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The Wollestock Gazette,

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THE Grammar School has recently received a coat of paint, and now presents a much better appearance than formerly.

We have received several communications, enquiring why the WOLLESTOCK GAZETTE was so called. The Indian name of the Saint John river was Wollestock, (the exact way of spelling the word matters little that depending entirely on the ear), and the original promoters of the GAZETTE thinking it would be appropriate, designated the paper thereby.

It is generally regretted, by the Grammar School boys at least, that we are to have only six weeks, vacation this summer. We do not think that the desire for more holidays is prompted solely by the idea that since there are schools whose vacations extend to nearly three months, those of Saint John should be treated likewise, but more from the fact that during the summer months the weather is so warm, that there is comparatively little work done in the schools; and as a consequence the scholars say that it would be far better to have a few more weeks, after which they could return to their studies with renewed energy.

THE RESOURCES OF CANADA.

Frequently, to obtain news of home, one must look anywhere but at home for it. Now, how many live all their lives in a city or country without the least acquaintance with its most distinguished features? So it comes to pass that thousands in this Dominion are not only ignorant of its geography, natural history, and other resources, but are, because of this ignorance, constantly grumbling at their adopted country. All around us are proofs of substantial progress, and Canada only requires to be better known in order to turn the tide of emigration that now sets in for the United States into our own ports. Emigration agents, who generally know least about the matter, are regarded by the unsophisticated emigrant as oracles of wisdom, and they manage to impress people with an unfavourable idea of Canada, we suspect, because emigration to the States pays better. The emigrant is imbued with the erroneous idea that in coming to the American Continent he gets rid of the necessity of hard work and will get plenty of money for doing nothing. Whereas the lot of every emigrant, be he literate or illiterate, is hard work and plenty of it. Not but every well regulated mind will rejoice that this is so.

So long as work is obtainable, a man of industry and energy may be gay and happy, for his bread is sure. The prospect of work should attract rather than repel. For, admitting that the labour of making this country habitable has been beyond all estimate, is not the result full of compensation? The older settled districts have become a fair garden. The farmsteads are homes of comfort and ease, and often of culture and refinement. The log hut gives place to the frame house, and this to a substantial building of brick or stone. Meanwhile the line of invasion on the old realm of forest everywhere extends. The lumberman advances further and further north with his axe, and removes by the snow covered roads of winter, and the great water highways, a mass of choice timber for all the markets in the world. The backwoods man, more than reconciled to his life of excitement and variety, clears a space for his log hut, fires the

useless timber, and plants the first irregular crop. The cleared land is worth all the trouble. The Manitoba and Ontario wheat cannot possibly be excelled. Oats, barley, maize, and other grains yield excellent crops. Fruits and vegetables grow generously. The Canadian apple is the standard of excellence. Melons and the tomato grow equally with the potato, pea, turnip, and the rest of the vegetables known in England. Strawberries, raspberries, cranberries, cherries and other fruits grow wild. Orchards everywhere prosper. But the great labour demanded in settling the country has produced a result of greater consequence. It has developed a fine race of people. The Canadian whether French, English, Irish or Scotch, is well proportioned and vigorous, often tall, with broad shoulders, sinewy frame, and capable of great endurance. He may not have much book learning, but he is quick of resource and apt at many things. He is enterprising, but unhurried. He is sober minded, persistent and trustworthy. The races of the British Isles and of France have certainly not degenerated here. The volume of trade has increased immensely during the last twenty years. The effect of increased population and the increased breadth of land under cultivation upon the revenue is enormous. Not that the trade and population statistics convey an adequate idea of the prosperity and importance to which the Dominion must ultimately attain. It is not to the developed resource, but to the undeveloped wealth of the forest, the mine and the field that we must look for the promise of a glorious and prosperous future. The Canadian Dominion will yet be of great importance to the British empire, unless English indifference should alienate the country and lead to a severance of the connection. The country is loyal, and proud of the English name and history. There exists at present no question more deeply affecting the future of the English race, than the one whether the Dominion is to remain a part of the Empire or is to be alienated. The position place of the mother country among the family of nations will be greatly influenced by the way in which this question is solved.

For the GAZETTE.

At the request of an old schoolmate I will endeavour to give a graphic description of the Parliament buildings and grounds at Ottawa:—They are situated on an elevated position to the north west of the city overlooking the Town of Hull, on the

opposite side of the Ottawa River. The entrance to the grounds is from the south-east off Wellington. There are three buildings at present called respectively Eastern, Western and Central. The Central building stands back from the street and contains the Senate Chamber, House of Commons and Government Library. The House of Commons as you are all aware, although fitted up in fine style, bears a marked resemblance to a school-room, but the Library is magnificent. The first thing that presents itself to view on entering it is the statue of Queen Victoria and busts of various illustrious men.

The volumes which are for the use of the members, and employees of the Government, are almost innumerable being piled up tier after tier. In the News or Reading Room you will find all the latest papers from every part of the Dominion and some parts of England. The Eastern and Western buildings contain the several departments of the Government, namely, Finance, Marine and Fisheries, Militia, Inland Revenue, Public Works, Agriculture, etc. Having seen the buildings we will now take a stroll on the grounds. Proceeding in an easterly direction we come abruptly to a point overlooking the Rideau Canal and Major Park, which is situated on the opposite side of the canal. Now by turning and proceeding in a northerly direction we are enabled to have a view of the Basilica, a French place of worship, the Nepean fort, separated from us by part of the Ottawa River and the Rideau Canal, also a glance down the above mentioned river and an extensive view of the country as far as the eye can reach. Still following the walk to the westward until we come to the western angle of the grounds a splendid view of Chaudiere Falls and the Town of Hull is afforded us. The principal industry of Hull appears to be in lumber, the wharves being filled to overflowing with sawn timber of which there is far more than in the City of St. John. Keeping to the left as we leisurely walk along our attention is drawn to a plot of ground beautifully laid out in trees and flowers, in one corner of which is the bust of Prince Albert. Directly opposite the garden is a sample of the British Columbia fir tree as shown in the Paris Exhibition, measuring eight feet in diameter. We now find ourselves on the path leading to the Lovers' walk, which we think of visiting as it is a great resort for the fair sex. It is Milton, a steep side hill sloping down to the river from the grounds and beautifully shaded by trees with seats arranged along it about 70 or 80 feet apart, making it a

delightful place on a hot summer's day. A verandah is built out on a certain part of the walk capable of seating about 25 or 30 persons, giving them a fine view of the different crafts on the river from the steamers down to pleasure boats. Following the walk to its end, we find ourselves in front of the eastern gate through which we think it about time to make an exit.

In conclusion I would say that a statue is being erected to the memory of Jacques Cartier on the main walk leading to the Central building, also that the grounds are laid out in grass plots which are constantly kept trimmed, dotted here and there with ornamental trees, hedges, and flowers.

E. R.

For the GAZETTE.

COMPOSITIONS.

When we are grown up we write essays. At school our literary productions are called compositions, although, if we regarded the true meaning of the terms, we would reverse their application. But the application of the term is of small importance. The point we wish to make is that much of the time applied in schools to "composition writing" is very often time utterly thrown away, because of the unsuitable and improper subjects chosen. Whether the scholars or the teachers make the selection, the result is generally the same. The teacher of composition, of the present day, is prone to favor themes of the most theoretic and metaphysical nature, and anything better adapted to extinguish in a child, ability or desire for literary composition, could hardly be imagined. It is a matter of course that ordinary boys or girls cannot write well upon Government, Philosophy, or the Moral Attributes, and their continuous doleful toilings and certain failures with these subjects, will soon, and very naturally, give them a distaste for any kind of literary work. "Composition days" are, in ordinary schools, the most disagreeable and irksome days in the week, for then it is that tasks are required of the scholars for which their minds are almost always unprepared. Many a cultured writer would stand aghast at the abstruse themes which are daily presented for elucidation and comment, to pupils who sometimes scarcely know the dictionary meaning of the words. The art of English composition is necessary to a good education, but a man may be well educated without being able to write an essay on an abstract subject. What the majority of children need in this respect, is a course of education

that will enable them to give honest, earnest and simple expression to what they really think, and straightforward and interesting descriptions of what they see. They should thus be taught to give sensible expression to the ordinary impressions of their minds, and if they can do this, the teacher should be satisfied. If those impressions are of a high order, all the better, but it must not be forgotten that the scholar ought to be taught to write what he really thinks. If a subject is given him, of which he has never thought, and of which he is incapable of thinking properly, of course he can do nothing but furbish up a set of old, trite, high-sounding expressions that have been used in the schools until their original meaning is almost dried out of them, and which will generally serve about as well for one subject as another. There is surely no possible use or advantage in requiring young minds to soar into the regions of ethics and philosophy. It may be well to bear in mind that these few remarks are not intended to apply particularly to our public schools here in St. John, but occurred to the writer on being present at a school in another province on two occasions when composition was being taught, when the subjects given to the scholars to write upon, (none of whom exceeded 16 years of age), were: "Discovery as contrasted with Invention," and the other, "Ambition." G.

A WEEK'S FISHING ON THE MIRAMICHI.

On Monday, May 27th, our party of five started by the night express for Indiantown, a small village on the right bank of the Miramichi River. Nothing of note happened on our night journey, except the constant interruption of our sleep by the squalling infants, of whom there was a great attendance. I had just fallen asleep when I was awakened on our arrival in Moncton, by the hotel criers yelling at the top of their voices, "Phoenix hotel," "Queen hotel," and the brakesman pealing for the change of cars for Halifax. But this came to an end when the train started, and I once more arranged myself for sleep.

We arrived at Barnaby River, a small station 8 miles this side of Newcastle, from which we were to drive fifteen miles to Indiantown. Two of our party drove in a light carriage, whilst my cousin, my brother and I drove in a large box waggon with all the luggage. The driver of our team was very careful of his horses, but we took advantage of his deafness by urging them to a greater speed

than a walk. Our team reached its destination at seven o'clock, and we found that the carriage had been there an hour and a half earlier. After I had my breakfast I got my rod and tackle ready, and ran down to the river, which runs directly in front of the house. I had just taken a few casts when I hooked a large trout which, after some good sport, I landed. I found that he weighed three pounds. Our party fished till dinner time and killed about three dozen fine trout. After dinner we were so sleepy that we decided not to fish in the afternoon but to go to bed instead.

The next day, to our disappointment, was wet, but this did not retard us from fishing. My uncle and I walked up to Donovan's Rapids while the rest fished up the river. My uncle after a few casts at the Rapids, hooked a grilse, and almost immediately after landing it caught a three pound and a half trout. By the time we met the rest of the party we had two dozen nice trout and the grilse, but they had still better sport than us, having killed thirty trout, a twelve pound salmon and two grilse.

The rain spoiled our fishing for the next two days, but after the water fell we had good sport.

On Tuesday we started for home with a salmon, 8 grilse and two boxes of large trout, having had a delightful trip. S. S.

TRAVELLING.

Among the various methods taken by man to obtain knowledge, travelling stands forth most prominently, and, indeed, it is the most reliable way to gain knowledge. What a person sees with his own eyes, he must believe; but he may, and very often does, doubt the truth of statements made by others. When any notable person or thing is seen, a lasting impression is made,—at least far more so than if merely heard or read about,—for very often words cannot be found to express the delight or horror caused by seeing nature in some wonderful or appalling form. Nor can the mind picture the wonderful scenery of a place half so well as if it were assisted by the eyes in seeing that scenery itself.

But, besides the pleasure of travelling and of examining the different lands of the globe for the purpose of acquiring knowledge, some travel for a living; it is to them a business, and this absorbs most of their attention, yet they have the privilege of seeing places and persons, which give to them valuable information. Thus the traveller is gene-

rally a man of knowledge, as can be proved by examining such men as Marco Polo, Sir John Mandeville, Capt. Cook, Franklin, Stanley, Livingstone, and many others, who have been in foreign lands, and who have handed down to us the knowledge they obtained in their travels. All of these great travellers went on their voyages and expeditions of discovery, with the intention to learn something and make use of it. They did not keep their eyes shut, nor rush past any apparently insignificant object, but they studied what they came in contact with in order to thoroughly understand it. So it should be with us, and if we have not the privilege of travelling abroad, there is plenty to be seen at home that we know not of; but we must keep our eyes open and carefully examine that which we see, if we are to learn. Reading is a great promoter of knowledge, and by it we learn very much, but no opportunity of travelling should be allowed to escape our notice, since the sights seen by one himself will be far better and more instructive than any writer can make them appear from his description of them. W. C. C.

ANOTHER OF MR. B'S STORIES.

We were camped on a small lake about fifteen miles west of here, in September 1874, and had gone there purposely for a couple of weeks' fishing, but as I always do, I had taken my gun with me, knowing I would get some partridges, and also hoping to get a shot at a moose. We had been there eight or ten days when I began to grow tired of fishing, so leaving my boy Jim in charge of the camp I took my gun and started off after big game. I had walked about five miles when suddenly I came on the shores of another small lake, and looking across it, saw on the other side a large moose and two cows feeding; they had not noticed me as the wind was blowing across the lake. I started to walk round the head of the lake so as to get within range, when within about 100 yards of the animals I saw they were beginning to look round as if they feared some danger and as it was my only chance I raised my gun and fired. Immediately the two cows took to the highland, and the bull started off across the lake in the direction of my camp. I hurried round as fast as I could and on arriving at the spot where the moose had come ashore I saw a small spot of blood on the leaves. I immediately set off in pursuit, being easily able to follow by the small dots of blood here and there. In this way I had chased the moose for a

couple of hours, when I saw we were beginning to near an opening in the woods, and on looking closer I saw men were going to come out some where on the lake on which my camp was situated; the moose immediately took the water and I hastened round the shore of the lake. I had gone about three quarters of a mile when I heard two shots in rapid succession and then a great deal of yelling and talking, as though two fellows were fighting. I ran as hard as I could and in about five minutes I arrived at an open space on the shore of the lake and there lay the moose dead with a bullet in his stomach. And over him stood my boy Jim with his gun in his hand and beside him was one of your dandy city hunters with a pretty little rifle in his hand. On enquiring what was the matter they both claimed to have shot the moose, and could not settle it between them as to who had it. As there were two shot holes in the animal they both claimed to have hit it, but it did not take long to show them that one of the shots was mine, then to prove whose the other was I got one of the American's cartridges, and one of Jim's bullets. The cartridge was a 44 and conical shaped, while the bullet was round, and as the bullet was yet in the animal I immediately set to work and cut it open and soon brought to view a round ball which set at rest all doubt as to whom the moose belonged, but as there was plenty of meat for both we invited the stranger to take tea with us, and he did so, and remained with us while we stayed on the lake. When we left he liked the place so well that he said he guessed he would finish out his holidays there. Five days afterwards he arrived at the village where I live and left a parcel at the door for me; it was all done up in branches bound round with thin strips of cedar; on opening it I found it to contain the head of Jim's moose which the stranger had set up and mounted for me. We all asked for his name, but all we could find out was that he was a prominent St. John man who often goes shooting and fishing.

To the Editors of the Wollestock Gazette:—

It is a lamentable fact that many of the clubs and societies, organized in connection with the Grammar School, have either been allowed to drop out of existence entirely or to degenerate from their original standard. When first started great interest is generally manifested by the members, but gradually they begin to tire and say that they have something else to attend. To show that there is

some foundation for this statement, let us examine the history of several Grammar School organizations. The Grammar School Cadets drilled for some time very creditably to themselves while the novelty of the thing lasted; but as soon as it had worn off a large number of the boys discontinued their attendance, and the result was that the "Cadets" were given up as a failure. A Naturalist's Field Club flourished for a short time; but after making several excursions to the surrounding country, it too collapsed. Last year a Foot Ball Club was joined by a large number of the school boys; no effort has been made, up to the present time, to reorganize it. The Debating Society appears to be the most substantial of all the Grammar School clubs; but it has greatly fallen from its former standard of excellence. The same interest is not taken in the meetings, the debates are not properly conducted, and to cap the climax very few members attend. In conclusion, I would suggest that before starting any new schemes the promoters had better consider well, whether they are likely to be a success.

Yours Truly,

AN OBSERVER.

For the GAZETTE.

THE CABBAGE BUTTERFLY.

This butterfly is known to naturalist's as the *Pontia Oleracca*; is white with black body and yellowish under wings. It makes its first appearance in the months of May and June and deposits its eggs upon the leaves of the cabbage and turnip. In a week or ten days the caterpillar appears which at once commences its work of destruction by perforating the leaves in all directions. When about to transform they retire to the under side of a rock or fence on which they suspend themselves in a horizontal position by means of a fine silken cord around the fore part of the body. The stage lasts for eleven days when the insect comes forth a butterfly. This family in common with the *Vanesas* have two broods a year, one in the spring and one in the autumn, the cocoon of which does not open until the following spring. Harris in his work on "Insects injurious to Vegetation" suggests, to exterminate these pests, that in gardens or fields infested by caterpillars boards placed horizontally an inch or two above the ground will be resorted to by them when about to transform and it would be easy to collect and destroy them either in the caterpillar or chrysalid state.

To the Editors of the Wollestock Gazette:—

In many cities there are schools, whose special object is the instruction of young men in the arts and sciences. There can be no doubt but that such institutions are productive of great good, inasmuch as they prepare a person to enter into some useful trade or profession. In the writer's opinion, it would be of greater benefit to the country at large, if many of the youth who are now engaged in mercantile pursuits were occupied at work of a more practical nature. Our public schools are well equipped for training the minds of the scholars, but they do not teach them how to make use of their hands in work by the knowledge of which they could earn a livelihood, if at anytime they should be thrown upon their own resources. Hence the importance of having trade schools can be plainly seen, for their courses are specially prepared to instruct the student in practical work. In view of these facts, it certainly seems somewhat remarkable that there is not more interest taken in the subject, than there appears to be in this community.

MECHANIC.

PERSONAL.

Mr. H. McLaughlin, formerly of the Grammar School, is in the Dry Goods Establishment of Messrs. T. R. Jones & Co., Canterbury Street.

Oliver Howard, late of the Grammar School, has accepted the position of Toll Collector in the Ferry Building.

Ernest Whittaker, formerly of the Grammar School, is in the Law Office of A. C. Fairweather, Esq., Princess street.

Frank Barbour, a Grammar School student, recently spent a few weeks in Fredericton.

Thomas Read, a former member of our school, is in the hardware store of T. McAvity & Sons, Water street.

Fred Roach, a former scholar of the Grammar School, is in the wholesale hardware establishment of S. Hayward & Co., Canterbury street.

W. Venning, formerly of the Grammar School, is in the grocery store of Geo. Robertson, Esq., Prince William street.

We notice the names of the following gentlemen, formerly of the St. John Grammar School, among the list of graduates for the present year at the University, Fredericton:—A. W. Duff, W. C. Cushing, W. F. Ganong, H. Fritz, C. Hall, J. Dever, and F. Kenny.

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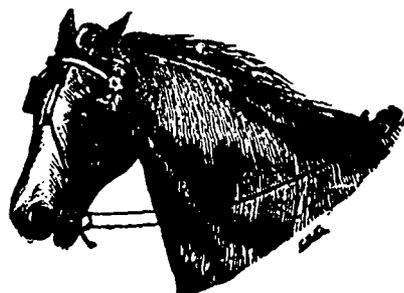
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