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General Business.

Comercial House,

CHATHAM.

THE NEW STOCK OF

STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS

FOR FALL AND WINTER.

—IS—

Unsurpassed for Variety and cheapness.

by any in the trade.

A call will convince the closest buyer that bargains are being offered for the cash.

W. B. HOWARD.

GOLDEN BALL,

BOOT & SHOE STORE

—AND—

Furniture Emporium.

We are in receipt of full lines of all kinds of WINTER GOODS, comprising:

BOOTS, SHOES,

Rubbers, Overshoes, &c., &c.

and as we make it a point to buy from the best houses only, our Stock can be relied on for durability, the satisfactory nature of our sales during the last twelve years being proof of the same.

We would, therefore, respectfully solicit a call before purchasing elsewhere

FOTHERINGHAM & Co.

Chatham, 27th Nov., 1879.

HOLIDAY CARD.

To our Patrons and the Public generally:—

Deeming it desirable in the interest of common sense and fair play, we have decided on making a change in the manner of conducting our business in the future.

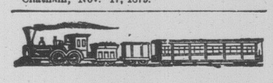
After 1st January, 1880, we will sell STRICTLY FOR CASH, a course which will appear reasonable and right when looked into; for instance, we have lost on an average yearly, between $500 and $600 in bad debts and interest on sums owing, and not paid. The parties who have to pay this amount are those who have bought for cash, which is manifestly unfair, by adopting this plan we will be enabled to sell, at least, 10 per cent. lower than before, thus benefiting our customers to that amount.

It is unfortunate, however, in these poor times, that goods have taken such a tremendous rise in price. All rubber goods have advanced twenty per cent., and all leather goods ten per cent., but, notwithstanding this, with our proposed method, we will be able to sell NEARLY ALL LINES AT OLD RATES and SOME AT LOWER. We may also state, that anything we may have occasion to book, will be charged 5 per cent. over our selling price, unless to those who have contra accounts.

FOTHERINGHAM & Co.

GOLDEN BALL, BOOT & SHOE STORE.

Chatham, Nov. 17, 1879.



1879 AND 1880.

—:o:—

GOODS FOR

CHRISTMAS

—AND—

New Years

The Subscriber has just replenished his Stock and is selling Goods at extraordinary

Low Prices

to suit the Holidays. The stock comprises in part,

All the Latest and Newest tyles of

DRESS GOODS,

WINCEYS,
CLOTHS,
LADIES' CLOTHS,
WOOL GOODS.
YARNS, &c.,

Ladies' New Camel's Hair

FELT HATS,

IN FASHIONABLE SHADES.

Special Line of Black French Merinos at 70c. & 75c. per yard—worth $1.00 and $1.10.

Black Lustre from 10c. per yard. Black Velveteens from 60c. per yard.

Also a quantity of Blankets and Flannels.

FURS BELOW COST.

NEW BUFFALO ROBES,

Trimmed and Untrimmed, CHEAP.

Horse Rugs Below Cost.

BOOTS & SHOES

in every Style and Price.

CLOTHING well assorted; Men's Tweeds, Coatings, Trowserings, &c.

Stationery and School Books

Large Stock of

GROCERIES,

Including Canned Goods, Preserves, &c.
HARDWARE, (Glass from 7x9 to 30x15, Wholesale & Retail.)
A few barrels of MESS Beef and Pork for Sale low.
KEROSENE OIL in Canadian and American.
Well assorted Stock of CROCKERYWARE and GLASSWARE selling at the same prices, as before the advance in the Tariff.
The public are respectfully invited to inspect the Stock before making their purchases.

RICHARD DAVIDSON.

NEWCASTLE, N. B.

CHARCOAL.

100 Barrels of Charcoal wanted; apply at MIRAMICHI ADVANCE Office.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N. B., every THURSDAY morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day.

It is sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher at the following rates:—

If paid in advance, - - - -	$1.00.
" " after 1 month - - - -	$1.50.
" " " 6 months, - - - -	$2.00.

Advertisements are placed under classified headings.

Advertisements, other than yearly or by the season, are inserted at *eight cents* per line nonpareil, (or eighty cents per inch) for 1st insertion, and *three cents* per line (or thirty-six cents per inch) for each continuation.

Yearly, or season, advertisements are taken at the rate of *Five Dollars* an inch per year. The matter in space secured by the year, or season, may be changed under arrangement made therefor with the Publisher.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche (New Brunswick), and in Bonaventure and Gaspe (Quebec), among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers superior inducements to advertisers. Address

Editor "Miramichi Advance." Chatham N. B.

Miramichi Advance,

CHATHAM, - - - - FEBRUARY 5, 1880.

The Ottawa Printing Job.

Mr. Boyle of the *Irish Canadian* brought an action for $10,000 damages against the publishers of the Toronto *Globe* for an alleged libel, and at the trial a few days since, the jury unanimously decided in favor of the *Globe*. The *Globe's* attack grew out of transactions in connection with the tenders for the Parliamentary printing for a term of five years. Messrs. McLean, Rogers & Co., who held the contract, appeared to have determined to secure it again by buying out other intending or pretending contractors who stood in their way. They entered boldly into an arrangement with Mayor Mackintosh, of the Ottawa *Citizen* by which his offer (which was the lowest) was at their disposal, and with this to work upon, they succeeded, with the aid of Tory friends, in buying out all the others, until their own tender was the only one left in a position to be accepted. They are to get a price which is $34.950 more than Mackintosh's tender would come to in the five years—all of which was clearly proved by the publishers of the *Globe* in making their defence. In an article on the subject, after the suit was concluded, the *Globe* said:—

The revelations made during the Boyle suit show that the Pacific Scandal Government has fully restored the political atmosphere in which the sale of a Cabinet was possible and natural. Could a man like Cotton believe himself a respectable person, could Mackintosh be elected Mayor unless a majority of the inhabitants of Ottawa looked on rascality with the forbearance of New York to the Tweed ring? Ottawa takes corruption in public affairs for granted since John A. Macdonald is Premier, Langevin his Minister of Public Works, and the hero of Section B. and Springhill an important member of his Cabinet.

It is absurd to say that the Government is guiltless in the matter of the printing fraud. There were five tenders under that of McLean, Roger, & Co., each accompanied by a deposit of $500 as security that the contract would be signed. The sum was ridiculously small considering that over $150,000 were involved in the contract, but it was not exacted in a single instance. It may be said that the several $500 cheques were returned to their depositors during the time while the Government believed that Mackintosh, the lowest tenderer, would accept the contract. But the terms on which the cheques were deposited, were that they should not be returned till the contract was actually signed, and that the person who refused to enter into a contract awarded to him, should be compelled to forfeit his deposit. Had this regulation been observed, Mackintosh would have forfeited $500 on retiring, and so would four other tenderers. The Government would have had $2,500 to recoup them in part for the loss of $34,950, the difference in five years between the tenders of McLean, Roger, & Co., and that of Mackintosh. The fact that members of the Printing Committee advised Mackintosh to retire, proves connivance in the fraud which has been perpetrated. It would have been impossible to complete the corrupt transaction under an honest Government, for the manœuvres of the different contractors were notorious at Ottawa.

The people of Canada are reaping the whirlwind which they sowed on the 17th September, 1878. The disgrace of returning John A. Macdonald to power would have been indelible, even had he attempted to be honest for the future. But he surrounded himself at once with the men who had been his accomplices of old, and thus made pure administration impossible. Tupper, Mackintosh, Langevin, these are the men who re-establish the old, unforgotten order of things. To what lengths they have gone the public in part knows, to what lengths they will go the imagination of honest men cannot foresee. But the recollection of the Pacific Scandal will doubtless be obliterated by some still more infamous crime.

The Toronto *Mail*, referring to the above, declared, among other things, that "the Government was not in the remotest degree, compromised." To this the *Globe* replies:—

Any unprejudiced person reading the evidence and connecting the circumstances, would say, that the Government is almost as deeply implicated in the scandal as is Mayor Mackintosh himself. His Worship, according to his own confession, entered into a conspiracy, the outcome of which was the defrauding of the Public Treasury. He says his tender was really that of Maclean, Roger, & Co. Of course he meant, that if the tender sent in his name at $27,133 per annum had been accepted, and there had been between that and Maclean, Roger, & Co.'s tender some other tender which could not be "removed" *a la* Boyle and the rest, then Mackintosh, together with Maclean, Roger, & Co., would have carried out the work for $27,133 per annum. As there was no irremovable tender between, he withdrew his tender, and the consequence was that the work fell to Maclean, Roger, & Co. at $34,123, a clear loss to the country of $34.950 in the five years for which the contract runs. If Mr. Mackintosh did not intend to do the work for $27,133 per annum, his story does not hang together. If he did intend to do it for that sum, what excuse can he trump up for withdrawing his tender, and thus aiding in what, from his own version of the affair, was nothing but a defrauding of the nation!

Mr. Mackintosh is editor and proprietor of the home organ of the Government, subject to a mortgage for $14,000 held by Hon. J. H. Pope, Minister of Agriculture. He is also Mayor of the Dominion capital, having been elected to that office through Government influence. As editor of the home organ, he has confidential relations with the Government. His journal is constantly used as its mouthpiece. He is informed of Ministerial secrets, furnished with important news about things that are going to happen. From his position he necessarily has great influence with the Government. It was no doubt from a dread of Mackintosh's influence, that Maclean, Roger & Co. joined hands with him. They believed and warrantably, that unless they had him with them, they stood no chance of avoiding a forced sale of their establishment.

Mackintosh's part in this affair has been known for some months, yet he retained his favor with the Government. His journal is still the home organ. He has not lost one jot of his influence, nor is he likely to lose it. Until the intimate connection between him and the Government is formally repudiated, the Government cannot be exonorated from complicity in his deeds. He uses his influence as a means of enriching himself at the public expense, and the Government cannot be considered as anything but *particeps criminis*.

The developments in this case show clearly that the Conservatives are held together at Ottawa as they are elsewhere. The cord that binds them is self-interest. The charter of the party is a bond of fraud. Each member of the party must be enriched, not by honest industry, but public plunder. The record of this and other cases, exposed by the Liberal Press of Canada, ought to open the people's eyes to the character of the Pacific Scandal Party, which is the same to-day as it was in 1873 and as it will be until a corrected public sentiment again removes it from power.

Kent Municipality.

The report of proceedings of Kent Municipal Council, which appears in another column, indicates that an undesirable task is before the Councillors who have the real interests of the County at heart. There can be little doubt that the Secretary-Treasurer has been conducting the affairs of his office in a manner to suit himself and having little regard for other considerations. How far he has been driven to this apparant antagonism to public interests by the opposition and criticism of his enemies we do not know, but it is quite evident that he is run down at last and must "render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's." There have been awkward rumors afloat respecting the disposition made of County funds by Mr. Sayre—rumors which we sincerely hope will turn out to be unfounded—and whatever may be the feeling of his fellow-citizens for him personally, it is the duty of their representatives to enquire whether these rumors are true or false. This the Council's Committee should do thoroughly and honestly, thinking only of the interests they represent, and regardless of personal considerations which might appear to lie in the way of duty.

We observe that the elections of no less than three Councillors for Kent are protested against. And it is significant that the protests were not entered until after Mr. Sayre's dismissal from the office of Secretary-Treasurer. This action shows that some bad blood is stirred up. Of course, such protests seldom amount to anything beyond the annoyance they cause to those against whom they are directed. It would, we think, be much better for Mr. Sayre to deliver up his accounts—especially so if all is right, as he claims—and allow the questions at issue between himself and the public to be settled with as little delay as possible. In his cooler moments we think the ex-Treasurer of Kent will regret the inconvenience to which he is putting the County by retaining the books, etc., forget his defeat and think more jealously of his reputation.

Municipal Affairs.

It is well that our people should manifest an intelligent interest in Dominion and Provincial matters, and it is to the credit of Northumberland that she has always stood in the front rank among the constituencies which have given no uncertain sound, and taken no second part in the politics of the country, both before and since Confederation. Equally important, however, to this, as well as other counties, is the management of its local affairs, although, in far too many instances, they have received much less attention than they demanded. The character of the Municipal management of any County under our present system, is the index of the people's aptitude for public affairs, for such management is or should be, free from outside entanglements and within the sole control of the people directly interested, through those whom they have the greatest freedom in choosing to represent them. If, therefore, the conduct of County affairs is bad or indifferent it may, very properly, be assumed that the people are not equal to their responsibilities and that they require lessons in the first principles of responsible government.

Northumberland has no reason to be ashamed of her status as a self-governing entity, in view of her Municipal Council's ability for dealing with local affairs in a business-like, intelligent and public-spirited manner. Our report of last week—so full of facts and figures, and so remarkable for the absence of the time-wasting clap-trap which too-often forms a prominent feature in the proceedings of such bodies—is a tribute to the business capacity and integrity of our Municipal representatives, who reflect credit on the people they represent. In order that the latter may not lose sight of some of the prominent features of the late session, we will refer briefly to some of them, as they seem to have made an impression on those who watched the proceedings. It must, however, be borne in mind that there were, now and then, little incidents or acts which the public would not approve, yet it seemed that these were exceptional and showed that, in the main, the Council was actuated by correct motives and principles. In referring, therefore, to what was commendable, we shall not forget also to emphasize what was of the opposite character.

The greatest reform inaugurated by the Council was that which must result from the admirably independent course pursued by the County Accounts Committee in dealing with Jail management and expenditure. The recklessness with which seemingly unnecessary expense was incurred was, perhaps, but a continuation of the old way of doing things in connection with that institution. It seems to have been a kind of milch cow to a few storekeepers, and an depot for high-priced commodities, furnished, or, at least, paid for in questionable quantities, on orders for which nobody appeared willing to take the responsibility. Coun. Johnson, as Chairman of the County Accounts Committee, deserves credit for the businesslike way in which he placed the results of the Committee's labors before the Council, while Messrs. Jas. and W. S. Brown, Fowlie and Bamford, who so ably seconded his efforts, did excellent service to the Council and the County in placing Jail matters on a more satisfactory basis than they have ever been before.

It may be thought by some, persons that when Councillor Lawlor expressed his disapprobation of Councillor Savoy of Alnwick acting as a Collecting Justice of the default list of that parish, he was unnecessarily severe. Public sentiment will, however, say he was right, and that the principle he contended for must be more generally recognised, hereafter, in County matters. It is a pleasure to know that no other Councillor was caught in the questionable position in which Mr. Savoy found himself. The fact that he had got into it through his own solicitation was not creditable to him.

The promptness with which the Council refused payment of bills sent in by certain Magistrates for services in Crown cases was commendable. Mr. Ralph Fayle of Alnwick, whose accounts and returns were of a peculiar character, represents a class of magistrates who ought to have their commissions cancelled. Mr. Fayle may be a very good citizen, in some respects, but he is not a fit person to administer the law, as his questionable returns and absurd accounts abundantly proved.

While on the subject of Magistrates it is right that honorable mention should be made of the correctness of the returns of G. A. Blair, Esq., acting Police Magistrate of Chatham. This gentleman, who has no superior in any town in the Province as a presiding Magistrate, does much work in Crown cases. He is called upon, very often, to sit and patiently hear such cases, and his decisions are always given with independence and intelligence which reflect credit upon him. If a gentleman of his qualifications and private business responsibilities can give his time to Crown cases without ever claiming fees, for which the law does not provide, the claims of other justices appear almost as impertinences. The fact that such claims are made, only goes to show that the business of appointing magistrates has become a discreditable absurdity.

The Summary Convictions Act requires magistrates to make certain returns to the Council, which they have, as a rule, heretofore neglected to make. It is to be hoped that the Secretary-Treasurer will not forget his promise to take steps with a view of having the law complied with. The magistrates have now had fair warning, and all of them who hereafter treat the law with the contempt they have heretofore shown for it, ought to be required to pay the penalty provided for.

The sentiment of the Council was unmistakeably expressed in favor of the publication of the County Accounts. A full and detailed statement will hereafter be required. Jail, Roads, Alms House, Police, Fire and similar accounts must be placed before the public more in detail than they have been. They should be prepared in a comprehensive form for the press, and published all together, so that those interested may be enabled to have some check over the public expenditure.

The neglect of the Secretary-Treasurer to enforce the payment of Auctioneers' fees was made apparent by Councillor Johnson, and it is to be hoped this source of revenue will not continue to be comparatively neglected as it has, been in the past.

The fact that the holding of Inquests is overdone, was stated by Coun. Adams. Coronors are getting to be as plentiful under the Local Government as Official Assignees are under that of the Dominion and there is a "boom" in the Inquest business. Sudden deaths, of which the causes are plainly manifest, and connected with which there are no circumstances calling for or calculated to justify enquiry by jury, at a cost of $14 to $16 each to the County, are too often made a pretext for the solemn farce of a Coroner's Court. This means of creating claims on the County revenue ought to be more carefully guarded and payment for unnecessary inquests refused.

Coun W. S. Brown represents Southesk, but resides in Newcastle. He really proved a useful and intelligent member of the County Accounts Committee, and assisted, in a most consistent and plucky manner, in exposing the extravagance of those who had controlled the Jail expenditures during the past year. He, however, surprised all his fellow-members by presenting a bill for mileage. The present Judge Gray, of British Columbia, when representing St. John in the first Dominion Parliament at Ottawa, drew mileage, although residing almost as near to the Parliament buildings as Coun. W. S. Brown, does to the Newcastle Court House. It is to be presumed Mr. Brown thought that what had been done by so distinguished a public man at Ottawa might be imitated with impunity at Newcastle, in a smaller way. The writer, however, remembers having been present at a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee of the Commons in either '69 or '70, when Mr. Gray's mileage operation was under discussion. Such gentlemen as Sir Francis Hincks, Sir Leonard Tilley, Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, Hon. Mr. Holton, and others expressed themselves pretty plainly on the subject, but being convinced that they could not induce Colonel Gray to make restitution without considerable trouble and scandal, they concluded that if he was mean enough to draw mileage for travelling to Parliament from St. John, when he had travelled only a few hundred yards, he might do so, and enjoy the money, together with the contempt which his conduct merited. This little bit of secret history of the precedent on which Coun. W. S. Brown may have based his draft of $2.80 on Saturday of last week, may enable him to see it in a new light. It may be that, like the Councillors for Derby and, perhaps, some of the other parishes, he intends to donate the $2.80 to the poor of the parish he represents; if so a declaration of his intention of doing so made at the time his bill was reluctantly passed, would have made those with whom he fought so valiantly for principle and against bad precedent, on the Public Accounts Committee, feel more proud of him than they did. We are really sorry Coun. W. S. Brown presented that little bill, and hope he will not repeat the operation at the July Sittings.

The By-Law relating to loafers and loiterers on the streets in Chatham and Newcastle, and that to regulate the dog nuisance in Chatham, were both necessary measures. If the latter By-Law had also been framed to apply to Newcastle, it would have been all the better.

The manner in which the Council treated the resolution of Councillor W. S Brown relating to the proposed Legislative Buildings at Fredericton, was an evidence of the good sense by which the body is actuated. It seems that one of the members of the Grand Division, Sons of Temperance, from St. John, was commissioned by a leading member of the Local Opposition in that city, to take steps to have the matter dealt with by the Council. This hair-brained fellow, presuming upon the standing which his position in "the Order" gave him during the Grand Division meeting in Newcastle in Council week, engaged in button-holing members and intruding his suggestions upon them, in reference to their duty in the Legislative Buildings matter. Most of them listened to him, pumped his views out of him, induced him to lay bare the grand Opposition scheme which his principal had in view in agitating the matter—and then laughed at him for his pains. Councillor W. S. Brown, however, did not appear to realise that the whole design was to make a cat's paw of the Council, and he seriously moved his resolution asking the Council to pronounce against the erection of the proposed buildings. The unanimity with which the resolution was voted down, on the ground that the Council understood its position too well to admit of its interfering with a matter which was solely the business of the Legislature of the Province, was calculated to teach small-fry-wire-pullers that Northumberland is hardly an encouraging field for their operations.

John P. Burchill, Esq., makes an excellent Warden. He is well versed in the duties of a presiding officer and thoroughly reflects the intelligence of the Council as a body. At the close of the session he gave a dinner to members and officers of the Council, and the members of the press who had been in attendance. This afforded excellent opportunity for a free interchange of sentiment on County and kindred topics, which formed a fitting complement to the more formal work of the week, and marked the close of a session characterised by well-directed efforts to promote the County's best interests.

Railway Queries?

The *Sun*, after bowing its apologies to the right and the left and plainly showing it is "in a deuce of a pickle" between its inclinations and the facts, publishes the following:—

MONCTON, Jan. 23.

To the Editor of the Daily Sun:—

You are no doubt aware that on the 1st of the month, the men of the I. C. R. shops were put on short time, or eight hours a day, and in consequence there is very great dissatisfaction among them. As one of them, I would like to know the reason for this reduction in the Moncton shops *alone*, as there is no scarcity of work to be done, especially in the locomotive department. The shops at Richmond, at River du Loup and other places are all working full time, and, therefore, why is it that the men of the Moncton shops are singled out and short time forced upon *them*, when men are being added to the staff at Richmond, and men who have left the Moncton shops have not had their places filled by others?

As a Conservative and on behalf of the working men of the Moncton shops, I protest against this move of the management. There is neither justice nor fair play in it. As a native of this Dominion, I protest against it; I am not prepared to believe that the people of Canada will approve of it, or that they desire any Government to act in a sectional manner towards a community of working men who hold themselves blameless for any extravagance or mismanagement which may have existed under a former Administration. The men of the Moncton shops are as well entitled to work full time as they are at Richmond, or any other part of the road; and unless it be, that *we* at Moncton are to be the scape goat on which is to be inflicted continual punishment by repeated discharges and short time, I hope those in power and authority over us will give heed to what I have here written, and order those short hours to cease with this month of January.

Hoping to receive your aid, I remain yours, A CONSERVATIVE.

It is amusing to read the *Sun's* answer to the above. It protests that it has no official information, but it believes it is all owing to there being less work in winter than in summer, and because the management wants to save—gas! "Conservative" ought to insist on the points he makes being met. He ought to require the *Sun* to explain how it is that an *increased* number of hands are kept on full time at work in the Halifax shops, while a *decreased* number are obliged to work on reduced time at Moncton, and when it became a fact that less work was required to keep rolling stock in order in winter than in summer? There is some show of reason in the work at the Riviere du Loup shop being increased, on account of the Grand Trunk portion of the line having been added during the past year, and, in this connection, it is fair to enquire how it came that the Campbellton shops were closed by the present management? Now, will the *Sun* please leave off bowing and scraping and apologising to Sir Charles and his subs. for its daring to publish a complaint and just own up that the demands of Halifax and Quebec must be satisfied, no matter what Moncton or New Brunswick may suffer thereby.

Canada's Great Blunder.

We are among those who have always held that a great national blunder was made when Canada was committed to the construction of the Pacific Railway, and the development of the facts connected with that undertaking, as they come to light year by year, only confirms us in our position. The following from the Quebec *Chronicle* conveys a discouraging idea of the mad undertaking:—

The first condition to the future successful working of a railway is a location through a country capable of yielding traffic. From the following brief description it will be seen at a glance how fatally defective is the location of our national railway in this particular:

The country through which the railway will pass has been broadly designated into three great regions—the Woodland, the Prairie, and the Mountainous. The first is comprised between Lake Nipissing and Red River, the second between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, the third between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean.

From Lake Nipissing to Thunder Bay, a distance of over 600 miles to the immediate north of Lake Superior, the country is of a most forbidding character and unfit for settlement. For years the Government Engineers have been endeavoring to find a reasonably feasible route through it, but so far without success. From Thunder Bay to the Red River, a distance of over 400 miles, the country is but very little better, in great part covered with rocks and water. We thus have a location of over 1,000 miles through an uninhabitable country in the Woodland region.

Between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, we find the American Desert, extending into Canada on a breadth of some 500 miles, and the location is through this desert, which is absolutely wanting in timber and water. It is stated that Colonel Denis, the Surveyor General, has reported on these facts. Captain Butler says settlement in this territory will be attended with disastrous consequences; and Marcus Smith, confirming this, furthermore adds that the mass of the fertile lands lie far to the north in the Peace River District; we thus have a location of 500 miles through an uninhabitable country in the Prairie region.

From Yellow Head Pass to the Pacific stretches the enormous barren mass of the Rocky Mountains, rent asunder here and there by fearful chasms, and terminating abruptly in the sea. The location, having surmounted this formidable barrier at an elevation of 4,000 feet, winds its gloomy way to the sea, through and along the sides of these mountains which overhang the waters roaring beneath in the canons of the Thompson and Fraser Rivers. The desolate character of this territory may be taken in at a glance, when it is stated, that according to Marcus Smith, there are not 10,000 acres of arable lands along the entire route. We thus have a location of 500 miles through an uninhabitable country in the Mountainous region.

From the present location we, therefore, deduce the following facts:—1st, that our national railway will be carried for over 2,000 miles through a country which cannot by any possibility yield traffic for its sustenance after construction; and 2nd, that the Eastern Terminus is, in truth, fixed at the head of Lake Superior, at Thunder Bay, which virtually will hand over the traffic of the road exclusively to the American railways in winter, and to American ships equally with our own in summer. The connecting link between Thunder Bay and Lake Nipissing is a thing in the far distant future, as may be inferred from the immediate construction of a line from Lake Nipissing to Sault Saint Marie, which has been foreshadowed by Sir Charles Tupper in his late speeches.

Truly may the country in general, and the Eastern Provinces in particular, find matter for deep and anxious reflection in this location, and more particularly when it is considered, that upon it is based an outlay of $130,000,000 of capital.

As we have on several occasions stated, the Canadian Pacific Railway bids fair to so drain the resources of the Dominion as to be a great drag upon her progress and development. That such a railway might be required sometime within a half century is possible, but more should be known concerning the country it is to traverse, before construction is determined upon. If the Intercolonial Railway costs the country over half a million dollars a year, over and above its earnings, to operate it, what may we reasonably expect of a line running through such a country as that above described, with not as many people at the Pacific end of it as there are in Northumberland County, and the American Pacific in competition with it for foreign trade? But then, "statesmen" have invented the thing, and the people, not alive to the magnitude of the burden it will entail upon them, allow the country to drift helplessly into its responsibilities.

Echoes from the Municipal Council.

COUN. ADAMS is a decided improvement on his predecessor, who talked much more, but said less.

MR. MACKIE'S CLAIM was disposed of in a way not calculated to encourage public benefactors of that class in Newcastle.

IF IS TIME those little Newcastle lands disputes were settled. The Council ought to show itself equal to the task in July next.

CONSTABLES AND OTHER OFFICERS required to give bonds are to be required to comply with the law unless the Secretary-Treasurer overlooks the matter.

LIQUOR LICENSES were issued without any discussion as to how they would be affected by the Prohibitory Act being brought into force in the County.

"THE LETTER OF THE LAW" episode between Couns. Lawlor and W. S. Brown will not tend to encourage the latter in the application of principles in a comparative way.

COUN. W. S. BROWN, rendered efficient service to the County during the session and it is a pity that he applied for and actually was voted that $2.80 for travelling expenses.

BLISSFIELD ought to settle the collection of Rates business on a more satisfactory basis. Its Councillors should have done as the Councillors of some of the other parishes did—viz define, by order of Council, the districts in which each Collector should operate.

THE WARDEN is generally acknowledged to have been well chosen. His through knowledge of the duties of a presiding officer and his appreciation of the fitness of things, as evidenced by the proceedings after 4 o'clock on Saturday after the adjournment settle the question.

POLICE! It was observed that the Police Magistrate of Newcastle appeared as one of the sureties of a party in that parish who applied for and was voted a Tavern License. This is entirely wrong in principle and shows that the Police Magistrate is not alive to the dignity and independence of his position. He should set himself right in the matter without delay.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE—that ancient and honorable body—had better pay individual attention to the Summary Convictions Act of the Consolidated Statutes, sections 41, 42, 43, and 44, lest they find themselves required to pay the fines therein provided for. Coun. Johnson deserves credit for directing the attention of the Secretary Treasurer to the matter.

COUN. SAVOY did not decline to be one of the Committee on Alms-House Accounts, although his father is an Alms House Commissioner. But a man who would solicit the Secretary-Treasurer to make him a Collecting Justice from tax defaulters in a parish of which he was a Councillor—as the Secy.-Treasurer showed he had done—could not be expected to display much delicacy in any case wherein his personal interests might clash with his duty to the public.

CONSTABLE O'SULLIVAN of Southesk was missed. When he was appointed a Magistrate his "occupation was gone," and so were his profits. It is a sin to spoil a good constable by making him a magistrate, when there is nothing for him to do in the latter capacity. When they found that Mr. O'Sullivan was absent they reduced constables' pay to $1.00 a day instead of $1.25. Some inconsiderate and uninformed persons said it was in keeping with the principles of the National Policy.

IMPRACTICABLE.—Coun. Freeze, of Blissfield, appears to be one of those impracticable gentlemen who delight in the contemplation of large areas for very small questions. He found that a number of his friends in his parish were in a position to keep their sheep in private pasturage, and he at once assumed that they represented the sentiment of the County on the sheep subject, so he introduced a resolution for a by-law to make sheep and lambs "unlawful commoners" (as if they were some of our parliamentarian bankrupts) from Ludlow to Portage River and Escuminac. As a consequence he had to learn that Blissfield was not, quite, Northumberland. He subsequently learned to be less ambitious and secured the by-law for his own and an adjoining parish. This shows that parish matters should not be pushed too far. Coun Freeze, having served one term, already, at the Council, should show that he is capable of learning a little faster. Then, he seemed to have something to play off on the Alms House commissioner for Blissfield, so he arrayed some "facts and figures" and hurled them at the Council at a late hour in the session, Coun. Bamford appearing to think that "he too" must speak on the subject, whenever Coun. Freeze did in order to keep up his status. Time, the chief capital of councils as well as of individuals, hereabouts, ought not to be unduly wasted and we hope our friend Mr. Freeze, will learn to distinguish between that which is practicable and that which is not, should he again wish to engage the attention of the Council. Mr. Bamford is a well intentioned and sensible man, but he ought to strike out in something original if he wishes to outshine Coun. Freeze.

HON. D. L. HANINGTON, after 47 years service as Deputy Treasurer and Collector at the port of Shediac, has been superannuated and his son, Walter Hannington appointed Collector in his stead. Mr. Hannington, Sr. is the father of Hon. D. L. Hannington, jr. of the Local Government and holds a seat in the Legislative Council. His superannuation will enable him to pay increased attention to his legislative duties, which we trust he will live long to continue.

SINGULAR POISONING CASE.—The Sackville *Post* says: A very sad occurrence took place at Pugwash on Sunday evening, 25th ult., about 11 o'clock. Dr. Joseph Clark, who had not been well for some time, and had been taking medicine, on returning from visiting a patient, went to his surgery to take his usual dose, and in mistake poured out a quantity of poisonous liquid, adding water, and drank considerable before he discovered the taste. He rushed at once to the room of his wife, who was in bed, and exclaimed, "I have taken poison by mistake, and have only a few minutes to live." She ran in her night dress for Dr. Dakin, who lives directly opposite, also Drs. Creed and Mackintosh arrived in a few minutes, but the doctor was speechless, and could only wave his hand, to indicate that there was nothing to be done. In less than an hour he was lifeless. He leaves a wife, one daughter, and two sons.

A Day of Colour.

The following interesting letter was crowded out last week:—

SIR.—Monday 26th January. Those who were fortunate enough to witness the scenes pictured in the sky this afternoon will feel thankful that their eyes were attracted to something out of the common. The early part of the day was comparatively clear, but about 2.30 p. m. those clouds which are looked upon as forerunners of a storm passed from West to East, their long feathery forms branching out in all directions. About an hour afterwards the sun and its place in the firmament were enveloped in a haze which continued until sunset. From 4 to 4.30 p. m. a semi-circle outside of that luminary extended from one point of the horizon to the other with the colours of the spectrum faintly illuminated. It was not as bright as a rainbow, but in point of resemblance remarkable. Whilst the sun gradually sank, the colours to the left were unusually brilliant, and partook of a different outline, rather more circular; it soon however diminished, and as the upper portion of this arc became less distinct, the brilliancy increased to the right, where a spot of clear sky in the back ground with the haze above and below brought out the various colours clearly. The sun setting, the form of the semi-circle faded, but not without adding an additional interest, for an expiring burst of colour in the shape of a small arc, shone out at the centre of the semi-circle that had just disappeared. When the sun set, the East became suddenly illuminated by the rising of the moon, surrounded by a heavy leaden-looking sky; a few moments however a violet hue pictured all that portion extending to the South, while the West and North were showy in colours of orange and red. The sky now assumes so many different tints, until one is lost in admiration at the deepest of pink, clothing a small bank of clouds some distance above the horizon to the West. This was, indeed, a day of colour.

Pointing out the phenomena in the sky to an Indian, he replied "Dat's sign fine wedder mister." As the probabilities for New England to-day are falling barometer, followed by threatening weather during the night, and which is usually applicable to this part of New Brunswick, I await the result of two conflicting opinions with some int rest. Yours truly,

NATURALIST.

Opening of Parliament.

The Parliament of Canada will be opened on the 13th of February. The heretofore comparatively democratic usages are to be considerably changed; and in their place there is to be a much more rigorous system, "owing," it is said, "to the limited accommodation the Senate Chamber can afford, and the annually increasing number of tickets issued on the occasion of the opening and prorogation of Parliament, the Senate have laid new regulations for the guidance of the officer in charge." The new rules are based upon the space at the disposal of the Senate, which must necessarily entail a more limited issue of invitations to the floor of the House than has been customary of late years. The same may be said of the galleries; a reserved gallery, however, for ladies in evening dress will accommodate a large number of ladies, who for want of space cannot in future be invited to the floor. As the seats provided for gentlemen on the floor of the Senate will be hereafter limited to 24, only the deputy heads, and one clergyman of each religious denomination, who will be specially invited, can be accommodated with seats. The chairs of gentlemen will hereafter be placed on each side of the Bar of the House, and not as formerly between the Governor-General and the Speaker of the House of Commons. Tickets for the galleries must be procured from members of Parliament.—*Globe.*

Arrival of the Princess Louise.

About 9 o'clock on Monday morning, the staff on the Citadel at Halifax denoted that a steamer from the eastward had been sighted from one of the out-signal stations at the entrance to the harbor. There was little doubt in the minds of every one that this was the expected *Sarmatian* with Her Royal Highness, the Princess Louise on board. About 10.30 o'clock the steamer was made out from the Signal Station on the Citadel and immediately three guns fired from the saluting battery on the hill denoted that the *Sarmatian* was entering the harbor. Instantly the whole city was alive. Bugles were sounded on all sides, calling out the imperial and militia troops; orderlies and aides-de-camp were rushing in every direction; from the hundreds of staffs throughout the city, flags were run up as if by magic. The rigging of the steamers and vessels in port were fluttering with bunting. It was previously arranged that a salute was to be fired from all the forts as the steamer passed up the harbor and the streets were to be lined with troops, but this was all abandoned owing to the extreme cold. The *Sarmatian* steamed up the harbor and came to an anchor off the Ordnance Wharf, where a handsomely decorated landing place had been constructed and carpeted with crimson velvet. Guards of honor were present at the wharf from the 63rd Rifles and 101st Royal Bengal Fusileers, and at Government House from the 66th Princess Louise Fusileers and the 97th Regiment. The Marquis and Governor Archibald and staff went to meet the steamer in the Government steam tug "Lily." At 12.30 the Vice-Regal couple and party came off in the "Lily," and as they approached the land were received by hearty cheers. They landed and passed up the steps to the Governor's sleigh, and were at once driven to Government House, where handsomely furnished apartments had been prepared for their reception. As the distinguished visitors landed the Royal standard was displayed from the Ordnance Wharf and the Citadel, and a Royal salute was fired from the latter place.

The Governor General and Princess left Halifax at eleven o'clock on Tuesday forenoon for Ottawa, intending, we understand to remain a day or two in Montreal *en route*.

The N. P. Brood.

ON THE 8th page of last week's issue *Grip* hit off the political situation to a nicety, issuing, as a parable, the following paragraph, at present going the rounds:—

"A lady residing at Cow Island, Louisiana, and wishing to 'set' a hen, went into a field adjoining her residence, where some of her chickens had been 'laying,' and produced some seventeen eggs and placed them under the hen. When, in the course of 'human events,' the chickens were hatched, lo, and behold, there came fourth four small-sized alligators. It is supposed that alligators from an adjoining marsh had deposited their eggs in the field, and she not knowing the difference placed them under the hen. And what is more strange, the young alligators follow the mother hen around the premises as happy as a Colorado beetle in a potato patch."

Sir John is depicted as the amazed old lady who has "set" Sir Leonard Tilley as his hen. The Finance Minister, an exceedingly well-fed fowl, walks with an intensely self-satisfied air away from a nest which contains a number of *unhatched* eggs, labelled respectively "industry," "wealth," "comfort," "big wages," "revival," &c., &c. He is closely followed by four young alligators, named "Bankruptcies," "Annexation Organ," "Rag Money Movement," and "Independence," having hatched out only the eggs containing the reptiles.—Toronto *Globe.*

TRANSIT OF CATTLE.—The cruel treatment to which cattle are subjected through transportation by rail has engaged the attention of the Nova Scotia Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and one result of its deliberations is the adoption of a resolution commending "Clark's Improved Live Stock Car" in the following terms: *Resolved*, that in our opinion, the said car is admirably adapted for the purpose for which it is designed,