

THE EVENING GAZETTE

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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAR. 29, 1899

THE ASSESSMENT.

The tax-payers of St. John have reason to congratulate themselves on the relief afforded by the assessment for the present year. It is as yet too early to give the exact figures of the assessment, as the same have not yet been filed with the assessors, but there is such a large reduction in the figures made by the commission that the assessment will be smaller than for any year since 1882.

Notwithstanding there is a new assessment of over \$170 for street paving added this year, there is a falling off in the total assessment under the control of the corporation of about \$6,000, a very considerable reduction.

The wisdom of the changes made a few years ago in the mode of carrying on the business of the city is more apparent. Not only has there been a great decrease in the city debt but the sinking fund for the debt is in a better position than ever before. The current accounts against the city have been paid with greater promptitude than before and there has been less extravagance. Indeed it is not too much to say that St. John is as well, if not better governed, than any other city in Canada.

There is, however, one matter which we would call the attention of the Union Commissioners—that is, the consolidation of the city debt. At present St. John has about twenty separate issues of debentures. The city with Portland will increase this number to about thirty. A separate account must be kept by the Chamberlain for each issue of debentures, and another account for each sinking fund. The assessors have also to keep a separate assessment for each issue of bonds.

The consolidation of the city debt could be arranged by calling in all outstanding debentures and redeeming them for similar terms for which they have now to run; and by consolidating the sinking funds into one general fund, out of which all indebtedness falling due could be paid. This would not affect the rights of the bond-holders, as the rate of interest would not be changed, and the length of time which the bonds have to run would remain the same. It would save a large amount of clerical labor and enable the sinking fund to be used for paying off the debt falling due, and thus prevent the re-issuance of one set of debentures, because the sinking fund to meet it is insufficient, but when there are ample funds in other accounts to more than meet the obligation. This is a matter of the greatest concern to the citizens generally.

THE TELEGRAPH SHOCKED.

There was a dreadful panic in the Telegraph office on Thursday morning. During the evening a long despatch had come in from Fredericton containing a full account of the debate in the House on Wednesday night when Mr. Ritchie defended himself against the article reflecting on his conduct in the Gazette of that day. The member of the Telegraph's staff who edits the despatches had been concerned more than once for presuming to cut down the reports on the proceedings of the House of Assembly, so in this instance he resolved to give the readers of the paper the full benefit of them. As the discussion in the House of Assembly was all about the Gazette, it naturally enough came about that the name of this paper was mentioned about fifty times in the despatch, and as frequently printed in the columns of the Telegraph. Yet when the Gazette was started the strictest orders were issued that the name of this paper should never be mentioned in the columns that played out of every Jack and the corresponding letters.

When the manager of the Telegraph saw the report of the House proceedings in his paper, with the name of the Gazette in every tenth line, he was wild with anger. When the nominal editor of the Telegraph saw it, he was greatly perturbed in spirit, for he knew that the manager would be after him with a very sharp stick, and would lay all the blame of the affair on his shoulders. The result was that another issue was issued to the staff of the Telegraph forbidding under the severest penalty the mention of the Gazette in the columns of the former. So when yesterday's report came down and the Gazette again was the subject of debate and explanation the high toned and truthful journalists who control the Telegraph carefully eliminated the name of the Gazette from the report substituting therefor the words "a certain St. John paper." It will next be in order for the Telegraph to refrain from reporting any debate or statement in which the name of the Gazette is mentioned. This will be damning the evil star on the mountain head, so to speak, and may be the means of allowing every Jack and the Irvobian man to rest quietly in their beds at night, confident that their eyes will not again be greeted with another such dreadful and aspersive columns of the Telegraph presented on Thursday morning. We extend our sincere condolences to the manager and alleged editor of the Telegraph in their present afflicted state, and hope that the shock they have sustained is not likely to be mortal.

THE PROVINCIAL PRINTING.

We called attention the other day to the disgraceful printing of some of the departmental reports done at the country offices, and in doing so, it would seem, have deeply offended Mr. D. O. Smith, printer and publisher of the Chatham Advance, who is responsible for one of the most specimens of printing ever

THE LEGISLATURE.

An Important Discussion on the Present Unsettled Representation.

Fredericton, March 29.—The following bills were agreed to incorporating the town of Woodstock, committed by Mr. Hurd, Mr. Mitchell in the chair, and the incorporation of the town of Campbellton, committed by Mr. Murray, Mr. Mitchell in the chair.

Mr. J. L. Macdonald gave notice of a motion for a resolution of correspondence between a person or persons and the government relative to the selling or granting of Islands D17 and 18 in Westport.

Mr. Stockton moved a bill amending the Cashmere Hotel company and amending act, Mr. Baird in the chair.

Progress was reported with leave to sit again.

Mr. Atkinson committed a bill incorporating the Bristol Hall company, Mr. Hurd in the chair.—Agreed to.

Mr. Hurd committed a bill to confirm the letters patent, incorporating the Shore Line Railway company and to enable the said company to issue bonds and debentures secured by mortgage, Mr. Murray in the chair.—Agreed to with amendments.

After supper, Mr. LaBelle committed a bill to amend the act relating to the election of the Board of Works, Mr. White in the chair. Agreed to.

Mr. White committed a bill incorporating the Hammonds Vale Hall Co., Mr. Atkinson in the chair.—Agreed to.

When section 97 of the franchise bill was under consideration, Mr. Atkinson called attention to what he regarded as a great injustice. It was a small principle, but it was a principle, and he thought it would be well if the province were divided into ridings with one member for each riding. Under the present system, one member represents a population of 2,000, while another represents a population of 4,000. The figures show that the population of the province is 120,000, and the number of members is 20. The population of the province is 120,000, and the number of members is 20. The population of the province is 120,000, and the number of members is 20.

Mr. Atkinson did well to point out to the Legislature, yesterday, when the debate on the franchise bill was in progress, that the representation of the province in the House of Assembly is not evenly divided. Representation by counties may have advantages, and as Attorney General Blair said, it may not be desirable to alter the present system in a hurry. But notwithstanding these objections, it is generally supposed by the people of the province, that the present system of electing members, to represent different counties, is about as fair as can be made at an early date.

THE DEBATES.

Teaching Tributes in Parliament to the Memory of the Late John Bright.

London, March 29.—The session of the house of commons, this evening, was devoted to eulogies of the late John Bright. Right Honourable William Henry Smith, in a short speech, described Mr. Bright as a man of thorough honesty of purpose and a short of character. Mr. Bright established a special claim to admiration, through his long, patient and unflinching struggle for the rights of the oppressed. He was a man of the great Anglo-Saxon race as a subject of that race, and his character and his life were a noble and heroic example. In intellect, he might claim a most distinguished place. His character was deeper, his intelligence, anything that can be described or seen upon the surface. Some sympathy is his due. He elevated politics to the highest point to which a leader of men had ever been reached. He has bequeathed to his country a name that will live as long as the world endures. Lord Harrington referred to the noble words of Gladstone as fully expressive of the memory of Mr. Bright. He said Mr. Bright was not a statesman versed in the arts of government, capable of conducting the complicated affairs of great nations. The high standard of his political conduct, the intensity of his convictions, and his eloquence an unrivalled force. Mr. Gladstone spoke for the Irish party. He associated their sentiments with those expressed in the noble words of Mr. Gladstone. He claimed the right of Ireland to lay an immortal wreath upon the grave of the great Englishman's grave. Mr. Chamberlain said throughout his political life Mr. Bright's relations to the cause of the oppressed were those of a devoted and unflinching champion, holding that his service constituted an obligation with the community.

There are six artesian wells at New castle Miramichi, yielding water of great purity. In all of these the water was reached at a very moderate depth from the surface, some, it is said, being 100 feet deep. The cost of boring is given at \$1 per foot, taking 20 cents per foot, making the total cost \$1.20 per foot.

THE DARING FEAT OF A GIBL.

She Boldly Rides an Enraged Bear Around the Country.

Near Forest Ranch, in the mountain above Chico, resides a young lady who for grit and pluck will take our hat to every lion. The lady in question, Miss Kate Lucas, resides on a mountain ranch with her mother and brothers, the latter being engaged in furnishing the most used by the large lumber camps high up in the sierras. Miss Lucas is a tall, thin and well-built girl, with red, ray cheeks, jet black hair, bright, flashing eyes, and in the acknowledged belle of that locality.

She is an intrepid horsewoman and rides fearlessly and alone over the mountain slopes and through the ravines. She scorns a saddle, and either bridle or blanket, simply using a lariat, the end tied round her horse's head and neck. She is a capital shot with a rifle, and has worked many of the crack shots there by her unerring aim. She has been out with her brothers hunting and very rarely fails to bring a deer or other wild animals which she shoots in capturing the animal, and the lariat is twisted with a provision that when put the vapour is to shoot.

Two weeks ago, after a daring ride after a particularly wild and blood-thirsty bear, she was quickly on his feet, but the young lady laughed at the vulgar notion that she was frightened. She boldly challenged him to throw a rope over the animal's head and ride him. She was not only successful, but she brought him home, and the bear was made her pet.

This he did reluctantly, and the animal was quickly on his feet, but equally as quick the fearless lass, who had been riding the bear, was thrown off her horse. She was not hurt, but the bear was badly frightened, and she was quickly on her feet.

She is a fine specimen of a woman, and her daring feat is a rare one. She is a fine specimen of a woman, and her daring feat is a rare one. She is a fine specimen of a woman, and her daring feat is a rare one.

The Old Doctors

Have blood, modern doctors claim it, hence the increased demand for Alteratives. It is now well known that modern doctors are thus, not to over-abundance, but to impurity, of the blood; and it is equally well attested that no blood medicine is so efficacious as Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

One of my children had a large sore break out on the leg. We applied simple remedies, for a while, thinking these would speedily heal it. But it grew worse. We sought medical advice, and were told that an alterative medicine was necessary. Ayer's Sarsaparilla being recommended.

It was given for several weeks, and the sore healed. The child is now well, and we are all very much pleased. We are all very much pleased.

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