

# THE ACADIAN,

WOLFVILLE, N. S., FEB. 20, 1885

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

In another column we publish a letter from our Ottawa correspondent in which he states that the general opinion there seems to be that D. B. Woodworth, Esq., M. P., will be appointed successor of Sir Chas. Tupper as Minister of Railways and Canals. Mr. Woodworth has many very warm personal and political friends in this County who will be highly gratified if he is so fortunate as to be assigned a seat in the Cabinet, and we doubt if his opponents would exert themselves very much in order to defeat him from taking the appointment.

We are glad that some of our friends have come forward and contributed to our columns this week. Although it is no trouble for us to fill them ourselves, yet we think it would be more interesting and more profitable if the people would take a more active part in county affairs, and there is no better way of doing so than to make your ideas known through the county paper. We thank our correspondents who have favored us this issue and will be pleased to publish their thoughts or those of any others who will write on matters relative to our county matters and the general public welfare.

## Vacation Notes.

BY EARL HARLEK.  
(Continued.)

Among the sections that form the celebrated Annapolis valley none has contributed more to beautify and make it attractive to strangers than Middleton. The village has a flourishing look, and is destined soon to be, I think, an important business town. It is to be the terminus of the Nictaux and Atlantic Railway, which will probably be completed by December next; and that, with the rich mine recently discovered near, has stimulated me in predicting its early and rapid growth. The country has a very fruitful appearance—apples, pears and plums on every hand. Small fruit farming is quite extensively carried on. The farmers think, as farmers are not apt to think, that a few acres well cultivated are as remunerative as many, neglected; and that one cow eating is as profitable for dairy purposes as eleven starving to death. From Middleton I proceeded to Wolfville. Wolfville has attractions for me—it was once my home—and I could not pass without a call. After an absence of five years to meet again the friends whose hospitality and kindness I still remember gave me pleasure indeed. But the years had made changes. Some friends whose kind, cheery words always welcomed me I missed, and their names so familiar I found carved on marble in "Willow Bank." Some had married and were happy in the thought that the serenade was over and that catnip is good for colic. Boys had grown into men and commenced work; and girls into young women—just what they wished and sometimes played they were five years ago. But some, I was glad to find unchanged. Death and marriage had gone around them: and, although they had grown older with the boys and girls, Time had been so kind to them that no trace of the years could be seen. After a short visit, or what seemed short to me, I started east again. A few hours ride with Conductor LeCain whose good nature and kindness has made him so popular, and I land at W. Junction, and find I have just three hours to wait for an I. C. R. train to complete my journey. Three hours at W. Junction is nearly as long as Christmas holidays. It seems to me it is the wrong place for a Junction. A place where trains make a worse connection is not easily found. It is not a pretty place; nor as an agricultural one does it offer any inducements to settlers. A woman waiting for the size train I was, and a very original thinker, said she thought it was a stony place—and it is. The country has all gone to stones, and a good thing it will be for the inhabitants, especially the goats, when these stones crumble and go to country again. The hotel is the great centre of attraction, "Licensed to sell spirituous liquors" is posted proudly in the front window and shows that our politicians have done what they could to make the liquor business a lawful one, and shows too what they are doing for the good of their fellow-men. To make my stop here more complete the train was an hour and a half late. But when she did come I got on board and we moved along the

I. C. R. slowly, calling at most every telegraph post. At Milford I met my telegraph mate "R" and as the time would have been pleasantly spent with him, the train did not stop long, and the talk begun face to face was postponed for one next day on the wire. At Brookfield the telegraph signal was at danger, and while the conductor and driver were in the office getting orders to go on I got out and went home.

## The Youth's Companion.

The editors of *The Youth's Companion* seem to have put their fingers on the pulse of every boy and girl of healthy tastes and instincts in America. *The Companion* is full every week of interesting stories with a thoroughly wholesome influence, tales of adventure, articles that entertain and instruct at the same time, and most carefully selected miscellany. It is a weekly treasury of good reading, and is already read and prized in 325,000 families. The price is only \$1.75 a year, and the publishers are Perry Mason & Co., Boston.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

### Ottawa Letter.

OTTAWA, FEB'Y. 12th '85.

To the Editors of the ACADIAN.

One of the topics of discussion here at present is the "portfolio of Railways and Canals." Though as far as I can learn he is patiently biding his time, it is rather remarkable how all opinion points to one man, viz—D. B. Woodworth Esq., of King's Co., N. S., and this not only by Conservatives, but the Grits also, who are not very warm personal friends of Mr. Woodworth, generally. Here is the candid utterance of one of the ablest and most influential opposition Journals in Canada, the *Ottawa Free Press*, of yesterday's issue:

"Mr. Daly, M. P., was the subject of numerous congratulations last night, upon his elevation to the dignity of deputy-speaker; and those of his Nova Scotian colleagues I presume were none the less hearty, because there is one candidate for the cabinet vacancy shelved. With Daly gone, what is to become of Woodworth? Surely if the member for Halifax has done party service to warrant his promotion, the member for King's has doubly done so? There are those who object to Mr. Woodworth, but his qualifications are undeniable. He has brains, which some of the other Nova Scotian aspirants lack; and he has fair oratorical ability which they certainly do not possess. In tenacity he is of the never-give-up type. Mr. Woodworth's claims from a Tory point of view are certainly superior to those of any of his provincial confederates."

All of which is true. There will be a "blizzard" if N. Scotia don't get the portfolio; and certainly the "victors part of the province has a right to it; and the representative from King's Co. is the man. Moreover there would be no fear regarding his return, as he would not probably have any opposition. The work of the session is progressing rapidly. "Returns" are moved for by the cart-load. About 999 people are hopping mad to-day because they were not invited to the Gov.-General's ball last night. The opposition are preparing for a big fight when the "Budget" is brought down—probably next week. Sir John looks younger than ever and is in high feather—ready to tilt a spear or break a lance with any comer.

OBSERVER.

## Correction.

KENTVILLE, N. S., FEB. 16th '85.

To the Editors of the ACADIAN.

The Editor of the *Western Chronicle* made a great blunder, as usual, in reporting the supper of the Fruit Growers Association of Nova Scotia. The toast given was "Our Queen." He says, "We noticed that one or two of the company refrained from rising, conspicuous among whom was a Yankee tree agent," as if I sat near our friend the Yankee tree agent, and know that he not only arose but drank the toast with a hearty good will, as he did every one of the toasts given. It is presumable that the editor of the *W. C.* was under the Spiritual influence and could but dimly see across the table, hence his mistake.

From one that was there and who loves truth better than slang or slander.

## Another "Horton."

To the Editors of the ACADIAN.

GENTLEMEN:—I see by the *Western Chronicle* of the 21st ult. that "Cornwallis" is waxing warm and eloquent over the appointment of a certain town officer. He says, "D. B. Newcomb, a resident of Cornwallis, has been active in our county business for some ten or fifteen years, in different capacities, and has, I am assured, endeavored to stand by the interests of Horton, on a fair principle, in all her claims and grievances, 'poor' matters, assessment appeal of Ward 9 last year, and other matters, intending

always, no doubt, fairly and impartially to perform the duties assigned to him. The reward he gets for this considering Horton on a fair principle, regardless of any sectional notion entertained by people in Cornwallis, is to be 'sold' or swapped off—thrown out—when in the middle of his duties for the annual meeting of the Council, by the Horton councillors, by a concerted action with the Aylesford councillors (except Dalhousie) against Cornwallis." That this is the sentiment of the better thinking portion of Cornwallis, I have every reason to doubt, but fancy it is the fertile ravings of some disappointed aspirant, and under this consideration, I thought the article not worth taking notice of; but as the *New Star* in a recent issue has opened its columns on the same subject, I thought a brief review would not be out of place. That Mr. Newcomb has performed his duty to the satisfaction of the County, nobody will deny, and he is a gentleman that your correspondent has always had a very high opinion of, but that in virtue of having held an office for some ten or fifteen years (for which he has always been amply paid) gives him any claim to the office for an indefinite period to the exclusion of all those that might be equally as competent to discharge the duties of that office is a question which viewed from a general standpoint in a free and equal right country can admit of but one answer.

To assert that he had been "sold or swapped off—thrown out—when in the middle of his duties by the Horton and Aylesford councillors" and thus impeach the members that represent those townships, is not only an ungentlemanly, mean slander but a base falsehood calculated to mislead the public and injure the reputation of the men in question. That another auditor was appointed for the ensuing year is very evident but was not supposed to enter upon his duties until such time as the law provides, viz, twenty days from the first day of the session, see Revised Statutes, fourth series Chap. 23, Sec. 28; you will also see by same Chap., Sec. 5, that officers refusing to accept office or misbehaviour therein for each offense shall forfeit eight dollars. I think the Council have power to define the time that such officers shall enter upon the duties, but as they have not done so there is no other alternative. But to fall back on the Statute law, I have given chapter and verse so that all who have a disposition to investigate can do so; and feel confident that all who take the trouble to look into this matter will come to the conclusion that the auditor was not thrown out in the middle of his duties, but that he was displeased because he was not appointed again and flung up leaving the work in an ambiguous, obscure and complicated condition, thereby causing the Council much trouble and delay.

"Reform," writing in the *New Star* of the 6th inst., wades into this matter and seems to think—"There is no better sign of reform than to see people dissatisfied with the existing state of things." It may be a sign of improvement to see the ratepayers taking an interest in County affairs, but I fail to see any reform when parties rush into the press without knowing what they are writing about or even to offer a suggestion of what they would like to have done, but simply to criticize and find fault. I would like to ask if surveyors of highways and commissioners of streets were not required to hold office and perform their duty after their successors were appointed, and if they have not as good a right to fling up and abuse the Council when they find that they have been superseded as the officer in question though this occurs in every Ward in the County, we have not as yet heard of anyone taking up the pen to publish his grievance. What seems to trouble "Reform" the most is the extra expense in connection with the change. I see that the auditors were paid ninety dollars for their last year's work, and so the whole bill this year is only ninety-five dollars. I have hopes that the whole County will not become bankrupt on account of the change. It seems a little strange that Cornwallis with its eight precious souls and a man from Dalhousie should have all their rights and privileges trampled upon and their pet schemes frustrated by Aylesford and Horton councillors only seven in all; it speaks volumes for the latter townships; it looks very much as though Cornwallis undertook to go alone and got enured. It is not thought good policy to try that sort of thing except there is a good show to make a point. In the interest of Cornwallis I would suggest that a clause be added to the oath of office and that each councillor be compelled to swear that he will be faithful to the interests of Cornwallis and bear true allegiance to their aspirants to office, and in order to accomplish this they will be required to call in their picket-guards and discharge their mercenary and become peaceable citizens of the Corporation.

HORTON.  
February 9th, 1885.

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