

..The Planet..

S. STEPHENSON, — Proprietor.

NO CITY ENGINEER.

Last evening the City Council decided by a majority vote not to consider the re-instatement of J. W. Shackleton as city engineer. They did this in the face of a counter motion from the chairman of the Board of Works—the alderman who is undisputedly in the best position to make finding upon the engineer's competency—and in the very teeth of one of the largest and most influential petitions ever presented by the ratepayers to their representatives.

The Planet regards the action of the aldermen as most regrettable, and as one calculated to inaugurate weakness and experiment in a civic department requiring exceptional strength and accuracy. What this journal has said and done during this whole controversy has been said and done conscientiously with our city's best interests always in view. A majority of the men formally entrusted with the guardianship of those interests have seen fit to differ with us and hew out a diverging course. It is fortunately their responsibility and not ours.

And their responsibility is only commencing. They are now confronted with problems which tax their abilities and ingenuity to the full. The spring is here and the specifications for the civic supplies are not yet even under way, while progress in public works has practically remained stagnant since the loss of Mr. Shackleton's services. There is much to be done, and done quickly, if Chatham is not to suffer seriously and financially. May the aldermen prove equal to the heavy responsibilities their position has placed upon them.

While the Planet has strenuously opposed the action the aldermen have taken and still sincerely deplors it, this journal does not desire to hamper or impede them—more especially in the critical position in which they have placed themselves. Such a course now would be a picaresque one, not prompted by the promotion of civic interests and one immeasurably beneath the aims and ambitions of this journal. As we said before, the responsibility of the action and its results rests with the aldermen alone, and The Planet only trusts that they will not prove as serious as we at present fear.

No, Gentlemen of the City Council, you have made a bad blunder. If you will not let us persuade you to rectify it while there is yet time, may we not, for the sake of our grand little city and its splendid possibilities, at least give the helping hand—wherever it may be within our power—in assisting you out of the footfalls into to which your present erring judgment will often, we fear, plunge you?

OF THE OLD GUARD.

The Current issue of the United Canada, of Ottawa, says editorially:—"Death has removed, in the late Mr. Rufus Stephenson, a striking figure in the journalism of Ontario. He was original and was at times a hard hitter. For thirty years he continued to be a dominant political and journalistic force in the county of Kent and surrounding district, sitting for the county in the House of Commons from 1867 to 1882 in the Conservative interest. Finally leaving The Planet to his able and successful son, and from politics, being appointed collector of customs in 1892. He was a character as unlike most other men as a rose seems in the desert sands. Sir John Macdonald early recognized his talents and cleared the way to bring him to parliament and to the party caucus.

"Away back in 1887, coming out of the press room (now 16) one night I saw a group of men in roars of laughter in the lobby, and in the centre of the bunch I recognized Sir John leaning on the arm of a tall, dark man. Who are those fellows? I asked Louis Cribbs. He said: 'That's Rufus Stephenson linked with Sir John, and the rest of the gang are: John Shields, of Toronto; John F. Woods, of Brockville; Ned Farrer, Dr. Darby Berrigan, of Cornwall, and Jim Metcalfe, of Kingston.' That was the first time I saw the late Rufus Stephenson."

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S TRAVELS.

President McKinley is preparing to follow the example of his predecessors, says the Galt Reformer, and in the early Spring will "swing round the circle," taking with him his cabinet and his car of office.

The itinerary of what will be the most notable of Presidential excursions crosses the continent by the Southern line, touches the Gulf of Mexico, skirts the Golden Coast from the southernmost corner of California, away up to Puget Sound, drops back through Idaho, Utah and Colorado to the nation's geographical centre in Kansas, ascends again to the northern tier at Duluth, and traverses the Great Lakes to Buffalo, where the Pan-American Exposition will then be open, to receive the distinguished party.

The New York Sun, that once great

FOR CHILDREN

Nothing, that comes in a bottle, is more important for children than Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil. And "important" means that it keeps them in even health, on the highest plane of physical life.

"Do they live on it then?"

No; they don't touch it, except when they need it.

"When do they need it?"

Whenever they show, in whatever way, the least disturbance of even balance of health. It is not for acute diseases, with some exceptions; it is for a slight falling off from first-rate condition.

It is to be used as a food, whenever their usual food does not quite answer the purpose of food.

We'll send you a little to try, if you like.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Toronto, Canada.

Democratic paper, and exponent of Tammanyism, but now red hot Republican organ, referring to the President's proposed trip, pays him the following compliment:

"From many quarters and for many months the pressure has been strong upon Mr. McKinley to undertake a journey such as this. Other Presidents have swung this circle during their terms of office, but what will distinguish his travels from those of most of his predecessors in the circumstance that he has waited until no possible suspicion of campaigning for himself could attach to his movements. Mr. McKinley has been re-elected, and a second time inaugurated. Into his intercourse with his friends and fellow citizens around the great circle of the spring of 1901 no motive of political ambition and no thought of self-promotion can enter."

THE RUSSIAN QUESTION.

Russia appears just now to be the storm-centre of international politics, comments the Hamilton Post. This, not only in China, but also at home. And possibly the activity displayed by the Russian government in China may be the result of so much restlessness at home. It may be the safety valve, as it were, which prevents an explosion in St. Petersburg. History is not lacking in cases where foreign conquest has been used to divert the attention of a nation from domestic difficulties. That there are such difficulties there seems abundant proof. The recent riots at the capital and elsewhere were apparently something more serious than the student riots which from time to time arise. The participants in them seem to have been impelled by a spirit of hostility to the government and the church which hitherto has been kept in the background. The communication of Count Tolstoi has no doubt stirred up a feeling of hostility to the Orthodox Church which bodes ill for the peace of the Empire. The Czar is still regarded with a respect amounting almost to reverence by the mass of the Russian people, especially the peasantry; but by the revolutionary and anarchist factions he is viewed as the incarnation of the system which they have pledged themselves to overthrow. It goes without saying, then, that his is not an enviable lot, and, although somewhat exaggerated, there is a solid basis of truth in the reports of the extraordinary precautions now being taken against assassination. The chief difficulties under which the Russian Empire labors, as far as internal administration is concerned, are the corruption existing among its officials and the diversity and complexity of its population. As to the former, corruption, this is so notorious and open that it has long since ceased to cause surprise. It produces its effects, however, all the same. As to the latter, this complexity and this diversity prevent the granting of any system of responsible and representative government such as we enjoy. The bulk of the Russian people could not understand and use such a system; for, although the upper classes are peculiarly well educated, they form but a small fraction of the population. This heterogeneity, moreover, is not in matters of education and intelligence alone, it is in matters of creed and race as well. And yet Russia is not standing still in the march of progress. Forty years ago her serfs were freed, and the village, or "mir" system was introduced; and the other day exile in Siberia was abolished. In mere material advancement she has made marvellous strides, and the Trans-Siberian Railway bids fair to be one of the wonders of the world. It has, however, made her essentially a Pacific Power, and has brought her into conflict with that wonder of nations, Japan. There lies the inevitable struggle; and when it

comes little Japan may be depended upon to hold her own even with the Colossus of the North.

Dear esteemed content—In the language of the street, "It's up to you."

Probably the Banner may now consent to unburden itself and let us know what was the real cause of its spite against Mr. Shackleton.

The Chatham council also possesses a little alderman who thinks that he should have the supreme direction of the newspapers.

Funny how these little, halting, harmless fellows are always the ones who desire to direct the policies of the press.

John Charlton seems to have abandoned a tariff for revenue in favor of a tariff for revenge, comments the Toronto Star.

When Hon. G. W. Ross thinks of that election in North Bruce he feels tempted to give vent to his feelings by writing some other man's poetry.

After all, says the Hamilton Spec., Niagara Falls is the great attraction for the pan-American show. And it, has leaked out that the falls were not built expressly for the exposition.

Perhaps if we went about it properly, we could get Mr. Carnegie to give the money necessary to build a memorial to signify our admiration and appreciation for the loyalty of our dear hero, Pte. J. A. Donegan.

The Boers have the nerve to suggest that the basis upon which they will quit the war is one conceding their independence. What do they suppose we have been lambasting them all over South Africa for during the past year and a half?

Our small-souled government has evidently forgotten that Chatham and other places gave money to the South African boys when they enlisted. The government has as good a right to deduct that bonus from the men's pay as it has to deduct the Rhodesian gift.

That man named Grant who shot holes in two men who insulted him and held a big crowd at bay in New York refuses to say where he is from. The World regards the principal of Queen's University as so desperate a man that it's a wonder it does not suspect him of being in New York, says the Toronto Star.

It is to be hoped that Hon. Clifford Sifton will never see that suggestion of Gen. Hamilton's that the captive Boers be sent to Canada to work on the railways, says the Brockville Times, or the idea might strike him that it would be a good thing to import some of them as government pets to match his other pets, the Doukhobors.

If Ald. Cowan would wake up and do something, and concentrate whatever energies he may possess to the advancement of the city's commercial and business interests, he would prove a more valuable aldermanic asset and make a greater name for himself by far, than by the adoption of childish, and picaresque methods towards those who, he imagines, may not be suitably and sufficiently impressed with his own immaculate methods.

N. B.

London Free Press.

If there's an election in North Bruce to-day we will win; if it is a highway robbery the Grits will win.—Hamilton Spectator.

It seems to have been somewhat of an election.

TO BE REMEMBERED.

Toronto Star.

The young men who are lured into politics should remember that when it comes to a distribution of the spoils, it is the man with the whiskers and a knowledge of what to do when the lights go out who gets the billet.

GODERICH BILLINGS-GATE.

Goderich Signal.

As an instance of the opportunities that exist for military promotion in Canada, we may point out that Jack Cameron, who thirty years ago, was the green groom of General Wolseley's horse on the Red River expedition, is now the shad-bellied expert of the Hamilton Spectator. And they say he can lie faster on military matters now than he could feed oats to Wolseley's horse thirty years ago.

A ROW ABOUT FIVE PLUNKS.

Toronto Mail.

"Two hundred dollars for each township to make roads. Hurrah for the Ross government!"—Hamilton Spectator. This is evidently intended to be sarcastic. We protest against it; and more especially seeing that the figures are entirely wrong. The Spectator is treating this great subject in a particular way, instead of viewing it in a broad national spirit. Each township gets \$205, not \$200. Take the township of Barton, with 4,997 inhabitants. That township will get four cents a head for road-making purposes from the Ontario government. If it is the price of two postage stamps. Perhaps Mr. Ross made a mistake in leading the province to believe that he intended to asphalt all the main roads and concession lines. We are prepared to ad-

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The Northway Co., Limited



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Wednesday
March 27 and
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WEHN the choicest creations in Up-to-Date Millinery will be placed on view for the pleasure and benefit of the Ladies of Kent County.

We cannot go into detail about the stock. It's all that it should be and all that the most cultured taste could demand. It's worthy of this store and worthy of your attention. We never had such exquisite models of Style and Beauty, never so many graceful designs, touched into pleasing shape and color harmony. Not alone in Millinery is it that elegance and exquisite taste is apparent, but wherever the eye turns one finds a profusion of charming novelties suggestive of a skillful and artistic blending together of fabrics and colors.

Silks, Dress Stuffs and Sheer Cotton Fabrics as well as the Millinery, Mantles and Costumes bear evidence of smartness to a greater extent than ever before. Cold type cannot begin to do justice to this matchless exposition. The eye must see to appreciate the richness and elegance we have collected for the event.

To one and all we extend our invitation to come and see this magnificent showing. Come if only to see. We don't ask you to buy unless you want to. In order to accommodate those who may not be able to visit the store during the day we hold a

Music in the Afternoon and Evening

Grand Evening Illumination and Promenade

From 7-30 to 9-30 o'clock. COME ONE and ALL

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NOW is the opportune time to place your order for a SPRING SUIT. Do not leave it until the Rush—

Be The First

We are now in a better position to serve you in every way. You will have FIRST CHOICE of our NEW SPRING GOODS of which we carry the LARGEST and BEST selected Stock of any in the City.

OUR CUTTER, Mr. Williston, is a thorough mechanic and has none but first-class Men Cost-Makers under his direction. We guarantee to SAVE YOU money on Ordered Clothing and make them First-class and Up-to-date. We also carry a small stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING. We have the best \$1.50 and \$2.00 Ready-made Pants in Canada. Try US FOR A FAIR and at the same time LEAVE YOUR MEASURE FOR A SPRING SUIT.

The T. H. Taylor Co. Limited

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Beaver Flour the Best.

mis that he did. But that is no reason the "policy" as it now stands should be belittled by \$5 per township.

Cook's Cotton Root Compound
Is successfully used monthly by over 100,000 Ladies, as it is now stands should be belittled by \$5 per township.

No. 1 and No. 2 sold in Chatham by C. H. Gunn & Co., Central Drug Store.

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SITUATION WANTED—As householder, country preferred. Address Mrs. Burgess, Chatham. 104

BLACKSMITH WANTED—As partner in home B. shopping and jobbing shop. Terms easy. Apply to Wm. F. Thomas, Fort Stanley, Ont. 101

WANTED—Good, reliable salesmen to sell complete line of Lubricating Oils, Greases and Paints. Experience unnecessary. Exceptionally liberal terms. Special inducements to parties winning teams. Jewel Refining Co., Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A.

WE WANT—Men, women and families to work for us at their homes on several new plans different from any other company. Terms supplied free to work on our Automobile Knitting Machines at your own home. Write for information about money. Our workers earn according to time given to the work. Glasgow Woollen Company, Department A, Toronto. No connection with any other company.

FOR SALE OR TO RENT

TO RENT—Two large front rooms, nicely furnished. Apply to Mrs. C. J. O'Neill, Third Street. 103a

FOR SALE OR RENT—100 acres in good condition. Price \$2000. Apply to E. Magdon, Thessalonville, Ont.

FOR SALE—House on Baxter St., in good repair. Light water and good drain, will be sold cheap on reasonable terms. For further particulars apply on the premises. R. A. Hughes, 17 Baxter St. 104

FARM FOR SALE.

North quarter 20, in the 5th concession, of Chatham Township, 50 acres, frame house, barn in good condition, good water, convenient to school, 2-1/2 miles from Kent Bridge; good soil. Possession at once if desired. For full particulars apply on the premises, or address,
JOHN McVICAR,
Kent Bridge.

FARM FOR SALE.

Farm for sale, very cheap and on easy terms of payment. About 45 acres, lot 11, Con. 4, W. C. R. R. Harwich, about one-half mile north of Cedar Springs.

On the farm is a good frame house, good barn and drive-barn and other out-buildings in good state of repair, first-class arable land, good orchard of peach, pear, plum, cherry, quince and apple trees, and an abundance of small fruits. The place is well tile-drained and is conveniently situated to school, church, postoffice, butcher shop, blacksmith shop, two general stores and railroad station. For further information apply on the premises or address box 402, Chatham.

RALEIGH FARM FOR SALE.

One hundred acres composed of the N. 1 of lot 21 Con. 12; 95 acres plowed and in good state of cultivation, all necessary buildings, composed of barn 40x60, stock barn 28x75 with silo pig pen 24x40, poultry house for 100 fowls, corncrib 40 feet long, good milk house with ice house, dwelling with six rooms, buildings all in good state of repair, fences first-class, never failing supply of water. There is 24 acres of wheat, in the ground, fall plowing nearly all done, 10 acres newly seeded to clover. Will give anyone a snap if taken quick, would take some stock on part pay, small payment down balance on easy terms at five per cent. per annum. For further particulars apply on the premises or to box 42, Charing Cross.

—Don't think less of your system than you do of your horse. Give it a thorough cleaning, too. Take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

LOTS FOR SALE.

Lots for sale on King street West, opposite St. Joseph's Hospital. Granolithic sidewalks, good sewer, city water, gas, right up to this property. These lots will be sold on favorable terms. Will sell two five-acre lots or factory sites on C. P. R.
D. JORDAN,
Chatham, Ont.

FARM FOR SALE.

Fine Fruit Farm 23 acres, 1200 trees full bearing; peaches, plums, pears, apples, all small fruits and vineyard. Fine brick residence, stables and out-buildings; fifty yards from railway station. Immediate possession. Chattel sale April 2nd.
JOHN GIBBERT,
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The Society wants a home for a girl five years old, healthy, fair complexion, kind disposition. Apply by letter or in person to R. A. Sims, President, or R. V. Bray, Exec. Officer.