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D. G. SMITH, CHATHAM.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., OCTOBER 7, 1897.

Politics and Cattle.

Political partisanship has done a good deal of times in the way of working public injury, and even papers of considerable pretensions do very small things to gratify their party prejudices.

We all know the sentiments of the St. John Sun towards the local government, and are always prepared for manifestations of its antipathy in that direction, but hardly anticipated such an unwarranted attack as it made upon them in connection with the recent cattle importation.

It would be much better if the Sun, instead of hinting about the "awful blunder" etc., had informed itself more fully and then stated the facts. That, however, would not suit the purposes of those who employ that paper to carry on its crusade against the government.

It might have given the government some credit for the fact that the recent importation was the first ever made by the province in which the tuberculosis test was made a condition of the purchase.

It might also have ascertained the fact that the ten Jerseys, of which seven were said, after arrival, to be unhealthy, were not mixed with the other cattle in transport, but brought along by themselves because there was no time to test them according to the government's instructions and the commissioners deemed it undesirable to leave them behind and make a second shipment of them, especially as they were at the owner's risk and the government was not committed to their purchase until they passed the test.

The Sun might have learned, had it desired to be correctly informed, that until the Jerseys were submitted to the test, they were kept by themselves and not offered for sale, but remained subject to their owner's order. If the importation had been made under the conditions of former ones, there would have been no test and no discovery that these seven were affected by tuberculosis.

Those, therefore, whom the Sun has endeavored to mislead in this matter, from motives which are well understood, will understand that no "fertile blunder" has been made, but an importation of healthy cattle secured which will greatly benefit the agricultural interests of the province. The trouble with the Sun is that it realises how successful and popular a thing the government has accomplished and it is desirous of counteracting upon its effect throughout the Province.

Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture Peters states that so far from the Jerseys that showed symptoms of tuberculosis being fed in the County of Northumberland, the Jerseys that were carried in a separate car and on arrival kept in their stalls and practically isolated. Mr. Peters says that a certificate of perfect health was an absolute condition of the purchase of every Jersey, and that in forwarding in all cases except the ten Jerseys, which were the last animals picked up on the homeward trip, the absence of a certificate was explained to be due to the unexpected early call for shipment of the animals to the Dominion veterinary. The owner was at once notified that the responsibility would rest on him, and as it was too late to make other arrangements for transportation the ten Jersey specimens were brought along.

At arrival at Fredericton steps were promptly taken for examination by Dr. Henry, veterinarian, and as a result the owner will have to take back the animals at his own expense. They were not paid for owing to the absence of satisfactory certificates. Mr. Peters says everything possible was done to perfectly isolate these cattle from the others, and that all the other animals purchased have clean bills of health.

HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 4.—In answer to the cattle unloaded at Fredericton, I am assured, have been kept separate in transit and since arrival. They are the only ones in the shipment under suspicion. They are being detained for inspection by the veterinary adviser of the Dominion government, as they were not accompanied by the proper certificates demanded by the New Brunswick commissioner. Statements made in the press about danger from the animals sold could only come from those ignorant of the facts of the nature of the disease.

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What avarice huggin' it all! If they didn't, they, in the first place, behave properly with the town? Why didn't they get an honest and complete set of plans and specifications, together with the estimated cost of the undertaking and, before going on with it, call a meeting of the ratepayers as the law contemplates, and get their views as to whether they should proceed with the work? They had not a sufficient sense of right and wrong or of what was due to the people to do this however, but, after they had committed the town to a large debt on account of this one building, and have had the character of the transaction exposed in the ADVANCE, they say they intended to call a public meeting. Their position is one of the most impudent that a civic body ever placed itself in. They, of course, know that however far they have exceeded their powers and run into debt, the people will have to pay the bills in the end. But, are the men composing the Council to be left in office to call the proposed meeting and vote all the money they have made the ratepayers responsible for against their will? If the Council's course in running the town into debt, with no legal means of paying, is to be condoned, and the ratepayers of the men who are responsible for the trouble, and who did it with their eyes open, will these same men not go further next time if left in power to do so? How many natural then that they should, if not in their own interests, be removed from office and their money paid to pay their present illegal obligations, take the rest of the ratepayers in as doing as endorsing their methods? We believe that they are unwise administrators, who have forfeited the confidence of the townpeople, and as such they should be retired.

St. John Letter.

Our not very remote ancestors saw in a cord of wood little else than a certain amount of fuel, mophandules or diction pins. Later it was discovered that sixty per cent. of its weight could be had by converted into a liquid kind as pyrolytic acid. This cord of wood weighing four thousand pounds, yields two thousand six hundred and fifty pounds, or about eight barrels of pyrolytic acid and seven hundred pounds, or about thirty-five bushels of charcoal. A quart of the pyrolytic acid added to the brine in which hams are pickled gives the hams the same flavor that they would have if smoked in the ordinary way. But pyrolytic acid is used for other purposes than curing hams. The acid from one cord of wood produces nine gallons of alcohol, which is not inferior to grain alcohol for mechanical and many other purposes. Two hundred pounds of acetone and about twenty-five gallons of tar. It also yields acetic acid, sometimes used in the manufacture of vinegar, naphtha, which may be used for lighting, acetone, which may be used for another purpose—through a numerously signed resolution—because of his knowledge of what is required for a proper administration of

D. McCRAE.

Town Administration.

It is said that several aspirants for the position of Mayor of Chatham are asking, through friends for the necessary names sufficient to nominate them. If a person so put in nomination is elected without a show of hands, it will, very properly, be construed to mean that he is the choice of the ratepayers. Let it be hoped that some of the people will manifest interest enough in the administration of Town affairs for the next year, to ask some of them when the public have confidence through a numerously signed resolution—because of his knowledge of what is required for a proper administration of

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