

The Planet.

B. STEPHENSON—Proprietor.

Business Office 53

Editorial Room.....102

SATURDAY MARCH 19.

THE SHAMBLEAU CASE

The London Free Press says editorially:

The Chatham despatch of March 16 states that A. L. Shambleau, ex-County Treasurer of Kent County, was arrested at Detroit on the charge of embezzling the funds of the County, while acting as Treasurer, and also with committing forgery. He was arrested on a former occasion, but no one appeared to prosecute, as his friends had paid back to the County \$8,000 of the stolen funds. In the present proceedings, the Crown Attorney professes himself powerless to act in face of the County Council's resolution not to go to the expense of extraditing him. There seems, in fact, to be a general conspiracy to prevent the prosecution of Shambleau and to hush up by a light "settlement" one of the most daring and long continued series of speculations ever revealed either in municipal or other business.

The annual report of the Provincial Municipal Auditor, Mr. J. B. Laing, just laid on the table of the Assembly, contains a full account of this extraordinary case, as ascertained from the official examination of the County and Township accounts. The examination covers the accounts of the County corporation from May, 1891, down to and including the year 1902. Touching the settlement above referred to, the Provincial auditor reports:

"In an interim report dated January 26th, 1903, I stated that the amount of the deficiency as far as then located, amounted to between \$14,000 and \$16,000. I stated also that further additions would, doubtless, be made to the amount as the work progressed. Upon the occasion of the special session of Council held in February, at which time a settlement with the bondsmen of the defaulting Treasurer was determined upon, I pointed out to the Council in Committee of the Whole, that, although the amount discovered up to that time had not increased materially, I was just then entering upon an examination of another section of the accounts which promised further developments, but that I had not progressed sufficiently far to enable me to speak definitely as to the result. In correspondence with the Solicitor I also intimated that I could not well see how a settlement could be arrived at until the completion of the audit. These are mentioned as the conditions which existed at the time of the settlement above referred to, so far as this audit is concerned."

From this there seems to have been an anxiety to cover up the frauds before the audit had been completed. It speaks well for the faithfulness with which this special department of the Government is carried on that the audit was pursued relentlessly to the close despite these efforts to baffle inquiry. The report continues:

"As was pointed out in my interim report, monies have been received and not accounted for in almost every department of the general revenue of the county, viz., administration of justice, criminal justice, school grants, police fines, jury fines, House of Refuge accounts and redemption of lands. While a large portion of the money taken was on account of receipts from arrears of taxes, considerable funds were obtained through the system of advances which was permitted, the Treasurer taking credit for the advance, and again for the account in full when finally paid."

"Further large sums were obtained through the cashing of cheques payable to the County Treasurer directly, or to himself in his official capacity. These were received principally on account of administration of justice, grants to school account, or in payment of taxes by loan companies and others. Sums exceeding 7,000 were secured in this way, all of which should have been deposited in the 'Trust' account."

"I have had in my whole experience another such case of deliberate, studied and systematic pilfering as has been developed in this investigation."

"The monies collected by the recent Treasurer and unaccounted for, so far as ascertained, divided between the municipalities, are as follows:—

Camden	284.00
Chatham	1,583.48
Dover	879.72
Harwich	6.98
Raleigh	2,642.08
Howard	89.35
Romey	2,260.89
Tilbury West	4,460.79
Tilbury Village	59.98
Zone	48.59

Weaver's Syrup

Cures all humors of the blood permanently. No need to suffer with

ERYSIPELAS
SALT RHEUM
BOILS
ECZEMA

"These sums are due to the several municipalities named, and are so included in the statement of liabilities."

"The annual grants from the Education Department on account of continuation classes and leaving examination for the years 1898, 1899, and 1900, \$86.00, \$945.00 and \$915.00 respectively, have none of them been accounted for. The cheques from the Provincial Treasurer (copies of which are now in my possession), are payable to the order of the Treasurer of the County of Kent on account of education, and are endorsed by A. L. Shambleau in his official capacity. Some of them bear evidence of having been paid in cash. A cheque for \$115 from the Provincial Treasurer, dated 18th February, 1902, payable as above, is also omitted from the Treasurer's accounts."

"In the years 1900 and 1902 the Treasurer takes double credit for certain payments of grants. This occurred where drafts were made upon the Treasurer, with the Inspector's order attached. The draft was entered as a voucher for the payment, and later on, the Inspector's order detached and a second credit taken, the orders being put in as vouchers, all of which were accepted and passed by the auditors."

These are only samples of the pecuniary aggregating \$23,005.16. The Treasurer, Shambleau, kept no ledger since and including the year 1898. He stated to the council that he discontinued its use on the authority of the provincial municipal auditor upon the introduction of the government cash book. This, the municipal auditor flatly denies in his report, saying there is not one word of truth in it. On the contrary, the official considers a ledger indispensable in county matters and says there is no other county in the Province where a ledger is not kept."

It will be of deep public concern to note whether or not so gross a case of official pilfering shall be allowed to pass with a "settlement" of the kind arranged for, or the culprit given his just deserts as an example to others.

ADMIRAL TOGO.

M. A. P.

A retired English naval officer, who, when a lad, was on board the training ship Worcester at the same time as the prominent Japanese Admiral Togo sends me the following reminiscences. Togo was constantly the victim of all manner of chaff from the young Britishers on board, who dubbed him "One-go-two-go-three-go." Disliked at first perhaps because he was unlike his mates, he grew in popularity on account of his remarkably alert mind and agile body, until at length he became a general favorite with officers and boys. He stood all chaff with a certain amount of bravado, unless it touched his resemblance to the Chinese. To one fellow sailor who dubbed him a Chinaman, he said with emphasis: "You wait; when I am 'the' admiral I hang you on the yard-arm."

It's the Can't-Eat and Can't-Sleep People

who need ABBEY'S EFFERVESCENT SALT, these days.

"Spring Fever" is abroad—upsetting the stomach—clogging the bowels—bringing headaches—taking away the appetite—driving away sleep.

ABB'EY'S SALT cleans and purifies the whole digestive

tract. It sweetens the stomach—regulates the bowels—keeps bladder and kidneys well and strong. When these organs are healthy, the whole system feels the benefit. The blood becomes pure and rich. Headaches, biliousness, tiredness disappear. And you'll eat more, and sleep sounder, and feel better, than you have for a "month of Sundays."

ABB'EY'S SALT contains all the tonic and laxative effects of fruit juices. It is so pleasant to take that even children enjoy it.

25c. and 60c. a bottle. At all druggists.

DAYS OF AULD LANG SYNE

Interesting Events of Ye Olden Times Gathered from The Planet's Issues of Half a Century Ago.

From Planet files from February 26, 1898, to April 14, 1898.

Married, at Chatham, on the 23rd inst., by the Rev. A. Campbell, Mr. Charles Bennett to Miss Sophia Grandbois, both of the Township of Raleigh.

On Thursday, by Rev. A. McCull, Mr. David Bombard to Miss Jane McTaggart, both of the Township of Dover East.

A late Dublin paper contains the following advertisement: To let—the upper part of a cellar (to a small family); rent low. P. S.—Privilege on the sidewalk for a p.c.

The London Free Press says the English directors of the Grand Trunk Railway have sent their positive instructions to the contractors, Messrs. Gowrie & Co., to complete the long contemplated Saran Branch. The whole work is to be pushed through in eighteen months.

The Syracuse Standard says that thirteen fugitive slaves passed through that city last week on their way to Canada.

We yesterday saw a fine yoke of oxen owned by Mr. Duncan McNaughton, of this town. The weight of the three oxen together was found to be three thousand one hundred and seventy pounds. They were fatted by Mr. McKinley. Mr. McNaughton informs us that he will have them ready for the market on next Saturday morning.

Donald McKerrall and James Baxter were appointed inspectors of houses of public entertainment.

The following are the market quotations: Wheat, per bush., 62c to 75c. Peas, per bush., 37c to 42c. Oats, per bush., 17c to 19c. Barley, per bush., 37c to 40c. Rye, per bush., 45c to 50c. Corn, per bush., 35c to 40c. White beans, per bush., 50c to 55c. Potatoes, per bush., 32c to 37c.

William H. Nelson is conducting a grocery business.

FIRE

Last night about nine o'clock our town was alarmed by the cry of fire. The cause of the alarm proceeded from the male department of the brick Central school at the head of Fifth street. The flames, however, had not made much headway when they were discovered by Captain Steinhoff, who with the assistance of ex-Mayor Charbon, Geo. Ross and others, who happened to be near at hand, subdued them before much injury was done. The fire originated from the ignition of some wood piled in close proximity to the school room stove. A place of about 1-1/2 by 2-1/2 feet was burned through the floor. The fire companies were promptly on the ground.

Married, at Florence, on the 3rd inst., by Rev. Wm. Walker, Wm. T. Murdoch to Barbara, second daughter of Wm. Webster, Esq., merchant, Florence.

On the 27th inst., by Rev. A. McCull, Mr. John Collins, of Otonabee, to Miss Mary Jane Whittington, of Harwich.

We are glad to observe that our much respected townsman, Mr. Thos. Stone, has again resumed business at his old stand in his own name.

It is estimated that the people of



He Offered Her His Heart.

"But do you take Dr Agnew's Cure? If not, you know, I couldn't risk accepting it," she said.

She is wise. His heart may be disordered and his life in danger.

No matter how strong his heart is, Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure will make it stronger and his system healthier. No matter how weak from any disease, it would put him on his feet physically.

Dr. Van Stan's Pineapple Tablets

give the stomach a vacation by digesting the food for it. Pineapple will digest food or the greatest of food. Dyspepsia eat heartily and laugh and grow fat while getting cured by this cure. Price 50c.

Sold by Messrs. Gunn and McLaren, Druggists, Chatham.

the United States spend \$15,000,000 annually for newspapers.

DENTISTRY.

Dr. W. W. White, dentist, of this town, exhibited to us the other day a full set of false teeth set upon a gold plate, which, in the words of the common saying, looked "true to nature and twice as handsome," in fact it was a piece of workmanship which would be highly creditable to our large cities and no less an evidence of Mr. White's skill in his profession. We are glad to understand Mr. White's abilities are appreciated and that he enjoys an extensive practice.

A rash challenge was recently offered by a lady skater of Boston. She offered a kiss to any one who would beat her in a race. A young darkey was the winner and received his reward.

Birth—At the rectory, Chatham, C. W., on Monday, the 15th inst., the lady of Rev. F. W. Sandys of twin daughters.

Navigation opened on March 24, 1898, and the steamer Islander in charge of J. W. Steinhoff commenced her regular trips between Chatham and Detroit.

Jenny Lind, it is said, has given away upwards of \$750,000 during her professional wanderings in Europe and America.

The store recently occupied by Mr. John Lamont, we are glad to see, once more opened and business resumed by Duncan Sinclair, dry goods and provision merchant.

Birth—At Chatham, on Sunday, the 26th ult., the wife of Joseph Slagg, Esq., of a son.

Last week our friend and subscriber, Mr. Michael McGarvey, Creek Road, Harwich, brought to the Chatham market a hog weighing dressed, no less than six hundred and nineteen pounds. Mr. Wm. Payne, grocer, became the purchaser. This is what we should call "going the whole hog" and all in down right earnest. Kent against all of Canada say we.

The Windsor Herald says Mr. J. Leonard, of West Tilbury, had an oak tree felled on his farm on the 20th of January last which, when worked up, made 3,880 staves. A tree of this description is very rare in these parts.

The annual meeting of the Chatham Fire Brigade was held. Richard Baxter was re-elected chief engineer. R. O. Smith, Robert Duff, John McKerrall and D. McDonald were nominated for second engineer and Mr. McDonald was elected. Jas. Reeves, Mark Richards, Jos. Tinney and Jas. Dunn were nominated for third engineer and Mr. Tinney was elected. The chief in his report gave the number of the fires for the year, 18, six for fires and seven for alarms. The value of property destroyed was about \$3,200.

Cricket—On Good Friday the lovers of cricket in Chatham had a splendid game in Chatham North. Many spectators witnessed the animated scene with great pleasure. The prospects are that during the present season cricketing will be no small feature in the amusement of the male population of this town.

The papers give an account of the death of Mr. Thomas, of California, who was holding his breath on a wager. A post mortem examination showed that his heart had been completely burst asunder, thus causing instant death.

The Canadian line of ocean steamships will, on the opening of navigation make Montreal their port next season instead of Quebec.

One day last week the engineer on the London and Port Stanley Railway ran a train 100 miles over that road with one cord of wood.

CHATHAM MARKET.

The stranger who visited the Chatham market on Saturday last had a capital opportunity of seeing a few of the productions of the soil of Kent. Upwards of a hundred teams were upon the market that day.

You can't make a microbe.

The Mutual Life of Canada.

34TH ANNUAL REPORT

Presented to the Annual Meeting of Policyholders Thursday, March 3rd, 1904.

Gentlemen,—Your Directors respectfully submit for your consideration their report of the business for the year ended December 31st, 1903, with the financial statement duly audited.

We are pleased to inform you that, in all branches, the business was of a most gratifying character, and that the new business was largely in excess of that of any other year in the history of the company. The surplus earnings were such as enabled us to continue the same very liberal scale of distribution to the Policyholders as in the past. The death rate was slightly in advance of that of 1902, but still much below the expectation. The Lapses and Surrenders have been gradually decreasing for some time, and for the past year were comparatively moderate.

NEW AND OLD BUSINESS.—The applications received for new business were 3,518, for \$5,173,112, of which 47 for \$72,500 were declined. The Policies issued were 3,333 for \$5,011,390 and the amount of insurance now in force is \$37,587,551.58, under 25,730 policies, being an increase in amount of \$3,118,631.

INCOME.—The net premium income, less re-insurance, was \$1,254,986.47; Interest and Rents \$306,007.48; Profit and Loss \$76.08; Total Income \$1,561,070.03.

PAYMENTS TO POLICYHOLDERS.—The payments to policyholders were:—Death claims \$253,586.95; Endowments \$125,587; purchase policies \$31,972.18; Surplus \$77,900.25; Annualities \$2,274.90; total \$493,721.31; expense account \$282,728.43; Total Disbursements \$776,449.74; Excess of income over expenditure \$784,630.29.

The cash assets amount to \$6,882,953.83; the Total Assets are \$7,298,552.12, an increase over 1902 of \$388,772.94.

LIABILITIES.—The Total Liabilities are \$6,676,224.19, including the reserve of \$8,617,714.89 for the security of Policyholders, computed at 4 per cent, 3-1-2 per cent, and 3 per cent.

SURPLUS.—The surplus of the Company's standard of valuation is \$616,633.46 and on government standard \$678,465.67. The increase in Surplus is \$117,483.23.

During the year the demand for money was active, and the funds were fully invested, at a somewhat better rate of interest, and in a class of securities entirely outside of anything of a hazardous or speculative character. The payments in Principal and Interest were unusually well met, there being only \$5,998 overdues interest at the close of the year, most of which has since been paid.

The Executive Committee examined all the securities and compared them with the records, all of which were found correct, and in accordance with the statement herewith submitted.

The Manager, Officers, and Staff continue to discharge their respective duties to the satisfaction of the Board.

You will be called upon to elect four Directors, in the place of the Hon. Mr. Justice Britton, Francis C. Bruce, M. P., J. Kerr Fiskson and Geo. A. Somerville, whose term of office has expired, but all of whom are eligible for re-election.

On behalf of the Board.

ROBERT MELVIN, President

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

LEDGER ASSETS—Dec. 31st, 1902.....\$6,088,333.54

INCOME:

Premiums (net).....\$1,254,986.47
Interest and rents.....306,007.48
Profit and Loss.....76.08
Total Income.....\$1,561,070.03

7,659,403.57

PAYMENTS TO POLICYHOLDERS.

Death Claims.....\$253,586.95
Matured Endowments.....122,687.00
Payment to Annuitants.....8,274.90
Purchased Policies.....31,972.18
Surplus Paid to Policyholders.....77,900.25
Total Payments.....\$493,721.31

\$493,721.31

\$776,449.74

\$6,882,953.83

LEDGER ASSETS.

Debentures and Bonds, Account Value.....\$2,643,334.07
Mortgages.....3,331,018.12
Loans on Policies.....792,833.8
Loans on Loan Company's Stocks.....10,000.00
Liens on Policies.....31,989.02
Real Estate.....46,004.85
Real Estate Company's Head Office.....21,032.61
All other items, including Cash in Banks and at H. O.....6,243.08

Additional Assets.....\$282,728.43

TOTAL ASSETS.....7,298,552.12

LIABILITIES.

Reserve on Policies in force 4 per cent, 3-1-2 per cent.....\$6,017,714.89
All other Liabilities.....88,509.30
Total Liabilities.....\$6,676,224.19

\$6,676,224.19

\$616,633.46

\$678,465.67

The growth of the Company during the past year may be seen in the following table.

Anded and found correct.

J. M. SCULLY, F. C. A. Auditors.

J. SCULLY, 1902.

New Assurance.....\$4,627,578

Assurance in force.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1903.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1904.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1905.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1906.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1907.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1908.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1909.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098

Surplus (Company's Standard).....499,150

1910.

Assets.....\$2,643,334.07

Surplus.....\$616,633.46

Assurance.....\$34,685,928

Assets.....1,891,098