

# THE REPORTER.

VOL. II.

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NO 11.

## THE REPORTER

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Editorial notices in local column five cents per line for first insertion and three cents per line for each subsequent insertion. A limited number of advertisements inserted at special rates. Advertisements unaccompanied by written instructions will be inserted until forbid and charged accordingly. The Reporter office is supplied with a good equipment of poster as well as fine job type.

BETHUEL LOVERIN,  
Publisher and Proprietor.

### March.

We are accustomed to think of this month as one of wind and cold—the most disagreeable of the year, with but the nether side of winter's pleasure and none whatever belonging to the milder season. How beautiful are the following lines, written by the poet Bryant, who shows that while we dread this dark month, still it is the beginning of winter's end—the dark hour that just precedes the day-break—the harbinger of spring's brightest joy:

The stormy March is come at last,  
With wind and cloud and changing skies;  
I hear the rushing of the blast  
That through the snowy valley flies.

Ah, passing few are they who speak  
Wild, stormy month, in praise of thee!  
Yet, tho' thy winds are wild and bleak,  
Thou art a welcome month to me.

For thou to Northern lands again  
The glad and glorious sun dost bring,  
And thou hast joined the gentle train,  
And wear'st the gentle name of Spring.

### The Franchise Bill

The franchise bill introduced in the Local Legislature by the Hon. C. F. Fraser is a measure that will meet with the approbation of all, irrespective of political bias. True, it does tardy justice to the young men of this province, but a justice that will be none the less acceptable. It approaches as near manhood suffrage as, perhaps, the public sentiment would warrant, and at the same time it prevents any exercise of the franchise by uninterested parties. The following is a brief summary of its provisions:—The property qualification required to entitle owners and tenants to vote is reduced from \$400 in cities and \$300 in towns to \$200, and from \$200 in incorporated villages and townships to \$100. It is required, however, that every person voting on this qualification must be actually domiciled within the constituency. This will do away with the difficulties, the irritation, and corruption too often developed in connection with the outside vote, and there is little question but that the unanimous consent of the House will be cheerfully accorded to the proposition thus to expunge from the franchise law this fruitless cause of so much wasted effort and questionable political enterprise in too many election contests. The present taxable income qualification is reduced

from \$400 to \$200, and the old provision as to payment of taxes is removed. It is also provided that any person earning an annual income of \$300 in wages shall be entered on the assessment roll as a wage-earner, and shall be entitled to vote as such. Any person owning and being domiciled on real property of 20 acres in extent, assessed for \$400 in cities and towns, and for \$200 in townships and incorporated villages, shall be entitled to vote as a land holder. The same provision is also made to apply to tenants. The old farmer's son's franchise is substituted, under which every land-holder's son who has not been absent from the municipality in which he tenders his vote for more than four months of the year prior to the return of the assessment roll, is entitled to vote as such. Every householder entered on the assessment roll as such, who occupies a separate dwelling, being neither boarder nor joint occupant, is entitled to vote. The franchise as to Indians remains the same. The provisions as to Algoma and the unorganized District of Muskoka and Perry Sound, Peterborough, Victoria, Hastings, and Renfrew, requiring land ownership, house occupancy, and six months residence, also remain unchanged. The assessment roll is carefully maintained as the basis of the whole law, and only those whose names appear thereon are entitled to exercise the franchise. It will be evident that nearly every male citizen of legal age in the Province under one or other of the clauses of the bill is entitled to exercise the franchise.

### Correspondence.

Notice.—We wish it distinctly understood that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

To Editor of The Reporter.

DEAR SIR.—We had occasion to visit Farmersville as an agent traveling for the Milling Co. of M. F. Beach, of Iroquois, who has one of the best rolling mills in Ontario, and turning out flour which cannot be excelled in Ontario, and by the way the people patronize the flour you would imagine it was the only rolling mill in Ontario.

Farmersville is about 15 miles north of Brockville, built on the summit of a hill. It contains about 800 of population, and is noted for the best schools in Eastern Ontario—Common, High and Model School. We were informed there were over 100 pupils in the High School. The church property is fine. The people are very cordial and kind to strangers. We visited the very fine printing office of Mr. B. Loverin, who is always ready to push things of interest in the Reporter. I heard one man say he was well pleased with the Reporter; that he had got enough information from it that morning to pay his subscription for a year. Go in, Mr. Editor, and you may become a wonder-

ful institution. We formed an acquaintance with Mr. J. Thompson, and Messrs. H. H. Arnold, Parish, Lamb, Stevens, Beech, Judson, and many others. We also came across the Rev. W. Blair, and we think from his smiling face that he is fed on the fat of the land and that he is filled with the spirit of his occupation, and we wish him all success in his lovely home.

We felt sorry to leave one of the finest little towns in Eastern Ontario, as the stage-man came with his sp did stage and smiling face.

G. S. HANES,  
Iroquois, March 2, 1885.

### ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

#### Sugar Social.

The sugar social in the Methodist church on Tuesday evening was well attended and was a very pleasant affair. The meeting was thoroughly sociable in character.

#### Musical and Literary.

The second public entertainment of the Farmersville Literary and Musical Association was held on Friday evening last. The president of the Association, Mr. A. W. Bannister, B. A., presided. The programme was presented by the High School students, and gave entire satisfaction to the large audience present. The papers prepared on the subjects of "Annexation" and "Country Life v. City Life" were particularly meritorious. Messrs. Read and Muirhead favored Annexation and Messrs. Fisher and Alguire opposed it. Miss Crummy advocated the charms of country life, and Miss Stevens the advantages of city life. Recitations were given by Miss C. Patterson, Miss A. McCallum, Miss M. E. Alford, Miss Madden, Miss L. Wiltse, and Messrs. Sherman and Stevens. Solos were sung by Miss Madden Mr. Connors and Mr. Read, the latter being assisted in the chorus by Messrs. Judd, Muirhead, Alguire, and Fisher. Miss Madden and Mr. Fisher sang a duet, and the trio, "Fairy Footsteps," was well rendered by Messrs. Fisher, Patterson and Muirhead. Mr. Kerr favored the audience with an original poem on "The British Empire," which by permission we will publish next week. Miss Madden opened the entertainment by playing a selection on the organ, and instrumental music was furnished at intervals by an excellent orchestra, composed of Messrs. Judd, A. Alguire, C. Fisher, and Miss Fisher. The students did well and are to be credited with furnishing a first-class entertainment.

#### Story of a Bear.

Yesterday afternoon our town was thrown into a state of wild excitement. News was brought in by Slide-in-Hal-the-Jolly-Lounger that a wild beast of prodigious size and ferocious mien had taken up its abode in an adjacent wood. Quickly a party

of veteran huntsmen were collected and marshalled under the leadership of Cap. Electricity. The party consisted of Nimble-Ed-the-Drummer, Jolly-Hy-the-Grog-Furnisher, Sling-Paint-Cal-the-Sponge-on, Big-Nuckle-Let-the-Ball-Pusher, Jimmy-Waubuno the Mortar-Masher, Rocky-Bone-the-Hang-on, and Do-Nothing-Ed-De-Whistler. Slide-in-Hal's wood sled was utilized as a chariot of war, the supplies being placed on Cap. Electricity's phaeton. The ammunition consisted of a supply of fox-bait, cat-tails, coal oil, traps, buck-saw, fire arms, fire water, &c., &c. Quickly the chariot was got in motion, and soon arrived at Stinging-Bee-Eleven-Stones' ranche. Here the party dismounted and preceded by Nimble-Ed sought the dark and gloomy recesses of the forest, where the animal was supposed to be in hiding. Arriving at the supposed lair (a large tree, high up in which a cavity was visible) a halt was made and Waubuno was selected to do the sapping and mining. After nearly one hour's hard labor, the majestic lord of the forest lay prone upon the ground. The lair of the wild beast was quickly sought, when lo! and behold, the tree did not pan out worth a cent. After searching the 7x9 cavity in the tree, they found to their chagrin that there was no bear, no coon, no hedge-hog, no squirrel, in fact, no nothing. Cap. Electricity proposed to demonstrate to the assembled hunters that his system of catching wild animals, (viz.: by attaching a small piece of meat to a fish-hook) was far superior to that of Waubuno's system of sapping and mining, but the crest-fallen hunters did not feel in any humor to listen to any sound but home sweet home. Sadly the party wended their way homeward, resolved that when Slide-in-Hal wanted any saw logs cut they would let the Mortar-masher do the job alone.

### DIED.

After a short illness, of congestion of the lungs, Mrs. Hollingsworth, relict of the late Thos. Hollingsworth, departed this life, on Friday, 6th inst. at the age of 68 years. She died in the triumphs of faith, with a bright prospect of a glorious resurrection. Rev. Mr. Service preached the funeral sermon at the residence of the deceased on Sunday last, after which she was consigned to her last resting place in the family burying ground, on the old homestead. She leaves one daughter, Mrs. Wm. Giffin, to mourn her loss. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the family in their bereavement.

And why do we so sadly yearn  
To hear thy voice once more,  
To see thy gentle loving look,  
To meet thee at the door!

We must not count dear mother lost—  
She won our hearts while here,  
That we might follow her from earth  
To Heaven's glorious sphere.

And let us learn to pour like thee  
Blessings where'er we tread,  
That the sweet fragrance of our lives  
May live when we are dead.

Farewell, dear mother, till we meet  
Where parting is no more,  
And join in the celestial band  
Upon the shining shore.