

Established 1875.
The Weekly Monitor,
ISSUED ON WEDNESDAY.

At Bridgetown, Annapolis Co., N. S.
M. K. PIPER, Proprietor and Publisher.
JOHN H. PENDER, Manager.

Terms: \$1.00 per annum in advance.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1897.

The electors of Bridgetown will likely soon be called upon to decide whether it will be wise to adopt the Towns Incorporation Act, and assume the responsibilities of local self-government, or whether it is better to continue to trust their interests to the ruling of the Municipal Council. It is a most important matter, and one on which unnecessary delays will not throw new light.

The meeting held last week, to receive the report of the committee appointed to gather information, was a large and thorough representative one, but unsatisfactory, inasmuch as but one side of the matter was properly presented. R. F. Fry, member of the committee, prepared a report which, as was presented and dealt in a business-like manner with the subject, we have thought fit to publish. His findings were distinguished in favor of incorporation. Mr. C. T. Daniels while not placing himself in any opposition to the scheme, drew comparisons between Annapolis and Bridgetown, and his opinion seemed to be that incorporation would largely increase Bridgetown's taxes. He was prepared to vote for incorporation, if the taxes were only slightly increased, and a corresponding advantage obtained as a result of that increase, and he was more than ready to vote for it if it could be shown that it would not increase taxes. Theories as to the arguments, and in all fairness, a tabulated list of Annapolis expenditures showing finally that the ratayers of that town were paying \$1.05 on every \$100 of taxable property, was poor evidence that Bridgetown should not adopt the act, since it can be shown that our average ratayers are to-day paying, at the very least, \$1.25 on every \$100. If Annapolis is held up as an example in any way, why Bridgetown should not adopt the act, is economically administered? If there is not, then the people of this community ought to glady vote for a decrease of taxation from \$1.25 to \$1.05. It would surely be a libel on the business intelligence of our people to say that they are not capable of properly managing their affairs under incorporation. Evidence that incorporation has been a failure in other towns in the province has, we contend, not been admitted, while evidence of its successful operation has been. The local application of the taxes paid by our people cannot fail to enhance the value of property, and the records show that the adoption of the incorporation act has been followed by a rapid increase of population and a consequent building boom. Incorporation attracts the attention of the outside world to a consideration of the advantages offered by the town as a place of residence or business. The working of the civil machinery need not necessarily be expensive, as the direction of the work falls on officials who hold honorary positions, and Bridgetown has an abundance of good material from which to select these directors, who in turn may be safely trusted to make the proper selection of salaried officials. Let the matter be fully discussed, and if the figures given by Mr. Fry in his report are incorrect, let them be disputed fairly and for the benefit of the public through the medium of the Monitor, whose columns are always open for the timely discussion of matters pertaining to the welfare of the town or country.

The farmers have nothing to complain of now in regard to freight to England. They are down to, one would suppose, the bottom notch. The regular liners are after fruit, and are offering rates as low as can be obtained by chartering a special boat. The farmers are inclined to credit the drop to the agitation for a fruit shipping company, while the speculators ridicule the idea. Neither the farmer nor the speculator is entirely right but both are partially so. Any freighter was bound to drop when the steamship companies found that the heavier freights were on the other side, and so they carry apples to England instead of basins, and get high rates on full cargoes of fruit for their trip. If the English market had made satisfactory returns to the fruit growers there would have been no complaint, but when returns were more than allowed up in freight, shipments had to stop. The steamship companies evidently realized the situation of the farmers and have out their rate in order to draw out sufficient freights to land their boats, but that rate has been made lower by the action of the farmers than otherwise would have been, and we think that had the fruit growers of the valley adopted the plan of chartering their own boats, earlier in the season, the regular liners would have been compelled to stop. The fact that the apple freight of the valley are far too important an item to be passed over lightly and we believe that the farmer has the power in his own hands to regulate them to a certain extent, and that the present season will see systematic efforts being made to this end.

The local legislature is now in session, the 30th since Confederation, and it is likely important measures affecting the industries of this province will be introduced. The farmers and fishermen are waiting to see what steps will be taken in the matter of cold storage; the business men are anxious to see the passing of the proposed law restricting the peddling nuisance; the whole travelling public are hoping that the matter of better roads will be discussed and the country steps taken for proper improvement; the temperance people expect to see the legislature asked to enact a provincial prohibition law; the miners are expecting a general revision of the mining laws; the people of this country will watch anxiously for the granting of a charter to the railway and improvement company, and the citizens of Bridgetown will watch for changes in the Towns Incorporation Act. Surely there is no matter left to deal with will make the present session one of the most important in the history of the province.

The tariff commission were at Halifax last week and are now in St. John seeking to learn how the people of the maritime provinces would like the existing tariff revised. If the government do all they are asked to do in the way of tariff revision the new tariff will remain as at present. No one industry should be favored over another on the consequences that may fall upon others equally important. No government can legislate its tariff to the satisfaction of all its constituents but let us hope that with the light obtained by the commission the present government will at least satisfy the majority.

The Bank of Montreal has subscribed \$5,000 to India famine and plague relief fund.

The 23rd Annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association was held at Wolfville last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The attendance was large and the discussion interesting. The association adopted a standard size for apple barrels: viz. 30 inch staves, 27 inch between heads, 17 inch diameter of head, inside 19 inch. The committee have prepared an act to be presented to the legislature making it compulsory that all barrels made in the province be made to the above standard.

Prof. Fletcher emphasized the importance of spraying as the only way of stopping the ravages of the injurious insects of fruit trees and garden plants. The following officers were re-elected: President—J. W. Bigelow; Vice-president—C. R. H. Starr; Secretary—S. C. Parker.

Local and Special News.

—Brooms for 10c. at H. R. Shaw's. 44 11
—2 bottles Minard's Linalum for 30c. J. E. Burns. 44
—Bridgown has been overrun with commercial men during the past fortnight.
—Wringers, Padlocks, Rim Deadlocks at H. R. Shaw's. 44
—Mr. Israel Miller has sold his property on Grand street to Mr. W. H. McKeane, at J. E. Burns'. 44
—4 bare good washing soap for 10 cents, at J. E. Burns'. 44
—Mr. D. R. Munro, of Wolfville, is applying for a patent for a new chain-link.

—The Maritime Coal Staker for 1897 will be held on August 18th and 19th. Entries close April 10th.
—Cross-cut Saws, Peavies, Peavie Handles, Lumber Saws, Anger Bits, just received at H. R. Shaw's.

—Mr. Andrew Hardwick, of Annapolis Royal, has been appointed postmaster of that town since H. A. West.
—Mr. Albert H. Reed, a native of Liverpool, N. S., has just been re-elected to the city council of Somerville, Mass.

—WANTED.—400 pairs good Double Mitts. J. E. Burns. 44
—Mr. W. D. Lockett has loaded 37 carloads of pressed hay for various points in Yarmouth county since the first of the year.
—The Town Clerk of Kentville is a record holder for the collection of the property taxes for Kentville for 1896 amounting to only \$50.

—WANTED.—One thousand bushels good oats, at 28 cents per bushel, in exchange for goods. J. E. Burns. 44
—4800 acres of Cornwallis marsh lands have been sold to the side by the Agricultural Bank. The work is now nearly completed.
—The customs department is considering the advisability of ordering the collector not to levy a duty on articles of less value than fifty cents.

—Mr. Lawrence H. Miller, of Victoria, has recently refused a pretty price, from a Yarmouth gentleman, for his handsome mare Nellie Lambert.
—Mr. Ernest Ervin, W. A. Craig and Oliver Ruffee are the committee appointed to lay out and define the boundaries of the town of Bridgetown.

—Mr. Herbert Williams shipped a carload of beef cattle and a carload of sheep from Bridgetown station for the Halifax market on Monday last.
—Mr. S. N. Ware has exchanged his young mare, Maude Rumpart with Mr. W. E. Falvey, of Lawrenceton, for a large and stylish carriage animal.

—The Annual Session of the Nova Scotia Farmer's Association was convened at Middleton yesterday. The session was continued to-day and to-morrow.
—Steamer St. John City, which left Halifax for London last Wednesday morning, carried 1,247 barrels of apples, the largest cargo ever shipped from the province.
—Six of the town hydrants were frozen up during the last week's below zero weather. Mr. Cox thawed them out last Wednesday, and they are all in good working order now.

—All who are qualified to vote should at once register their names on the provincial election lists which are now being made out, and see that their names are placed thereon.
—Two shots last week from the Elk gold mine at Carbon disintegrated 3,000 worth of gold. Two pieces of the quartz each about the size of a man's fist are estimated to be worth \$800.

Local and Special News.

—Business men should see to it that they are supplied with printed returns in case of non-delivery, otherwise their letters will not be delivered.
—Wilson Brown, the St. John skater, defeated Jack Warner, of Somerville, Mass., in a half-mile skating race at Woodland on Monday last. The race was run in 1 minute, 31 seconds.

—Several of the Bridgetown horsemen were on the Driv'ng Park last Saturday morning, and their horses were in fine condition. A fairly good snow path, and some of the friends of the horsemen were out.

—The St. John Sun sports a brother and sister belonging to E. E. Island passed through the city last week en route to Boston weighing exactly 200 pounds each. The man weighed 200 and the woman 210.

—The adjourned meeting on incorporation will meet in Victoria Hall on Thursday evening, February 27th. The committee appointed to define the limits of the district proposed to be incorporated, will report.

—Norton, Water, Sewer and Electric Light Meeting. The annual meeting of the Ratepayers of the above District will take place in Victoria Hall, on Monday, Feb. 1st, 1897, at 7.30 p. m. J. O. Cox, Secretary. 44 11
—Mr. Caleb Bokar, a wealthy and retired merchant of Boston, died at his residence in Chelsea, Mass., on Monday last. He was 63 years of age and was a native of Boston.

—The lecture on the life and customs of the Telegu people, which was to have been given by Mr. V. P. S. on Tuesday last, but which was postponed on account of the storm. The lecturer will visit Bridgetown again on an early date.

—It is said that Mr. Nixon, of Victoria, has secured the contract to erect the mail from Caledonia to Liverpool, his contract being for \$120,000. The mail will run from Montreal to Caledonia, and Mr. Isaiah Monroe from Lake View to Millford.—Speciator.

—Between Howard Bent's gate and the Cranville Methodist church, a ladie gold medal, with gold pipe case and two sets rings attached. The finder will be suitably rewarded by leaving the medal and rings at the Monitor Office, or with the owner, Mrs. H. E. Benn, Bentville.

—A Mr. Morrison had a glimpse of the prospect of the Granite and Victoria Beach Railway and Development Co., Ltd. He has enterprise written across every paragraph of the prospectus, and is successful in obtaining its charter and subsidies there is no doubt that the scheme will be developed.
—Mr. E. W. Cleveland and family, of Brandon, Man., formerly of West Canada, Annapolis, are in the city on a visit. Mr. A. J. Morrison, of Middleton, last week. Mr. Cleveland is the inventor of a steam engine, that will, it is claimed, revolutionize the application of steam power. He is having one of his engines constructed at the government shops.

Local and Special News.

—A had named Parly, who started to drive an ox team from Bear River to Digby Neck last Saturday evening, was found on the road by Mr. D. Cameron of the Office House, asleep on the sled and half frozen, at a late hour. The oxen had stopped and it took considerable effort to rouse the lad. He was taken to a house near by and his team put up for the night. Had Mr. Cameron not happened along it is likely the boy would have perished as the night was cold and stormy.

—A very pleasant family gathering was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Miller, of Caledonia, on Monday evening, Jan. 25th, in occasion being the 73rd anniversary of Mr. Miller's birthday. The only guests outside the family were Mr. and Mrs. Young and wife, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Young.

—After a beautiful repast had been enjoyed by the guests the evening was spent in a social way. Mr. Miller retains all the vigor of youth and is physically and mentally as active as the company with some of his reminiscences of former days. A pleasing presentation to Mr. Miller of a beautiful easy chair from his children, a touching and appropriate address being read by his daughter, Mrs. H. I. Nelly, for those present and absent, the absent ones being Mr. Charles Robert, now in Boston. The recipient expressed his gratitude in actions rather than words, in view of the expressions of affection, the latter failed him. Many warm were the congratulations of the evening, in which the Millers would wish to join, hoping Mr. Miller and his estimable wife may enjoy many such happy occasions.

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New Advertisements.

Duty on Tea!
There is no doubt in the minds of whole-sale houses that a duty is to be imposed on TEA.

I have acted on their advice and ordered heavily, and I would advise my many customers to secure a few pounds at least NOW. I have in stock all the leading brands, and will quote fine figures on a quantity for cash.

I have the sole agency for the same Shredded Codfish that E. S. McCormick is advertising. Read his adv. It is great. Only 10c. per package.

J. E. SCHAFNER.
P. S.—I have quite a quantity of Apple Paper on hand, which I will sell at cost to clear.

Lawrenceton, Jan. 26th, 1897.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The - Bridgetown - Importing - House
FINAL REDUCTIONS
Furs, Ladies' Jackets, Men's and Boys' Overcoats.

Just now, when the frosty days are upon us, the need for the above goods asserts itself. We don't know of a better way to invest a few dollars than in one of the above garments. Comfort and style cheaply bought.

2 LADIES' FUR CAPES
Reduced from \$10.00 to \$5.00 each.

Our New Goods for the early spring sewing, all of which have been bought from direct sources, are already beginning to arrive, and the extra value will make the country ring.

J. W. BECKWITH & SON.
Cash Bargains!

LADIES' FURS & JACKETS

3 only GREENLAND SEAL CAPES, 25 inches long, price \$21.00	Bargain Price, \$16 00
2 only GREENLAND SEAL CAPES, 28 inches long, price \$25.00	" " " 19 00
1 only COLUMBIA SABLE CAPE, 25 inches long, price \$31.25	" " " 25 00
1 only BROWN OPPOSITUM CAPE, 25 inches long, price \$18.00	" " " 14 00
1 only AUSTRALIAN SABLE CAPE, 25 inches long, price \$33.50	" " " 17 00
1 only BLACK COONEY CAPE, 25 inches long, price \$9.00	" " " 7 00
3 only LADIES' ASTRACHAN JACKETS, 30 inches long, price \$26.00	" " " 21 00

LADIES' JACKETS.

6 LADIES' JACKETS in Brown and Black, prices \$5.25 to \$8.00	Your choice for \$4 25
4 " " " " Navy only, price \$7.25 to \$9.75	" " " 5 25
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JOHN E. SANCTON & SON
JOHN LOCKETT & SON.

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