

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B. MARCH 1, 1899.

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This paper has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces. Semi-Weekly Telegraph. ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH 1, 1899.

THE BANNER COUNTY. The Moncton Transcript does well to praise the county of Westmorland, which is certainly a most progressive and prosperous municipality. Yet there is something rather misleading in its article of Thursday entitled "The Banner Constituency," from which we quote the following sentence:

"St. John city claims much consideration because of its population; but Westmorland county after all is the banner constituency in New Brunswick in the number of votes cast. In Westmorland the highest candidate received 4,077 votes; in St. John city 3,862. In Westmorland the lowest candidate polled 2,887 votes; in St. John city 3,338, in each constituency there were two full skeletons of our running; in Westmorland the average vote per candidate was 3,095, and in St. John city only 3,627.

Another interesting comparison shows the growth of Westmorland county and St. John city. In October, 1892, there was an election in Westmorland county, and in St. John city. The average vote per candidate in Westmorland county in October, 1892, was 3,235, as against 3,990 on Saturday last.

The growth of Moncton city during the past six years may also be judged by the same comparison. In October, 1892, the average vote per candidate in the city was 695. The highest vote polled then was 671 and the lowest 510. On Saturday last the highest vote polled was 933 and the lowest 638. The average vote per candidate on Saturday was 749, as against 695 in 1892, an increase of 25.9 per cent; a marvelous six years' record.

It is quite true that more votes appear to have been cast in the county of Westmorland last Saturday than in the city of St. John, but that is placing a whole county against a part of one. For the purpose of convenience St. John has been divided into two constituencies, the city and the county. By a similar process Moncton might be formed into a constituency, and then its votes would no longer count in the polling of the county of Westmorland. Yet the importance of Westmorland would not thereby be lessened, nor is the importance of the city and county of St. John reduced by its division into two constituencies. Accepting the figures of the Transcript for Westmorland as correct, it appears that 7,992 votes were polled in the county last Saturday. The votes polled in the city of St. John numbered only 7,254, but those of the county, apart from the city, were 2,186 more, making the total vote of the city and county of St. John 9,440, against 7,992 for Westmorland, an excess of 1,448 for St. John.

It is very gratifying to see that the county of Westmorland and the city of Moncton have grown since the election in October, 1892, but the city and county of St. John have grown also. In the city of St. John at the election of 1892 there were 6,004 votes cast, while last Saturday, as already stated, there were 7,254, an increase of 1,250 in about six years. In the county apart from the city there were 1,322 votes cast in 1892 and 2,186 Friday, an increase of 254. Taking the city and county of St. John together the increase in the number of votes cast in 1899 as compared with 1892 was 1504, which is a few votes more than the total number of votes polled in the city of Moncton last Saturday. This, we think is a very respectable rate of growth, almost 20 per cent, for both city and county. For the city the rate of increase is somewhat more than 20 per cent, for the county a little less.

The Transcript's reference to the growth of the city of Moncton since 1892 is interesting and instructive. It appears that in 1892 there were 1190 votes polled

in Moncton, while in 1899 there were 1498, an increase of 308, which is equal to about 26 per cent. The Transcript will be glad to learn that in two wards, Kings and Wellington, and of our St. John wards, Wellington and Prince, we can show an equal increase. These two wards poll about the same number of votes as the city of Moncton.

In 1892 Moncton polled, as already stated, 1190 votes, while Wellington and Prince, at the same election, polled 1269. On Saturday last Moncton polled 1498 votes, while Wellington and Prince rolled up 1550. While Moncton and Westmorland are going ahead, we are not standing still in the city and county of St. John.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Moncton Transcript, is not always at its best when engaged in arguing out any matter which concerns the county of Westmorland and the city of Moncton. As the following editorial paragraphs from its issue of Saturday will show:

"The Globe and Telegraph both dispute the Transcript's claim that Westmorland is the banner constituency, and says that St. John city and county are really one and were divided. So were Westmorland and Albert divided, and were really one. It was existing constituencies, however, this journal was speaking about and not former ones. It was a little hard on St. John pride; but for Moncton's enormous increase from 1892 to 1899, even the enterprise of St. John would not have saved the province from the absolute disgrace of actually going backwards.

To break this journal's claim for Westmorland as the banner electoral district in the province, our esteemed contemporary, the St. John papers, take in the county outside, which is in local elections a distinct constituency. If it were summer, it is presumed these journals would have included Digby as a suburban district of St. John to balance matters.

We fail to see what similarity there is between the separation of Albert from Westmorland and the division of the city and county of St. John into two electoral districts. Nearly half a century ago Albert became a separate county, and severed all connexion with Westmorland, just as Restigouche, Gloucester and Kent had been previously cut out of the original county of Northumberland, and Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska, and Carleton Place, were separated from the county of York. But no such separation took place between the city and county of St. John and the city is still a part of the county, and the most important part of it. The evident intention of the Transcript in the paragraphs which we quoted from it on Saturday was to induce its readers to believe that Westmorland was a greater county than St. John, and that Moncton was a very great city and a place of wonderful growth. We showed that the entire city of Moncton did not poll as many votes as two St. John wards, Prince and Wellington, and that judging from the elections of 1892 and 1899 St. John was growing quite as fast as Moncton.

We stated these facts in as polite terms as we could think of, and without the slightest desire to belittle Moncton, for which we have a very great admiration, as we have for its Liberal editor, Mr. Hawke. It is therefore with some surprise that we find the Transcript seeking to darken the question by references to "St. John's pride" and the alleged desire of the newspapers of this city to include Digby as "a suburban district of St. John."

We are greatly impressed with the wit of these observations which they seem to be somewhat irrefutable. Fortunately when the position of St. John as "the banner county" is challenged we can meet the Transcript's arguments by facts which it cannot refute. Although for provincial elections the city and county of St. John have been separated, for dominion elections the old constituency of St. John still exists as a constituency between Westmorland and St. John has been challenged. Let us see how the two constituencies compared in the dominion general election of 1896. The official returns show that in the city and county of St. John at that election there were 14,376 votes on the lists of which 9,125 were polled, while in the county of Westmorland at the same election there were 9,994 voters on the lists of which 6,839 were polled. Thus it appears that in 1896 there were 4,882 more voters on the lists in the city and county of St. John, the constituency which Lt. Col. Tucker represents, than there were on the lists of the Transcript's "banner constituency" of Westmorland, and that in 1896 there were 3,235 more votes polled in the city and county of St. John than in Westmorland. These facts should be sufficient to determine with accuracy the standing of the two counties in question.

THE GROWTH OF ST. JOHN. We are indebted to the Moncton Transcript for the idea of measuring the growth of a constituency or community by the number of votes polled at two general elections. The Transcript applied this test to the city of Moncton and the county of Westmorland, while we propose to apply it to the city and county of St. John, by wards, parishes and sections. It is, of course, not an absolutely correct test, for there may be more activity at one election than at another, but such a comparison ought to be of value between the figures of 1892 and 1899, when the issues were practically the same and many of the same men were running in both elections. Assuming each voter to have cast his vote for four candidates, as he had a right to do, the total vote polled in each

ward in the city of St. John in 1892 and in 1899 was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Ward, 1892, 1899. Rows include Kings, Queens, Wellington, Prince, St. John, Sydney, Brocks, Lorne, Lansdown, Victoria, Stanley.

The non-resident voters are not included in the above. It will be observed that there was an increase in 1899 over the vote of 1892 in every ward in the city, the increase in two or three cases being small, but in most of the wards quite large. Lorne the banner ward in respect to increase had polled 40 per cent. more votes on the 18th inst. than in 1892, while Stanley shows the smallest increase of any. It is a singular fact that the increase in these two great wards, Wellington and Prince, was precisely the same. All the North End wards except Stanley showed a rapid rate of growth. The following statement shows the increase in the vote in each section of the city:

Table with 3 columns: Section, 1892, 1899, Increase. Rows include South End, West Side, North End.

These figures show that the North End is growing very rapidly, and that the South End is also maintaining a very respectable rate of increase. In round numbers, if judged by this test, the city has added about one-fifth to its population in less than seven years. This is very gratifying, and ought to reassure our people in regard to the future of St. John.

The figures for the county are also encouraging, especially those of the western parishes. A comparison of the county vote, exclusive of non-residents, in 1892 and 1899 shows the following result:

Table with 3 columns: Parish, 1892, 1899, Increase. Rows include St. Martins, St. Charles, Leconsault, Moncton, Westmorland.

Taking the city and county together there were 13,992 more votes polled in 1899 than there were in 1892, which would represent an increase of about 10,000 in the population. The inference created by these figures is supported by a comparison of the votes polled at the dominion elections of 1891 and 1896 for the city and county of St. John. In 1891 there were 8,570 votes polled in the city and county, while in 1896 there were 9,125, an increase of 573 in a little more than five years. The increase since 1896 has of course been more rapid than it was prior to that year. The people of St. John now have faith in the future, and that counts for much.

The growth of Liberalism in St. John since 1892 has been quite as remarkable as the growth of the city itself. This growth has not been confined to any ward or section, but has been general, the only exception being one of the Carleton wards. The following table shows the Liberal and Conservative vote by wards in the city of St. John at the general elections of 1892 and 1899:

Table with 4 columns: Ward, 1892, 1899, Liberal, Conservative. Rows include Kings, Queens, Wellington, Prince, St. John, Sydney, Brocks, Lorne, Lansdown, Victoria, Stanley.

We believe our readers will agree with us in thinking that these figures are worthy of particular attention. It will be observed that in less than seven years, while the Conservative vote has only increased by 59, the Liberal vote has been augmented by 1,128. Figures like the above speak for themselves.

MR. BLAKE. The Montreal Star publishes what purports to be a cable from London in regard to the intention of Mr. Edward Blake to retire from the British House of Commons and return to Canada. This alleged cable bears all the earmarks of having been written in the Star office in the City of Montreal, and the evident intention of it is to create trouble between the friends of Mr. Blake and those of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. We are told in this alleged cable that the Canadian colony in London is interested in what Mr. Blake will do on reaching Canada. He has no public statement respecting Canadian affairs, or his probable action with regard to them, but friends of his say that "old Liberals" in Canada will be glad to see him back. He has no burning desire to re-enter Canadian public life, but they say he might consider it his duty to do so if his old supporters in Canada insist on it in the public interests.

The alleged cable then goes on to tell how these in London who conversant with Canadian politics say that many "old Liberals" consider that the party is being destroyed by the master spirits of the cabinet, Messrs. Tarte and Blair, who are not Liberals, but something else, and it is said "that these people have been writing to Mr. Blake, urging him to return." He has also received appeals from the younger men in the party, who are longing for higher ideals

than those now prevalent, and desire to see the party become once again in a party of principle. Irish Catholics, identified with the Liberal party, too, it is stated, have asked Mr. Blake to come to them, and do justice to a man, alleging that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is not given their proper recognition, simply because Mr. Tarte is hostile to them, while Mr. Sifton, regarded by the P. P. A. element as its particular representative in the cabinet, is equally unfriendly."

Mr. Hugh Graham must be losing his grip as a newspaper man if he suppose that the above concoction will deceive any person. Not only are the statements in it not true, but they are absurd. The Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, the collector general, is generally looked upon as a very good representative of the Irish Catholics, and he is a living proof that neither Sir Wilfrid Laurier nor Mr. Tarte is hostile to them. The Liberals of Canada would be well pleased to see Mr. Blake again in public life, and they know very well that if he could be induced to enter parliament everything that has been done by the present ministry would receive his warm endorsement and support. Mr. Blake, for reasons which seemed good to himself and which no one could deny to be valid, retired from the leadership of the Liberal party a number of years ago, and he would be the last man in the world to attempt to undermine the influence and authority of its present leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

THE CONSERVATIVES AND THE WASHINGTON TREATY. When the negotiations were begun for a treaty between Great Britain and the United States for the settlement of certain questions which had arisen between the latter country and Canada Sir Charles Tupper, with a great show of magnanimity said that he would not embarrass the government of Canada by any criticisms touching the negotiations and authority of its present leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

These fair tales will no longer pass current. Some other victim besides Mr. Blair will have to be selected for the attacks of the opposition press. This, we suppose, is why the Montreal Star in its issue of Saturday began a campaign of slander against Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The pretext for this attack is the temporary failure of the negotiations for a treaty with the United States, as if there was anything discreditable in Sir Wilfrid's firm attitude in resisting the extreme demands of the Americans. If Sir Wilfrid had yielded the Star would have denounced him as a traitor to Canada, but having been firm and maintained the rights of the Dominion intact the Star abuses him because the treaty has failed. This is fair play according to the Star and most of the opposition press. It is in line with the abusive language of Sir Charles Tupper at Toronto with the utterances of some of his colleagues.

All this abuse will in time react on the party which indulges in it. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is hated by the opposition because of his successful leadership and the prestige he has acquired on both sides of the Atlantic. It is one of his great faults that he is a gentleman and never forgets his position as a member of parliament. The contrast between him and the leader of the opposition in this respect is so marked that it is enough to infuriate the declining party which sits to the left of the speaker's chair. Yet it would be wiser for these partisans to restrain their emotions, for the people of Canada who have given Sir Wilfrid such a splendid majority in the house of commons, are not likely to turn their backs upon him because he is a gentleman as well as a statesman.

The opposition are doing a great deal of figuring just now to explain away their defeat. They claim that the government majority at the late election did not exceed 5,000, and they think that under the circumstances they ought to have more representatives. All this is childish and a mere excuse to hide their disappointment. In 1878 the late Sir Leonard Tilley had a majority of only 9 in the city of St. John, yet no person asked him to resign on that account. In 1882 when running against Mr. Geo. McLeod his majority was 137. The great Dr. Weldon the last time he was elected in Albert had a majority of only 76. The great Mr. Foster had only a majority of 73 in Kings in 1891, and even that was open to doubt.

The death of Dr. P. M. Guay, M. P. for Lewis creates another vacancy in the Canadian House of Commons. Dr. Guay, who was the Liberal whip for the province of Quebec has represented Lewis since 1886, having been elected at by-election to replace an ex-speaker Blanchet, who had been appointed collector of customs at Quebec.

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without any hindrance whatever" the treaty of Washington restricts that right of navigation to the purposes of commerce, so that no Canadian military force, such as the Mounted Police, could go into the Yukon territory without the special permission of the United States government. Yet this treaty which so restricted Canadian rights was made by that "great and lamented statesman," Sir John A. Macdonald.

ABUSING SIR WILFRID LAURIER. The plan of campaign that has been pursued by the opposition press ever since the Liberals assumed power at Ottawa has been decried to the last degree, and never has been paralleled in any other country under the British flag. The whole effort has been to connect the ministers with scandals, especially such powerful ministers as Mr. Tarte and Mr. Blair, who are at the head of great departments, and who are well-known to be strong men. These men have been pursued after a fashion that must have been learned from the Sioux and Apaches, and every effort has been made to bring them into discredit. Mr. Blair, besides being subject to all sorts of attacks because of his policy as minister of railways, has been exposed to the treacherous slanders of sneaking detractors whose mission from this province to Ottawa was to tell the people there what a weak man Mr. Blair was in his own province. The tales were so often repeated that the people who started them finally came to believe in them, just as George IV. in his latter days, could not be disabused of the idea that he was present with Wellington at the battle of Waterloo. The attempt of Mr. Foster to defeat the provincial government, of which Mr. Blair had so long been premier, was the natural outcome of these stories of Mr. Blair's weakness, but now that the opposition has been wiped out, and Mr. Foster has gone west with a flea in his ear, these fairy tales will no longer pass current. Some other victim besides Mr. Blair will have to be selected for the attacks of the opposition press. This, we suppose, is why the Montreal Star in its issue of Saturday began a campaign of slander against Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The pretext for this attack is the temporary failure of the negotiations for a treaty with the United States, as if there was anything discreditable in Sir Wilfrid's firm attitude in resisting the extreme demands of the Americans. If Sir Wilfrid had yielded the Star would have denounced him as a traitor to Canada, but having been firm and maintained the rights of the Dominion intact the Star abuses him because the treaty has failed. This is fair play according to the Star and most of the opposition press. It is in line with the abusive language of Sir Charles Tupper at Toronto with the utterances of some of his colleagues.

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LOCAL NEWS

AID FOR DIGBY—Mayor Sears has received an appeal for aid from Digby. It is signed by the mayor of the town. A subscription list will probably be opened here for the recent fire sufferers.

DANGEROUS ILL—William W. Short, formerly of this city, and brother of Charles K. Short, the Garden street druggist, is lying in a precarious state of health in Richmond, Kent county. Mr. Short's friends in this city will be pained to learn that his recovery is impossible.

DIED IN ENGLAND—Word has been received here of the death of Mrs. Margaret Simons, relict of Charles Simons, formerly of this city. She was 71 years old and although a resident of London for many years is remembered here by many of our older people. She was an aunt of Miss Symonds of Peter street.

THE INTERNATIONAL ELEVATOR—Plans were put on view yesterday morning at the office of the station master, for the 500,000 bushel I C R elevator, the new freight sheds on the wharf to be constructed by the Concessions, and the concrete pier to run from the elevator to the berths at the wharf. The plans call for an elevator and power-house at the most modern and up-to-date style to be built of the best possible material. The elevator and power-house are to be erected to the northward of the train shed, on the site of the Harris saw shed. Conveyors will run across Mill street. The elevator is to be completed by October 1.

AN ELECTION INCIDENT—A few days before the election a couple of St. John gentlemen doing the rural districts in the interest of the county opposition were traveling towards St. Martins as the sun was getting past the noon hour, and a comfortable farm house appearing the politicians drove into the yard and asked "if there was any thing to eat in the house." Being told that there was plenty, and good at that, they decided to refresh themselves and team, the latter being sent to the barn in charge of a boy. They ordered dinner in the house and particularly required roast. After a bounteous feast they remembered they had business further on and left without even thanking the kind housewife or her son for their entertainment.

ANOTHER PROMER FALLS—The Vancouver World says: "At Okanagan Falls on Feb. 1 at 2 p. m., Roderick McLean passed peacefully away. He was sick but a short time and seemed to realize from the beginning of his sickness that he would die. The immediate cause was pneumonia. Roderick McLean was born in Nova Scotia in August, 1827. He went to the West Indies, where he stayed in Cariboo for 12 years, had his ups and downs, like all, or most all, did, and at the end of 12 years set forth a wanderer if not a wanderer. On his return he spent one year in Mission Valley, and then came to Penitence, finally settling on a farm near Okanagan Falls, where he has since resided and where he died. With Mr. McLean's passing away the landmarks has passed away, and to his ashes I am one of God's noblest men—an honest man."

T. AND G. LIFE ASSURANCE—The thirteenth annual report of the Temperance and General Life Assurance Company shows that this company is making very solid progress. The mortality experience among the total subscribers has been uniformly low, and the general or mixed class of assured. The figures for the past year show a careful and economic management, the maximum result being obtained from the outlay. Indeed, compared with the preceding twelve months, it is surprising to find that while large increases have been obtained all along the line, the additional outlay has been under a thousand dollars. Together the Temperance and General has had an eminent successful year, which, in face of the keen competition of other and larger institutions, reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. The Economist, Toronto.

MESSRS. FITZFIELD & CO.'S AFFAIRS—The creditors of Messrs W O Fitzfield & Co met again at Montreal on Wednesday. The creditors' committee were continued in office and authority given them to take such action as would most likely lead to an equitable and early settlement. They were also empowered to arrange with Mr. Fitzfield for the carrying on of the business meanwhile. The report of Mr. Hyde, the Montreal accountant, who made an extensive examination into the firm's condition, confirmed the correctness of the statement submitted by Mr. Fitzfield. This report appeared only a few days ago, and a dispatch says that the alleged partner of the firm, Mr. Samuel Hayward, was given a few days to make a satisfactory offer to the creditors along with Mr. Fitzfield. If this cannot be arranged legal steps will be taken to close up the business. In the meantime Mr. Fitzfield will have charge of the business.

Well Made and Makes Well. Hood's Sarsaparilla is prepared by experienced pharmacists of today, who have brought to the production of this great medicine the best results of medical research. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a modern medicine, containing just those vegetable ingredients which were seemingly intended by Nature herself for the alleviation of human ills. It purifies and enriches the blood, tones the stomach and digestive organs and restores appetite; it absolutely cures all scrofula eruptions, boils, pimples, sores, skin rashes, and every form of skin disease; cures liver complaint, kidney troubles, strengthens and builds up the nervous system. It entirely overcomes that tired feeling, giving strength and energy in place of weakness and languor. It wards off malaria, typhoid fever, and purifying the blood, it keeps the whole system healthy.

Hood's Sarsaparilla. It is the best in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1 per box.

Hood's Pills. It is the best in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1 per box.