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CIVIC TAXATION

DISCUSSED AT A MEETING LAST NIGHT.

Much Personal Property Escapes Under the Present System—The Burthen of Taxation Unduly Heavy on Certain Classes—Information to be Sought to Amend it.

A public meeting for the discussion of changes in the civic system of taxation under the auspices of the Board of Trade was held in their rooms Thursday. The attendance filled the rooms. Mr W M Jarvis, vice-president of the Board of Trade, acted as chairman in the absence of Mr D J McLaughlin, president.

Mr Jarvis opened the meeting by stating that the object of the meeting was one of great importance to all citizens and that the people realized this was shown by the large gathering.

He asked all to give their frank opinions after the matter had been discussed before them.

The present system of taxation was, he said, based on the Union act with some amendments. The act was supposed to be based on the wealth of the community—three subjects being taken: real estate, personal estate and income. The assessors are supposed to get at the relative values of these subjects. Should it so be he had no doubt but that the system now in vogue would be a satisfactory one. He gave the assessors credit for intelligence, industry and honesty, but with these qualifications they were unable to carry out the present law. They had industriously searched for subjects of taxation with the result that $13,000,000 of real, $8,000,000 personal, and $3,000,000 of income were levied upon. No one doubted but there was more personal property held here, but it was impossible to get at it for assessment purposes; it escaped taxation entirely. The money, however, had to be raised, so other property had to pay it. Thus, instead of the burthen being evenly distributed, some escaped scot free, while others paid far more than their fair share.

He desired to point out some inconsistencies in the act. The act provided that the district commissioners should obtain information as to real and personal property and income. They report to the assessors, who balance accounts and adjust the rate of taxation from this information. While the commissioners had authority to get information as to income, age, etc., they had, which was very strange, no authority to obtain information as to rental values. He believed the assessors were trying to do justice, which was a very difficult one, and the subject of various complaints. He was quite with the difficulty of the assessors in obtaining information on income. The valuation of the income of most of the lawyers and insurance men was absurd. The assessors were not to blame. They were in a position to know. The same situation existed in every other city where assessed income. Speaking of personal property he said $8,000,000 was assessed here; while the real property was valued at $13,000,000. The proportion was very large compared with other cities. The reason was assessors in other cities dare not assess the personal property as they were sworn to do for fear of driving the wealth out of the community. In other cities where the amount of personal property was small, the assessors put their duty as citizens above their duty as assessors and refused to assess. The large amount of personal property listed here was due to the efforts of the late chairman of assessors, who had been untiring in his efforts to discover personal property and promptly assess it. The result had been to drive from the city of a great deal of wealth, and making it impossible for men to retire and live upon his money. When men were alive they could conceal much of their personal estate if they desired. When they died, however, and their estates were probated the assessors, who had access to the probate records, very soon arrived at the value of the estate. He had taken the trouble to look up the records on some estates recently probated. There were about 20 estates which he had compared with their assessed value during the life of the owner. In the case of four estates the assessors had been able to find no personal property. The records in the probate offices showed the four estates to be possessed of personal property to the value of $50 200. Part of this might have been in life insurance and non-taxable bonds, but that part was very small indeed. In four cases the assessors had found personal property to the amount of $1,400, while the probate records showed $28,900 Five cases gave the assessors personal estate to the amount of $5,800 and the probate records showed them to have had $35,400 Another man had been assessed on $2,000 personal property. His estate showed $7,000. Another, assessed on $5,000, had, as the probate records showed, $57,000, while another, assessed on $6,000, had $37,864. In one case $40,000 was assessed while the probate record showed $1,000. There were just three cases which the probate records showed to have been taxed on about the full amount of personal property. The injustice was shown in the fact that while one was able to escape; when he died the probate records at once indicated the value of the estate, and the widow and orphans were taxed upon it. Instead the amount assessed had to come somewhere, and what was easier to get it in the easiest possible way without allowing anyone to escape, or throwing a burthen on any one class of company or properties. The present system was vicious and imposed the hardest burthens on those least able to pay it. A man with an income of $300 paid in taxes $6 68, or about 2 per cent. while an income of $3,000 paid $48, or 1½ per cent. He called attention to the fact that under the law horses kept for pleasure only were taxed as personal property, while a man who earned his living with a horse paid not only the personal property tax upon it but a license fee. This was discrimination against the rich man and in favor of the poor. He held that the present system of taxation was vicious to the foundation and should at once be remodelled and the burthens adjusted. The board of trade has indorsed no particular system, but merely wanted the common council to obtain authority from the legislature to get information. Then arm the assessors with this authority, have the information obtained and then a proper system could be worked out. As for himself he was in favor of doing away with personal and income tax altogether, and substituting therefor a system of rental and business taxes. England had done away with personal taxes, and now England was the wealth centre of the world Montreal had done away with it, and Montreal was the centre of wealth in Canada.

Mr W H Thorne, the next speaker, said it was impossible for wealth to remain in St John under the present system of taxation. Three or four per cent was now considered a fair revenue from bonds or stocks. A man would not consent to have one and a half per cent of that taken for taxes. A man with $100,000 would not come to St John to live, and no person would think of investing $100,000 in manufactures without obtaining tax exemptions He was willing to pay taxes but only wanted to contribute his fair share. He was now assessed on $.86,000, but stated that if any gentleman would give him $100,000 for his assets he would cheerfully sever his connection with St. John. He favored a change in the system of taxation and that the information on which to readjust the system might be obtained he moved the following resolution:—

"Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, power should be given by law to the board of assessors to enable them to obtain, either through the district commissioners or otherwise, information as to rentals and other taxable values, in like manner as they are now authorized to obtain such information with regard to the age, occupation, salary and wages of citizens."

The motion was seconded by Mr R B Emerson, who expressed the belief that a readjustment of taxation burthens should be made.

James Lee intimated that the resolution did not go far enough. He was in favor of making an exemption of say $500 in the case of all personal taxes and assessing on all personal property beyond that amount.

Mr J D Hazen said there was no way to escape taxes. A certain amount had to be raised to run the city. The thing to be considered was a more equitable system. The difficulty, he thought, was not so much with the system of levying personal taxes, but from the fact that the assessors could not get at a great portion of the personal property and the remainder was too heavily taxed. The statistics of the probate court showed this and the probate judge had to him stated he was often surprised at how rich the poor man was when he came to die and how poor the rich man was. He believed that if personal property were relieved entirely, a blow would be struck at the city's prosperity The taxes on real estate was already and could not bear a greater burthen The system recommended by Council of Halifax could, in his opinion be successfully applied to St John.

Aldermen Christie, Maxwell and MacRae were present and the chairman asked if, in their opinion, the common council would accept the suggestion contained in the resolution. They all agreed to support the resolution in the common council.

Mr A H Hemington said it seemed to him that with the present system we were working against our own interests. The system was wrong. This was shown by the special provisions had to be made as the exemption of the Parks' cotton mill, to prevent the destruction of the company. These exemptions should not have to be made, but the system should be changed. The present system drove accumulations of wealth out of the city. In the case of ships, they were not owned here, but by companies with headquarters in Fairville and Rothesay. He did not believe the assessors were doing their duty, for if they assessed the wholesale merchants on the full amount of their stocks they would be closed up. There were three classes which produced the wealth of any city—the capitalists, manufacturers and wholesale men. The effort should be to induce these three wealth producing classes to remain.

Mr G A Schofield denied that the Bank of New Brunswick was seeking to escape taxation. This he said had been stated in a letter in the Globe. He said also that the speakers were mistaken in the statement that the bank escaped taxation by a special act. The bank had done this by reducing its capital stock. He had used his efforts to obtain a more equitable system of raising taxes. Taxes had to be raised somehow. He said that it made no difference if the taxes of all retailers were raised as it would have to come out of the consumer. The case of taxing the wholesaler was entirely different, as he was in competition with merchants of other cities.

Ald Christie gave it as his opinion that income and personal estate could not be relieved. Real estate could not be further taxed. He did not believe that a perfectly equitable system of taxation could be devised. He was in favor of obtaining all information possible, however, and the amendment of the system of taxation made where and when necessary.

Mr Murray pointed out that the method of raising taxes had resolved itself into a question of expediency, not of ability to pay or benefits received. The effort should be made to get a prosperous middle class here. Wealth and prosperity would follow.

Mr John H Harding was prepared to vote for the resolution, which was for obtaining of information. The comparison between Montreal, Halifax and St. John was not fair. In the first two cities real estate was much more valuable than in the third. Real estate could not be further burthened in St. John.

Mr William Shaw, M P P, wanted the matter seriously discussed. He was not altogether in favor of exempting income and personal property, but was to a certain degree.

Mr L P D Tilley stated there were two classes of real estate, one paying and the other not. He stated that there was more competition than was suspected between retailers of this and of other cities.

Mr J B M Baxter suggested that a tabulated statement of the classes of citizens defaulting in taxes would be most useful in granting any class exemptions.

Mr William Hawker pointed out that retailers could not bear a heavier burthen of taxation.

The resolution was then put and passed, and the meeting adjourned until next Monday night.

THE OLD WAY

Of Treating Dyspepsia and Indigestion by Dieting a Dangerous and Useless One.

We say the old way, but really it is a very common one at the present time and many dyspeptics and physicians as well consider the first step to take in attempting to cure indigestion is to diet, either by selecting certain foods and rejecting others or to greatly diminish the quantity usually taken, in other words, the starvation plan is by many supposed to be the first essential.

The almost certain failure of the starvation cure for dyspepsia has been proven time and again, but still the moment dyspepsia makes its appearance a course of dieting is at once advised.

All this is radically wrong. It is foolish and unscientific to recommend dieting or starvation to a man suffering from dyspepsia, because indigestion itself starves every organ and every fibre in the body.

What the dyspeptic wants is abundant nutrition, which means plenty of good, wholesome, well cooked food and something to assist the weak stomach to digest it. This is exactly the purpose for which Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are adapted and this is the method by which they cure the worst cases of dyspepsia, in other words the patient eats plenty of wholesome food and Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets digest it for him. In this way the system is nourished and the overworked stomach rested, because the tablets will digest the food whether the stomach works or not. One of these tablets will digest 3,000 grains of meat or eggs.

Your druggist will tell you that Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets is the purest and safest remedy for stomach troubles and every trial makes one more friend for this excellent preparation. Sold at 50 cents for full sized package at all drug stores.

A little book on stomach diseases mailed free by addressing F. A. Stuart Co, Marshall, Mich.

Fish and the Market.

To the Editor of THE TELEGRAPH:—

Sir: It is rumored here that our M P of Charlotte is offering $100 out of his own pocket to defray the expenses of a delegate from the Island to accompany the high commissioner to England to represent our fisheries. I would ask what benefit would the fishermen of our Island derive from it. I would suggest that if our fishery was properly represented at Ottawa probably it would be of some benefit to us. I think it absurd for our M P to make such a proposition to pay a delegate's expenses to England; why the people of this province have such a limited knowledge of this, and of our valuable industry if properly governed and that we live in little huts along the shore among the cliffs if a suitable place afford. So if those people know so little about us what can the Ottawa government know of us or our needs. Save those politicians who visit our island in election to canvas the voters, and then it is how do you do Mr So and So, and after the election they do not recognize them at all. Now, if our M P wants to be of some benefit to us let him represent us and our industry at Ottawa, and what our own wants are, and let the high commissioner take the M P's money and go it alone to England. Now what we want at present is a standard price on our fresh herring that we sell to foreigners, the same as the government of Newfoundland did for her fishermen, the price being $1 25 per barrel or $6 25 per hogshead. It is closely estimated that seven-eighths of the fresh herring used for canning and smoking purposes at Lubec and Eastport, Me, are taken from our waters and vicinity in American boats free of duty, but taken in Canadian to the above named places a duty must be paid. Also on our smoked herring when shipped there the officials will collect a duty of 3¾ cents per box or $37 50 per M. It can plainly be seen that they make the dollars while we get the cents out of our fishery. One may ask why the fishermen can't have a fixed price on their fish. It has been tried with satisfactory results. I fail to see why there can't be something done for us on this line. Also in breakwaters or wharves if we are properly represented at Ottawa instead of England. In conclusion I would say that the majority of the voters on the Island are Liberals and they have fought the Conservative element like men and now we want to be recompensed in some way or other, if not I hope the voters will absent themselves from the polls the next general election.

I remain yours,

ISLANDER.

Grand Manan, March 10. 1899.

Senate Appointments.

OTTAWA, March 15—Senate vacancies created by the appointment of Sir Oliver Mowat lieutenant governor of Ontario, and the death of Hon Michael Adams, in New Brunswick, have been filled. Wm Kerr, Q C, Cobourg, who sat for West Northumberland from 1871 to 1878, has been named for Ontario, and Peter McSweeney, of Moncton, for New Brunswick.

ERIN'S SONS

HONOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PATRICK, THE APOSTLE OF IRELAND — DINNER BY THE IRISH LITERARY AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Irish Literary and Benevolent Society's celebration of the day of Ireland's patron saint transpired Thursday night and took the form of a banquet at the New Victoria Hotel. It was a thoroughly enjoyable affair indeed. The dinner was excellent and the speeches and songs were in keeping. The places were taken at 9 o'clock, with Mr. P. Gleeson, president of the society in the chair. To his right sat Judge Forbes from St. Andrew's Society, and U S Consul Myers. On his left were Mayor Sears and Hon R J Ritchie. The vice-chairman was Mr William Melliday, beside whom on right and left sat Mr John Condon, vice-president of Division No. 1, A O H, and Mr H E Codner of the Globe. About the board were James Hannay, W K Reynolds, James Doody, Frank Melliday, Matthew O'Neill, Michael McCullough, John Keefe, Richard O'Brien, John Kelter, John Dwyer, David Gleeson, P J Gorman, John A Kelly, James Barry, of the Sun; J Jenkins, P W Lantalum, Joshua Ward, Thomas Buckley, Peter Ryan, John McDonald, jr, C Heffernan, John McDonald, Ei McDonald, Thos McDonald, John McCarthy, John Lenihan, Frank McCafferty, jr, Wm Kyle, D Mullin, E Haney, Morgan Murphy, John Hayes.

The New Victoria management won high opinions of all for the elaborate and pretty decorations of the dining hall and the very fine repast provided. The good things were told of in a menu card of very pretty design. It read:—

Irish Broth. Tomato Bisque.
Salted almonds. Queen olives. Celery. Lettuce.
Boiled salmon, parsley sauce, aux petits pois. Escalloped oysters.
Fricasse of Lobster. Cotelets de Veaux.
Tomatoes, au gratin. Lobster salad.
Roast sirloin of beef, dish gravy. Roast young lamb, mint sauce.
Roast haunch of venison, red current jelly.
Roast young turkey, cranberry sauce.
Roast partridge, larded bread sauce.
Boiled ham, sauce a la russe.
Boiled tongue, sauce poivrade.
Cream potatoes. Plain potatoes. Sugar corn. Green Peas. Stewed tomatoes.
Plum pudding, hard and brandy sauce.
Apple pie. Squash pie. Cranberry Pie. Lemon jelly Madeira jelly. Strawberry jelly.
Assorted fancy cakes. Fruit cake. Strawberry ice cream.
Oranges. Apples. Grapes. Bananas Figs. Almonds. Walnuts. Filberts. Raisins. Celery and cheese.
Tea. Coffee.

It was 10 30 before the company abandoned discussion of the edibles, and the chairman proposed the first toast that to the Queen. It was given a very enthusiastic reception.

Then the vice chairman proposed the toast of the United States, which was received with the singing of He's a Jolly Good Fellow.

U S Consul Myers responded returning thanks for the invitation to be present at this celebration. It was subject for congratulation that we lived in a land where man could worship his God according to the dictates of his conscience. What a glorious epoch in the world's history was this 19th century. In it science has made great advances. He spoke of the glorious success of Kitchener at Khartoum and of Dewey at Manila. Both of these grand achievements we hoped would advance the interests and civilization of the people of these countries where they transpired. The British empire and the United States—why should they not be found marching side by side, bearing aloft the ensign of freedom, civilization and good government.

Mr Daniel Mullin proposed The Day We Celebrate. He said no nation venerates her patron saint better than old Innisfail. In Canada we Irishmen living with those of other extraction were none the less Canadian because we cherished our native land Mr Mullin eloquently spoke of the feelings of the different peoples for their native lands. Though we cherished these sentiments, we Irish were first Canadians. The speaker took his hearers back to the days of fire-worship, and told of St Patrick's great work in Christianizing Ireland—transplanting there the faith which has come down to us who, to night, are celebrating the saint's anniversary. This religion was the guiding principle of the Irish character in all parts of the world. The outlook in Ireland at present politically was not so hopeful as it might be, but he hoped the day would come when Ireland would have her parliament. Mr Mullin's address was a most eloquent one and he was loudly applauded.

Hon R J Ritchie replied to the toast. However we might look at the past, the dismal past, he said, however feel that things had not been as we might like them, yet Irishmen to-night meet and manifest, and prove not only their intense patriotism to the old sod but their loyalty to the flag that protects their liberties, altars and lives. He referred also to the United States under whose flag many an Irishman had found a home. Nothing more natural than that the toast of the president of the United States should have been given. And there was that other country, the one wherein we lived, which floated the flag of the Beaver and the Maple. Not Irish Catholics alone were the only Irish patriots; there were the names in history of Curran, Grattan, Flood, Plunket, all Irish Protestants who were ever willing to fight the battle of Ireland and of the Catholics in Ireland. And there was Emmet, too, whose epitaph he hoped could soon be written. He spoke of the desirability of amity and friendship among the people and that Irishmen would never do anything to disgrace the old sod whence we sprung.

Mr John Jenkins proposed, Canada, Our Home, and the company sang My Own Canadian Home.

Mr John Keefe, in responding, said that only a quarter of a century ago the great united Canada was only an experiment. Every day now we had forced upon us the great empire we possess. He spoke of our wealth in natural resources and we were rich too in population, having the best of the Anglo Saxon and Gaelic races. He referred to the negotiations going on in trade matters with the United States and felt all would come right in this line. He would make but a brief address and would give way to Mr W K Reynolds.

Mr Reynolds said we all know Canada was a great nation. We heard tonight of St Patrick and his missionary work, yet there was one distinguished Irishman whose name should be coupled with Canada—this was the first missionary bringing the gospel here. He referred to St Brendan. The speaker told of the immigration of Irishmen into Canada years ago, and the sad phase which the subject had in the death of so many on the voyage and after arrival here. Mr Reynolds spoke of the position Irishmen had taken and were taking in Canada, and he mentioned the names of Hon T W Anglin and Sir John Thompson. So we find the Irish race comes naturally in as part of the Dominion. There was no reason why the Irish people should not continue to be such a factor. The Irish should not be an isolated body, neither should the Scotch nor English. While we look to our fatherland, yet we should be united as citizens of Canada. Such organizations as this I L & B Society were doing much in educating in these principles.

Ireland, Our Motherland, was spoken to by Mr R O'Brien. Ireland's early days had been told of, he said; he needed not to tell of her missionary or educational work, of her times of persecution. Yet he felt it right to speak of the events which transpired during the last 100 years. Despite great odds much which the people wanted had been obtained. It might be asked why was there always agitation in Ireland? The answer was that things had not been right in Ireland and were not now. He instanced the several stages of legislation in the past century, coming down to Gladstone's Land Act of 1881, which, a writer said, changed the peasantry from serfs to free men Then Mr Gladstone proposed the home rule scheme, but it had to take a back seat. Since then the local government act has been passed, and is the best thing yet and a precursor of home rule. So take all in all, the prospect in Ireland was not so bad as it appeared. The speaker spoke of Irishmen prominent in foreign lands, of the great love of country of the Irish and closed amid applause.

The chairman proposed Sister Societies.

Judge Forbes who replied, was heartily received and expressed his pleasure in being present. The old native land of our fathers is exceedingly dear to us, and he pitied the man who does not have a sweet spot in his memory for the land of his ancestors. He keenly appreciated the sentiment that we were Canadians. He referred to the kindly feelings between the St Andrews and I L & B Society. He was here to do honor to the memory of Ireland's patron saint. We have a great heritage in this Canada and said we owed much to an Irishman, that great statesman D'Arcy Magee who did so much in the consolidation of our dominion. He referred in strong terms of praise of His Lordship Bishop Sweeny than whom no greater Irishman looked after the wants of his people here, especially the poor, and no better monument could be asked than the institution for orphan boys at Silver Falls, and for the girls in the city. Judge Forbes also told of St Andrews Society and its practical objects for the helping of the poor. He referred to the commission as to trade between Canada and the United States and looked for good results from the coming of Lord Russell as chairman of the commission.

Mr John Condon, vice president of the A O H, spoke briefly. He deplored the absence of the president of the society, Mr McDade, who was unable to attend because of his recent bereavement Mr Condon expressed the cordial relations existing between the societies.

James Doody proposed the Mayor and Corporation, and Mayor Sears responded. He said one of the fruits of a society such as this was to sow the seeds of friendliness, bringing together the different elements in a bond of fraternity. He was proud of St. John and its history. Through a variety of misfortunes it had never been discouraged. As to civic government, vested in the mayor and council, it was a high trust and the responsibility should be realized by those in office. There had been criticism, yet he thought he and the council had all tried to do their duty as they saw it. St John, with her natural advantages, must make for herself a name far in advance of what the past had revealed. He had great hopes in the city's future and looked for much of this to come from reciprocal relations with the United States. His worship congratulated President Gleeson on the office he held in such a society as the I L & B.

Mr Richard O'Brien also replied briefly.

The Ladies were proposed and Messrs Frank Melliday, W K Reynolds and D Mullin replied.

Mr James Hannay, Mr H E Codner and Mr James Berry spoke for the press. Hon R J Ritchie proposed the healt of Mr Berry of the Sun, who intends leaving the city soon to take up residence in the states. The toast was heartily received indeed and Mr Berry replied briefly.

Mr Condon proposed the President of the I L & B and Mr Gleeson responded. The gathering then dispersed after a very enjoyable time. During the time there were songs which were greatly enjoyed by Messrs John A Kelly, John Keefe, P W Lantalum and Frank McCafferty.

The New Victoria was toasted and Mr Joseph Ritchie responded.

"She is a good whist player for a woman, is n't she?"

"Yes; she always plays in a whisper."—[Puck.

CAPT. BARRETT'S STORY.

DID NOT KNOW WHERE HE WAS WHEN CASTILIAN STRUCK.

YARMOUTH, March 15—Capt. Barrett says: When about eight miles from Portland at the half way rock, as it is called, I shaped the ship's course and found the compasses accurate. I took my bearings from the rock in the usual way. The night being clear and having no desire to spare myself and waste time by giving the Nova Scotia coast too wide a berth I shaped my course so as to clear Seal Island by 16 miles. I could have kept further south and gone comfortably to bed. At the usual hour I went below, giving orders to take soundings at 1 o'clock and to report to me the depth of water. My instructions were complied with and at 1 o'clock 67 fathoms were reported. This was exactly as it should be and I directed soundings to be taken at 2 o'clock. At this time, 37 fathoms were recorded. We use on the boats of the Allan company, you know, Lord Kelvin's patent lead, which records the depth without requiring the stoppage of the ship. A little later other soundings were taken which were satisfactory and indicated nothing unusual.

At half past three, however, I ordered the man to go and sound again. He did so and I was startled to hear the ring on the telegraph which is used to transmit the result of soundings when no time is to be lost by sending a man to report verbally. Seventeen fathoms was indicated. I knew then that danger was imminent, and thought that I had been forced into shallow water by the tides. I ordered her head to be hauled to the southward and went into the chart room to consult my charts. I had been in there but a brief space when the first officer, who was on the bridge, shouted that there was something white on the starboard bow. I came out of the chart room at once, but, being somewhat dazed by the light, was unable to see what he pointed out. The ship's head was then swinging, with the helm hard a port.

Suddenly we felt her bump and then we came to a sharp standstill. I seized the telegraph and sounded full speed astern. But she was hard and fast on the rock and remained motionless. I had not the faintest idea where we really were, though it was quite clear and the horizon could be seen. I thought we must be on Blonde Rock, though that seemed hardly possible, because in that case we would have heard the bell buoy. As to the rest you have already heard it. I was pleased indeed when the passengers were safely off. I remained on the steamer as long as I could possibly be of use there. The steamer in my opinion cannot be got off Gannet rock."

YORK COUNTY EXCITED.

GOOD INDICATIONS OF GOLD AT STANLEY.

STANLEY, March 15—A great sensation has been caused owing to the reported finding of gold near Cross Creek, about two and a half miles from Stanley. The first discovery was made last autumn by Mr. John Harris, and ever since gold has been the leading topic of conversation. Last week Mr. John Robins, Mr Robert Brewer and Mr. Mark Sullivan went out prospecting, and on Friday their labors were rewarded with good specimens of the shining metal. Their success soon became known in the village and surrounding districts, and on Saturday thirty persons at least might have been seen at work shoveling away the snow, and with hammers and drills breaking off portions of the rock. Some came prepared with dynamite and fuse which was used with good effect. It is believed that gold exists in paying quantities, and it is to be hoped that further research may prove this to be correct Some nine or ten years ago Mr Napier, the gentleman who found the large nugget in Australia, visited Stanley and is reported to have said that there were good indications of gold. Ever since then search has been made from time to time, and it is generally believed that at last their efforts have been successful.

RAILWAY BLOCKED.

Moncton and Buctouche Trains Held Up by Storm.

MONCTON, March 15—An accident that will result in the blocking of traffic on the Moncton and Buctouche railway for some days, occurred at Little River, a few miles from Buctouche, yesterday. The snow storm of Monday was very severe in that section, and the regular train, which left Buctouche yesterday morning with two engines and a plow, encountered snow drifts five and eight feet deep for a considerable distance. At Little River, while plowing through a snow bank, the plow and both engines left the rails, the plow and head engine being badly smashed.

Driver Smith on the head engine was slightly injured, but the passengers, of whom there were quite a number, escaped mishap beyond being compelled to return to Buctouche and live to Moncton. Owing to the snow plow being broken up the road may not be opened for some days.

Teacher—"John, illustrate the difference between sit and set."

Bright and Patriotic Boy—"The United States is a country on which the sun never sets and the rest of the world never sits."—[Detroit Journal.