

While viewing the wreck of a freight train on the Chicago and north-western railroad near Palestine, six persons were killed by the bursting of a large water tank, and two fatally hurt, while a number of others were severely injured. It is supposed that the collision of the freight trains in the immediate vicinity in the morning had jared the immense tank containing 8,000 gallons of water and loosened or cracked the hoops, which gave way while a large crowd of country people were standing immediately under the structure. Two boys and four men were killed outright.

Irish woollens, like Irish linen fabrics, have an excellent reputation. Messrs. Parnell, Davitt and others, are about erecting a \$500,000 woollen mill in Ireland, so as to afford home work for the people. This is not shoddy patriotism.

After thirty-four years of active work as Professor of Natural History in the Royal Institution, Professor Tyndall has resigned, and the lectureship has been given to Lord Raleigh. A bust of Tyndall will be placed in the Institute by the side of Sir Michael Faraday.


The French living in Alsace and Lorraine have rather a hard time of it now-a-days. German is henceforth to be the official language, all public placards are to be printed in it, and it is to be taught in the schools. This is done in order to Germanize the French in these conquered provinces.

There is trouble in the camp of Abdullah, (El Mahdi's successor), and it is stated that several envoys have been sent by the Mahdi to the Khedive of Egypt, the Sultan of Turkey and Queen Victoria. Several Arab tribes are in revolt against Abdullah—these have selected one of their sheiks as Sultan, with a residence at Kassala. By this schism the prophet loses 8,000 of his best fighting men.

In no part of the British Empire are the people more loyal than are those of Cape Colony. The jubilee festivals are to be on a grand scale, but the colonists intend to give the Queen practical proof of their devotion. A magnificent robe and train composed entirely of ostrich feathers—the gift of the ostrich-farmers, is to be ornamented with diamonds, presented by the diamond diggers. Her Majesty will doubtless appreciate this unique costume, but whether she will ever wear it is another question.

Great Britain is waking up to the idea that the Panama Canal may yet become an accomplished fact, and with her customary foresight she is looking about with a view to appropriating any stray islands that may be of strategical value in the approaches of the canal. Three years ago she declined the offer of the Haytian Government to cede the island of Tortugas as a settlement of the claim of one million dollars against the black republic. Now she is willing to take the island, but the American Government will protest with all the power of a wooden warship against Britain's closing the bargain.

A sensation has been caused in London by the publication in the *Times* newspaper of a letter alleged to have been written by Parnell to Egan. It relates to the Phoenix park murder, and if authentic, would prove that Parnell was in a measure accessory to that foul deed. This proof the *Times* will be called upon to furnish. Mr. Chamberlain has received threatening letters, owing to his statement in Glasgow, that the Parnellites were intimately associated with the persons who had been proved guilty of committing crimes in Ireland. Chamberlain has been asked to make public his proof, or retract his assertion. During the debate of the Coercion bill in the House of Commons, the excitement was unprecedented and the scenes beggar description. Major Sanderson, on the floors of the House, accused the Parnellites of having instigated crime, whereupon Healy denounced him as a liar. The Speaker interferred and both Sanderson and Healy withdrew what they had said. Sanderson in continuing reiterated his charges, and Healy exclaimed, "You are a liar." Healy was at once suspended, and Sanderson was obliged to retract his language. The Coercion bill was virtually adopted by a majority of a hundred and one. Sir Bernard Samuelson's amendment to the crimes bill, to the effect that the bill, if passed, would increase disorder in Ireland, and endanger the union and the empire, and therefore should be rejected, was voted down, 269 voting for and 370 against the amendment.

By  Letters Patent.

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## REQUISITION.

HALIFAX, 5TH MARCH, 1887.

To ALDERMAN ALEXANDER STEPHEN,

Chairman of Board of City Works.

SIR,—The undersigned citizens of Halifax approving of the manner in which you have discharged the duties of alderman for five years past and especially in connection with your services in obtaining improved legislation for the city, and also the attention you have bestowed on all matters connected with the Board of City Works, and feeling it will be for the interests of the citizens that you should be in a position to carry out the various improvements now in course of progress in our city, beg to ask you to accept this requisition tendering you a nomination to the important and responsible office of Chief Magistrate of Halifax; and we hereby pledge ourselves to do all in our power to secure your election.

(The above requisition is signed by a large number of influential and representative citizens.)

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your expressions of approval of the course pursued by me in the Council during the time I have had the honor of holding a seat there as the representative of Ward Three. I accept this largely signed requisition, tendering me a nomination to the more important and responsible position of Chief Magistrate, fully realizing the gravity of the duties and responsibilities of the office.

I have taken an active part in promoting and aiding in every way the great improvements effected in our municipal affairs during the past five years, and if elected will aid in furthering the various improvements now in course of progress, as well as those yet to be brought forward, such as improved accommodation for our fire department, a new market house, sewerage extension in various parts of the city, the extension of Queen Street by bridge or otherwise, and the widening of Upper Water Street. It shall be my endeavor to work in unison with the Council for the welfare of our beloved city. The interests of our city demand more than ever a careful, wise and judicious policy, and extreme care is required that no scheme for improvements that has more of private than public interests to serve be engaged in, as the taxpayers have the right to insist that no money be expended that the public generally does not require. The best interests of all render it necessary that a wise, practical economy be closely observed. All the wants of the city shall receive my closest attention, not guarding the interests of any particular class or body, but keeping in view that which is the fundamental principle of good government, viz.: "the greatest good to the greatest number," and by thus acting the best interests of the city will be subserved and its material prosperity increased.

Our city at the present time is in a fair way to become a centre for manufacturing and mechanical industries, and to the end that they may be fostered, we can by judicious expenditure and keeping closely within our appropriations so reduce our taxes that other similar enterprises will be induced to locate with us, thus insuring an increased demand for labor and a consequent increase in our population.

I pledge myself, if elected, to see that all the laws governing the city and its varied interests will be faithfully carried out according to the spirit as well as the letter of the statutes. Again thanking you, gentlemen, for your handsome requisition, and assuring you that if elected all measures pertaining to the welfare of our city and its people will receive my co-operation and cheerful support.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

ALEX. STEPHEN.

## REQUISITION.

H. F. WORRALL, Esq.,

Alderman for Ward Six:

HALIFAX, N. S.

DEAR SIR,—The undersigned Citizens of the City of Halifax are desirous that you place yourself in nomination as a Candidate for the office of "Chief Magistrate" at the ensuing Civic Elections.

Your services as an Alderman of the City for the past two years, your intimate knowledge of the Civic Finances, evidenced by the efficient manner in which you discharged the onerous duties of Chairman of the Committee of Public Accounts, and more than all, your experience as a Merchant, all point to your eminent fitness to discharge the duties of Chief Magistrate of our City, and feeling that the best interests of the same would be subserved by your Election to the Mayoralty, beg to assure you of our support if you consent to become a Candidate.

The above Requisition has been signed by a large number of ratepayers.

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your very flattering Requisition, and accept it in the spirit in which it is offered, and assure you it shall be my endeavor to do all I can for the advancement of our good City should I be fortunate enough to be elected.

Having given a great deal of time and attention to the condition of Civic Finances, the main features of the platform on which I venture to solicit the suffrage of the Ratepayers of this City, are the following, viz:

1st. THE EQUALIZATION OF THE SYSTEM OF TAXATION BETWEEN THE CITY AND COUNTY SO THAT THE CITY SHALL NOT BE CALLED UPON TO PAY THIRTEEN-FIFTEENTHS OF THE EXPENSE OF THE COUNTY.

2nd. THE EQUALIZATION OF THE SYSTEM OF TAXATION IN THE CITY, SO THAT THE BUSINESS MEN AND PRODUCERS SHALL NOT BE CALLED UPON TO PAY MORE THAN THEIR JUST PROPORTION.

3rd. THAT ALL LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN CIVIL MATTERS SHALL EMANATE FROM THE CITY COUNCIL AS DIRECT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RATEPAYERS.

4th. A THOROUGH SYSTEM OF RETRENCHMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF CIVIC FUNDS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE COUNCIL.

5th. THAT ALL MEETINGS OF ANY DEPARTMENT OF THE CIVIC SERVICE, AT WHICH THE INITIATION OF ANY SCHEME SHALL BE PROPOSED, SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

All matters proposed for the benefit and welfare of our good city shall receive my warmest support in the future, as they have in the past, consistent with the willingness of the citizens to support the same.

I am, yours respectfully,

H. F. WORRALL.

**WM. J. HAMES,**

Corner Argyle and Sackville Sts.

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