

POOR DOCUMENT

THE WEEKLY HERALD

CHARLES H. LUGRIN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
FREDERICTON, N.B., JANUARY 28, 1882.
THE RECORD OF A TORY JOURNAL.

The *Capital*, with characteristic indecency, has published a libellous attack upon Mr. Lugin, the editor and sole proprietor of *The Herald*. We have no disposition to discuss personalities with any one, and least of all with a man who has succeeded so thoroughly, as the editor of the *Capital*, in making himself the laughingstock of the whole community in every walk of life in which he has engaged. Neither the public concerned about his business standing so long as he keeps up the semblance of solvency. But when by his unwarranted attack, he invites a review of his own career, he must not complain if the story is more amusing to others than it is to himself. Mr. Lugin's family and means may be of sufficient moment to warrant frequent editorial references to them in the *Capital*, but Mr. Cropley's are not, to lead us to feel called upon to refer to them in *The Herald*, and we trust that we have sufficient courtesy left, even after one year's association with that gentleman, to avoid any public reference to his family under any circumstances. The political record of the *Capital* and its editor, is the only thing with which the public have to do. Before discussing this we wish to say that the best proof that Mr. Lugin had both means and credit sufficient to start and maintain a paper is that he has done so, and since the *Capital* denies our statement that *The Herald* is Mr. Lugin's own unencumbered property, perhaps it will be kind enough to make its statement good. The *Capital* has full permission to tell all it knows.

But let us for a moment consider the career of the *Capital* and its editor. The *Capital* was started in September, 1880, the present editor of *The Herald*, who was well-known to the proprietor of the *Capital* as a Liberal, being employed to write the editorial articles. At this time the editor of the *Capital* was opposed to protection, and as he himself frequently expressed it, "A warm friend and staunch supporter of John Pickard." The *Capital*, however, was conducted with a view of keeping in with both political parties, and trusting to the local interest for its support. In obedience to the instructions of the proprietor, prominence was given to United States topics, and as the files of the paper will show, the most kindly expressions were employed in that connection. Annexation was not advocated for the reason that Mr. Lugin would not write Annexation articles, and the proprietor of the paper could not, but the latter contented himself with expressing himself in favor of it on every possible occasion, as a sober or more or less witnesses can testify. The spring of 1881 came and the proprietor of the *Capital* became anxious to get rid of it. At the same time some friends of Mr. Lugin, and among them some of the gentlemen named in Friday's *Capital*, offered to assist Mr. Lugin in starting a paper. The result was a series of conferences between Mr. Lugin and the proprietor of the *Capital*, which would probably have ended in the purchase of the plant of that newspaper, if it were not for facts to be related hereafter. While these negotiations were going on the *Capital* was kept strictly neutral in politics; but its proprietor, while representing himself to Mr. Pickard as a Liberal, held himself out to Sir Leonard Tilley as a Conservative. As early as May, 1880, we think it was, he made the public records at Ottawa will show the date, the *Capital* was authorized to publish Government advertising, but did not do so for some time after for fear of offending the Liberals here. At the time of Mr. Blake's visit Mr. Lugin was named Secretary of the Reception Committee. This excited the apprehension of the proprietor of the *Capital*, who feared that his chances of Government patronage were gone, and that his paper was hopelessly committed to the Liberals. His vanity had led him to think that he and his paper were wanted by Mr. Lugin's friends, when it was simply some presses and type that they desired to purchase at that time. It would be time enough on election day to buy the gentleman who owned them, if it was thought necessary to do so. In the position taken by Mr. Lugin, the proprietor of the *Capital* thought he saw his chances of selling out gone as well as his hope of patronage vanishing. Something desperate had to be done and it was done. The proprietor of the *Capital* invited himself to the Tilley-Tupper Committee and posed as a Tory. Everybody remembers what a laugh this made. This wonderful gymnastic somersault was performed with a double purpose, first and principally, to force Mr. Lugin's friends to buy the paper, and secondly to secure Government patronage in case the first object failed, and in proof of this fact the files of the *Capital* may be referred to which will show that it again assumed a non-committal role. This was because its proprietor again endeavored to induce Mr. Lugin to close the bargain which had been talked of between them, but which the latter did not do for the reason that his friends advised him not to purchase a paper so utterly devoid of character. This ended the negotiations between Mr. Lugin and the gentleman

named in the *Capital* for the purchase of the plant of that paper or any other plant, and if they were never resumed. Subsequently Mr. Lugin purchased the plant used in printing the *Herald*, and whenever he thinks it concerns the editor of the *Capital* to know where the money came from he will tell him. We would not have referred to these matters but the sentiment of the community, as expressed by many persons on both sides of politics, is that the only proper reply to the *Capital's* gross attack was to give a statement of all the facts of the case and however much the editor of that paper may feel aggrieved, we can point him to his own words for solace, "He as a public journalist cannot expect to escape the critical dissection of the press and the public."

But as in the old-time theatres, after the tragedy came the farce, so in the *Capital*, after the insult came the driving nonsense. We put two of its sentences together. Speaking of Mr. Pickard, that paper complained that "The conviction given upon him that the press did not mould public opinion—that it exercised no power." A line or two before it said, "The local press has been of a milk and water character." Is there much wonder, then, that any one should think it had no influence?

The grand finale was a personal insult to Mr. Alexander Gibson. We do not refer to the statement that "he is a firm believer in the National," to which we are in a position to give a most unqualified denial and refer the editor of the *Capital* to the gentleman in question for proof; but to his insulting allusion to the relation between Mr. Gibson and as the *Capital* puts it "the Burpee." The personal relations between these gentlemen are their own affair. They may be friendly or they may not be. It is neither the *Capital's* business nor ours. The assertion that Mr. Gibson will support the present government is not true.

A FEW WORDS TO THE SUN.

We must ask our readers to pardon us if we again refer to that most disreputable of New Brunswick journals, the *St. John Sun*, but an article which appeared in the columns of that paper on Wednesday ought not, we feel, to be passed over in silence, lest the public may imagine that our statements in reference to the Canada Temperance Act were unfounded. Ever since the editor of *The Herald* announced his intention of entering in a newspaper enterprise on his own behalf, the *Sun* has bent its energies to the work of blasting his business prospects and injuring his personal reputation. It has permitted no considerations of decency to restrain it, but has given loose rein to the baseness and malignity which at other times seemed to have been under some slight restraint. No ill has been too abominable for it to invent, no insinuation too vile for it to utter. It has thrown aside every principle of manliness, honesty and fair play, if it ever knew what those things mean, and conscious that it addressed a large circle of readers that no Fredericton paper can ever possibly reach, has tried to poison the public mind against the editor of *The Herald* and his journal. The thin veil of respectability which the editor of the *Sun* has managed to keep around him, has been dropped, and his moral leprosy is open to the public view in all its hideousness. His wretched poverty of ideas, which keeps him hammering away at one subject till the public grows sick of it, his pitiable ignorance and conceit, which leads him to imagine that loud talk and high sounding words will pass for argument, his unparalleled presumption, which makes him oblivious of his own record and causes him to pose as a censor of his betters, would have long ago called forth an open expression of the contempt and disgust which every one feels, if it were not that most people are unwilling to subject themselves to his assaults. There are some men, like some animals, whose villainy is an impenetrable armor. His attack on Wednesday was based upon a willful misrepresentation of the remarks made in *The Herald* on Monday in reference to the administration of the Canada Temperance Act. We published a simple statement of facts, the truth of which any one can ascertain for himself, and which will be substantiated by the whole population of Fredericton. In the course of the article, which was a perfectly correct representation of the origin of the difficulties which are met with in enforcing this Act, and of which no one has had a better opportunity to be informed than the editor of *The Herald*, we said that "certain men in Fredericton who have boasted that they could violate the law with impunity so long as they have money enough to fee a lawyer to take the case into court, can point to facts in proof of what they say." This charge we are told "cannot be overlooked by the Bench and Bar." We have only to say that we hope it will not be overlooked, and that steps will be taken at the very first session of the Supreme Court to put an end to an unsatisfactory state of things, by a decision which will be accepted as binding by all the Judges, as to the meaning of the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act taking away the certorari in certain cases. The *Sun* goes on to say, "The meaning of it is plain enough." We intended it to be so. It adds, "It is that the Bench and Bar of Fredericton are sunk so low that the pests of the commu-

nity" can move them at their will; "that both Bench and Bar are puppets in the hands of these pests, and are so moved as to be mere shields for flagrant violators of the law." This is simply false; but what *The Herald* said did mean that the Supreme Court by the manner in which it has been dealt with, the Canada Temperance Act has rendered the enforcement of it an impossibility, and we repeat what we said on Monday, that we regard the course taken by the Court as very "impolitic." Are proofs wanted of what we say? Then they shall be given. Thomas Hackett was found guilty of an offence under the law, and the enforcement of the penalty was stayed simply because he swore that he was not guilty, although the magistrate who tried the case would not believe him. Lizzie Robinson was fined and the collection of her fine stayed because she made an affidavit that she was not guilty; although she did not appear and give evidence at the trial, because, as her counsel said, she wished to avoid being cross-examined. We might go on citing incidents, but these are sufficient to establish our statements—these are some of the facts to which the "pests of the community," to which we alluded with proof of their baseness, that they can violate the law with impunity.

The *Sun* has less sense than we gave it credit for, or it would never have attempted to urge the Bench and Bar of New Brunswick to arraign the editor of *The Herald* for the statements in question. Neither of those distinguished bodies needs such a defender as the *Sun*. So long as men are constituted as they are, lawyers can be found to accept fees from the very lowest characters, and the editor of the *Sun* may have reason to thank his stars some day that such is the case. So far as the Bench goes, the editor of *The Herald* will have the honor of appearing before that institution at the next term as a Barrister of the Supreme Court, and he will be prepared then, if it is necessary, to answer for what he has written.

THE TELEGRAPH ON THE HEALTH OF FREDERICTON.

It would be unjust to the *Telegraph* to state that it had at any time evinced a desire to injure Fredericton; but its brief allusion was made in the *Herald* of the same day, in every way calculated to do this city a great deal of harm. It will be admitted by most people, though by no means by all, that the wells in the front portion of the city do not furnish as pure water as is desirable; but while this is kept prominently forward the fact that some of the hotels use this water is never mentioned. We may add that many private families do use it and find no cause of complaint whatever. Visitors to Fredericton who stop at the hotels probably never taste a drop of well water, so that any testimony which they may give as to its unwholesomeness is worth very little. The hotels, as well as numerous private families, use river water, which is as good for drinking purposes as can be found. The statement that the city is unhealthy, as we have before shown, not warranted by the facts. The Legislature has met here for nearly a century yet we question if the *Telegraph* can name a member of it who died, or whose health became impaired, by reason of the character of the water in this city. Typhoid fever and diphtheria have prevailed here on one or two occasions; but so they have elsewhere. We have seen both these diseases in their worst types at Grand Falls where the air and the water are as pure as any on the continent. We believe that it will be of very great advantage to the citizens of Fredericton to have an efficient water supply, and that which is favor to the utmost of our power any well digested scheme which will secure it. We believe that an efficient water system will make the city even more healthy than it now is, will prove a great protection against fire, will lessen insurance rates somewhat, and prove a great convenience for household and manufacturing purposes, and for these reasons we favor its early introduction. At the same time we protest against the publication of statements of an alarmist character relative to the health of the city. Every man who owns a dollar's worth of property, every hotel keeper, every stable keeper and tradesman in the town suffers in consequence of such statements, which have been allowed to go uncorrected long enough. Misrepresentations of this kind, however honestly made or kindly intended, are calculated to defeat the very object they are designed to serve; because they arouse a feeling of indignation on the part of the citizens who feel themselves aggrieved by them.

The *St. John News* gives some very sensible advice to the people of New Brunswick on the subject of emigration to the North-West. It very truly says— "The men who are fortunately located on good land in these Provinces, and are prepared to join the march of improvement, will have no cause to envy their brethren of the North-West. A solid competency is assured them, on conditions not particularly onerous. The province needs more of this kind of writing, but it also needs a firm and determined effort on the part of the press and people to secure from the Government some share of the advantages which ought to flow from the enormous expenditures constantly being made for public works."

THE PROPOSED CENTRAL RAILWAY.

While we decline the right of the *Capital* to catechise us upon the subject of the Central Railway or any other, and suggest that it will do very much better to avoid the insulting tone which it has adopted towards us, we have no objection to discuss with it in plain English the people of Queen's and Sunbury have for railway connection, and the advantage which such a railway would be to Fredericton. Let us premise what we say in the confidence of the New Brunswick Railway Company, we have no reason to believe that the construction of the Central Railway has been seriously contemplated by that Company. We do not state this as a fact, because we do not know it to be such, but we believe it to be correct. The article in which the *Capital* found its "mare's nest" was written by the editor of *The Herald* when in Gagetown lately, and was suggested by a conversation with some gentlemen there, in the course of which the great necessity which existed for better communication between the lake country and the rest of the Province was clearly demonstrated. Our contemporary made a very ridiculous blunder in ascribing the article in question to the inspiration of the above-named Company, and it could easily avoid mistakes of this kind if it would not be so suspicious of the motives of everybody. The correspondent of the *St. John papers* confesses, as our contemporary says, "the freshading of the *Herald*," and simply for the reason that we have kept ourselves informed of what was going on around us. Now, in respect to this Central Railway, we repeat what we said in our first treating of it, namely, that it is not much use to discuss it until we have some definite project to discuss, but we admit at once, without the slightest reservation, that when any proposition is made by the promoters of the scheme, we shall approach its consideration in a friendly spirit. Our contemporary jumps too hastily at the conclusion that this road would injure the community. Indeed, we believe it would do nothing of the kind, but would, if properly located, prove of great advantage. However, it is premature to discuss the matter, which will come up before the Legislature in some shape or other, and it will be time enough then to get up arguments pro and con.

THE WINTER PORT.

The Minister of Finance and the Hon. Peter Mitchell have each made a delivery upon the Winter Port Question, but have left the matter pretty much as they found it. The first-named gentleman said that he is authorized to say that "the report recently put into circulation that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are arranging to have their eastern terminus at a port in the United States is without foundation in fact." Accepting this statement as it stands, we think it would have been very good comfort in it for the *St. John* Committee to whom it was sent, and it does not meet the real point at issue. The letter, to which it was a reply, asked for suggestions. The answer simply suggests that the Committee may perhaps come to Ottawa. Mr. Mitchell wished to get the Minister of Finance to pledge himself to it in 1878. Mr. Mitchell's letter is of value because it is a forcible exposition of the western views whereby St. John and the western part of New Brunswick can hope to reap any benefit from the Government expenditures; but for all that there is nothing new in it. Had the people of the River Counties united in an effort in this direction three years ago, instead of pulling against each other, the missing link would have been built and the winter port question solved in advance, that is so far as a solution of it is possible without taking into account the policy which may be adopted by rival railway lines.

(FOR THE EVENING HERALD.)

LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE PARTY.—As an instance of the purity and patriotism which promotes the supporters of the "Party of Gentlemen," *par excellence*, a recent expression of a *St. John* Liberal Conservative is in print. He complained that the successful candidate did not reimburse him for the money, and pay him for the influence he furnished towards the election; thereby confessing that he looks upon politics as a means of personal gain, of barter and sale, and upon office as a position which a man holds for his own private benefit. This is the view of politics which the Conservatives (Tories) would be a more appropriate term) have been charged with holding; and it is perhaps, a valuable contribution to political history to have the evidence that this is true, furnished by one of the most active Conservatives. How true the old saying, "like master, like man," verifying the old Latin proverb, *Malum quo communis eo pejus*. A.

—The United States consul at Auckland, New Zealand, says the prospects of the gold fields there are brighter than ever. The average annual yield is \$5,000,000.

MONDAY'S VOTE.

So far as the vote of last Monday signifies anything it proves that the people of the city are not opposed to water works. We could easily name enough voters who yesterday registered in the negative, and who, if the question had been submitted in the proper fashion, would have voted in the affirmative, to alter the majority against water works to a majority in favor of them. The vote was a small one, only about one-third of the whole being polled; but the fact that many absent themselves may be taken as indicating that the feeling of opposition is not very strong. If the persons who promoted the idea of taking the vote on Monday had been a little less hasty they would have been more successful. Our only wonder is that one hundred and twenty-eight people could be found in the city willing to take such a leap in the dark as to vote to take 50 per cent. of the stock of a company without knowing what the company proposed to do or how much they intended to expend. Perhaps many of them felt that they were simply voting on the principle of water or no water and wanted to be on the right side, being well aware that the vote would not bind the City Council to anything; but that that body would be just as free to act as if the vote had never been taken at all. At any rate, as we said some days ago, the vote will have no effect either way, and the city will have an artificial water supply before very long. We are informed on reliable authority that a company will be organized as soon as the necessary legislation can be obtained. Our information comes from gentlemen who will be connected with the company.

THE OPENING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

Probably over twelve hundred invitations will be issued to the opening of the new Parliament Buildings. Of these a large number will be accepted and we shall be surprised if four or five hundred gentlemen do not purchase tickets. No expense will be spared to give edat to the entertainment and render it thoroughly enjoyable. One feature will have some interest, more perhaps to the next generation than to this, and that is that a register of those present is to be kept in which all who attend will be asked to write their names. This book will be presented to the Legislative Library and will no doubt, possess considerable interest by and by. The Promenade Concert it is hoped, will attract many who feel that they cannot conscientiously attend a ball. The spacious Assembly Room and the fine halls and corridors will afford fine opportunities for promenading. The desire of the committee is to unite if possible all classes of our citizens in a complimentary reception to the members of the Legislature, and we think we may add, they would be glad to have the co-operation of any gentlemen who may for any reason not have been consulted heretofore. As the occasion will be historical, in a certain sense, it is desirable that nothing should be omitted which will ensure its success. The utmost harmony prevails in the large general committee, and it will be strange if when every one is so determined to do his utmost to have the affair pass off satisfactorily there should be any chance for disappointment.

DOES DRUNKENNESS EXCUSE CRIME?

The verdict of the jury in the post office box case is concerned in by every one who knows the facts which appeared in evidence, and the charge of the learned judge as applied to that case, we think, a correct exposition of the law. It should always be borne in mind that a judge at nisi Prius is not laying down law, and it will be strange if when every one is so determined to do his utmost to have the affair pass off satisfactorily there should be any chance for disappointment. The verdict of the jury in the post office box case is concerned in by every one who knows the facts which appeared in evidence, and the charge of the learned judge as applied to that case, we think, a correct exposition of the law. It should always be borne in mind that a judge at nisi Prius is not laying down law, and it will be strange if when every one is so determined to do his utmost to have the affair pass off satisfactorily there should be any chance for disappointment. The verdict of the jury in the post office box case is concerned in by every one who knows the facts which appeared in evidence, and the charge of the learned judge as applied to that case, we think, a correct exposition of the law. It should always be borne in mind that a judge at nisi Prius is not laying down law, and it will be strange if when every one is so determined to do his utmost to have the affair pass off satisfactorily there should be any chance for disappointment.

Porter's closing speech for the prosecution in Guitier's case was a tremendous piece of invective, but must have sounded wonderfully out of place in a court of justice. It was a fitting close to a trial, the most remarkable and most discreditable to all concerned of any in modern times at least.

—Emma Abbott who is out West, is reported to be very large. She hasn't broken her leg nor sprained her ankle. She has only been vaccinated.

BISMARCK AND TURKEY.

It usually happens that it is only in the form of accomplished facts that Americans get much information of what goes on at the capital of the Turkish empire. Constantinople is the centre of more political intrigue than any other point on the continent of Europe, and it often happens that a great part of what is said and done there is wholly misleading, so far as surface appearances are concerned. There seems to be in the very atmosphere an incentive to oriental mystery and hyperbole. Hardly a week passes in which some plan is not evolved there, which, if carried out, would change the whole political outline of Europe. Inevitably the coolest headed men fall under the influence of their surroundings, when they make much of a stay at Constantinople. This is noticeable, not only in the official reports that are sent by ambassadors at the Sublime Porte to their respective governments, but also in the letters sent by the Constantinople correspondents of the various newspapers. The inference to be drawn from most of this intelligence would be that Europe was quietly reposing over a powder magazine, in which an explosion was imminent. It cannot be denied that there is a basis of truth in this assertion, but the doubt which clouds these Levantine reports is that, month after month, and possibly, year after year, goes by, while the frequently predicted disruptions do not take place. It is this circumstance that has made the purveyors of news for the American public look askant at intelligence which comes from Turkey, and, having begun by believing everything, they have fallen into the equal error of believing almost nothing which originates at Constantinople. It thus happens that the news we get from the capital of Turkey is, as we said above, chiefly inclined to a matter of fact statement of events concerning which there can be no doubt.

It may be due to this limitation that little or nothing has been said in this country concerning the change which the Sultan has made in his relations to two of the European powers, though the event is, perhaps, the most noteworthy one which has occurred in Turkey since the close of the war with Russia. The ending of that struggle left the Sultan on very friendly terms with England. For years before, her ambassadors had exercised an influence at Constantinople exceeding that, even of the most ardent Russian ministers, and unapproached by that possessed by any other foreign representative. Naturally, the services of England in guarding Constantinople from capture were not forgotten; and, possibly, if Lord Beaconsfield had up to this time been at the head of the English government, English influence would still predominate in the council of the Sultan. To point out how this prestige has been sacrificed would involve a host of large and small incidents and cover altogether too much space for a newspaper article. Suffice it to say that, for good or evil, England does not occupy in Turkey the position of ascendancy that she did two years ago, which is now held, not by her old-time rival, Russia, but by a new competitor in the person of Germany.

It would hardly be safe to assume that Prince Bismarck has thrown his whole into the turmoil of Levantine intrigue without a definite purpose. A man of his years and experience, with the burden of public duty weighing heavily upon him, would not be likely to increase this load for the empty satisfaction of building up German influence at Constantinople. If he desires influence he desires it for some ulterior end. England does it as a means of protecting her roadway to India; Russia as a means of weakening the military strength of Turkey and preparing the way for her dismemberment; and the problem now presented is, What does Germany want? So far as the Turkish government is concerned, we are not left in much doubt as to what it thinks of its new ally and his purposes. The *entente cordiale* which has recently been affirmed by the Sultan, in sending a special envoy to Berlin to invest Emperor William with the order of Nichani-Istiaz, has for the Turk a specific meaning. By means of an alliance with Germany, his country is to be placed in a position to attack and punish its enemies. This is the burden of Levantine report, official and unofficial. Which of the two immediate enemies of Turkey is to suffer is left undetermined. If Germany chooses to strike a blow at France, Turkey can be counted upon to drive the French from Tunis and Algeria. If Von Moltke's plans for a campaign in Russia are to be made use of—and the relations between Russia and Germany are just now a little strained—then Turkey can come to the support of her ally in the Black Sea and its surrounding country. In either adventure, Turkey, it is held, would be a gainer, winning back territory that has passed out of her control. How far these combative views are shared by the German chancellor is not known. They may form no part of his plans, and yet he may think it expedient not to check their promulgation by his Turkish friends. The recent mutual arrangement made by France and England for the protection of their interests in Egypt, as it is a thrust at Turkish supremacy in that country, and will lead the Sultan to appeal to Berlin, may be the means of bringing to light the true intent of this Turco-German relationship.