

BOARD OF WORKS

Secures Rock Crusher, Engine and Boiler.

TO IMPROVE PLEASANT ST.

Other Matters Discussed at a Special Meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor Morrison and Ald. Hennessy, Lonsbury, Maltby, Phinney, Stables, Williston and Hickson were present at a special meeting of the Town Council held last Friday evening.

Minutes read and approved.

The Mayor read a letter from Mr. C. H. Mitchell to Clerk Aitken.

Mr. Mitchell said he supposed the electric light matter would be resumed this summer and also inquired whether it was the intention of the council to have him continue the plans for the water works.

On motion of Ald. Maltby the letter was handed over to the Board of Works to be reported on at the next regular meeting.

A bill of \$340 from Goldie & McColloch, Galt, Ont., for safe was laid on the table until the next regular meeting.

A bill of \$12.75 from the Halifax Herald Publishing Co. for advertising tenders for power plant, was ordered to be paid.

Ald. Lonsbury read a report from the Board of Works. The report stated that the committee had asked for tenders for stone crusher, engine and boiler, and had accepted the tender of \$1850 from the Sawyer, Massey Co., Ltd. The machine is to be delivered at Newcastle, set up and tested.

The committee had asked for quotations on truck wagon and received the following: Sawyer, Massey Co. \$90, and George Hilderbrand, \$70. They recommended the acceptance of the latter.

The committee had looked into the condition of the sewerage of the town and recommended that a proper sewerage be laid along Pleasant street, beginning at Brown's brook and emptying into the sewer at Miller's tank. The distance was estimated at 2900 feet. A 15 inch sewer pipe with necessary T connection for each house and manhole would cost about \$850, delivered F. O. B. Newcastle. The committee recommended that they be authorized to have said sewer completed as soon as possible. The committee recommended the payment of the following bills:—

S. Craig, (horses) \$255.00

Collins, 5.00

Hay, 10.23

D. Sharp, (costs) 34.75

E. Hickey, 2 mo. salary, 41.96

The committee recommended that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign checks for the payment of men employed on the streets every two weeks. All bills to be certified by Board of Works.

On motion the report was received and taken up section by section.

First section adopted.

Alderman Maltby inquired if any tenders had been asked for the truck wagon from our local men.

Ald. Williston replied that he had interviewed the local carriage builders and asked them to furnish quotations.

Ald. Maltby moved that the Board of Works be required to advertise for tenders.

Ald. Hennessy favored Ald. Maltby's motion. In such matters he thought the local men should get the preference.

Ald. Lonsbury thought interviewing the men was the quickest way to get quotations.

Ald. Hickson didn't see the necessity of advertising for tenders. If the builders knew what was required, it was not necessary to go to additional expense.

After further discussion Ald. Maltby's motion was put and the Mayor declared it carried. It appeared that all the Aldermen did not vote, so the Mayor again put the motion.

Ald. Maltby objected. He said the Mayor had already given his decision.

The Mayor stated that every Alderman must vote on a motion one way or the other, so he asked the yeas to arise.

Ald. Maltby and Hennessy arose.

Ald. Phinney, Stables, Lonsbury, Hickson and Williston arose.

The Mayor declared the motion lost.

Ald. Maltby—I claim I am right and I ask Mr. Aitken as legal adviser to give his decision.

Clerk Aitken looked up the rules of order. Section 18 says that every Alderman present when a motion is put must vote.

Ald. Maltby asked if there was a penalty imposed on all Aldermen who did not vote.

The Mayor said he could ensure the Aldermen.

Alderman Maltby moved that the truck matter lay over until the next night of meeting. He thought the proper way was to have the matter thoroughly before the public.

Alderman Williston seconded the motion.

Ald. Hennessy wanted to know what was to be gained by postponing the matter. He thought the wagon was needed now.

Ald. Hickson agreed with Ald. Hennessy. He thought the object was to get a suitable wagon as soon as possible.

Ald. Williston said that in justice to the Board of Works he would ask that the matter lay over.

Ald. Maltby's motion carried.

Ald. Maltby moved that the section of the Board of Works' report relating to sewerage be adopted.

Ald. Hennessy thought there was a sewer at present from Miller's to Flynn's on Pleasant street that would be of service.

Ald. Lonsbury said that the intention was to macadamize Pleasant street, and he didn't think that after it was completed the council would like to see it torn up for the purpose of laying a sewer. The Board wanted to do everything right and they thought proper to lay a first class sewer at once.

After some discussion Ald. Maltby's motion was carried.

Ald. Maltby moved that the Board of Works be requested to advertise for tenders for sewer pipes.

Carried.

EMPIRE DAY.

Celebrated by the Pupils of the Town School.

A GOOD PROGRAMME.

Provided by the Scholars of the Harkin's Academy --Addresses Delivered

Empire Day was observed in the schools of Newcastle with great enthusiasm. The rooms were all decorated with flags and every black board was full of colored drawings of a patriotic nature. The chief celebration took place in the afternoon in the assembly hall of the Academy. The pupils all gathered there as well as a large number of visitors. Addresses appropriate to the occasion were delivered by Mayor Morrison and Revs. Snow and Fisher.

The following programme was ably carried out by the scholars:—

Chorus:—Beneath the Flag.

Recitation:—Jeanie Robinson.

Recitation:—To Arms, Marjorie Davidson, Edith Clarke, Gertrude Williamson.

Chorus:—Freedom's Glorious Song.

Recitation:—Canada was There, Francis Fish.

Chorus:—For Queen, Flag and Country.

Recitation:—Cyril Creighton.

Chorus:—Soldiers of the Queen.

Recitation:—Aggie Phinney.

Address:—Mayor Morrison.

od Save The Queen.

Ald. Maltby moved that the section of the Board's report relating to the payment of bills be adopted and that the bills be paid.

Carried.

The last section of the report was adopted on motion of Ald. Maltby.

Ald. Lonsbury said he saw a difference in the wages of men and teams on the time sheet.

Ald. Phinney replied that one man was engaged for a long period and the other was engaged only for a day or two.

Ald. Maltby said that the late square committee was in debt about \$31.

The Park and Fire Committee was authorized to deal with the matter.

Ald. Hennessy said the Ferry Committee had interviewed Mr. Tweedie who gave them a good deal of information.

He said that he would have pleasure in aiding them in securing the additional \$300, bonus for the ferry, provided the rates were reduced to the Chatham ferry rates.

Ald. Hennessy said the ferry people had reduced the rates considerably.

The committee didn't wish Mr. Russell to do anything unreasonable. He asked the council for an extension of time in the matter.

In the interview with Mr. Tweedie, Ald. Hennessy said that the Provincial Secretary wished the Council to take the steamer Rustler in hand also. Ald. Hennessy thought the steamer did not remain long enough after coming from Redbank. Passengers had hardly time to make purchases.

He thought the steamer should remain until 3 o'clock. The government wished the council to supervise the matter.

Ald. Williston read bye laws drawn up by the By-Law committee.

Ald. Maltby moved that they be taken up section by section.

Ald. Maltby moved that the policemen be ordered to attend to the duties of the town marshal.

On motion the council adjourned until Monday evening.

MONDAY EVENING.

Ald. Ritchie and Lonsbury were absent at the adjourned meeting of the Town Council held Monday evening.

The reading and adopting of bye-laws were resumed.

A bye law which prohibited slaughter houses within certain limits of the town was discussed.

Ald. Maltby objected to this bye law. He thought there were some good slaughter houses here, and it wasn't right that they should be removed.

Ald. Hennessy thought there should be a distinction between slaughter houses and an individual who killed an animal occasionally on his own premises. He favored having no slaughter houses in the centre of the town.

Ald. Maltby thought the slaughter house here was kept very clean and it wasn't right to compel the owners to close it. He moved the section be not adopted.

Ald. Hennessy said slaughter house could not be kept clean. The town was no place for such an establishment. Men who were advocating for cleanliness in the town want a slaughter house here. There was no sincerity in that.

After some discussion, Ald. Maltby's motion was put and lost and the section adopted.

A bye-law prohibiting persons from bathing in the river between 6 o'clock and one hour after sunset was criticized by Ald. Hennessy. He felt that people were not desirous of seeing nude persons bathing one hour after sunset. It was very light. He moved in amendment that the time be made two hours after sunset.

Carried.

Ald. Hennessy read a letter from provincial secretary Tweedie stating that the subsidy for the Newcastle ferry be increased to \$500, providing the fares were reduced to meet the views of the council and a subsidy of \$400, for steamer Rustler would only be paid upon the council's certificate that the service had been performed in an efficient manner.

Ald. Williston read quotations on the truck wagon. The tender of Gough was accepted. Price \$65.

After a few minor matters were disposed of the council adjourned.

RECENT LETTERS

Several Letters from our War Correspondents

ALL HARD AT WORK.

First Contingent Receive their X'mas Presents.—Other War News.

BLOEMFONTEIN, April 6, 1900. To-day is Christmas day with our company. We have just arrived back from a twelve mile march, were looking for a large force of Boers, but they disappeared before we got to where they were. We were agreeably surprised on our arrival to find that our tents had arrived and had been pitched by the men who had been left on light duty. Then came the surprise in the shape of our X'mas presents. I chanced to see them, but the boxes, as a rule, were in a sorry condition. The one I got was fair. The plum pudding was completely spoiled, the fruit cake was sour on the outside. The raisins, nuts, etc. were all right. There was also five small cans of mints, which of course were in good condition. My private box was all right. But you should have seen some of the boxes! They were entirely spoiled. There was also a big Log Cabin smoking tobacco, a package of Higgin's cigarettes and a cigar for every smoker in G company.

Bert McCullum of Douglastown was not wounded. He is hospital cook. It was another of the same name. I have been sick, but nothing to speak of. Have not missed any duty except the first march we made east. I only marched three miles when I got permission to fall out and return to the city.

Sunday, April 8.—We understand that a general advance will be made on the 15th or 16th. I guess we go right on to Pretoria. We will never be able to march it and I hope we open up the railroad and travel by it. We have not heard any war news for weeks. Would like to hear of Buller. Some say he is in Johannesburg. He is a hunter all right. Heard that Gifford is on his way up to rejoin his regiment. Hope so. Have not heard from Harris or Matheson. Lots of fever. Regiment very weak both numerically and physically.

Sunday, April 15.—To-day is Easter and I had three eggs for breakfast. Was on guard at a small magazine just on the outskirts of the city and alongside a Kaffir village and bought a dozen eggs from them. They were quite a treat. You may depend, Gifford is here and his shoulder bothers him considerably when he has his kit on. Hope his wound will not break out again. We heard that Kitchener gave the Boers a thrashing yesterday. I got the Advocate to-day, the first for two weeks. Gifford's subscription list is increasing, and hope it will continue to do so. Hope the merchants and others are beginning to realize that they can have their printing done in Newcastle just as neatly and cheaply as elsewhere. You would then have lots of work to keep you very busy.

I have made a few friends in the city and have a good time when in town. Have not heard what Matheson's act of bravery was. Hope he will get the V. C.

CHAS. W. ANSLÖW.

VICTORIA WEST, April 12.

We are camped now at Victoria West some 80 miles south of DeArar. It's been here three days waiting for E and D batteries to come out to the line. We leave here to-morrow at one o'clock for DeArar, as E and D batteries are coming out there, and we go from there to the front. We saw Ben Harris in Cape Town, and heard that good time when in hospital. I hope we will meet Charlie, Kitchener and Gifford. Will McLenen joined the mounted rifles as orderly to Rev. Lane and has gone to Bloemfontein.

SAM. CRAIG.

[Letters from Geo. Russell and D. Dalton are held over for next week.]

PATRIOTIC CONCERT

He's an absent-minded beggar, but the beggar never knew

What that simple song of Kipling's for the absent ones would do;

He never dreamed of sunshine which we sprinkle on his trail.

While he faces Boer entrenchments and a shower of leaden ball;

So I say to you, my comrades, and to all whose hearts are right,

Just think of jovial Tommy and prepare to shall you mite;

Go down into your breeches while I fling this simple lay,

Dig up your bottom dollar and pay—pay—pay.

The Patriotic concert, as previously announced, will be held on the evenings of June fifth and sixth, in the Masonic Hall, Newcastle. The programme will consist of vocal choruses, tris, tableaux etc. also, a military drill, map pole dance, and a Drama entitled "Captain Dick" or "The War Correspondent."

A recitation, by Miss Frances Fish—in costume—of the "Absent Minded Beggar," will be a pleasing feature of the evening.

Tickets, reserved seats fifty cents, Pit, thirty five cents. Plans of hall can be seen at the stores of E. Les Street, and A. E. Shaw, Newcastle, and J. D. F. McKenzie, Chatham. The C. M. B. A. and Orange Bands will be in attendance. The steamer "Nelson" will make an extra trip, at reduced rates Wednesday evening, June sixth, calling at Douglastown and returning to Chatham after concert.

Doors open at 7.30 o'clock. Concert at 8.15 o'clock.

Sale of tickets will commence in Newcastle, Wednesday May 30th 5 o'clock p. m. in Chatham Thursday May 31st, 10 o'clock a. m.

Lost.—On Saturday, May 20th a pair of spy glasses. Finder will be rewarded by leaving same at Advocate Office.

A CURIOUS SHEET.

Extracts From The Bloemfontein Friend

MOTTO OF THE FREESTATE.

Open Letter from Salisbury to Messrs. Kruger and Steyn.

We have received from our special correspondent in South Africa, Mr. C. W. Anslow, several copies of the Bloemfontein Friend edited by the war correspondents.

The following notices appear in the Friend:—Any Milch cow found wandering through No. 9 General Hospital Camp will be severely milked—By order.

Of all the many and great questions which will engross public attention when the time comes for the settlement of the affairs of South Africa on a permanent basis says the Friend, none is more likely to create animated discussion, to raise local feelings and jealousies, and possibly give rise to much heart-burning, than that of the location of the seat of Government of the Federated Province of the South African Dominion.

The Friend in apologizing to the London Times for not crediting an article of Mr. Kruger's says:—It will be believed that we really did write in the "credit" after the article and will it commission its correspondent with this army to go to our printing works and reassess with our printers from "the devil" upwards.

The Friend says:—The following open letter from Salisbury and Co. to Messrs. Kruger and Steyn, in reference to the message recently received from the latter firm, has attracted some interest in Liverpool mercantile circles:—Dear Sirs,—Your esteemed favour to hand. Our traveller, Mr. Roberts, is in your immediate neighbourhood. He will have great pleasure in waiting upon you, and if you can make it convenient (?) to meet him, our Mr. Roberts will give you more than you want. Mr. Roberts has a large and choice selection of ironmongery with him, and a very special in his counting, which has gone very well in Bloemfontein, and which he proposes shortly to show you in Pretoria. We have large orders for this bunting from all parts of the world and believe it will give the same satisfaction in your neighbourhood that it has given to all our customers.—Yours obediently, Salisbury and Co.

The Friend clips the following from the Kimberley Advertiser:—

"The Joubert the great-grand grandson of Pierre Joubert (as the General was fond of explaining), who settled in French Hook in the latter part of the seventeenth century, came of the best Huguenot stock. As an infant the late General was taken by his parents to what is now known as the Transvaal, after having passed through the vicissitudes of the Great Trek of 1836. Born the previous year in the homestead acquired by his great grandfathers, Piet Joubert was a trek from infancy.

General Joubert was a man who had travelled a good deal, and on his travels had kept his eyes and his ears open and few Transvaalers know better than he did the hopelessness of trying to fight England. But of all the Transvaal governing crew he was the one man in the Executive Council who was animated by a pure desire to see his people and country flourish. At no time during his connection with the governing body of the Transvaal could the slightest suspicion attach to the name of Joubert for deeds similar to that of Kruger, Wolmarans, Koch, etc.

PIANO RECITAL.

The piano recital given by the pupils of Prof. Harrison in the Temperance Hall on Monday evening, May 21st was one of the musical treats of the past year. The following programme was given with the most exquisite taste by all the performers, who showed that their technical ability of the highest. Both Mr. Harrison and his pupils deserve praise as the work was of the best, all showing a clear understanding and a ready translation of heavy classical music, and not drenched out parrot fashion as is too often the case.

Miss Ruby Falconer deserves praise for her rendition of Oester's "Roth Rosen."

It was a pleasure to listen to her translation of this work. Her fingering was excellent and very graceful, and she played in a manner that many an older player would do well to copy.

The Misses O. Williamson and B. Ferguson showed once more that their old trick of playing a duet in perfect unison was not gotten—far from it and both young ladies were to be congratulated on their performances that evening.

The Bolero in F minor, Godard, and Grieg's Norwegian Bridal procession were the two numbers given by Miss Nellie Clark, and the manner in which she interpreted them leaves no room for any better. The precision in the double chromatic runs and her finger work all through was most pleasing and above the her ability as a performer on the piano will be exceptional.

But when one considers that Mr. Lamont has only been a pupil of Prof. Harrison for only fourteen months and that before that he knew nothing of the pianoforte, then one wonders at the list of his teacher is making him take. His execution was really marvelous, and in memorizing such a difficult work as Transfella leaves us in wonder.

Mr. Harrison was assisted in his recital by Mrs. J. W. Miller, contralto soloist of great ability, and the audience evidently judged her work so, as she was loudly cheered but responded only by bowing. Her voice is very clear and true and it is always under perfect control and her words are sung in a manner that one enjoys—perfect enunciation being one of her many charms as a soloist. It is rarely that one has the pleasure of hearing such a perfectly trained voice.

Mrs. Young, Chatham, a reader of no mean ability, delighted her audience with her reading of Laasca, and kindly responded to an encore. Her talent is well known and was much appreciated.

An innovation introduced by Mr. Harrison was a male quartette who sang the Soldier's Farewell in a very creditable manner.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

Newcastle Turns out en Masse to Celebrate.

A GLORIOUS HOLIDAY,

Brought to a Fitting Close by an Excellent Concert in the Masonic Hall.

The eighty-first birthday of Queen Victoria was celebrated in Newcastle in a way that was truly admirable. The stimulating effects of the war in South Africa were apparent and from morn till night the people of this town engaged in revelry, music filled the air with intoxicating sounds and fire crackers and cannon lent noise to the celebration. It was a glorious day, in fact the first really warm day of the year. Young ladies appeared in brilliant attire waists adding splendor to the occasion. Flags fluttered in the breeze making the streets fairly glow with color. The crash of artillery coming from the guns of the 12th Field Battery roaring out a royal salute under the command of Major Maltby. The Orange band was on the streets in the morning and rent the air with patriotic tunes in a manner that would do credit to a military band. In the afternoon the C. M. B. A. band had its turn and poured forth volumes of music appropriate to the day with as much ardor and enthusiasm as if Her Gracious Majesty was herself in town. The music of both bands was greatly appreciated. The recent heavy rain prevented the anglers from leaving town, so the dunny tribe was not molested. A large number went to Chatham, but the great majority remained in town. The street arable with their dirty, blouses and powder burnt fingers were here, there and everywhere, appealing for coppers to buy flags, and fire crackers with h and in nine cases out of ten they received the requisite coin.

THE EVENING.

The twenty-fourth of May was celebrated with more than usual ardor on last Thursday last. All vied in doing honor to the august lady who rules the British Empire. This loyal feeling becomes more accentuated as the rolls on. From early morning the air resounded with music. Young and old moved about in holiday attire. The Red, White and Blue was everywhere in evidence. In the evening the Convent pupils gave one of those concerts which always draw a crowded house, and to which our townfolk look forward with pleasurable anticipation. At 8.15 o'clock the C. M. B. A. Band opened the proceedings by a stanza of "God Save the Queen," an unusual overture, but eminently appropriate to the occasion. The Band then gave some very choice music evidencing careful training. The selections all through the evening's performance were choice and varied, and much appreciated by the audience.

The Band overture was followed by a duet on pianos and organ in which Misses Hennessy, McLaughlin, A. Dalton, Quinn, N. Hennessy, E. Herbert participated. This selection demanded much artistic skill. The young ladies proved themselves experts in the skillful manipulation of the key board. Correct time is a prime necessity in music, especially so when several hands are engaged in playing. Mistakes, incoherence of any kind, become in such event marked, producing an unpleasant jarring on the ear that is attuned to musical harmony. From a musical standpoint no exercise is more productive of efficiency than the combination of song and instrumental music, in which several hands are engaged in simultaneous playing. This selection was followed by a very pretty welcome song in solo and chorus. Misses H. Tennent, N. Lawlor and C. Lays sang very nicely the solo accompaniments. "The Old Folks at Home" a Southern minstrel song, a very attractive melody was sung by a number of intermediate pupils, the words being accompanied by movements or posturing. Misses B. Gillard, A. Quinn and M. Hennessy made the pianos talk in sympathy. The orchestral music being comparatively new feature in some concerts intended to give the audience a taste of musical ability. In addition to the usual piano and organ found on every stage, the violin, mandolin, guitar, Apollo Harp, and dears-knows-what, asserted their rights to recognition. These instruments not only claimed a share of public patronage and popular applause, but proved to be a demonstration of the most effective and melodious melody in their right divine. The "Laura Waltz" given by Misses B. Gillard and Herbert on the piano; by Miss M. Hennessy on the organ; by Misses C. Kingston, M. Clair, H. Tennent, C. Creighton, N. Lawlor, Geraldine Buckley on the violin; by Misses M. Murray, M. Haver, A. Landry, A. Marston, on the mandolin, by Misses A. Quinn, F. McLaughlin, L. Le Blanc on the guitar; and by Miss Molly Morrissey on the harp was a very effective combination, the subject of pleasing combination to the audience present. Miss Marguerite Macdonald wielded the baton with the skill of a pastmaster. "When I went home" says Dickie, "I played myself a baton, and went about the fields conducting an Orchestra."

This piece of orchestral music was followed by operetta technically termed "Snowwhite."

The piece is lengthy, occupying some time but it may be said without exaggeration that it was well followed with much pleasure, and it been twice as long. The dramatic personae were Misses E. Fitzgerald, Snowwhite, A. Dalton as Queen and stepmother to Snowwhite, N. Foran, as Prince, Snowwhite's brother, N. Clair, as Carl, the huntsman; ten small children, as friends of Snowwhite seven small children as dwarfs; while a number of wee ones measuring on an average some 24 inches played as Fairies. The Operetta introduced us to a festival held on the occasion of Snowwhite's sixteenth birth day. Snowwhite is admired for graceful and comely ways by the companions who surround her, for the very reason she is hated by her stepmother the Queen. The Queen and princess play their part with dignity by coming their station in ermine robes and glittering with diamonds amidst admiring guests but is denounced by envy tortured with by the knowledge that one more beautiful than she, claims the admiration which she vain would monopolize. She is unhappy; for as Bacon says "Envy keeps no

'GRUMBLES'

Mr. J. M. Aitken writes Poetry

IN SOUTH AFRICA

Tells in verse the Trials and Troubles of Tommy Atkins.

In a late issue of the Bloemfontein Friend appears a few verses composed by Mr. J. M. Aitken son of Rev. Mr. Aitken of Newcastle. The lines which are headed "Grumbles from the Ranks" are:—

That a soldier's life is a merry one,

Is what some people say,

But when you're on short rations,

Well, it isn't half so gay;

And you can't "live fat" in Bloemfontein

Upon a bob a day.

GRUMBLE No. 1.—This is a recognized fact with bread at its per loaf, ten at 6d. per lb.

If you've had a present sent from home

You can take the tip from me

It's been "commandeered" by somebody

And it's one you'll never see,

So as each mail arrives you ask

"Where can that parcel be?"

Then when you see the water-cart,

You rush up for a drink,

You're going to get a "quencher,"

At least that's what you think;

But it's only there for ornament,

And you're threatened with the "clink."

GRUMBLE No. 3.—According to some authorities, the soldier, like the camel, can go for lengthened periods without water. The soldier himself thinks otherwise.