

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 25, 1899.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
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Write nothing that you are not prepared
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This paper has the largest
circulation in the Maritime
Provinces.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph.
ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 25, 1899.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF FRANCE.

Judging by the reports which come
from Paris the new president of
France is not having a very pleasant
time of it, while his honors are fresh
upon him. President Loubet is a man
of humble origin, and that fact is made
an excuse for attacks upon his private
life and manners, which are certainly
not creditable to those who make them.
Emile Loubet, who, until his election to
the presidency, was the president of the
French senate, was born at Marsanne
on December 31, 1838. He was educated
at the bar, and began his practice at Mon-
teilmar. He entered political life in the
general election of 1876, when he pro-
fessed himself a Republican and op-
posed to general and complete amnesty.
He was elected by a great majority, and
at once associated himself with the re-
publican Left. He was one of the deputies
who refused a vote of confidence to the
Ministry in 1877.

After having been twice re-elected to
the Assembly he became a candidate
for the Senate, in his old department,
and was elected in 1885. He became a
member of the first Third Republic,
which survived only three months, hold-
ing the position of minister of public
works. When M. de Freycinet declined
to undertake the presidency of the coun-
cil he was intrusted with the reconstruc-
tion of the ministry, and took the posi-
tion of minister of the interior, from
which M. Constans had retired in 1892.
It was during his administration that
the serious and prolonged trouble among
the miners at Carmaux occurred. The
excesses committed by the strikers were
the cause of much agitation throughout
the country, and provoked long and
bitter debate in both French chambers.
In the end M. Loubet accepted the diffi-
cult commission of arbitrator, and finally
decided that all the strikers should
return to work, except those who
had been convicted of deeds of violence.
This verdict excited the liveliest oppo-
sition on the part of the Radical depu-
ties, and the government finally receded
from their position and extended a pardon
to the offending miners. This was fol-
lowed by grave disturbances at Lyons and
elsewhere, and the vacillating policy of
the government was made the subject of
interpellation in the senate. There was
a fierce debate, but M. Loubet and the
government were finally supported by a
large majority.

THE BRIBERY CHARGES.

Unless we are very much mistaken,
the people of New Brunswick will resent
the manner in which the Sun and other
opposition papers are aspersing their
good name by publishing abroad that
the recent election was won by wholesale
bribery. There is no doubt that the
Conservative party had plenty of
money, and that they tried
to bribe the people, but they
did not succeed. Dr. Stockton and others
made the most scandalous charges
against the electorate of St. John, be-
cause they declined to return him again
to the legislature. Let us test these
charges by the case of Queens ward, a
ward of which the Conservatives have
always spoken with pride, and in
which they had always said that
money was of no use. It has always
been a Conservative stronghold, and
the voters of Queens ward cannot be
bribed. Now how did Queens ward treat
the learned Dr. Stockton. In 1892 it gave
him 368 votes while Mr. Trueman,

who headed the government ticket
and who is a resident of the
ward only got 206 votes. But
on Saturday these figures were greatly
changed, for while Dr. Stockton only got
306 votes, Mr. George Robertson, who
headed the government ticket, received
333. Queens ward has grown for
85 more votes were cast than in 1892.
But 42 persons who voted for Dr. Stock-
ton in 1892 declined to vote for him in
1899. Does Dr. Stockton pretend to
affirm that those 42 men were
purchased to vote for the government
candidate? If so what was it that in-
duced them to vote for him in 1892? If
they were liable to be bribed in 1899
why not in 1892 when they voted for
him?

THE WAIL OF THE VANQUISHED.

The Sun Tuesday had an article on
"The Triumph of the Vanquished," which
was intended to console the political
friends for the terrible defeat they met
with on Saturday. As this article is
something of a curiosity we quote a por-
tion of it for the benefit of our read-
ers:—

"The government is sustained after all
by nearly the full house, but it is not
the whole story. Beginning with North-
umberland, we find that the single
opposition candidate came within 430
votes of the provincial secretary, where
as in the last election he was 700
behind. In Westmorland it was an
opposition man who led the poll. In
Albert Mr. Emmerson's majority
has been reduced by one-half,
and the attorney general has had the
same experience in Kings. The govern-
ment has lost Sunbury and has only a
small majority in Queens. Carleton is
held by a reduced majority. Charlotte,
which elected government men by ac-
clamation before, was only captured by
a small majority after a large expendi-
ture of money. The accepted govern-
ment ticket was half beaten in Victoria
and wholly beaten in Madawaska. There
are some 60,000 voters in the
provinces and a transfer of 1,000 from the
government side to the opposition in
Restigouche, Westmorland, Albert,
Kings, St. John, Queens, Charlotte, York
and Victoria would have left the govern-
ment with less than half the house.

As the county of York was carried by
the government by a majority of 1500
that county alone would see up 750 of
the Sun's 1000 votes which it says would
give eight counties to the opposition if
transferred from one side to the other.
The other 250 would not go very far
towards changing the complexion of the
house. The Sun is welcome to all the
consolation it can get out of the
election in Northumberland, where
only one opposition candidate could be
induced to enter the field. A majority
of 430 seems to be quite sufficient in a
contest where the government candi-
dates made little or no effort. In Albert
Mr. Emmerson had a majority of 233,
which is equal to a majority of 700 in St.
John. In Kings the attorney general's
majority of about 400 was large enough
for all practical purposes. The
government majority in Queens was
nearly 200 which is a large majority for
so small a county. The majority of the
government in Charlotte is about 400;
in Carleton it is smaller than it was be-
fore, but both these counties were carried
in spite of the most determined efforts
on the part of the Conservative party
after the Moncton convention had ordered
all the members of that party to cease
support the government. At the
Conservative carried Charlotte by a
majority of 472 in 1896, at the Dominion
election, and Carleton by a majority of
406 we fall to see what consolation there
is for the Conservatives in the loss of
both these seats on Saturday.

Turning from the counties to which
the Sun refers it seems to be proper to
say something in regard to those with
respect to which it is silent. In Restigouche
the government majority was
largely increased. In Gloucester the
opposition did not dare to put any candi-
dates in the field; in Kent the opposi-
tion candidates, or some of them, will
lose their deposits. In St. John county
the government majority has been in-
creased ten fold. In the city an over-
whelming defeat has been changed into
a handsome victory. In York the opposi-
tion, who carried that constituency in
1896 by a majority of about 1,000, have
now a majority of 1,500 piled up against
them. These may be opposition tri-
umphs, but they appear very much like
defeat in the eyes of the public.

THE OPPOSITION.

So it appears that the opposition in the
legislature of this province is to consist
of five members and not three, as was at
one time supposed. Mr. Hazen having
been elected in Sunbury by a majority
of 8 and Mr. Shaw in St. John by a
majority of 23. Five is a good many
members for a party to elect which had
such a bad cause as the opposition, and
yet it is a startling thought that we
came very near having no opposition at
all. A change of 147 votes in the counties
of Sunbury, St. John and Westmorland
would have left the opposition entirely
without a representative in the legisla-
ture. As it is only one member of the
opposition that sat in the last legisla-
ture has been returned. This sole
survivor of the flood that swept away all
his colleagues in Mr. Shaw, who, we pre-
sume, will not serve, for he is reported
in the Sun as saying in his speech on Sat-
urday night that he was glad that he
was not elected. However, if Mr. Shaw
has changed his mind since last Sat-
urday, and intends to retain his seat in
the legislature, he will have an un-
doubted right to claim the leader-

ship as the only member of
the opposition in the last house
who was re-elected. Besides, Mr. Shaw
has had a great deal more legislative ex-
perience than any other member of the
opposition, having sat in the house for
nine years. With Mr. Shaw as leader
there will be an end to the senseless
contests adopted by Dr. Stockton, of op-
posing the wisest policy of the government.
Mr. Shaw knows that the wheat of this
province is excellent and that its growth
should be encouraged.

THE LIBERAL VOTE IN CHARLOTTE.

In Charlotte the Conservatives claim
to have run the election on dominion
lines, and their intention was to show
how strongly Conservative that county
was. The result has not been fortunate
for the party for the majority of 472,
which Mr. Ganong obtained at the last
dominion election in 1896, has been
changed to a minority of several hun-
dreds. The following comparative
table shows the Liberal and Conserva-
tive vote for 1896 and 1899 in thirteen of
the Charlotte polling districts. The
vote of 1899 is the average vote, which
is ascertained by adding up the votes
cast for the four candidates on each side
and dividing the total by four:—

	1896	1899
St. Stephen	250	389
St. Croix	124	129
St. Andrews	127	154
St. George	220	144
St. George	220	144
Milltown	256	264
Penfold	125	159
Levesque	85	39
Beaver Harbor	68	27
Wich Point	68	27
St. Patrick	102	68
LeLac	116	116
Wilcox Road	54	60
Totals	1555	1877

It will be observed that in these thir-
teen polling places the Liberals changed
a minority of 316 in 1896 to a majority of
188 in 1899. The Conservatives polled
fewer votes by 150 in 1899 than they did
in 1896, while the Liberals polled 324
more. In view of this result Mr. Ganong
will hardly thank his Conservative
friends for having forced this issue on
the government.

LANDOWNE WARD.

Every Liberal in St. John will regret
the defeat of Mr. W. K. Reynolds when
the returns published on Monday show-
ed to have received a majority of the
votes cast. His defeat is due to changes
in the figures in Landowne ward. The
figures of this ward as given out on Sat-
urday, and published in all the papers,
were as follows:—

Landowne	Reynolds	Shaw
1	208	178
2	208	178
Totals	416	356

The corrected figures of this ward, as
given out by the sheriff, are as follows:—

Landowne	Reynolds	Shaw
1	157	172
2	157	172
Totals	314	344

It appears that the figures published
as those of Landowne No. 1, really be-
longed to Landowne No. 2, but the
error does not cure the difficulty in the
slightest degree, for, if the figures of the
polling places had been simply reversed,
the result would not have been changed.
But a set of figures were given out as
coming from a polling place in Land-
owne ward showing Robertson to have
received 211 votes; McKee, 205; Rey-
nolds, 203, and Parry, 265; while Rey-
nolds had but 181; Alward, 168; Shaw, 178,
and Lockhart, 168. Now the ques-
tion is where did these figures come
from. The representatives of the
candidates who took part in the
counting of the votes in Landowne No.
1 ought to be able to say whether or not
these figures agreed with their tally.
The figures of the four opposition candi-
dates are almost correct—those of Dr.
Alward being absolutely so, while those
of Dr. Stockton are two more than the
proper number; Mr. Shaw's two less;
and Mr. Lockhart's one more. The error
was therefore in the figures of the gov-
ernment candidates, which were each
more than 30 in excess of the figures
yesterday as given by the sheriff. The
public will avail with interest some in-
formation in regard to the origin of
this mistake.

A BIT OF HISTORY.

We are surprised to find the following
in Commodore Stewart's paper, the
Chatham Herald:—
This is the first time in our history
that the Ottawa government has taken
part in a New Brunswick provincial
election. And yet we have—not a party,
but a coalition, government! The
Emmerson government is, to use the
expressive words of one of the government
candidates, merely Mr. Blair's donkey
engine. "At some of its members and
supporters tell us they are good Con-
servatives!"
There are two serious errors in the
above. It is not clear that the Dominion
government, as a government, took any
part whatever in the recent election.
Mr. Blair accepted the challenge of Mr.
Foster and came to the rescue of the
provincial administration, but it must
be remembered that he had been pre-
mier of the New Brunswick govern-
ment for more than thirteen years
and that many of the acts for
which the government was at-
tacked by the opposition were done
during his term of office. Mr. Blair had
a right, as a public man, to vindicate
himself from the slanders of the opposi-

tion and to protect the government from
being driven to the wall by the Conser-
vative opposition that had been formed
to destroy them. It was also
proper and indeed necessary for Mr.
Blair to prevent the elections being car-
ried against the government by Conser-
vative influences, which would have
enabled that party to claim that there
was a Conservative reaction in this
province.

The other error is still more palpable,
for Commodore Stewart surely must re-
member what happened in 1892 when
the first Conservative attempt was made
to run provincial politics on dominion
lines. Prior to that time Liberals like
Mr. Elder had supported the Fraser gov-
ernment, although its leader was a
Conservative. That administration con-
tained three Liberals, Messrs. Wedder-
burn, Crawford and Stevenson, but
the latter became speaker and
afterwards retired from the legislature.
Mr. Wedderburn became a judge and
Mr. Crawford fell into ill health and
died. The retirement of Mr. Fraser
from the legislature to run as the Con-
servative candidate for York gave the
Conservatives an opportunity of forming
a new government under the premiership
of Mr. Hanington. Mr.
Ezekiel McLeod, who had never
been in the legislature was
made attorney general, Mr. Landry,
who had been chief commissioner of
public works was made provincial secre-
tary, and Mr. Collier succeeded Mr. Lan-
dry as chief commissioner. All these
changes were made without the
knowledge of the Liberal supporters of
the government, and it soon became ap-
parent that a conspiracy had been en-
tered into between the dominion govern-
ment and the Hanington administration
to work together. The provincial elections
were brought on in 1892 two or three
days before the Dominion elections, and
all the power of the Dominion govern-
ment was employed to elect candidates
favorable to the Hanington combina-
tion. Federal interference was very
noticeable in this city when Mr. Mc-
Leod was returned by the efforts of the
office holders. Mr. Marshall, his col-
league, being dropped. This new policy
received a severe check when the legisla-
ture met for the next session. The govern-
ment was immediately defeated and
driven from power. From that time up
to the Moncton convention of last year
no attempt was made to mix dominion
and provincial issues.

THE GOVERNMENT'S VICTORY.

When Mr. Geo. E. Foster contemplated
the consequences of his Moncton
convention as developed by the elections
last Saturday, he must feel that this
challenge to the provincial government,
to the minister of railways, and to the
Liberal party was the greatest blunder
of his life. Had the Moncton conven-
tion not been called the extreme weak-
ness of the Conservative party in this
province would not have been disclosed
so soon; indeed, it might have required
another dominion election to make it
evident to all. As things stand now
every person can see that the Conserva-
tive party in New Brunswick is a mere
wreck of its former self and that it is be-
coming feebler every day. To illustrate
this let us take the river counties from
Carleton down and the county of Char-
lotte, which returned Conservatives at
the last election. At that election Car-
leton gave Mr. Haile the Conservative
candidate, a majority of upwards of 400,
but on Saturday the Liberal candidates
carried the county by a substantial ma-
jority. In York Mr. George E. Foster
had a large majority over Mr. E. H.
Allen at the general election in 1896, but
on Saturday the figures were more than
reversed and the majority of the Liberal
candidates is about 1,500. In Charlotte
the Conservative candidate, a majority of
400 has been changed into a Liberal ma-
jority of 300. We may therefore safely
expect that at the next Dominion elec-
tion Carleton, Charlotte and York will
be carried by the Liberal party and
that the cause of Liberalism will be
greatly strengthened in other counties
which now return Conservatives to the
House of Commons. After Saturday's
contest Mr. Powell cannot feel very
secure in his seat in Westmorland, and
in Kent Mr. McInerney will be simply
snowed under; the people of that county
have no further use for him. In Glou-
cester a Liberal victory at the next
Dominion election is as certain as any-
thing can well be. One of the most grati-
fying features of the contest is what it
discloses in regard to the state of public
opinion in the city, and the city and
county of St. John. The fact that inde-
pendent candidates ran in both of these
constituencies at the last dominion elec-
tion made the test of strength of the two
parties less conclusive than it would
have been, but now we know just where
they stand. Adding together the votes
cast for the four government candidates
in the city and dividing the total by
four we find that their average rate was
3,783, while that of the opposition candi-
dates was 3,458, showing a majority of
325 for the government men. In the
county the average majority of the gov-
ernment candidates was 347. Adding
the city majority to this the Liberal
majority in the city and county of St.
John would be 672. In the event of a
general dominion election there is no
doubt that the government would carry
eleven seats in this province and possibly
the whole fourteen.

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THE END OF THE WORLD.

Rudolph Falb, an Austrian astron-
omer, is responsible for the statement
that the end of the world will come on
the 14th November next. He says that
on that day the earth will come into
contact with Biela's comet, and that, as
a result of this contact, human life upon
it will end. If this statement were true,
it would leave the people very little
time to close up their mundane affairs
and prepare for the great change, but it
would solve no end of perplexing ques-
tions in a very summary manner. Still,
it is not necessary for any person
to fully accept Mr. Falb's prediction,
for many persons have in times past
made similar prophecies, none of
which have turned out to be correct.
The prophets are mostly dead and the
earth still exists. M. Flammarion, the
distinguished French astronomer, vig-
orously combats Falb's theory and makes
light of Biela's comet. He points out
that Biela's comet is the one which was
to have destroyed the world in 1832.
Then there was something like a public
panic. It was told in the press of the day
how the astronomer Olbers, as the result
of a careful study in advance of the
comet's movements, had found that the
comet's centre would, shortly before mid-
night on Oct. 29 of that year, cross the
earth's orbit. The calculation was not
fully understood by the public, and
alarmed them enough to make them
talk about the forthcoming destruction
of our globe. But what is the earth's
orbit? It is the circle in which the
earth moves round the sun. If a ball is
projected across a track its shock is only
to be dreaded if there is any one passing
along the track at the same place and
moment as the ball. Now, our planet
was timed to reach the place where the
comet would cross its orbit a full four
weeks after the comet had come and
gone. Therefore there was not the
shadow of a reason for alarm. The
journalists of 1832 confounded the tra-
jectory of the ball with the ball itself.
M. Flammarion goes on to affirm that
even if there had been a contact between
the earth and Biela's comet in 1832, it
would not have done the earth any
harm. For similar reasons any contact
between the earth and Biela's comet in
November next is not to be dreaded. It
is well known to astronomers that space
is full of comets, flying in every direc-
tion around the sun, like moths
around a candle, and the earth
turning round the central star is ex-
posed to the chance of coming into contact
with many of them. But comets are
imponderable bodies; a sort of airy
nothing, a mass of gas and vapor. The
terrestrial globe can pass through them,
most of them, like a cannon ball through
a swarm of flies. This is what actually
happened on June 30, 1861, according to
a calculation by Hind, the highest living
authority on comets. The earth passed
into and through the tail of the great
comet of that year at about two-thirds
its distance from the nucleus. Nothing
happened save a peculiar phosphor-
escent illumination of the sky. The
sun, though shining, gave but feeble
light. The comet was plainly visible in
England at a quarter of eight o'clock in
the evening, during sunshine, and had a
much more hazy appearance than on
any subsequent evening.

M. Flammarion also states that Biela's
comet is dead and that it has been
broken into a mass of meteors. It is
well known that the earth passes through
showers of meteors in November, and it
may be that these are the remains of
the comet in question. These meteors
have been frequently made the subject
of observation by the students of the
University of New Brunswick and other
scientific observers in this province.
These meteors, however, are harmless
and are rather objects of interest than
of dread. It is true that M. Flammarion
is willing to admit that there might be
danger if our earth came into direct
contact with the head of a very large comet.
The consequences would differ materi-
ally, according to the nature and direc-
tion of the shock. If a comet came upon
us from behind, the speed of its shock
would be at a minimum, whereas, if it
met us face to face, it would be at
a maximum of 72,000 meters per
second. We would doubtless
penetrate without any sensible re-
sistance into the nebulous substance of
the comet. But if the comet were an
unusually large one, then, no matter
how feeble the resistance, nor how slight
the destiny of the head of the comet,
the passing through this substance by
our earth moving at a speed one hun-
dred and twenty times that of a cannon
ball might, through the natural trans-
formation of movement into heat, create
such a rise in temperature that our en-
tire atmosphere would take fire which



It would be a very interesting spectacle for
the inhabitants of other planets but
not very agreeable to ourselves.
M. Flammarion does not anticipate any
such catastrophe and he shows that the
odds are a million to one against it tak-
ing place. In view of the high authority
of this eminent astronomer we think the
people of the earth may go on with their
work as usual and rely on the earth be-
ing all right after next November has
passed. There is no doubt, however,
that during that month there will be a
larger display of showers of meteors in
the heavens than usual, and we hope
that all the readers of THE TELEGRAPH
will remember the date and be on the
lookout for them.

LOCAL NEWS.

GONE ADRIFT.—Captain Stuart, of the
schooner Buda, reports the buoy at Grey
Mar., eastern end of L'Etang harbor,
gone adrift.

MR. T. W. RAINFORD.—CARVASSING and
collecting agent for THE TELEGRAPH, is
at present in Northumberland county,
and subscribers in that district are asked
to pay their subscription to him when he
calls.

THE MAYORALTY.—Under the supposed
defeat of all four opposition candidates
in Saturday's election, it was expected
that Mr. Wm. Shaw would become a can-
didate for the mayoralty. As it turns
out that Mr. Shaw is again returned to the
legislature, the complexion of matters is
altered.

ST. JOHN MAN KILLED.—Douglas Kelly,
formerly of St. John where he was an
employee with Messrs. Jardine & Co., was
accidentally killed in Boston on Saturday.
Many friends will learn with regret of
his death. How he was killed is not
known yet.

A LARGE EGG.—A very large hen egg
was handed to THE TELEGRAPH Tues-
day. It was that of a barred Plymouth
Rock and came from the farm of Mr. G. P.
Dyckman, Wickham, Queens county. It
weighed exactly four ounces and meas-
ured 6 1/2 inches in circumference.

DIED AT SOUTH BAY.—Mr. David Lowrie,
son of the late William Lowrie, of South
Bay, died Wednesday, aged about 20
years. He was highly respected. He
died from pneumonia, resulting from a
grippe. Mr. Wm. Lowrie, brother of the
deceased, is now seriously ill.

DIED TUESDAY.—Mr. Joseph Rubin,
who had many friends here, died Tues-
day at Gagetown. He was a printer and
removed to Gagetown because of ill-
health a few years ago. By the mem-
bers of the craft and indeed by all who
knew him his death will be deeply re-
gretted. Mr. Rubin was 40 years old
and leaves a wife and two children.

THE COUNTY VICTORS.—On Monday
evening Hon. A. T. Dunn and Mr. Mc-
Leod, who swept the county Satur-
day's election, were publicly honored by
the electors of Miramichi. A reception was
held in the public hall and a very
pleasant event it proved. There were
addresses by the surveyor general, Mr.
E. H. McAlpine, Mr. Lowell and others.
A bonfire was lighted at the village in
celebration of the victorious outcome of
the contest.

RETURNED WITH INTEREST.—Dr. J. F.
Macanlay, superintendent at the gen-
eral public hospital, was surprised to
find among his mail Tuesday an anon-
ymous letter from some one in the city.
It told that the writer had several years
ago taken a pair of blankets from the
institution and wanted to make restitu-
tion. A \$5 bill was enclosed, and the
writer figured that this would pay the
cost of the blankets and interest.

CHARTERS.—The following charters
have been made: Barque Kelvin, ship
Island or Peninsula to Bahia Blanca,
Santos or Rio de Janeiro, lumber, \$13.75;
ship Monrovia, Mobile to the U. K., sawn
timber, p. 1; ship Helen E. Kenney, Mo-
bile to Lisbon or Oporto, timber and
deals, 87s 6d per standard; Oxyx, San
Domingo to New York, sugar, \$2.50 and
port charges; Westworth, Elizabethport
to St. John, N. B., coal, p. 1; Roser, We-
hawken to St. John, coal, \$1.10; Thistle,
same, \$1.15; Maggie J. Chadwick, Ho-
boken to Calais, coal, \$1.25.

THE LATE JAMES MULLIN.—Mr. James
Mullin who died last Saturday at his
residence, Hillside, Marsh road, and was
buried last Monday in Fernhill ceme-
tery, came to St. John 53 years ago. He
was an industrious farmer and owned
one of the best farms on the Marsh road.
He was a man of strict integrity and a
consistent member of the Reformed
Presbyterian church. His amiable dis-
position won him many friends, and
likewise he was the friend of everyone.
By his death six daughters and two sons
are left to mourn the loss of a faithful
father. His daughters are Mrs. John
Henderson of Moncton; Mrs. Robert Mc-
Leod of Coldbrook; Mrs. Joseph Hender-
son and Mrs. George Noble of this city,
and Mrs. Annie and Mrs. John live at
Hillside. His sons are William, who
resides on Westmorland road, and John,
who lives on the old homestead. He
leaves one sister, Mrs. John Simpson, of
Coldbrook.