

Mechanics' Institute
Box 162
088

Woodstock Journal

"He is a Freeman whom the Truth makes Free, And all are Slaves beside."

VOLUME 6.

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OUR PAPER.

The Woodstock Journal is a large eight-page weekly, devoted to the advancement of the industrial, commercial, social and moral interests of New Brunswick.

The objects at which it particularly aims in the present circumstances of the country are the promotion of immigration, the settlement of the wild lands, the opening of the country by means of railroads, &c., an increase of the representation in the Assembly, and Free Education, schools of all grades, from the lowest to the highest being open to all without money and without price, and supported by Direct Taxation.

The Journal is published every Thursday at Woodstock, N. B., for Wm. Edgar, Proprietor.

Single copies, Two dollars a year, Clubs of six, one and three quarter dollars each, Clubs of ten, one dollar and a half each.

To any person who makes up a club at these rates, and sends us the money in advance, we will send a copy of the Journal for one year, gratis.

When payment is not made in advance, two dollars and a half, and when payment is delayed beyond the year, three dollars will be charged.

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The Editor of the Journal, Woodstock, N. B.

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THE NAVY A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The number of seamen and marines voted for the service of the Royal Navy in 1760 was 73,000, and the sum of £3,640,000 was granted for their maintenance. The navy at this time consisted of 120 ships of the line, besides frigates, fireships and smaller vessels.

The French navy had become so weakened by the war that few ships remained to be employed, and consequently only six were taken during the year. In North America the appearance of the British squadron compelled the French to raise the siege of Quebec, and the whole of Canada came into possession of this country.—*Glasgow Gazette.*

A coast-guardian's dog, to the eastward of Rotterdam, disturbed a fox, which, on being pursued, made towards the cliff, and threw himself over, holding on the edges by his fore paws, in the evident expectation that the dog would dash at him, and so occasion his own death.—The dog, however, knowing the country too well to be taken in, contented himself with biting the paw of the fox, which thereby lost its hold, fell to the bottom, and was killed.

Practical Knowledge.—The poetical character of a country must obviously depend not only on the amount of knowledge by its philosophers, but also upon its diffusion among the people. It is not a knowledge merely of natural laws, which makes a people wealthy; it is the power of applying them to the everyday purposes of life that produces riches. Philosophers very rightly remain with their abstractions, as a fountain remains at its source, or trickles away from its fulness in a narrow stream. If you wish to make that fountain useful to the surrounding country, you construct a reservoir for its waters, and channels by which to conduct them to the fields requiring irrigation.

Dr. Cumming, at Leeds, said the year 1867 seemed to end 6,000 years of the world's history, and hence the millennial rest of 1,000 years was close at hand. A European war was looming more dreadful than that which had recently happened.—He believed that England would emerge from the midst of these trials of wrath, and his study of prophecy, so far from making him feel gloomy, filled him with hope.—This is truly comforting.

THE NEW (WHATWORTH) GUN.

Scarcely more than twenty years ago the Royal Engineers having for experimental purposes tried for a long while to hit a target of six feet wide at 350 yards, were obliged at last to give up the task as hopeless, and it was not till after the severe experience of their Algerian campaigns that the French became fully convinced of the necessity of a more effective weapon than the old-fashioned musket.—Kilfers, however, became generally in vogue, and as one improvement in lighter arms succeeded another, it was obvious that a corresponding progress must be made in artillery, if that branch of the service was not to become for the future almost useless. It seems to have been reserved for our own countrymen to achieve the greatest successes in this direction. Sir William Armstrong's invention was at once acknowledged to have thrown all past successes into the shade, and now Mr. Whitworth has undoubtedly produced a weapon which obviates many of the inconveniences that his predecessors involved, and which certainly seems likely to attain results hitherto considered beyond the range of possibility. The guns are constructed of the very toughest and hardest kind of iron that can possibly be made. One of the cannon exhibited was carefully examined after 1,500 rounds had been fired from it, and no wearing away of its edges or other symptom of detriment could be discovered.

There are two great points as to which Mr. Whitworth's barrels differ from Sir William Armstrong's. In the first place they are not, as his are, provided with a chamber in which the charge reposes, but are rifled throughout from breech to muzzle. The great advantage of this is that any amount of loading, and any length of projectile, can be employed; whereas, in Sir W. Armstrong's, the charge has to be invariably accommodated to the size of the chamber. Mr. Whitworth says that there is not the least difficulty in firing a projectile half the length of the barrel, should occasion require it; and he actually contemplates firing a two hundred pound shot out of his eighty pound gun, when it is duly furnished with the carriage which is now being prepared for it. In the next place, instead of being fluted with a number of little sharp-edged grooves, the new barrel is a simple hexagon, with its sides made perfectly smooth, so as to offer the least possible resistance to a body passing over its surface, and thus obviating the dangers which might otherwise result from so considerable a pitch of rifling as that which Mr. Whitworth employs. The pitch of rifling in the three-pounder is one inch in forty; and thus the projectile makes one and a half revolutions before leaving the barrel, and the most intense rotatory motion, and consequently the greatest accuracy of flight are thus obtained. Notwithstanding this violent twist in the barrel, which some people have imagined must lead to frequent explosions, Mr. Whitworth has contrived that there shall be extremely little friction. This is managed by the projectile fitting the barrel, and being allowed to slip over its surfaces, instead of being made slightly larger than the barrel, and being forced to cut into its edges.

In the Armstrong gun, the projectile in forcing its way out, drives its leaden coating into the grooves of the barrel. In the Whitworth gun, the projectile glides over the surfaces of the barrel, and passes out with a very inconsiderable degree of resistance. The form of projectile which is found to answer best, and with which the great distances have been accomplished, is an oblong conical bolt, rifled so as to fit the barrel. In the three pounder it is about nine inches long; and in shape is like a little cucumber with one of its round ends cut off, and six spiral slices

cut longitudinally in its rim—these being of course for the purpose of fitting the hexagonal bore. The length of the projectile, however, is not an essential point, and so long as its rifle exactly fits the barrel through which it has to pass, it may be longer or shorter, or a perfect sphere, as convenience or fancy may suggest. When the gun is to be loaded, the breech of the cannon screws off, and the bolt is pushed into the barrel. At its back is placed a tin cartridge similarly rifled, and so arranged as to protrude slightly from the barrel, till the cannon's breech is again screwed on; so that, when the gun is fastened up, the cartridge lines that part of it at which its breech and body join, and prevent the possibility of the slightest escape of air or powder through any interstice that might be occasioned by an imperfect fitting of the screw. It has also the advantage of confining the powder at the moment of explosion, and so saving the gun's metal from the full strain of pressure to which it must otherwise be exposed.

But the cartridge has still a further use. At the end where it touches the projectile, it is furnished with a little lump of lubricating matter, which is dispersed by the explosion over the interior of the barrel, and cleans it for the next discharge, besides effectually preventing the least winding. Two hundred rounds can be fired without the barrel fouling; and the great inconvenience of having to sponge out the barrel after every shot, and of being obliged to carry water with the gun for this purpose, is altogether avoided. In action, where time is everything, the gain would be enormous; and owing to this, and to the simplicity of its other details, the guns could no doubt easily be fired two or three times in a minute, and their execution must necessarily be immense. Each of them is fitted with the necessary screws for shifting their aim, and a few turns of a handle bring them instantaneously to bear upon any given point with the utmost nicety, the whole being easily within the management of a single man. This of course would not be the case with the eighty pounder, though, when it is supplied with its proper carriage, there seems no reason why it should not be manipulated with almost equal facility.

What the full capabilities of the eighty pounder may be—how far it will shoot, and how much it will shoot through—we as yet know only by conjecture. Mr. Whitworth looks forward with the greatest confidence to the impending experiments at Sheerness, and expects to be able to pierce and shatter the stoutest iron plates at six hundred yards distance. The three pounder, which looks more like an elegant telescope than a deadly instrument of destruction, was first fired at three degrees of elevation, and its shot then fell somewhat short of a mile, varying from 1,600 to 1,500 yards, but in no instance deviating more than two yards from the true line of fire. Two shots out of nine actually fell on the line, and five only half a yard on one side. When the three-pounder was raised to twenty degrees elevation, its range was about 6,500 yards; and out of twelve shots so fired, two sets of three fell precisely on two parallel lines, each within six feet of one another. The experiments with the twelve-pounder were equally remarkable. At twenty degrees of elevation, it ranged from 6,318 to 6,389 yards; at five degrees of elevation, it averaged 2,300, and threw all its shot within two and a half yards of the true line of fire.

Perhaps the most beautiful part of the performance was that in which Mr. Whitworth showed how capably his bolts could be made to ricochet. The spectators were ranged on the sandy ridges about a hundred yards from the shore. More than a mile and a half away might

be descried a little group gathered around the guns; presently came a flash, then an interval of a few seconds, then the rumble of the report, and almost at the same time the sand in front was ploughed up and dashed away right and left, and the bolt might be heard rushing high overhead with a sort of wild scream, and presently marking the spot of its final fall by a tiny splash in the far distance. The evening on Wednesday was exquisitely fine, and the air so clear that the whistle of the little three-pounder, which was being fired at long ranges, seemed really to ring all along the horizon; and the long reverberations of each discharge died slowly away as the wearied spectators wandered homewards across the sands, now and then stopping to look upon the strange scene they were leaving behind them, doubtless congratulating themselves on the genius of their countryman and on the military capacities of a nation in which such designs could be conceived and elaborated.

Parliamentary.

HOUSE OF ASSSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, March 28.

MADAWASKA ACADEMY.

On motion of Mr. Tibbits the House went into committee of the whole upon the petition of the Rev. Hugh McGuirk, praying aid towards the Madawaska Academy, Victoria county. The chairman read the petition, which set forth the amount which had been expended on the buildings, the character of those, the condition of the school, number in attendance, &c., and asked for £500 to aid in finishing the buildings, and £300 a year for its support. To the petition were appended strong recommendations from the Grand Jury and the Sessions of the county, and a certificate from W. Dickey.

Mr. Tibbits said that the case of Victoria, with respect to schools, was very peculiar. In the whole county there were not twenty schools, less than there were in some parishes in other counties, and in the parish of Madawaska there was only one school. He would call attention to the peculiar circumstances of those people, the French inhabitants of Victoria. Up to the year 1842 they received not one dollar out of the Province revenue for schools, and up to 1843 not one dollar for roads. In the year 1843 £500 was granted for the road from Little Falls to Grand Falls. They had been subject to the laws of New Brunswick and to all the pains and penalties attending their breach, but did not receive from the Provincial Treasury one dollar [Mr. Tibbits:—You are mistaken about that.] No, he was not mistaken. The report of the Supervisor in 1843, Mr. MacLachlan, stated that of the 37 miles of road from Grand Falls to Little Falls there were only 9 miles torn, piked, and there were 18 miles entirely unimproved. The Government had treated the people of this district as aliens, although they were subject to the laws of the country. The district which they inhabited lay in the valley between the Grand Falls and Fish River, with a dense forest between them and the St. Lawrence, and a dense forest between them and the Tobique. It was seventy years since this settlement was first established; and yet up to 1843, as we had shewn, not one dollar did they receive on their roads. [Atorney General:—O, you are entirely mistaken; they have received thousands.] He was not mistaken, and he knew very much better about the matter than the Attorney General did. He himself had to scramble along the shore of the river for want of a road. The people of this district were comparatively poor. He found some remarks by a writer in the Woodstock Journal, from which he would quote, as they coincided exactly with his own views. This writer says: "It is now more than four years since it was first announced that a French Academy was to be founded in the parish of St. Basil, in Madawaska. The land for this purpose was purchased by the late very Rev. Mr. Langevin, and for it he paid £500 out of his own private income. After the decease of Mr. Langevin, about three years ago, he was succeeded by the Rev. Hugh McGuirk, who immediately took up the matter in earnest, and has since been pushing it towards completion." And again: "During the past year the school has been in

constant operation, and in its success has exceeded even the most sanguine hopes of its persevering and munificent patron. At the same time the construction and finishing of the buildings have been carried on energetically, and at a great expense." "At the last January Sessions of the Court of Common Pleas for Victoria, this petition was laid before the Grand Jury. That Jury, composed of persons from all sections of the county, and acting in their capacity as practical representatives of the people of their respective parishes, approved of the request, and unanimously and earnestly recommended it to the Legislature. It was then read in Court, before a full bench, and the Court, as a body, without dissenting voice, joined with the Grand Jury in referring it to the Government." He (Mr. Tibbits) knew the most of this to be true from personal observation. He had visited and examined the institution, and he was only surprised that so much could have been done. The buildings and land had already cost upwards of £2,000, and when the buildings were finished the whole cost would be upwards of £3,000. The same writer made a calculation as to the comparative amount of school money received by the county of Victoria. He says: "In this Province the law provides for the distribution of £25,000 annually for educational purposes. Supposing the population to be a quarter of a million, an equitable distribution of this sum would give two shillings to each individual. Instead of this, however, while Westmorland county gets at the rate of 2s., King's and Albert at the rate of 2s. 1d., Carleton 2s. 3d., and Queen's 3s. for each member of its population, Victoria only receives 1s. for each person." Then special grants were made to the Sackville Academy, Baptist Seminary, King's College, and to other institutions. Four of the parishes in Victoria were peculiarly French; not one out of thirty of the population,—he believed not one out of a hundred—was English. They might say that the population was purely French. They were brought up in ignorance, and they would remain so, unless assistance was rendered to them. He was not going to ask for a large grant, but he wished to aid the Academy to get on such footing as would support it. Considering that up to 1843 they had received absolutely nothing for their schools, and now drew but a very small sum under the Parish School Law, they were justified in asking a liberal grant for their institution. He was sorry that the Solicitor General was not here, as he wanted to say something to him about this matter. If he (Mr. Tibbits) had been member of the Government, he would not have been satisfied with this grant of £75.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL said that Victoria had not, hitherto, had a fair share of the public money, but the hon. member was wrong about the roads. He remembered very well that in the year of the Aroostook war, after all the appropriations for the year had been made, an additional appropriation of £3,000 was made for the road from Grand Falls to the Canada line. As for bye-road grants, they knew very well that there were no bye-roads there, all the people being settled along the river. In 1837 there was an appropriation to open a road from Grand Falls upwards; and a portion of the Canada road grants was always expended there. He would do anything to assist the people with their roads, but would resist this application, as the academy got too much now. If they had not schools it was their own fault.

Mr. SPEAKER thought that £75 for fifty scholars was a very liberal grant, and much more than similar schools elsewhere got. Mr. Tibbits opposed similar applications from other parts of the Province. They could get money for schools under the Parish School Law, if they thought fit to establish them.

Mr. Cumming opposed the grant on the principle that he was opposed to all these grants for denominational schools, and wanted to see them swept off the estimates. Members had better make up their minds to ask no more and to give no more.

Mr. READ said that if they would strike off all the denominational grants the Roman Catholics would not complain, but as long as they were continued that body had a right to their share of the money.

Mr. Tibbits moved that in the opinion of the committee, an address should be presented to His Excellency praying that a sum of £ might be given for the support of the Madawaska Academy, in addition to the £75 already voted.

Mr. HAMILTON supported the resolution. The French people had not the advantages of education possessed by the British population; and as they had got up quite an excitement about the Academy

scrofula, or King's Evil, constitutional disease, a corruption of the blood, by which this fluid becomes vitiated, and poor. Being in the circulation, it taints the whole body, and may burst out on any part of it. No organ is free from its attacks, nor is there one which it may destroy. The scrofulous taint is variously produced by mercurial disease, low living, diet or unhealthy food, impure air, filthy habits, the depressing vices, and all, by the venereal infection. Whatever its origin, it is hereditary in the constitution, descending "from parents to children, the third and fourth generation;" indeed, it may be the rod of Him who says, "I visit the iniquities of the fathers upon children."

effects commence by deposition from the corrupt or ulceroous matter, which, in lungs, liver, and internal organs, is termed scrofula; in the glands, swellings; and on the face, eruptions or sores. This foul corruption, which genders in the blood, depresses the energies of life, so that scrofulous constitutions not only suffer from scrofulous complaints, but they have far less power to withstand the attacks of other diseases; consequently, vast numbers perish by disorders, although not scrofulous in their nature, rendered fatal by this taint in the blood. Most of the consumption which desolates the human family has its origin directly in scrofulous contamination; and many acute diseases of the liver, kidneys, brain, &c., of all the organs, arise from a quarter of all our people are scrofulous; persons are invaded by this lurking taint, and their health is undermined by it. Hence it from the system we must renovate and purify by an alterative medicine, and inate it by healthy food and exercise. A medicine we supply in

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FOR THE PURPOSES OF A FAMILY PHYSIC.

imposed that disease within the range of human nature can rarely withstand or evade them. They purify the system, cleanse and renovate every portion of the human organism, and restore its disordered action, and restoring its vitality. As a consequence of these virtues, the invalid who is bowed down with debility, and whose physical debility is astonishing, finds his energy restored by a remedy at once so safe and so inviting. They do they cure the every-day complaints of the body, but also many formidable and chronic diseases. The agent below named is furnished gratis by American Almanac, and certificates of their cures and directions for their use in the following complaints: Costive, Headache arising from disordered action, Nausea, Indigestion, Pain in and Morbid of the Bowels, Flatulency, Loss of Appetite, and other kindred complaints. It is a low state of the body or obstruction of the bowels.

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