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**WEEKLY STAR.**  
The advertising rates in the WEEKLY STAR are the same as those of the Tri-Weekly.

Special arrangements, may be made with the Editor or Publisher, at the office of the Star's Building, (op stairs,) Corner Queen and Regent Streets.

Subscribers who do not receive their papers promptly and regularly will please send in word the office.

**THE TRI-WEEKLY STAR.**  
Is published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings from the Office, corner of Queen and Regent Streets.

Terms: \$2.50 per annum, payable in advance. Address "Star," Fredericton.

**The Evening Star.**

J. E. COLLINS, Editor.  
FREDERICTON, FEBRUARY 5, 1880.

Suppose some of those people who have been reading the STAR for nearly two years without paying for it were to bring us a load of wood!

There is nothing so important in a public man, especially if he be the leader of a party, as backbone.

**ST. JOHN TO BE THE CAPITAL OF NEW BRUNSWICK.**

ABOUT a year from now St. John will be the capital, and Fredericton will be blotted out. It will be another Palmyra standing in all its native beauty and loveliness; but no Zenobia will grace its halls, or add a charm to its associations.

Forty years from now the Fredericton in which we live to-day will be a sad and lonely place indeed. It will be a grand old ruin. This true that nature will smile as kindly on it as in the days of yore; that no one can rob it of its green hills and clear blue skies. The St. John will roll on as majestically as ever before the doors, and St. John cannot coax it from between its smiling banks.

Forty years from now, this little city which to-day is full of life and activity will be silent as if it were of the dead. Our business men shall have gone away to other parts, to toil, and to wring from nature that living she owes them. The tourist will visit the city of a balmy summer's day, or when autumn decks out the forest in gold. He will wander through the streets then grass grown, and the echoing of his footsteps will be heard from one end of the ruined city to the other. Dwellings will have faded and fallen, the gardens will have run to weeds, the "old caken bucket" will hang over the well half choked and covered with usurping vines. A few tame pigeons will haunt the moss covered roofs, and rooks will inhabit the chimneys. The tourist will go back and he will tell of the picturesque old city. He will say, "It is the loveliest spot I have ever seen. I camped out in the street, and shot partridge "where once the garden smiled." Through the streets wild animals ran, and "O'er heaps of ruins stalked the stately hind."

Picknicking parties in summer months will visit the old city and camp out on the squares. If a shower come on they can go into the old City Hall, now half in ruins, and there the old ones can tell the young folk that here was once a place where repudiators assembled, but that the voices which tried to stir the people are still. There will be no McPhersons to cry out repudiate, and no echo to answer yes. There will be no Gunter to pour forth his pointless invectives, and no rabble to cry, "good for Johnny Beadle." The wind will whistle through the time worn abutments in the hall, the bat will occupy the chair where His Worship sits. Wild birds will build their nests in the beautiful lawn where Dr. Rand had planted the thorn bush and the mountain ash, and the rat and the mouse shall hold forth in those places in the Normal School now occupied by Messrs Crockett and O'Lea. The sound of the church going bell will no longer roll along the river bosom and scare the echoes in the hills; the tongue of the Cathedral bell will grow rusty, like a woman, through lack of use. Yet when the wind blows hard through tower or belfry, the rickety bell may sound, but rust will have choked the sweetness of its notes. The Indians will then put on their war paint, and assert their pre-historic rights.

St. John we suppose, is about the biggest feeling city anywhere to the South of the 40th parallel. We know of no one yet that has ever been able thoroughly to estimate the extent of St. John. We suppose the safest way to come at its superficial contents would be to say that "it comprises a very large proportion of all the wealth, population, intelligence—and cheek to be found between the terrestrial poles. It has always been a matter of surprise to us that St. John was not selected instead

of Ottawa as the seat of the Central Government—inasmuch as St. John is right in the centre of the Dominion. Never till now, at any rate, could we have believed, that such a city would be satisfied with being the seat of the Local Legislature. The endowment is not important enough at all for St. John.

But since it has made up its mind to be content with being the seat of the Provincial Government after this session, it might not be amiss for us to forecast what it will likely do. It will first and foremost, at the expense of the city, (for St. John is so generous that a Provincial Exhibition, or anything of that kind can be got up in an hour) two plots of ground, each costing about \$25,000 will be purchased. Upon one of these plots they will likely erect the Government House, which will be a noble monument to the liberality and the enterprise of St. John, costing about \$100,000. Upon the other plot they will erect the Supreme Court and Departmental offices, and the Government no doubt, edified by the generosity of the people will put up such a parliament building as will put to shame anything of the kind in any Province of the Dominion. It would not do, of course, to transfer the parliament buildings now inhabited by His Honor, Governor Wilnot, here in Fredericton, to St. John, because it might get damaged in the transit; besides the building, even though brought there without a stone being blistered, would not be in keeping with the magnificent scheme St. John has proposed. The Normal School is unfortunately another stumbling block, but then St. John could soon obviate that by putting up a larger and a more beautiful structure out near Reed's Castle somewhere. The City Council of St. John would pass a unanimous vote for this purpose. Why, look at how heartily they voted for the Exhibition!

Then we could turn the Government grounds and the Government House into a model farm, for a few years or so, till St. John would get taken with the notion that "it would not be a bad idea to have that model farm in St. John," when the whole thing, or the "hull thing" as a member of the Executive Government says, could be removed to St. John, and if that couldn't be done, why the City Council of that City would grant a quarter of a million or so towards establishing such a model farm there as would be a mirror of the enterprise of St. John.

Suppose St. John does not propose a very expensive parliament buildings, how would MacEvoy's do? They might patch up the Bell Tower so as to make it serve as winter quarters for the Governor. They could erect a country seat for him on the Kennebecasis in such a position that during the boat racing season, he could look out of his window and see how the rowdies murder each other.

We may say we are glad to learn that several towns and villages in the Province have kindly offered land free for the Parliament Buildings. St. Andrews offered "a most romantic spot, as a gift," and we have no reason to doubt but Pokiook would also come generously to the front.

**A SERIOUS VIEW OF THE MATTER.**

Since the St. John daily press has thrown open its columns to all the excitable people of Saint John, we shall endeavor to show how hollow is the argument and reasons advanced for changing the location of the governmental buildings.

It is claimed that St. John should be chosen, because her population is larger, her wealth greater, and her laws more numerous than those of Fredericton. These with all due respect, to the learned fraternity of Saint John, are no reasons at all, on the contrary, they form the very reason why Fredericton should be the Capital. We shall not argue at length that wherever the largest portion of a people is, and wherever the largest source of wealth is to be found, there is always reason to apprehend centralization. For this reason, time and again in the history of the Old as well as of the New World, seats of government have been removed to quiet localities where the Legislature is not subject to the importunities of the masses. We have good reason shown for this course in the number of delegations here from St. John every session: were the parliamentary buildings in St. John, unless members presented a very bold front, they would be entirely subject to the control of the lobbyists. Then again the change is made for sanitary reasons. The free air of small places is considered more inviting than the smoke and dust atmosphere of a large city. Saint John, in this respect, would be a lovely place, shut in almost from the winds of heaven by a canopy of fog which scarce condenses once a week to allow the sun to be seen through it.

If our readers have any doubts about what we say as to the great reason for establishing seats of government "far from the maddening crowds ignoble strife," we point them to the following facts:—

Augusta, the Capital of Maine has only 9,000 inhabitants; but Portland with its 28,000 never pretends, like St. John that for such reasons Augusta oughtn't to be the capital.

The Capital of New Hampshire is Concord. It has but 13,000 souls, while Manchester, another town in New Hampshire has over 20,000. Yet no one says Concord should not be the Capital.

Montpelier, the Capital of Vermont, has only 8,000 people; while Burlington

in the same State has 15,000, and there never has been any talk of change.

Albany, the Capital of New York, has 62,000 inhabitants, but New York city, in the same State, has nearly a million. Yet the New York lawyers never say their city should be the capital. Brooklyn has 300,000 souls, and Buffalo has 81,000, and yet the lawyers of neither say their city should be the capital; while the same reasons for making it so could be given there with as much force as in St. John.

The capital of Pennsylvania is Harrisburg, with its 24,000; not the city of Philadelphia with 600,000 people; nor Pittsburg with its 50,000. How much ahead of the Philadelphia lawyers must not the St. John lawyers be!

Trenton with its 26,000 is the capital of New Jersey, not Newark with its 72,000. Where is St. John's argument? Delaware's Capital, Dover, is smaller than ours. It has only 4,000, while in the same State is Wilmington a city of 21,000 people. And yet the St. John lawyers will prate!

The capital of Maryland is Annapolis, with its 7,400 souls, not Baltimore with its 212,000. Dear sakes, how far ahead of these St. John lawyers!

Washington, the Union Capital, has only 61,000 inhabitants, but on the theory of the St. John lawyers, New York should be the Capital.

We shall look nearer home. Ottawa is the Capital of the Dominion, is 87 miles up the Ottawa, a river almost incomparably inferior to the St. John. It has a population of only 22,000. On the St. John theory, Montreal should be the Capital.

Quebec is the Capital of the Province of that name, and has a population of 60,000; but Montreal, a city of the same Province, with 170,000, does not pretend to say the seat of Government ought to be removed. St. John of course is ahead of all these places; and the St. John lawyers are wiser in their generation than the children of light.

Here our readers will see we have demolished the "utilitarian," or in other words, "the greatest good for the greatest number" argument.

There is yet one more delusion which the St. John lawyers put forward as an argument and it is, that St. John is the centre of a populous district: in other words that it is more central than Fredericton. Now the location of the interests of the Province ought surely to be better expressed by our legislative representation, than by the half-cracked arguments of the St. John press. Then let us dissect this point. The 46th parallel, we may say, intersects Fredericton. To the north of it we have Restigouche with 2 members, Madawaska and Victoria with 1 each, Gloucester with 2, Northumberland with 4, Kent with 2, Carleton with 2, half of York to which we assign 2, half of Sunbury 1, half of Queens 1, and the greater part of Westmorland to which we assign 3, giving a total of 22, and leaving to the south of this line but 20 members. We think it would be impossible to find a spot more central than Fredericton is. It is the hub of the Province. St. John must not forget that it is not all the Province, and though it kicks up such a hubbub, yet it is not the hub. If St. John, Portland, and its suburbs have nearly 50,000 people, the Province of New Brunswick contains nearly 800,000. The folks up here are white as well as the St. John people, and we thank the maker of the Province for establishing this beautiful little city of ours in the most romantic part of the country, and in the very centre of it. All the logic and mathematical skill of the St. John lawyers or the St. John Sun can't prove that the centre is located anywhere on the circumference, and we can assure the Sun, and the St. John lawyers that when they have parliament buildings in St. John, Sir Charles Tupper will have built a railway to the moon; and Proctor will have captured all the roaming stars and chained them as lights for the great cities of the world.

The Legislature of this province, not the St. John lawyers, will deal with and settle this question. Should it ever come up in the House we venture to predict three will be found to say "Fredericton," where one will be found to say "St. John." The members of this province carry cool heads, and they are not going to be moved by the childish excitement of a pack of briefless barristers and half crazy newspaper men. Fredericton is the capital of this province, and it will be the capital of it while ever there remains in the province a vestige of responsible government.

We may say the Executive as a body favors Fredericton, and the leader of the Government told a STAR reporter to-day that there was nothing more probable than the St. John scheme.

We must tear down the Government House, the Normal School, and the departmental buildings to give St. John a chance. Certainly we must!

**A STRAW ON THE RAIL.**

It is unfortunate that Mr. Crawford who favors the St. John scheme, happens to be a member of the Government just now. However, he may not be of much weight; at least he can't be a very great gun if the converse of the old saying be true: mens sana in corpore sano. With the exception of Mr. Crawford, we do not know of any other member of the Government who will support the mad scheme.

**SIGNIFICANT.**

We are not surprised to find that the great bulk of the lawyers who are clamorous for removing the Parliament Buildings to St. John on the ground that it costs so much to take their causes here, are briefless barristers—who have never had a case in Fredericton in their lives, and are never likely to.

**THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.**

A DIABOLICAL ACT BY OSTENSIBLE FRIENDS.  
TREACHERY AND TREASON.

To the Editor of the STAR.

Mr. Editor.—Can you inform me if it is true that York County is indebted to Messrs. A. G. Blair and A. E. Killam for the present agitation in favor of a removal of the seat of Government to Saint John? That Mr. Blair first joined the movement only to embarrass the Executive, and that now he is appalled when he finds the spirit that he has raised "will not down at his bidding?" And is it not true that Mr. Blair's new "Board of Works"—A. E. K.—is really working for the seat of Government's removal to Moncton preparatory to a Maritime Union, and that A. G. B. didn't see it—and that this accounts for the telegram from the would be M. L. C. of Moncton to his protegee, and for the announcement in the Club Rooms at Ottawa by that wonderful genius, Domville, Killam's partner in—well, in what? that the Oliver Jones-Killam-Willis party intend to make this a "test question," and that the old time advocate of Removal, Sir Albert, will back them up? Please answer.

QUEEN STREET.  
[We regret to announce that the above painful intelligence had just reached our ear before the correspondence came to hand. Mr. Blair, we were told, had looked upon every side but looked in vain to find a vulnerable spot in the Government armor. He then conceived that it would be a grand device to spring the question of changing parliament buildings from here to St. John, upon the public, in hopes that the question would divide the Government supporters, and perhaps the Executive. But as our correspondent has well put it, he has raised a spirit that now will not lie away at his bidding. The spectre stalks over the province, and while we do not think it points much mischief to Fredericton, we cannot help believing that it points destruction to Mr. Blair. This much we say with the deepest regrets, because we had been disposed to give Mr. Blair the very fairest trial this winter; but if in his thirst for power, he has raised this feeling against the interests of the city whose bread he eats and whose roof covers him, he is unworthy the name of a man. We shall be pleased to learn, and happier still to announce, that we have been misinformed on this point.]

But for Mr. Killam. He has left the Government ranks, so rumour says, and now is agitating Maritime Union in Ottawa and favoring Moncton as the seat of Government. We have private despatches in our possession from men who cannot be mistaken and who would not hazard a telegram on mere rumour, and we publish other despatches again which show the treachery of which Mr. Killam is capable for the sake of furthering his own ends. We fear that the addition of Mr. Killam to the Opposition will be a source of weakness instead of strength to that body, and that when the House comes thoroughly to understand what he has been doing, Ishmael like every finger will be pointed against him. He has been pointed first against the Opposition, secondly against the Government, and lastly against the whole Province. So far as Domville is concerned he will be ready on any occasion to take a hand in anything treasonable, from a Gunpowder Plot down. We are not surprised he is acting in concert with Mr. Killam.—Ed. STAR.]

**Mount Etna.**

The recent eruption of Mount Etna, the most violent that has taken place since 1832, has once more drawn attention to this mountain, which, notwithstanding its height, (10,874 ft.), and the matchless extent and beauty of the view from its summit, which embraces a circular prospect of 40,000 square miles, attracts but few visitors, even in these days of universal tours, while its colleague, Vesuvius, counts its tens of thousands of admirers every year.

Mount Etna is the largest of the three European volcanoes, and its ascent, which is made from Catania, affords many points of extreme interest. Thus three distinct zones are traversed before the summit is reached. First the cultivated region, next a stretch of luxuriant woods, and finally a dreary desert of snow, black lava, scoriae, and ashes, whence springs the crater-bearing cone.

The base of the mountain is almost ninety miles in circumference, and is highly productive, yielding abundance of corn, olives, grapes, and aromatic herbs. The present eruption began on May 25, when loud bellows were heard by the residents on the northern slope, and a great cloud of smoke was observed issuing from the side of the mountain. This cloud increased, a rain of fine black ash came on, and fell for miles around, and during the night of the 27th, Mr. G. Farrar Rodwell tells us in an interesting article in Nature, high fires could be seen looming through the black clouds. Next day a great stream of lava was seen from Taormina descending the mountain toward Randazzo, while from the new craters "great balls of fire were thrown high in the air, and burst into showers of fire, accompanied by thundering explosions; these last facts being related by an American writing on May 29th. From that time until June 6th the eruption seems to have continued unabated,

but the violence then began to diminish although the calming down of the eruption was followed by severe earthquakes, one of which a short time since destroyed five villages. Accounts differ as to the damage which has been done, as well as regards the distance to which the lava has extended, one account fixing the flow of the principal lava stream at from six to seven miles.

**TO LET.**

THE Brick Dwelling House on Queen Street, Fredericton. Also, the Shop in same Building, both at present occupied by Mr. B. Evans. Apply to Mr. Evans, or to BERTON BROS., St. John. Feb 3—3ms

**TO LET.**

A Small Cottage in St. John Street, next to Mr. Patrick Sweeney's Store. Possessor can be given immediately. For particulars apply to Mr. Sweeney, or to the subscriber. JOHN NEILL. Feb 4—4f

**TO LET.**

THE SHOP formerly occupied by Mr. Thomas Morris, in the building known as the "Albion Hotel." For further particulars enquire of T. M. SPAHNN, Queen Street, Fredericton. Jan 15—8ms.

**TO LET.**

THREE Houses in Gibson, and possession given on the first of May next. For particulars apply to the subscriber. JOHN NEILL. Gibson, Feb. 5.—4f.

**TO LET.**

THE Large Store in the subscriber's building on Queen Street. Rent to suit the times. JOHN REEHARDS. Jan. 27.—3 wks

**TO LET.**

THE SHOP at present occupied by Mr. Daniel Lucy, in the subscribers building, Queen Street. Possession given 1st of May. Apply to Mrs. E. W. MILLER. F'ron, Jan. 27, 1880.—4f.

**TO BE RENTED.**

THAT splendid Store with plate glass front in the subscribers new building, situate between the store occupied by Mr. Thomas Lucy as a Boot and Shoe Store and Mr. S. F. State's Jewellery Store, and well adapted for Dry Goods, Clothing, or a Fancy Stock. Possession given immediately if required. Also, the Shop now occupied by Mr. Daniel Lucy, as a Boot and Shoe store. Also, the Shop at present occupied by Mr. John Owens as a Grocery Store and the dwelling over the same. Possession given 1st of May. OWEN SHARKEY. Jan. 22, 1880.—Rep 4f.

**TO LET**

And Possession given 1st of May. A HOUSE on St. John Street, at present occupied by G. H. Sewell. It contains 6 rooms, together with a Pantry, Kitchen, Wood Shed and a front proof cellar and a good well of water and plenty of yard room. It is in good repair. For particulars enquire of P. FITZPATRICK. F'ron, Jan. 31, 1880.—4f

**TO LET.**

A HOUSE with Barn and garden attached, on Westmorland Street. Possession given immediately. —ALSO— A house on King Street, with garden attached. Possession given immediately. —ALSO— The upper flat in the subscribers house. Possession given 1st of May. Apply to W. H. QUINN. Fredericton, Feb. 3, 1880.—4f.

**TO LET.**

Possession Given on 1st May THE Subscriber will let for one or more years, the commodious and thoroughly-finished residence over the store of Z. R. Everett, Esq., at present occupied by H. A. Cropley, Esq. Rent low to a good tenant. For further particulars apply to J. McCARTHY, Regent Street. Fredericton, Jan. 27, 1880.—4m

**TO LET.**

THE SHOP at present occupied by ANDREW ANDERSON, Esq., opposite the New Post Office. Apply to P. McPEAKE. F'ron, Jan. 27.—Far 4m

**TO LET.**

THE Store and Dwelling House on King Street, and lately occupied by the late John D. Bainford. The stand is a good one for carrying on a Town and County trade. The accommodation in connexion with the property is as follows:—A large Store fronting on King Street. Also, a small Store adjoining, suitable for Mechanic Shop or any small business. There is also a large Back Store and Woodshed and Barn attached. JOHN MACKAY. Feb. 3.—2mos. Far Rep 5ms.

**TO LET.**

POSSESSION GIVEN IMMEDIATELY. THE subscriber will let for a year or term of years, a nicely finished and situated Store 22x55 feet, at Gibson, formerly occupied as a grocery stand by W. R. Logan. The lessee will have a fine first proof cellar of the same size as the store. Enquire of P. A. LOGAN. Gibson, Feb. 12—4f

**NEW DOMINION HOTEL.**

J. H. McCOY, Proprietor. Meals 15 cents. No charge will be made to parties who go away dissatisfied. St. Mary's, Oct. 24, 1879. 3fms.

**CLOSING BUSINESS!**

The subscriber intends closing his Business in this City on the

**First Day of May next.**

Goods will be sold at prices that will insure a

**COMPLETE CLEARANCE**

of the whole stock by that date. Gentlemen who may require

**CUSTOM CLOTHING**

Made in the best manner have an opportunity

**TO PROCURE THE SAME AT LOW PRICES.**

All who are owing the subscriber are requested to call and pay, and all who hold accounts against me will please present the same for payment.

**P. McPEAKE.**

P. S.—Shop Furniture including Plate Glass Mirrors, Reflecting Mirrors and a very large Fire Proof safe will be sold at a Bargain. P. McP.

Fredericton, February 17, 1879.

**JANUARY 15, 1880.**

FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS

**A. A. MILLER & CO.**

Will Offer their whole Stock of

**DRY GOODS AT BANKRUPT PRICES,**

—FOR CASH ONLY.—

Great Bargains may be Expected.

Fredericton, January 15, 1880.

**JANUARY 20th, 1880.**

**F. B. EDGECOMBE**

Will commence his Annual cleared Sale of

**WINTER DRY GOODS, FROM DATE.**

The Whole Stock will be offered at Greatly Reduced Prices, in order to make room for spring Importations.

**GENUINE BARGAINS CHEAP FOR CASH.**

ALBION HOUSE, QUEEN STREET, FREDERICTON.

January 20, 1880.

**New Christmas Goods.**

We have just received our new Holiday Goods. Everything Clean and Fresh. Personally selected within the last few days, and have now just opened:

**26 CASES Choice Books and Fancy Goods, TOYS OF ALL KINDS.**

In Wood, Tin and Rubber: All so some nice

**Nickel-Plated Ware, Photograph and Autograph Albums, Work Boxes, Writing Lesks,**

And a Fine Assortment of WAX DOLLS, which we have marked at prices never offered before in this city. Call and see them.

**Miscellaneous Books, Poems, Church and Catholic Prayer Books Wesley's Hymns, &c. Our stock of Stationery is now complete.**

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARDS IN ENDLESS VARIETY. 126 Pieces New Music just received.

**M'MURRAY & FENETY.**

P. S.—Our stock of School Books will be sold, in future as in the past, at the lowest prices. M.C.M. & F. Fredericton, December 9, 1879.