed by firms or individuals. In discussing the Agricultural Societies and Farmers' Institutes movements, Chairman Jensen gave a record of what the New Denmark Agricultural Society had accomplished since 1895, having spent in that time over $3,000 for the improvement of stock and had been a great benefit to the district. Referring to institutes, he, Rev. Mr. Sagen, Geo. Hansen and others pointed out that the people took Danish papers, some of them visited Denmark nearly every year, and they were thus brought in close touch with Danish progress, which they considered was much ahead of the agricultural progress of Ontario or any part of Canada. The addresses given by speakers from Ontario and elsewhere were, therefore, of little interest to them, and they thought the money spent in this direction could be better given to the Agricultural Society for practical work.

In discussing the matter of immigration, Rev. Mr. Skagen pointed out that New Brunswick would have to improve its agricultural conditions in regard to educating, banking, etc., before it would be an attractive field for settlers from Denmark. In the matter of practical education and the supply of money at a cheap rate of interest for agricultural development he considered Denmark fifty years ahead of New Brunswick, and that country to afford much better opportunities for the struggling farmer than this province. Hon. Dr. Landry closed the meeting with a brief address, expressing great pleasure at receiving the valuable information given by the people of New Denmark and pledged the government to do its utmost to assist the farmers along the most progressive line.

Grand Falls.

The meeting at Grand Falls in the evening was not largely attended but there was a spirited discussion dealing principally with the potato business, which here seems to be of great importance. Coun. Burton A. Rideout presided, and among those present were Edward Wright, Marshall Wright, Whidden McMillan, Patrick Kelly, Jesse Estabrooks, J. C. Manzer, C. L. Cyr, M. P. P., and others. The evidence given in regard to technical points in potato growing was more extended than the previous meeting and contributed much valuable practical information to the commission.

During the remainder of the week the commissioners with Mr. Timmerman will attend meetings at St. Leonards, Clair Station and Edmundston.

An Army of Boys.

(Montreal Gazette.)

According to the official records, there enlisted in the U. S. army during the war of secession, 25 boys of ten years or under, 225 boys of twelve or under, 1,523 boys of fourteen or under, and 844,891 lads of sixteen or under. At the age of eighteen or under there were 1,151,438 enlistments and at the age of twenty-one or under 2,159,798. The total enrolment of the army was 2,778,309, leaving only 618,511, or barely 21 per cent., who were twenty-two or over at that time of entering the service. This shows in a way where the enthusiasm for the Union was strongest. It also helps to explain why, forty-three years after the war ended, there are still so many of those who took part in it alive.

CENTRAL FOUND IN BAD SHAPE

Commissioners Made a Trip Over Road Friday to See for Themselves

MUCH WORK NEEDED

Practically Would Have to Be Rebuilt to Form Part of Grand Trunk Line—The Curves and Grades—A Discrepancy in Mileage—The Mines Visited.

The commissioners appointed to enquire into the affairs of the Central Railway spent Friday in an examination of the road from Norton to Minto, taking in the spurs and sidings and making themselves generally familiar with existing conditions. By previous arrangement the commissioners—Judge Landry (president), A. I. Teed and Fulton McDougall—with H. A. Powell, K. C., their counsel, met at Norton at 9 o'clock yesterday morning. An engine with a special car attached was in waiting. The other members of the party were J. S. Archibald, one of the commissioners of the road; T. C. L. Ketchum, official reporter; W. C. Hunter, the superintendent, and a Telegraph reporter.

The regular train for Chipman and Minto was given the right of way as far as Belleisle. The special started at 9.20 and, after passing the other, continued on its way without a stop to Chipman. Seats at the rear of the car had been provided for the commissioners and details of the work having been made in two hours and ten minutes. An inspection of the mine owned by G. H. King was at once proceeded with. The train was taken up the spur, about three-quarters of a mile in length, leading to this mine and the mine of the Northfield company. The commissioners descended the shaft and examined the working.

The coal throughout this entire section is in a blanket formation about three feet thick. At the King mine the shaft is about thirty-six feet deep, the workings extending over a large area underground.

On returning to the surface the train returned to Minto.

After an interval for dinner the train was backed down the main line to enable the commissioners to see how far the rails had been laid. Originally they extended about three miles past Minto but about half a mile at the end has recently been removed, the rails and sleepers being utilized in repairs elsewhere.

An inspection of the other spur was the next step. This branch serves eight mines and is about two miles and a half in length. This completed the inspection of the road on the outward journey. done on the road were given them by Mr. Hunter throughout the journey.

After a few minutes' stay at Chipman the run was continued to Minto which was reached at 11.30 a. m., the journey

From the figures given it would appear that, including the spurs and the extension of the main line there is less than seven miles of track beyond Minto station. Reports issued by the late government indicated that between ten and twelve miles had been laid. It is probable that this apparent discrepancy will form part of the investigations at a later stage.

Leaving Minto a quick run was made back to Chipman and the machine shop was inspected. The machinery consists of planing, drilling and boring machines and a large lathe and trip hammer. The commissioners also visited the spot where the G. T. P. connects with the Central.

At 5 p. m., the party returned to the special which started on the return journey. The engineer was ordered to make stops at intervals for a closer inspection of the road. Norton was reached at 6.55 p. m.

From an examination of the conditions on the Central railway, as they exist today, the road as a commercial enterprise appears to be in the same class as the Salisbury & Harvey, the Kent Northern, Cape Tormentine, and other branch roads in the province. From Minto to Cumberland Bay the road for a branch line is in fairly good condition. From the latter point to Young's Cove there is much need of ballasting and drainage. The road-bed is generally low and needs building up. The want of proper ballasting has caused kinks in the rails, a condition which results in considerable jolting when any speed is attempted.

In order for the road to form part of the G. T. P. system the impression is conveyed that it would have to be entirely rebuilt. The average grade is one and a half per cent. and in one place the incline is two per cent. Fairly large locomotives are used, but on account of the heavy grades not more than seven cars can be brought through to Norton in one train. The curvature on the forty-four miles from Norton to Chipman is very marked. S curves are very frequent and sharp in many cases. At present the coal traffic is very light. The traffic generally has been helped considerably by the construction work on the G. T. P.

MAINE FISHERMAN BRUTALLY MURDERED

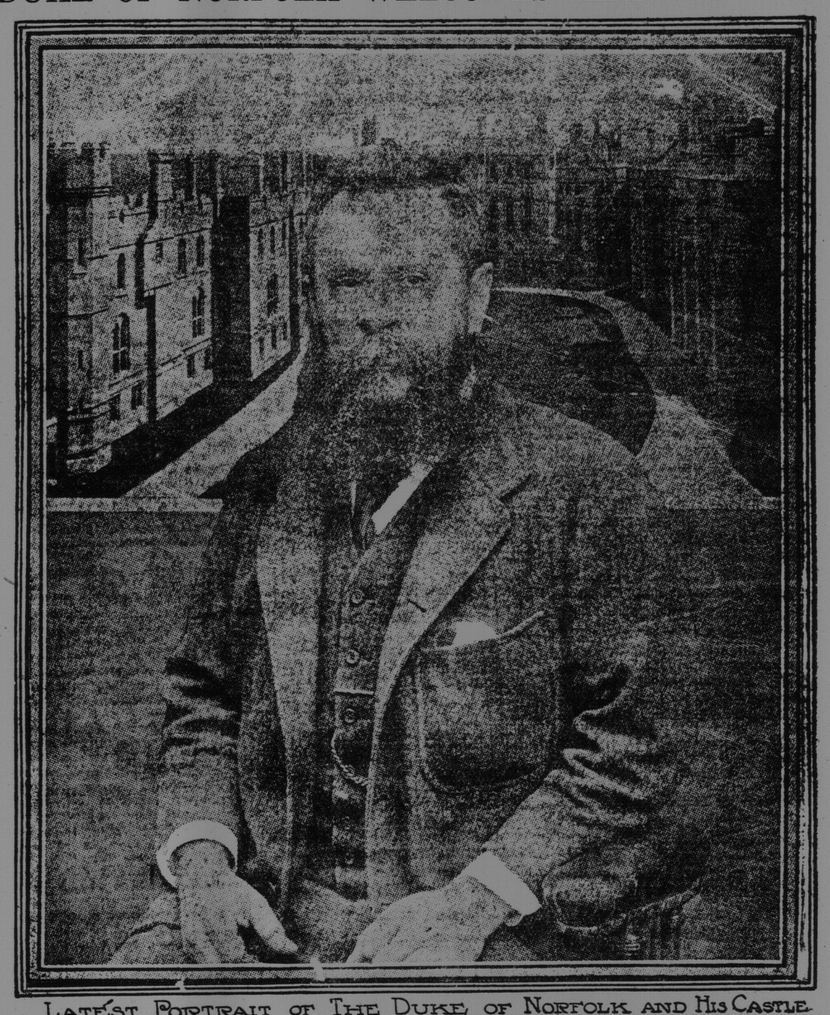
Wm. E. Pinkham, of Port Clyde, Slain While on His Way Home from the Shore.

Rockland, July 3—William E. Pinkham, of Port Clyde, a village in St. George, about 20 miles from here, was murdered tonight while on his way from his fishing boat to his home. Pinkham was about forty years old and was engaged in lobster fishing. In going to his home from the shore he had to pass through a piece of woods, a distance of about sixty yards from his house.

Two boys, who saw him enter the woods, heard cries and later saw two men who in the early dusk they were unable to recognize running away from the place. The boys found Pinkham lying on the ground unconscious and with his face covered with blood from wounds on the head. He died before the doctor's arrival, and without making any statement as to his assailants. County Attorney Philip Howard will go to Port Clyde tomorrow to investigate the case.

Pinkham leaves a widow and four small children.

DUKE OF NORFOLK WELCOMES HEIR TO TITLE



LATEST PORTRAIT OF THE DUKE OF NORFOLK AND HIS CASTLE.
FROM THE SPHERE.

The Duke of Norfolk, one of England's popular peers, had a son and heir born to him a few weeks ago. The Duke's first wife died in 1887, and his only son by that marriage died under pathetic circumstances in 1902, when twenty-three years old.

The Duke, who is now sixty years old, married Lord Herries' elder daughter, thirty years his junior, in 1904. A daughter was born to them in 1905, who would have inherited the barony of Herries, but this peerage will now go to the son, and be merged with the many titles held by the Duke of Norfolk.

In the background is shown Arundel Castle, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, who is Hereditary Earl-Marshal of England.

THE "EMPIRE" OF HAITI.

That little republic of Haiti which now and then chooses to enliven her domestic and foreign affairs with a so-called revolution, can boast of a rather funny period of her history. In 1811 the negro general Christophe proclaimed himself emperor, and, in spite of the smallness of his empire, surrounded himself with a pompous official household like the grand monarchs of Europe. He ended in 1820 by suicide, and up to 1849 the little state could again enjoy its party fights and revolutions as a republic. In the latter year another negro, General Faustin Soulouque, seized the government, and on August 26 took possession of the state as its proclaimed emperor, calling himself Faustin I. He established his government upon the pattern of Napoleon's. That he, who was born as a slave, had some difficulty in reading and writing did not bother him. For his coronation he ordered exact reproductions of the crown and the coronation robe of the Emperor of the French; to pay for them, of course, he deemed unnecessary, and the "Purveyors to His Majesty" were very glad to receive some part payments by and by. The civil list of the emperor was fixed at 150,000 gourdres (1 gourdre equals 96½c.); that of the empress, black as her spouse, at 50,000 gourdres. Her court attendants included two ladies of honor, fifty ladies of the court, and twenty-two waiting maids. The court had a grand almoner, a manager of the imperial theatre, a governor of the imperial palaces, etc. The emperor founded two orders of knighthood: the order of St. Faustin for military merit, and the order of the legion of honor. His division generals and vice-admirals he made princes and dukes, and the brigadier-generals counts; every superior customs officer became a baron. All at once Haiti with its not quite 10,000 square miles and its population of about 900,000, had 59 dukes, 190 counts, 336 barons and 340 knights.

The names of this brand-new aristocracy were taken from farms and fantastic feudal estates which Faustin had created by a mere word and given ridiculous and burlesque names. John Joseph, the emperor's brother, was named Duke of Port-de-Paix (Porte-epee); Charles Alerte, great-bread-chamberlain, was duke des Cachots (i. e., of the prisons); de Marc, Duke de la Limonade; Linding, Duke de la Marmelade. The most humorous names were those of some of the counts. There were the Count des Cotes de Fer du Nord; Noel Jean Jacques, Count de Coupe-Haleine (he was the librarian-general of the empire); Dumas Labroudie, Count de la Tortue; one Count du Numero-Deux; one de Grand-Gossier (large throat); des Guepes (wasps), du Diamant, de la Bombarde, etc. One of the knights had to hear himself called Knight Coco. In 1858 a military revolt made an end to this glorious monarchy, and wiped all those fine names, titles, and dignities out of existence as quickly as they had sprung up. —Harper's Weekly.

DESTRUCTIVE FOREST FIRES NEAR AMHERST

Amherst, N. S., July 3.—(Special)—A forest fire broke out on the property of Joseph Skidmore on Dominion Day and has been raging with terrific force for two days, destroying much timber property. It is now heading towards the valuable timber property of Black & MacKinnon. No effort was made to control it until this morning, when Chief Fire Ranger R. Byron Atkinson of Amherst was notified, and has left for the scene of action.

MARVELLOUS GRAIN CROP PROMISED IN CANADIAN WEST

Winnipeg, Man., July 3 (Special).—Wheat is now heading out in many sections of the country, and the crop is a marvellous one to behold, where such is the case. The Canadian Northern Railway issued a crop report yesterday which is most sanguine from all sections reporting. It covers 65 points along the line, and all tell the same story.

MONCTON ALARMED AT REPEATED BURGLARIES

Citizens Are Laying in a Supply of Firearms—Wedding Bells.

Moncton, July 3—(Special).—The town is full of flying reports as to attempted housebreaking in various parts of the city, but many of the stories are not credited and nothing serious in the burglary line has occurred for two or three days. Citizens, however, are taking all the precautions possible. Hardware firms find a noticeable increase in the sale of firearms of late, and it is evident the citizens are arming themselves in the event of a visit. If burglars should visit some quarters they would be apt, just now, to get a warm reception. Burglar alarms are being put in by several of citizens.

Two suspicious looking characters were seen hanging about the picnic grounds at Lewisville yesterday and later in the day were noticed by an Alma street resident in his yard. He immediately collared one of them, but in some manner the suspect managed to get clear, but had assistance arrived a few moments sooner there would undoubtedly have been an arrest made.

A story from High street was going the rounds last night that a man walking up that street was held up at the point of a revolver and his valuables demanded of him, but the party only had twenty-five cents, which was promptly handed over. As nothing definite could be learned of the affair no stock was taken in the story.

The sum of $1,800 was netted at the Catholic picnic being held at Lewisville the last two days.

The home of James Best, on Lutz street, was the scene of an interesting and happy event last evening, when Herbert L. Brewster, of the Auditor of Disbursements Office I. C. R., was united in marriage to Miss Trafana Colpitts by Rev. H. Gratton Dockerell, pastor of the First Moncton Baptist church, in presence of relatives and intimate friends of the contracting parties. The newly married couple left on the Maritime express on a bridal trip to Montreal and other Canadian cities. The fellow clerks of Mr. Brewster presented him with a handsome Morris chair.

PROF. ROBERTSON OFFERS $800 TO KEEP P. E. I. SCHOOL RUNNING

Charlottetown, P. E. I., July 3. (Special).—Dr. J. W. Robertson, principal of the Macdonald College, addressed the people of the six consolidated districts at the closing of the McDonald Consolidated School at Hillsborough yesterday. This is the last of the three years during which the school is to be maintained by the Macdonald fund. To assist the people in carrying on this school Dr. Robertson stated that next year the Macdonald fund would contribute $1400 and that if the parents made up $400 in fees he would give $800 out of his own pocket to keep the school going.

The annual expenditure he estimates at about $4400. To meet this besides the above $2600 the district would pay $876 and government $1015. The doctor made a powerful appeal on behalf of the education movement which he has so much at heart.

Addresses were also given in support of the consolidation by Premier Haszard, Dr. Anerson, Chief Superintendent of Education and Rev. Dr. Morrison a parish priest of Vernon River.

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Slipp & Hanson
Barristers-at-Law,
FREDERICTON, N. B.
Solicitors for the Bank of Nova Scotia.
Long distance telephone connection.

BIG I. C. R. CONTRACT AT MONCTON LET WITHOUT TENDER

Ottawa, July 3 (Special).—Mr. E. A. Wallberg, of Montreal, who has frequently appeared before the public accounts committee during the past or three sessions, was again on the stand yesterday this time to give an explanation of the sewerage and water works which he is putting in at Moncton in connection with the car repair shops of the I. C. R. The sewer is 2,880 feet long, and is constructed of concrete 3 1-2 in diameter at a depth of 23 feet. The arrangement for carrying out the work was made by Mr. MacKenzie, engineer at Moncton, with Mr. Wallberg, and according to Mr. MacKenzie's admission at a former meeting, without the knowledge of Mr. Butler the chief engineer. The conditions, which were entirely verbal were that Mr. Wallberg is to receive 15 per cent. over the actual cost of the work.

During the course of his testimony, under examination by Mr. Crocket, Mr. Wallberg said he was to be paid as soon as the work is completed, but so far he has received nothing.

Mr. Crocket enquired what the cost would be, but the witness would not hazard a guess. Mr. Chisholm, M. P., for Antigonish protested against the witness being asked the question.

Mr. Crocket said it was an extraordinary thing that the witness could not give an approximate idea of what the sewer would cost.

Replying to Dr. Reid, the witness said his bookkeeper was keeping tab on the expenditures week by week. He had asked him for a statement as to what had been done, but the bookkeeper had been too busy to prepare it.

Dr. Reid, "Well, we're going to get at the cost of this work even if we have to bring the bookkeeper from Moncton."

The witness replying to further questions was not certain whether Mr. Butler had asked him as to the cost of the work.

Dr. Reid said he had been informed that the undertaking would cost at least $60,000 and this without any written agreement or contract. Included in the work was over 60,000 yards of excavation at 58 cents per yard, which itself involved an expenditure of $35,000.

Donahue's Magazine No More.

Boston, Mass., July 3.—After an existence of nearly thirty years, Donahoe's Magazine, one of the leading Catholic publications of the United States, made its last appearance with its July issue, having recently been transferred to the Catholic World of New York, and future issues will be under the name of that publication.

The Love Song.

(It is said that the men of today are far less passionate in their love-making than their ancestors.)

I love you, or at least I think
That very possibly I do;
In common honesty I shrink
From statements not precisely true,
But still it's safe to say I'm pretty fond of you.

I cannot swear a mighty oath
To worship blindly till I die,
In fact I should be rather loath
To form so very rash a tie,
Unless I knew a most substantial reason why.

I shall not, with a valiant air,
Pour out my life-blood for your good,
Nor even boastfully declare
That if I had the chance I would,
Because, to tell the truth, I hardly think I should.

No knightly deeds have I to do,
And no impassioned words to say;
Still, I should like to marry you,
If you will tell me that I may,
And also kindly name the most convenient day.

I can't explain the thing, you know
(They used to tell us Love was blind),
But since it happens to be so
Forgive my weakness, and be kind,
Or, if you're not that way disposed—well, never mind!

—Punch.