



THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN N. B., JANUARY 28, 1863.

CARNIVAL OF VICE AND IMMORALITY.

COMMISSIONER BARRY'S REPORT ON DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION AT FREDERICTON; THE TELEGRAPH'S MOST SERIOUS CHARGES FULLY SUSTAINED; VICE AND MIS-MANAGEMENT.

COMMISSIONER BARRY'S UNSPARING CONDEMNATION.

The evidence of many of the deaf female witnesses, if true, shows a shocking state of affairs. Not only were the grossest immoralities practiced in the school by the principal, Mr. Powers and Norman Woodbridge, but the principal and Mr. Powers appeared to keep in touch with several of the pupils after they had left the school, and continued the evil practices begun in the school itself.

As the whole of the evidence will be submitted, it would serve no useful purpose to give here in detail the evidence of the witnesses produced on this branch of the inquiry. I feel it to be my duty, however, in view of the vast amount of testimony taken, that I should give a resume of the most important parts of it. This I shall endeavor to do as succinctly and fairly as I can, dealing first with Mr. Powers, who seems to have been the chief offender in this respect.

The report of Commissioner Barry upon the charges preferred by the Telegraph against the officials of the Fredericton Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb was withheld from the public until the grand jury had returned indictments against Homer President Woodbridge, his son, Norman Woodbridge, and George Ernest Powers.

THE CHARGES.

Statement of Allegations Made by the Telegraph. The statement of the charges without the exhibits, preferred against the institution, was sent to these named gentlemen, February 1st.



These Were the Officials of the Deaf and Dumb Institution.

sumed all responsibility, and it had been so carried on to this day. The government had, it is true, given it a grant, and it would be quite proper for them to investigate the manner in which that grant had been expended, but the act did not contemplate an inquiry into the private affairs of Mr. Woodbridge, the public moneys were paid into the hands of the treasurer, and disbursed by him, and the books kept by Mr. Woodbridge were his own private books.

FINANCIAL FEATURES.

The Mix-up of the Institution's Accounts With Those of Principal Woodbridge. The revenues of the institution seem to have been derived from five sources, namely: rents of cottages, etc.; payments by parents, government grants, county grants and collections and subscriptions; the last named source of revenue being by far the most productive one.

SCANDALOUS PRACTICES FOLLOWED BY PRINCIPAL WOODBRIDGE, G. E. POWERS AND NORMAN WOODBRIDGE; FEMALE PUPILS, NATURE'S AFFLICTED, TEL OF REVOLTING CONDITIONS.

While to Mr. Woodbridge this may be a satisfactory way of accounting for these discrepancies, I think to any one who has even the most superficial knowledge of accounts, it must look both unbusiness-like and unsatisfactory. One would have thought that, in order to guard against the possibility of a suspicion, the proper course to have adopted would have been to credit the gross subscriptions and charge the collection expenses against them, and take from his collectors vouchers for the expenses incurred and paid.

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A HOPELESS MUDDLE.

This is the Commissioner's Remark About Accounts of the Institution. When an attempt was made to enter upon an analysis and audit of use items of expenditure, the accounts were found to be in such a hopeless muddle that no satisfactory progress could be made.

FINANCIAL DISCREPANCIES.

Apparent Yearly Shortage—How Woodbridge Accounted for It. The most serious of the charges of financial mismanagement were made in connection with the receipts and subscriptions collections from the general public. This source of revenue was controlled entirely by Mr. Woodbridge and his collectors.

Table showing financial discrepancies with columns for Year, Receipts, and Shortage.

EDUCATIONAL FEATURES.

Commission Quotes Opinions of Gentlemen Who Speak Authoritatively. Having had no opportunity of comparing the attainments of the graduates of the Fredericton school, with the attainments of those of other schools of a similar character, I do not feel myself able to speak with any degree of accuracy on this subject.

Rev. G. M. Campbell.

Rev. G. M. Campbell said of the only occasion he visited the school, that the work of the work was very excellent indeed, and for one who knew nothing about it, I was favorably impressed with what I saw.

Abel S. Clark.

Abel S. Clark, M. A. of the Hartford (Conn.) school for the deaf, who said he had been a teacher of the deaf for 35 years, stated as follows: Q. You have seen the pupils of this school here, and have heard from them the number of years they have been in attendance, and have examined them personally and have talked with them.









MARKET REPORTS.

Table of market reports including sections for Wheat, Flour, Lard, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, and various oils. It lists prices for different grades and quantities.

AUCTION.

On Saturday, the 21st day of January instant, there will be offered for sale at public auction, at Chubb's Corner, the following properties of the Estate of the late Charles E. Harding Esq.:

WANTED.

Wanted - An Active canvasser in every district in Canada to handle our Popular Subscription Books and Bibles. Extra inducements guaranteed to those who act as canvassers.

FOR SALE.

Valuable Old Business Stand and Farm for Sale - Within easy access to railways and steamboats and to St. John city.

MONEY TO LOAN.

Money to loan on city, town, village or country property in amounts to suit the requirements of borrowers.

MARRIAGES.

Paterson-Chapman - At the home of the bride's parents, on Jan. 26, 1913, by the Rev. D. B. Taylor, Rev. St. John, N. B. Miss Mabel A. Chapman, both of Mount Middleton, Kings county, N. B.

DEATHS.

Goold - At Sussex (N. B.), on Jan. 26th, after a short illness, William N. Goold, aged 86 years.

SHIP NEWS.

PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived, Friday, Jan. 23. Stm Orléans, from London via Halifax, Wm Thomson & Co. per cargo.

FOREIGN PORTS.

Algeria, Jan 25 - 8th strm Amarna, from Gibraltar for Portland. Boston, Jan 25 - 8th strm Farnham, from Boston via Delaware Break-point.

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"CARNIVAL OF VICE AND IMMORALITY."

(Continued from Page 3.)

their being deaf, and on account of their being isolated. Q-You speak in your reports of the education affects their moral qualities? A-I believe the more education they receive the more refined they become.

Not the Same as Morality.

A-They have not the same appreciation of morality as we have. They do not estimate it at the same high price. Q-You say that the more education they receive the more refined they become. Q-Do you think that it is by reason of their inability to perceive in that respect to the same extent speaking people do?

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WITNESSES TO THE TRUTH.

Educated deaf children have, according to the opinions of those competent to judge, a perfect knowledge of the tenets of Christianity and correct notions of the moral and religious nature of an oath.

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J. Henry Brown's Connection With Inquiry.

It was indicated by Mr. Woodbridge that J. H. Brown, of St. John, was very active in bringing together a number of these deaf children, and in that capacity, in the preparation of the evidence afterwards given. While it is true that Mr. Brown did exhibit a lively interest in the work of the commission, I think it only fair to him that I should state that I have not been able to put my finger on any act of his that would indicate any but the best of motives. It may not be generally known that Mr. Brown has the misfortune to have a son who has been deaf from his infancy. Both the father and the mother have a consequence acquired a familiarity with the sign language of the deaf. The deaf is to all know form a distinct class in themselves, and for this reason, that so few speaking people have sufficient knowledge of their language to converse with them.

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VALUABLE ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

If your child comes in from playing or from school, or from any other place, and you find that he is wet, do not scold him. It is a natural consequence of his being so young, and you should be patient with him. It is a natural consequence of his being so young, and you should be patient with him.

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