

IN THE BY-WAYS AND HEDGES.

What the Lounger Hears Other People Talking About and His Views on Things in General.

Wasn't it a rather queer thing for the manager of the Bank of New Brunswick to cause the arrest of R. LeBaron Stevens for forgery and then withdraw the charge a few hours afterwards? Forgery is a very serious crime and Stevens was either guilty as charged or not. If the charge was so easily explained away that the information could be withdrawn after a few hours waiting it will seem to most minds that the charge should never have been made at all. Men are often charged with very serious offences, and not well founded and the prisoner is discharged. At other times the cases are settled out of court, but the case could be settled out of court, but the case warranted a much fuller inquiry than it got.

The Secretary for Agriculture has issued a spring bulletin of the crops of the province. I remember that when Mr. Logrin was appointed secretary for agriculture the government was roundly abused because Mr. Logrin was a lawyer but the critics of the government overlooked another very important qualification he possessed—Mr. Logrin is the best informed man in the province on the rearing of sheep, both agricultural and mechanical. Besides he is a man of ideas and his ideas have already been of advantage to the province in many ways. The reports from different sections of the province as summarized by Mr. Logrin show that there is a general increase in the average in crop and that the progress of farming along the new lines of railway is most satisfactory.

I have it on the best authority that when the purchasers of the Grand Southern take possession of their newly acquired property, which will be sometime next month, they will cause the existing road to be put in thorough repair. So far there is nothing absolutely decided regarding the future, but it is most likely that the Shore Line from Calais to Bangor will be completed at an early date, and then more than likely the new company will turn their attention to the building of a short line through Maine to Bangor utilizing the existing road to Princeton.

It has long been a matter of surprise to me that the enterprising management of the New Brunswick and Maine Central railways does not cause a flag train like the Flying Yankee to be put on the route between Boston and St. John. A few silly people in St. John would object to such a train, because they imagine it would injure the trade of the city in some way. Our people are great objectors. A few hackmen and truckmen backed by one or two hotel keepers, objected to the building of the Canfliver bridge, on the ground that it would deprive them of a means of living. The Carpenters' Protective Union petitioned the Common Council not to let the work of cleaning the streets out by contract, because it would deprive them of the privilege of working out their taxes on the roads. I hear it whispered on the streets that a coal firm, who recently put a hoisting apparatus in their shed dispensing with the use of carts to haul the coal from the ship to the shed, are practically boycotted by the cartmen.

The bridge was completed notwithstanding the protest, and the result has been generally beneficial to the people of St. John and the Province. It is admitted by all unprejudiced persons that the best and most economical way to have the streets cleaned is by contract. And so far as the merchants who have adopted modern appliances are concerned, the cartmen will find that they can no more resist such innovations successfully, than could the cloth weavers of old resist the introduction of the spinning jenny and the power loom. The present is an age of progress and the man or woman who stands in its way and refuses to utilize modern labor saving inventions, or to adopt modern methods of doing business, is a fool.

To return to the fast train, I firmly believe that if a fast through train were run between Boston and Halifax, it would be of decided advantage to St. John. Just here I would like to say a word about the manner in which passenger trains are run between St. John and Halifax. It is an outrage on the travelling public to compel them to sit in a car for twelve hours journeying to Halifax. The distance should be made in eight hours at the most, and this time would allow for stops at all important points.

Speaking of train service there is a crying need for better passenger accommodation between St. John and Moncton than at present. There should be at least two additional trains, one each way, daily. Moncton is a young town, and its business with St. John is constantly on the increase. Besides a local train running from St. John to Moncton, would greatly benefit the other stations along

the road. The sooner the railway authorities make up their minds to accommodate the public, the better opinion the public will have of their capabilities to direct the affairs of a great railroad like the Intercolonial.

St. George's Society, after two years of waiting, have secured a room for their meetings and for social intercourse. The room was opened with a smoking concert on Tuesday evening. It is in Foster's building, corner King and Germain streets, with an entrance from Germain street. The room is amply large for the purposes of the society, and centrally situated. It is comfortably furnished and will be open every evening to members of the society. Files of the leading English and other papers will be kept, and provision will be made for various games. Already, numerous donations have been made, and there is every indication that the room will be liberally patronized by the members and great good will result to the membership of the society.

In this connection it is only fair to remark that the Irish Literary and Benevolent Society are very comfortably housed in Hamilton's Building, on the corner of Union and Coburg streets. Their rooms are thoroughly fitted up and every evening dozens of members of the society resort there to amuse themselves or spend a pleasant evening among their fellow countrymen. Such club rooms as those of the L. L. B. and St. George's Society, spirit and, while perhaps it would be better to have a Canadian society in St. John, I feel sure that the sons of Ireland, England and Scotland, while they reverse the land of their activity, will not forget the home of their adoption. Still, I would like to see our leading men of all nationalities banded into a society whose object would be the development of a broader national spirit than we now have in Canada.

St. Andrew's Society, which is the oldest of the National societies in St. John, has not yet secured a permanent home for itself. Now, that the English and Irish societies have taken the lead in St. John, I think it is nothing but right that the sons of Auld Scotia should have some place where they could meet and exchange ideas. Scotchmen are not usually left behind in the race for fame and wealth, and the society they recognize the importance of the cultivation of the social side of life among themselves the better. The Scotch are not an unsocial race, for while at times there are difficulties in the way of making a joke among the party of Scots, still the average Scotchman enjoys a joke as keenly as anyone, and sees it as quickly. Old St. Andrew will have to wake up, or St. George or St. Patrick will get the lead.

The Common Council have not yet come to a conclusion respecting the extension of railway facilities to the various wharves of the city. There does not seem to be any reasonable excuse for the delay of this important matter. This being so, the committee should report their views as early a date as possible. Much more unimportant matters have been decided since the question was laid before the council by the Trade Promoting Company, and now that the citizens are expecting the council to act, there should be no further delay. If there are reasonable grounds why the privilege should not be extended, then the sooner the public is acquainted with them the better.

The petition asking for an increase of the Free Public Library assessment from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year, was on Wednesday laid over to a subsequent meeting of the council. No harm can come of this course as it is now too late to order the assessment this year. But all the same the request should not be pigeon-holed, or forgotten. It is at least worthy of the careful consideration of the board.

I am pleased to notice that a St. John boy—George W. Jones has been elected to captain the Canadian cricketers at the forthcoming International match with the United States club. The Canadians have always given a good account of themselves in former matches with the United States, and now that our National team shall look forward to even better results than formerly. The St. John Cricket and Athletic club ought to be proud of the distinction falling to one of their members. Mr. Jones left for Toronto on Wednesday last.

The St. John base-ballists go to Halifax next week. We all hope that they will have better success in the east than in the west or at home. It has been a disastrous season so far for the St. John boys, but it is an old saying that a bad beginning makes a good ending, and there is no reason in the world why the St. John boys should not defeat the Halifax club. The boys are taking all the practice it is possible for them to get, and will play in every time.

It is a noteworthy fact that since an article out from the Portland, (Me.) press got into the editorial columns of the Telegraph, the management of that enterprising sheet has dropped the non-de-plume of Postulata which has been appearing under the around town articles for over a year, after the person to whom the non-de-plume belonged had left the paper. Honestly and square dealing have not been characteristics of the Telegraph managers for two or three years. Have they discovered that after all honesty is the best policy and that the man who deliberately steals the property of another is not appreciated by decent folk?

There are a great many people in St. John who would like to see the lawn mower on the public squares. The work of the lawn mower on the squares improves them as much as a barber does the face of the man who has been in the woods for a week fishing.

The St. John Street Railway company are deserving of the thanks of the community for putting on a regular line of buses between Portland and Fairville. There is a constantly growing travel between the two places, and the fact that the buses will be run at regular intervals will tend to further develop travel. Fairville is a pleasant suburb and its population must increase. In time it is destined to be the home of thousands of working men. Land is cheap and as the place grows the street railway will be extended out to the village. This will give people a rapid and cheap means of reaching home at night and of getting to work in the morning. The building of the railway through the city is progressing satisfactorily.

The doors of the Fredericton jail opened on Wednesday and Mr. John V. Hawke, the imprisoned editor of the Moncton Transcript, stepped out and on board the Union Line steamer for St. John. Mr. Hawke enjoyed his sail down river. In the evening, after the band on the square had ceased to play, he serenaded a group of his friends who were gathered there. Mr. Hawke in reply he made a short address in which he severely criticized the law which allows a man's accusers to be his judges. Mr. Hawke said a good deal more about his case and himself which was not of much importance, but his remarks on the right of an editor to be tried by jury for an offence against the alleged dignity of a court has the right ring about it. It is an outrage on justice to permit the present law relating to contempt of court to remain on the statute books. Experience has shown that courts think a good deal more about their dignity than they do about justice. Dozens of cases argued two and three years ago are still pending yet, the court could allow them to stand in order that Mr. Hawke could be tried for contempt. In any event the judges might have allowed the contempt case to lay over until they had caught up a little on old business.

The prize list of the Eastern Maine State Fair, which is to be held at Bangor from August 29th to 31st inclusive, has been received. This fair is the greatest attraction of the season at Bangor. In addition to the exhibition, there will be horse races, base ball by the New England League clubs, a cat show, a baby show, foot races and numerous other events, all of which will tend to make the fair this year the most interesting yet held.

The Exhibition committee of the Board of Trade has not yet been called together, but it is presumable that a meeting will be held at an early day. It is too late to make arrangements for the holding of an exhibition this year, but there is a great amount of work yet to be done in preparation for an exhibition next fall. It is to be hoped that the committee will recommend the appointment by the Provincial Government, the Common Council and the Board of Trade to hold annual exhibitions in this city. There is not the slightest doubt that an annual exhibition would pay and be of great good to the community at large.

For the past few months two or three very disagreeable houses have been kept on City Road, some on the Portland side and one in St. John. A row occurred in one of these houses the other day, and the Chief of Police has informed the inmates that they must move out. It is next to impossible to secure sufficient evidence to convict the keepers of these houses, owing to the difficulty of getting persons to testify regarding them. Respectable citizens know nothing about them, save by reputation, and the frequenters are usually of the class who care very little whether they testify to what is true or false. There are two opinions about the desirability of having houses of ill-fame spread over different parts of the city. The question is a difficult one to deal with, but it is clearly the duty of the police to prevent such houses being opened in sections of the city occupied by decent people. I understand that the chief of police is now making an effort to have houses of ill-fame in the city closed up, this effort for the present being directed chiefly against those on the City Road, and other public places.

Two fashionable weddings occurred in this city on Wednesday, that of Mr. John Connor of the St. John Cordage Works, to Miss Carleton, and of Mr. Cotton, manager of the Bank of Montreal, at Halifax, to Miss Annie C. Elder, daughter of the late Hon. William Elder. The first mentioned took place at the Cathedral, and was witnessed by a large number of the friends of the contracting parties. The latter mentioned was quietly conducted at the residence of the bride's mother. Large parties of friends attended at the Intercolonial railway to bid adieu to the departing couples, and to extend to them the usual congratulations.

The heated term in the United States is driving the people out of the great cities. No one would live in New York, Philadelphia or Boston during July and August if they were not compelled to. Already there have been two or three very hot days—especially last Saturday. Hundreds of cases of death and prostration from the heat are reported—particularly among young children. Two-thirds of the children born in New York since the 1st of April will die before the end of August. The normal death rate of that city for the seventeen weeks of hot weather exceeds the birth rate by nearly 20 per cent. It is therefore but little wonder that men of wealth send their families to the sea shore or some quiet place in the mountains before the heat becomes intense. The International Steamer Cumberland which arrived on Thursday was crowded with passengers—mostly women and children, and from now until the heat of summer is over every steamer of this line will be packed with persons in search of cool health giving weather. We are blessed in St. John with the most delightful summer climate in the world. And if the virtues of St. John as a summer resort were half advertised people would flock here by thousands to live during the summer months.

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I learn on the good authority that an effort will soon be made to organize a company to construct the bridge between Carleton and St. John, or more properly speaking between Popple and St. John. It will be constructed so that all vessels that can now pass under the suspension and cantilever bridges can go under it. The work will not be difficult. There is ample length to get an easy grade on the Carleton side and none is needed on the Portland shore owing to the rapidly rising ground. Navy Island furnishes a good foundation for one pier and the river bank on the Straight shore quite as good on the other. There is no question that the bridge would be a great convenience, and it is better that it should be built by a private corporation than by the city.

The Amateur Musical performances at the Mechanics' Institute on Wednesday and Thursday evenings were well attended and a great success. The performers were all well known men about town, and the entertainment was in every way creditable to them. The local "gags" were all in good taste and some of them very clever. It is to be hoped that the organization will not disband before giving at least two more nights of minstrelsy.

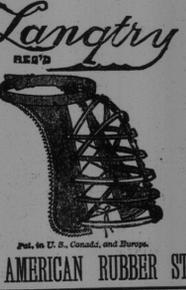
Lallah Rook is to put on the Institute boards on Tuesday evening next. The success with which the last production of the tableaux met angurs another grand success. As before the proceeds will go towards the liquidation of the debt against the Institute.

The tenor street musician is again on deck in all his effulgent glory. St. John being the first place of call between the United States and the Maritime Provinces enjoys the distinction of having more hurdy-gurdys than any other city in Canada. Besides the season opens earlier and lasts longer than in most other places.

The Lounser.
A Ready Resource.
The ravages of Cholera Infantum, Cholera Morbus, Diarrhoea, Dysentery and other summer complaints among children during the hot weather, might be almost totally prevented by having recourse to nature's sovereign remedy for bowel complaints, Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry.

Much depends in reading on paying a due observance to punctuation, without which the sense is often war perverted or ridiculous. A curate had the following request to read before the Litany: "As a gentleman going to sea, his wife wishes for the prayers of the congregation; instead of which the curate read it, a gentleman going to see his wife, wishes for the prayers of the congregation."

After Long Years.
"I was troubled with Liver Complaint for a number of years, finding no cure, I tried B. H. I. took four bottles and am now perfectly cured, strong and hearty." Mrs. Maria Ascott, Alma, Ont.
At last England is about to be waked from her barbarism in regard to the science of shaving. A New Yorker is about to establish a barbers-shop in London on the luxurious principles of America!



Langtry
READ
The heated term in the United States is driving the people out of the great cities. No one would live in New York, Philadelphia or Boston during July and August if they were not compelled to. Already there have been two or three very hot days—especially last Saturday. Hundreds of cases of death and prostration from the heat are reported—particularly among young children. Two-thirds of the children born in New York since the 1st of April will die before the end of August. The normal death rate of that city for the seventeen weeks of hot weather exceeds the birth rate by nearly 20 per cent. It is therefore but little wonder that men of wealth send their families to the sea shore or some quiet place in the mountains before the heat becomes intense. The International Steamer Cumberland which arrived on Thursday was crowded with passengers—mostly women and children, and from now until the heat of summer is over every steamer of this line will be packed with persons in search of cool health giving weather. We are blessed in St. John with the most delightful summer climate in the world. And if the virtues of St. John as a summer resort were half advertised people would flock here by thousands to live during the summer months.

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