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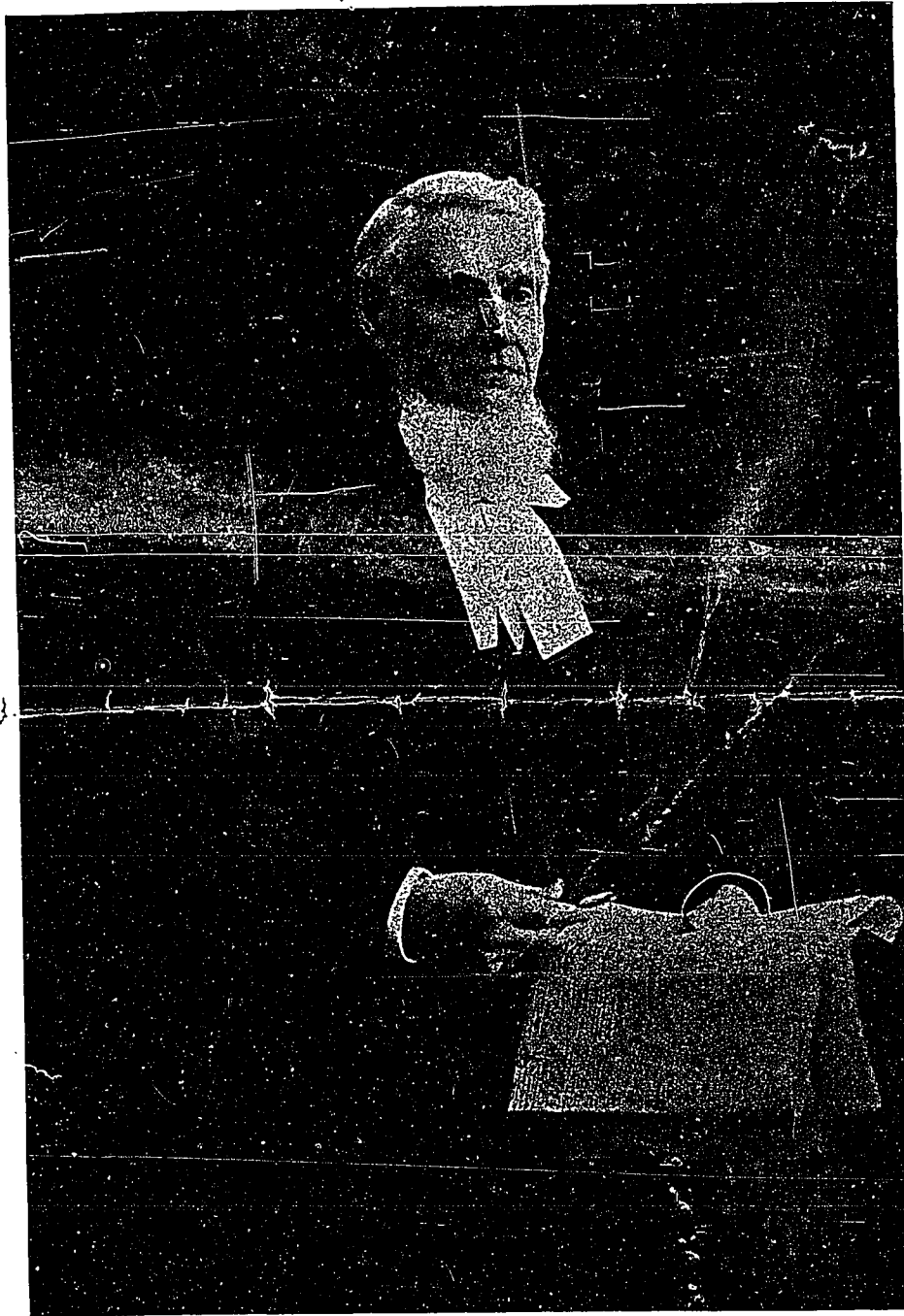
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Gibson's Monthly.

VOL. 1. No. 1.
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

COWANSVILLE, QUE., JUNE, 1899.

W. N. GIBSON
Publisher



JAS. O'HALLORAN, Q.C.
BATONNIER DISTRICT OF BEDFORD BAR.

MR. O'HALLORAN was born near Fermoy, Cork, Ireland, in September, 1822, and is therefore nearly seventy-seven years of age. He came to Canada in 1828 and was educated at the University of Vermont, from which he obtained the degree of M.A. in 1843. For a time he served on the Commissariat staff of the United States army during the American war, and obtained a

splendid reputation at headquarters while serving in that capacity.

Eventually Mr. O'Halloran returned north and was called to the Bar of Lower Canada in 1852, and practised at Cowansville. In 1864 he was created a Q. C. and Monk. From 1861 to 1867 he represented Missisquoi in the Canadian Assembly. He was the prime mover in the building of the South

Eastern Railway and President of the company. That the road was ever built was due in a large measure to the perseverance of Mr. O'Halloran in the face of the most obstinate difficulties. When the South Eastern was acquired by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, he was retained by the larger corporation as its solicitor.

The Battle of Eccles Hill.

In another part of this issue notice is taken of the intention of the Missisquoi Historical Society to hold a picnic at Eccles Hill on Dominion Day. In this connection it may not be uninteresting to publish an account of the skirmish that took place at Eccles Hill on the 25th May, 1870. The account is taken from a pamphlet published in the year following the disturbances of which it treats. The pamphlet is entitled "A Brief Account of the Fenian Raids on the Missisquoi Frontier in 1866 and 1870," and was written for the confessed purpose of showing the part taken by the Dunham Home Guards in the affair.

Since that time a new generation has sprung up, and we are assured that many men and women, as well as younger people, even those who reside close to the ground, made historic by the incidents related, have never heard anything but the most vague descriptions of them.

After describing the incidents of the raid of 1866, and the history of the formation of the Home Guards, and the events just prior to the actual attempt at invasion made by the Fenians, the narrator continues:

About sundown Captain Westover held a consultation with his men and a part of the force returned to their homes. . . . They were all to return on the following morning and bring provisions for those who kept the night watch. The names of those who remained, who literally took their lives in their hands, were: Asa Westover, Andrew Ten Eyck, R. L. Galer, James McRae, David Westover, Spenser Scott, John Pickering, Austin Hill, Lyman Call, James McElroy, George Longeway, Manville Rublee.

About nine o'clock on the evening of the 24th, a despatch was sent to Captain Westover at Eccles Hill. This telegram, as will be seen was from Colonel Chamberlain to his uncle, Dr. G. Chamberlain, at Frelighsburg, and ran as follows:

Frelighsburg, May 24th, 1870.
3 p.m.

By Telegraph from Montreal.

To G. Chamberlain,

Westover and Red Scarfmen should occupy old Fenian position at once, if possible, and pester the flank of any party crossing. I go to Stanbridge by next train.

(Signed) B. Chamberlain, Lt.-Col."

This telegram contained the first encouraging word from any quarter, and inspired the little party of guards now left to themselves, with fresh courage to do their duty in the trying situation in which they were placed.

The night proved exceedingly dark; so intense, indeed, was the gloom that the watchers could not distinguish each other's persons at the distance of a few feet.

A part of them were stationed in an old house, known as the Eccles House, while another picket was established to the west, between the hill and the road, in order to prevent a surprise from that quarter.

An arrangement was made, besides taking the above precautions, with a young man who could be relied upon, to watch the Fenian movements, and come before them to give warning of their approach.

Between ten and eleven o'clock this messenger came in great haste to say that large numbers of them were advancing, as was supposed, to take up their position on or near Eccles Hill.

Almost immediately after this message was received, the little party heard the roll of wheels along the road leading from Franklin, and listened intently to make sure if it was a single vehicle approaching, or whe-

ther the hosts arrayed against them had really taken up their line of march with the design of securing their old camping-ground under cover of the darkness.

As the sounds came nearer, they made sure there were but two carriages, which, after crossing the boundary line slackened their horses to a walk, and the occupant of one vehicle called to a person in the other in these words:

"We are on invaded territory. We are in Canada," and added, "we shall be halted before we get through."

"Who will halt us?" enquired he of the other waggon. "There are no troops on the borders, and the volunteers are not called out."

"I tell you we shall be halted," the first went on, "before we get through; for Westover's company is out, and there is a slew of them."

A moment later and Captain Westover, who had walked forward and was a little nearer the line than his men, gave the word the last speaker was expecting, and his "halt" brought both waggons to a sudden standstill.

He desired to know the names of the parties and their business. Their names were Frank Johnson and Clark Barney. Captain Westover, not being acquainted with the former, went forward with them to the Guard House, and called to know if any of the men knew Frank Johnson, of Highgate.

Lieutenant Galer answered in the affirmative, and afterwards they were questioned.

Barney's business was said to be merely to his own family, while Johnson said he had been at St. Armand Station sometime during the day, and had been engaged by Captain P. Smith to drive from there to St. Albans and back to Cook's Corner, and report anything of interest he might learn with regard to the Fenian movements to one John Morris, who was to meet him there.

Captain Westover enquired who John Morris was?

Johnson confessed his ignorance, but supposed he might be a police detective.

He was then desired to report to the Home Guards, which he did, his reports exactly agreeing with what they had before learned, in addition to which he informed them that the force which the messenger just mentioned had stated was advancing was, for reasons with which he was entirely unacquainted, returning to their camp; that he had passed them after they turned back, and that they numbered between two and three hundred.

After giving this extremely satisfactory information they were allowed to pass on.

It appears that the love of fun had not quite deserted the younger guardsmen on this their first night of actual service; for it occurred, at this juncture, to Pickering and Scott to hasten forward a short distance to a cross-road leading to the road to Pigeon Hill, and halt the parties a second time, in order to make it appear that their numbers were sufficiently large to keep pickets out in all directions.

Accordingly, they had stationed themselves in the road, and were ready with their "halt" when the waggons drove up.

The travellers appeared greatly surprised, and desired to know why they were again stopped. The picket wanted the counter-sign, and ordered them back to get it, expecting, at the same time, as they afterwards said, a severe reprimand for the part they had played.

Captain Westover was staggered when the parties returned. His first thought was that the Fenians had come in by some more circuitous route, and were behind as well as before them; and so pleased was he to find his mistake, that he could readily forgive the strategy practised by his merry guards.

Two or three hours after this occurrence, Lieut. Galer and Mr. A. Ten Eyck, being on duty together, had walked across the line and a short distance up the hill on the other side, when they heard a carriage approaching. They hastened back to the line, and Mr. Ten Eyck placed himself against the iron post, while Lieutenant Galer stood on the opposite side of the road. Thus they waited till the wagon drove up, when a halt was ordered, and the business of the two men who were seated in it demanded.

They said they were going to report to General O'Neill, and said they had papers to prove they were all right, and one of them gave the word "Winousky," supposed to be the Fenian countersign.

Mr. Ten Eyck informed them they were in Canada, on which they endeavored to back their teams around. He, however, ordered them forward at once, and, hearing something very like the "click" of cocking a rifle, they obeyed the order.

When opposite the Guard House they stopped, and called for the captain, who questioned the prisoners as to their business. They answered again, "To report to General O'Neill."

They were then ordered forward to Cook's Corners under escort of Lieut. Galer, George Longeway, Lyman Call, James McElroy and Spenser Scott, to be given in charge of the volunteer force, which they had just then learned by a special messenger from Colonel Chamberlain, had arrived there in small numbers. This was because the messenger was unable to find the village of the 25th, as nearly as they could judge, being unable in the darkness to see the time.

The special messenger above alluded to had brought word that the volunteers would be up in the morning. Captain Westover sent back a request to have them move forward at once.

When the guards returned from escorting the prisoners to Cook's Corner, they brought a message from Adjutant Kemp to have the Home Guards "fight and fall back," and that they would be supported at the Krans Bridge!

This bridge is over Elke River, on the road from Stanbridge to Cook's Corner, and by the direction of the same adjutant, was taken up during these days of excitement, or rather the upper tier of planks was removed, and the lower ones so loosened that they could be hastily thrown off in case it should be deemed desirable to do so.

At four o'clock on that morning (May 25th) Lieut. Baker arrived at Eccles Hill with twenty-one men of the Dunham volunteers, a part of Captain Robinson's company. They called for breakfast, and Captain Westover sent them to Mr. Holden's—about a mile distant—where they were provided with what they required.

A few hours later, Captain Bockus, and about the same number of men, came up from Stanbridge; and about ten o'clock Colonel Chamberlain, Colonel Osborne Smith, Adjutant Kemp and Captain Gassaigne arrived on the ground.

After viewing the position, and entirely approving of the course which had been pursued by the Home Guards, and also the plans they had laid down for their further movements, Colonel Smith concluded by saying they "did not require anyone to command or direct them."

Colonel Smith remained at Eccles Hill about an hour, and then returned towards

Stanbridge, accompanied by Captain Gascoigne. Before leaving, he ordered a picket of twelve men of the volunteers to the Pigeon Hill road.

Captain Westover's own men began to come in at daylight, but did not all arrive until late in the forenoon.

About eleven o'clock a.m. Captain Westover and Mr. Andrew Ten Eyck went to Mr. Holden's to procure some dinner and make arrangements by which some of their men could be supplied.

The number of guards left on the ground at this time was forty-one, all of whom took part in the fight, and were ready to fire at the appointed signal.

On arriving at Mr. Holden's they found Lieutenant Baker and seventeen men of the volunteers there before them, waiting for dinner. Just as they were commencing to eat the report of guns warned them that the Fenians were attempting to make a stand on this side; and, although they drove with what speed they could, they, as well as the eighteen volunteers who were at table with them, were too late to take part in anything but scattering shots.

Soon after Captain Westover and Mr. Ten Eyck left to go to dinner, U. S. Marshal Foster, with his deputy, Thomas Falley, came over, and, while he was on the Canadian side, the Fenians moved down nearer the boundary line and loaded their guns. The marshal, seeing their movements, drove back, and the advance guard of what was intended as the skirmish line, accompanied by a large number of the inhabitants of the border towns, who had assembled for the purpose of seeing our people flying before the invading army.

Just before the advance guard started, another body of the Fenians marched to the west, and took up their position on a hill quite near the line.

Some of the spectators above alluded to appeared greatly to rejoice—though their joy proved but of short duration—as they saw some of the Home Guards run in great haste to resume their places at the base of the hill, which they had left for a short time in order to partake of a dinner kindly provided for them by Mr. and Mrs. Goddard, living near the boundary.

They had scarcely tasted the food, however, when the cry, "They're coming! they're coming!" had warned them to hasten to their positions.

Some of the lookers-on from the American side resumed elevated positions on high piles of lumber near Alva Rykard's, but were very soon glad to seek lowlier and safer situations.

On the arrival of the Fenians at the line, the order was given by their leader, "Double quick!" so loud that the Home Guards distinctly heard it.

They came on four deep, and, as soon as the last column had passed the line, the guards fired, according to instructions received before Captain Westover left the ground; and, at the same moment, the volunteers, now under Colonel Chamoclain's command, discharged their pieces.

At this first volley, Rowe, of Burlington, fell dead, and almost instantly the wearers of the "green" broke their line, scattered and fled for cover. Several jumped off the bridge, went under it, and crawled up between the bark mill and tannery; others took shelter behind stone fences, piles of lumber, buildings, or anything that could afford them cover; while some of them ran back up the road and through Rykard's field. It was while passing through this field that the other Fenians were killed.

Few of them attempted to return the fire of our people till they could do so from the sheltered situations they thus secured; but in this way a sort of desultory firing was kept up on both sides for upwards of an hour.

After the firing had slackened, but while all were in anxious expectation of a renewed and more serious attack, a question arose in regard to ammunition. Colonel Smith, whom a special messenger had brought back to take command, acknowledged his supply was scarce, saying he had sent in haste for more—especially as regarded cartridges for the Ballards used by the guards, he was very anxious. Mr. Ten Eyck and Captain Westover informed him that at their own residences, some six or seven miles distant, they each had a reserve of one thousand rounds.

Almost instantly one of the guards was dispatched for it, with Colonel Smith's orders to use the greatest haste, and to press the services of any party or team that he might require to expedite the matter.

In a surprisingly short time it was at hand; but very fortunately the demand for it was far less than might have been expected.

When the Fenian party crossed the boundary line General O'Neill, instead of heading them like a brave man, entered Alva Rykard's house, and ascended to an upper room, intending to view the conflict from afar. His stay there, however, was short, as Mr. Rykard very soon drove him from his residence.

He was dressed as a civilian, and in consequence was not particularly noticed by any of our men. He ran through Rykard's field to a hill where the body of Fenians mentioned above had taken up their position. This was a moment before his deceived and misguided men were flying under the spirited fire of the Home Guards and volunteer from Eccles' Hill.

United States Marshal Foster was at hand to relieve O'Neill of further uneasiness or responsibility by arresting him a few minutes after he was driven from Rykard's house. There is little doubt among the Canadians that the whole matter had been previously arranged between them.

General Lewis also, another of the so-called Fenian leaders, took up his position near Rykard's behind a pile of lumber, from which he fired away vigorously until the smoke from his rifle betrayed his hiding-place, when some of our good marksmen so well directed their aim that the earth at his side was disturbed by the bullets and thrown him over. Upon this he stripped off his uniform and accoutrements and crawled away—snake-like—till at a safe distance to make a run for life.

Mr. Rykard, who had watched the whole proceeding, picked up his sword and afterwards disposed of it to the volunteers.

The Bishop's Visits.

Bishop Bond will make his episcopal visitations in this district during June and July. On Sunday, June 4, he will be at St. John's, Farnham, 6th; Waterloo, 7th; West Shefford, 8th; Iron Hill, 9th; Brome, 11th; Knowlton, 12th; Cowansville and Adamsville, 13th; Bedford, 14th; Stanbridge, 15th; Phillipsburg, 16th; Freighsburg, 18th; Dunham, 19th and 20th; Sutton, 21st; Abercorn, 22nd; Glen Sutton, 23rd; Potton, 25th; Bolton, 26th; Eastman, 27th; Boscobel, 28th; North Ely, 29th; South Stukeley, 30th; Abbotsford, July 2nd; Rougemont, July 3rd; South Roxton, July 4th; Granby, July 5th and 6th.

A number of people were being entertained at a house where the custom was to hold family worship during which each one present was expected to recite a text of Scripture. A young boy who formed part of the company, racked his brains to recollect some of his Sunday-school teaching, and when his turn came, he blurted out the following: "My house shall be called a house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves."

The Brome County Historical Society.

The Brome County Historical Society was provisionally organized August 18th, 1897. Organization completed and society incorporated March 9th, 1898.

First general annual meeting was held in Pettes Memorial Hall January 28th, 1899.

The following brief constitution and by-laws were adopted:—

CONSTITUTION.

NAME.

I. This Society shall be called the Brome County Historical Society.

OBJECTS.

II. Its objects shall be the preservation of such matters as shall be of local historical interest and the improvement of its members.

OFFICERS.

III. Its officers shall consist of Honorary Presidents, a President, a Secretary and Treasurer, a Vice-President for each Township in the County and four Directors for each Township, of which the Vice-President of the Society representing his Township shall be one.

The Vice-Presidents shall be Presidents in their respective Townships.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

IV. There shall be an Executive Committee. This Executive Committee shall be composed of the Honorary Presidents, the President and the Secretary and Treasurer.

ANNUAL MEETING.

V. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society, which shall take place in the month of August, each year.

MEETINGS.

VI. Meetings may be called by the President or at the request of any two members of the Executive Committee.

BY-LAWS.

FEEES.

1. The Annual fees of members shall not be less than 25 cents.

LIFE MEMBERS.

2. The payment of the sum of five dollars at any time shall entitle the donor to the position of life member.

OFFICERS.

HONORARY PRESIDENTS—Judge S. W. Foster and Mr. Lester Ball.

PRESIDENT—Honorable Justice W. W. Lynch, D.C.L.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER—Rev. Ernest M. Taylor, M.A.

DIRECTORS FOR BROME TOWNSHIP—Honorable S. A. Fisher, Col. O. P. Patten, Messrs. Jeremiah C. Peters and James C. Pettes.

WEST BOLTON—Messrs. R. P. Duboyce, Daniel A. Giddings, Ezra Nathaniel Davis and David Cousens.

EAST BOLTON—Messrs. W. Harvey Austin, Aylmer Place, F. P. Channell and David J. Randall.

POTTON—Messrs. J. P. Noyes, Walter Lynch, D. A. Manson and F. F. Soule.

SUTTON—Messrs. Wm. Brown, E. A. Dyer, Dr. R. T. MacDonald and John Draper.

EAST FARNHAM—Messrs. H. A. Lawrence, Eli W. Higgins, Rev. R. D. Mills and Philip W. Taber.

In future numbers of this monthly, articles of interest will appear as to early customs and experiences of the pioneers of the District of Bedford. Many of these will be specially written for us, and will tend to make this Monthly locally interesting and valuable.

A museum has been opened in Knowlton, and even now has received a considerable number of interesting relics.

It is hoped that the Historical Societies of Shefford and Missisquoi will also establish museums.

Many a thing is being now destroyed which would be precious in the eyes of future generations.

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Store of

Smyth & Mullin

.....COWANSVILLE



Never before in our long experience of buying shoes have we had such a stock so complete as at the present time. Bought direct from the manufacturers in large quantities, and for cash, we defy competition in this line. There is no limit to your choice in our stock. We keep nearly every grade of shoe there is in the market from \$1.00 to \$3.50, and every make from the strong leather to the finest imported Calf and Dongola.

Wide Toes, Narrow Toes, Round Toes and Pointed Toes. Wide Soled
Prenella Congress. Light and Dark Tan. Coffee and Chocolate Color.*

JUST IN, A LARGE QUANTITY OF TENNIS SHOES FOR CHILDREN, BOYS AND MEN

OUR PRICES ARE THE LOWEST IN THE TRADE

SMYTH & MULLIN, THE BOOT AND SHOE STORE, COWANSVILLE, QUE.

A RELIC OF THIRTY-SEVEN.

Through the kindness of Mr. M. O. Hart, notary public, of Cowansville, we are enabled to present our readers in this issue with a copy of a document of historic interest which he has in his possession. The document was drawn and signed in 1837 at St. Armand East, and is a declaration of allegiance and loyalty that was more important in those troublous days than it would be in our own more peaceable times.

The document came into Mr. Hart's possession some years ago and is highly prized by him and well taken care of. When he obtained it, it was creased and worn in many places. He, however, had it carefully mounted on a mat and framed, so that now, apart from accidents, it is capable of withstanding the ravages of time for many years to come.

The document is written in long lines across a paper about twelve inches in width. The writing is in a very neat and legible hand, a curious feature of it being a funny little superfluous curved stroke downward towards the left, from the end of each letter "s." As will be noticed the diction is very good. Two oddities in spelling occur. One is "connexion," instead of the more modern "connection." The other is "Missiskoui," instead of "Missisquoi," as we spell it today.

The signatures, eighty-one in all, are in four parallel vertical columns. It is with the greatest difficulty that some of them can be deciphered. One is omitted from the printed list, as it is impossible to make it out. An interrogation mark is placed after some of the printed names to indicate that a doubt exists as to whether it has been rightly deciphered.

The signatures would make a curious study for the reader of character by handwriting. If character is shown in a person's writing it would probably be more in evidence at the moment of signing such a document than at any other time.

A decade ago there were many survivors of that band of eighty-one led by Captain Henry Baker. To-day those who remain alive are very few in number, and could probably be counted on the fingers of one hand. Mr. Hart has known many of the signers personally and professionally.

We hope the publication of this document will draw out some personal reminiscences of events of Rebellion days.

Following is the manuscript:

At a time like the present, when the

French-Canadian population throughout a large portion of this district are excited to offer rebellion and the perpetration of outrage upon peaceable and well disposed inhabitants of the country, it devolves as a duty upon every true and faithful subject of Her Majesty to come forward and declare his loyalty, to express his determination to sustain the institution of the country and the supremacy of the laws—and to maintain the connexion so happily subsisting between this country and the parent State. We therefore, Her Majesty's faithful subjects, militiamen belonging to the company of Capt. Henry Baker, of the Battalion of the County of Missiskoui, hereby solemnly promise and agree to be in readiness, with such weapons as we can provide ourselves, to act at a moment's warning when our services may be required to protect our fellow subjects from insult and outrage, to assist the brave and sustain the institution of our country and put down Rebellion.

St. Armand East, 17th November, 1837.

HENRY BAKER, CAPT.
PHILIP TOOF.
JOHN CALLAGHAN.
JAMES x RYAN.
ISAAC STEVENS.
JAMES CARTY.
FREDERIC VINCENT.
GABRIEL DALBECK.
JOHN BURHART.
WALTER MONTEITH.
JOHN VINCENT.
TRUMAN BURK.

An undecipherable name occurs here.

ABRAM LEE. (?)
THOMAS BRILL.
PHILIP VAN DE WATERS.
JAMES RUSSELL.
HENRY SALSBUARY.
MARIN SALSBUARY.
HENRY CALLAGHAN.
E. S. REYNOLDS.
LEICESTER REYNOLDS.
R. C. REYNOLDS.
A. L. BAKER.
JAMES W. TOOF.
PHILIP TITTEMORE.
WILLIAM EVENS.
JOHN REYNOLDS.
ALEXANDER YOUNG.
DAVID BURBANK.
JOHN TITTEMORE, JR.
WILLIAM x OBRINE.
JOHN KRANS.
THOMAS REYNOLDS.
LAWRENCE SALSBUARY.

HENRY SHUTTS.
J. W. McNEILL.
GUY PATTERSON.
ISAAC LAGRANGE.
LEONARD TITTEMORE.
A. S. PHILLIPS.
JACOB TOOF.
SAMUEL H. LEONARD.
ORVIL REYNOLDS.
ALANSON x EVANS.
HENRY TOOF.
JOHN CALLAGHAN.
J. O'NEILL. (?)
ALONZO ROBERTS.
GEORGE KRANS.
PHILIP H. KRANS.
THOS. THOMAS.
JOHN SIMPSON.
V—M MOREY.
JOHN PEIR.
JOHN SCHOOLCROFT.
WEIGHMAN REYNOLDS.
JOHN BLOIS.
JOEL LEAVITT.
PETER WILLARD.
NILES EVANS.
JEREMIAH SORNBURGER.
PATK CALLAGHAN.
ZER. LEONARD.
RICHARD CLARK.
D. W. TITTEMORE.
NELSON VINCENT.
LOUIS GOWETT.
JOHN TOOF.
CHARLES S. TOOF.
LEWIS REYNOLDS.
JACOB LAGRANGE.
GEORGE VUSON. (?)
HOMER ROBERTS.
JOHN SHATTUCK.
x JOHN LEMOURE.
DAVID L. SMITH.
JOHN COWDEN.
BENJN REYNOLDS, militiaman.
C. S. REYNOLDS, SEN.
OMIE LAGRANGE.

Oddfellowship.

During the month of May the Oddfellows of the district have been celebrating the eightieth anniversary of the establishment of the Order, which has during the past three or four years been making rapid growth here, and seems to be very popular. Strong lodges are in existence at Farnham, Waterloo, Bedford, Granby, Dunham, Cowansville, Sutton and Knowlton.

TRAMPS AND TRAMP LORE.

By J. A. E.

A bright military-looking young fellow entered the study of Professor Max Muller about the year 1850, shortly after the Schleswig-Holstein war, representing himself as an ex-officer in the Danish army who had seen active service in the recent conflict. He enlisted the interest and attention of the professor by telling of his desertion to the rebels, his capture and imprisonment after one of the engagements, his degradation by his former superior officers, and his ultimate conviction for high treason and sentence to death. Singularly enough, this latter fate did not disturb him in the least, for he knew perfectly well that his dear friend, the Queen of Denmark, would never allow that sentence to be executed. "Give me some paper," he exclaims, "that I may write to my beloved Queen and tell her of my safe arrival in England, for she will be in great distress until she hears from me." He sat down and wrote a note couched in the most affectionate and intimate terms. It was stamped, sealed, addressed to her Majesty at Copenhagen, mailed, and must in due time have been delivered. Some days afterward a reply, purporting to have come from the Queen, was received. One inconvenience this aristocratic youth experienced. He carried a bullet in his leg as a result of his military zeal. Could the gentleman accommodate him with the needful to have it extracted? When he reached his native land he would, of course, send a cheque. This romantic tale and its dramatic narration drew many a handsome gift from English pockets. It is needless to say that he was a brazen fraud, and must have had one or more clever confederates.

The poor we have always with us, and among the poor, tramps form the leisure class. They fulfil none of the duties of good citizens, except the doubtful one under the circumstances, to "be fruitful and multiply." They represent different strata of intelligence, from lamentable ignorance to university rank. They have no visible means of support, and no abiding place of residence or shelter. "They toil not, neither do they spin." They disdain the drudgery of useful labor, and jauntily face the hardships that are the necessary accompaniment of their career. If pleasure be the chief aim of their lives, how pathetically rare and expensive it must be. If ever in human history life might be expected to follow the lines of least resistance, it would be in the case of these purposeless waifs. Yet how hunger, cold, rags and dirt can present less resistance than the comparative happiness of a home, the reward of moderate industry and intelligence, is one of the difficult problems of human nature. To the socialistic demagogue the tramp is an unfortunate brother trudging up and down the earth seeking employment and finding none. With tearful eloquence he bewails his misfortunes, and rails at society for its selfishness and neglect. But everyone knows that the tramp has no use for work. Work is his natural enemy, especially if it be useful. This cannot therefore be an accurate explanation of his wanderings.

The deft hand of fiction has lifted the tramp into a more romantic and picturesque sphere. It is not his antipathy to work, nor because he is consumed by a morbid cynicism, and feels that every man's hand is against him, that he begs his daily bread, but because he has the refined blood of democracy in his veins. Liberty is the first and final article in his creed. He cannot endure the restraints and conventions of a fixed home and organized society. A crust of bread and a straw pile are to be preferred by this martyr to lofty sentiments to a steak and a mattress. He must hear the birds whistle and bask in the sunshine. He must hold close and constant communion

with Nature, and in fact becomes Nature's child. But so far as we can see, Nature has no reason to be proud of such progeny, as seen in the flesh. His liberty is a silly myth. He has negated every law of hygiene. The birds have no calls for him, and he seeks not to know Nature. Slowness, improvidence, dissipation of manly energy are marked in every movement. It is nevertheless a curious fact that cases are on record where professional tramps have declined generous provision for their comfort, preferring their strange, nomadic life to what would seem to be the necessary suggestion of our first physical instincts.

James Chambers, a somewhat noted tramp of the latter part of the last and beginning of the present century, attracted public attention by writing verses which showed some ability on the part of the poetaster. He began his wanderings at sixteen, and continued them until he was seventy-two. A journalist, becoming interested in him, took up his case, and succeeded in securing and furnishing a cottage, which was to be his for life. His poems were to be published and the incomes applied to his maintenance. But Chambers could not stand his comfortable quarters for more than a month or two, when he resumed his roving habits, sleeping in barns where the snow at times drifted in upon him, and soliciting his food from door to door. Yet, strange to say, this trend of life was not his ideal, for his verses are full of doleful complaints concerning his poverty and the hardships he had to endure. A writer in the Cornhill Magazine tells of an old woman, nearly eighty years of age, who had been a tramp almost all her life, and at last, falling into the hands of the law, was lodged in jail, much to her chagrin. She looked forward with eager expectancy to the day when she would be released, although that occurred in November, and she was most miserably clad. Benevolent friends, taking compassion upon her, made arrangements for her shelter and comfort, but she scoffed at their thoughtfulness. "I am going on the road," she exclaimed, "as I have done all my life, and will do to the end of it." And she did.

Among the "Four hundred" of trampdom this peculiar style of life presents another aspect. It is not drudgery nor misfortune, but sport. They are gentlemen of leisure on a perpetual holiday, and begging rivals in exciting incident the big game covers of India and the roulette wheels at Monte Carlo. "Talk of shooting partridges and pheasants," said one of these gentry; "talk of racing and gambling; there is no sport like begging. There must always be risk in sport, and the risk in begging is very great. You are fighting against tremendous odds. You ring at the door, and you must first of all face a servant, who generally scrutinizes you with great suspicion, and declines to take your name or your card unless you have a clean shirt and a decent pair of boots. Then after you have been admitted to the presence, you have to watch every expression of your enemy or your friend, as the case may be. You have to face the cleverest people in the world, and you know all the time that the slightest mistake in your looks or the tone of your voice may lead to ruin. You may be kicked out of the house, and if you meet with a high-minded and public-spirited gentleman who does not mind trouble and expense, you may find yourself in the hands of the police for trying to obtain money under false pretenses. "No," he concluded, "I have known in my time what hunting, shooting and gambling are, and I can assure you there is no sport like begging."

It is with amazing cleverness these fellows make known their wants, and enlist the sympathy of those to whom they appeal. They shed tears or crack a joke as occasion requires. They can tell a tale of harrowing endurance and enlarge upon the

nobility of their aim and motive until the very angels weep in pity. They make a study of their proposed victim, and with almost unerring accuracy they can touch his vulnerable spot. They include his friends in their enterprising inventory, and can show an intimacy with those he holds in highest esteem. They can describe your friend's house, conservatory, horses. They can enlarge upon his little peculiarities, and familiarly refer to him by his Christian name. How is flesh and blood to resist such an appeal? In turning him out you may be doing a grave injustice to an honorable but unfortunate fellow-citizen, to say nothing of offending your friend. But while your hand is feeling for your pocket-book, a lurking suspicion suggests that a clever scoundrel stands before you. What a pity tramp brains are not put to a higher use, for lack of brains is not a conspicuous failing among these men? Professor Boyesen, of Columbia, relates an amusing interview with a seedy and lugubrious ex-student, who had battled ineffectually with an adverse fate. After pointing out his adversities and attainments, he suggested that an appointment to a professorship in Columbia College would be acceptable. If, however, there were no chair vacant, why, he would be willing to connect himself with a less conspicuous institution. The professor listened for half an hour, and concluded the interview by reproaching him for wasted opportunities and absurd aspirations. When a request for money to go somewhere was refused, he exclaimed: "If I have to lie in order to make an honest living, why you ought to thank your stars that you are so situated that you don't have to. If I were inadvertently to lapse into veracity, I should starve. No fellow would give me a shilling." Another specimen of this genus presented himself to the friends of a well-known Oxford professor, palming himself off as an impecunious and unfortunate brother of the aforesaid. In spite of the fact that the professor had no brother, and twice warned the public through the press, for a time he received almost daily letters from friends who had been imposed upon. On one occasion he called upon a leading London financier, telling the old story of being robbed and wanting a ticket to go to Oxford to see his dear brother. He soon found that he had appealed to the wrong party, when the lady of the house, coming into the room and hearing his story, remarked that she was closely related to the person indicated. Without a moment's hesitation this bundle of nerve and audacity rushed forward to embrace his new-found relative, who, however, hastily retired from the scene. The young scoundrel was at once shown to the door and bade to begone. "I am going to the station; kindly bid your servant call a cab," was the cool request of the imposter. This was done. "Be good enough to give the caddy a shilling for his services," he added, as he stepped into the carriage. The astonished gentleman acquiesced, and was forced to acknowledge that he had been swindled with his eyes open.

While piety is not forgotten when the occasion demands it, the average tramp is not a regular churchgoer as may be imagined. An old tramp who had spent all his life on the road was asked if he ever went to church? He admitted that he had been there once—that was when his so-called wife was buried. "He went in to see how they would finish up the old 'ooman." He said "a chap in a white smock read some gibberish out of a book, and I was glad to scuttle out a deadly dull place as quick as I could. I just waited long enough to see 'em put the old 'ooman in the ground, and then I was off on the road; and I'd not go again into such a dark, stifling hole for all the old 'ooman as ever was hatched." If the problems connected with the industrious poor are almost overwhelming to the mind of the statesman and philanthropist, what may be said of those who have lost all desire for work, and whose roving habits renders treatment by church or state next thing to impossible?

Nature Study in Elementary Schools

BY H. A. HONEYMAN, M.A.
President District of Bedford Association of
Protestant Teachers and Principal
of Granby Academy.

It was with some misgivings that I ventured to write on a subject which may appear new to you and it is this very newness which made me hesitate about taking the subject. It is well known that our pupils have a great deal of work to do, a great many subjects to study, and I for one am not in favor of adding thereto. It seems to me that we might drop out some of the subjects and do more in what are left, and at the same time give the teacher an opportunity and the time to do a little work he might call his own. As matters stand in our high schools the teacher is too much of a machine. He is in school to grind his pupils up to such a point that they will pass a certain examination. If they do so he is a successful teacher. If a man or woman is fit to be a teacher of children, then it would appear that he or she is fit to have a greater choice in the selection of what is to be taught.

This plea of over-pressure is the one which confronted me on taking this subject, and it was only the importance of nature study that decided me to write on it. We are told that acquirement of every kind has two values—one as knowledge, and one as discipline. I suppose that none of us have any serious objections to this statement, and so in framing a course of study this fact is taken into account and acted upon to a certain extent at least. But I sometimes fear that other elements enter into people's minds in regard to the education of their children.

People may sometimes feed the minds of their children on the same general principle as they clothe their bodies, according to the prevailing fashion. All of our school subjects exhibit this two-fold characteristic of giving knowledge and discipline, but in varying degrees. Some are studied principally for the knowledge to be derived and later on to be put to practical uses; others seem to have very little in them that is practical, but still may have a high educative value. To take some examples in illustration of these two ideas will make the point clearer. Arithmetic is looked upon by all as eminently practical and useful. And it is certain that we must have some acquaintance with numbers in order to do anything above the "hewing of wood and the drawing of water" in life. Geometry, on the other hand, possesses, to the vast majority of those who study it, very little practical value. Its value as knowledge is of little worth, but on the other hand I consider it one of the very best subjects on the course for the development of certain important faculties of the mind. Writing is a subject that is necessarily taken up for its practical use and as a means to much future requirement. The study of English ought to put us in possession of that which is valuable as knowledge and at the same time in our efforts to acquire it we must receive a certain amount of culture, varying with the amount of the acquirement and the manner in which it is acquired.

Leaving out of account the very elementary subjects we must know, I am inclined to the conclusion that almost any subject has enough of educative value, enough of culture in it to fulfil our requirements. But the whole success depends upon the manner of teaching the subject. Here have been the great failures in the past, at the present, and

*A paper read at the May meeting of the District of Bedford Association of Protestant Teachers, held at Bedford, Que., on Saturday, May 13, 1899.

I fear that they will occur again and again even with increasing knowledge and skill in teaching. A sound knowledge of English ought to be at the basis of whatever course of study we lay down. Our pupils in the academies on leaving 2nd grade academy, ought to have a more extended knowledge of our great English writers, and I don't mean merely reading about them in a book of English literature, but reading the authors themselves. Now then, if any subject has enough educative value in it to discipline the mind, that subject being properly taught, is it not possible to give greater prominence to subjects, a knowledge of which is of great practical value to the pupil in after life? We have to consider the needs of the rising generation of this District of Bedford. What do the people in this section do and what will their children do after them? This is eminently an agricultural district and will continue to be so. Very few of our pupils ever go to college and nearly all of us are under the more or less painful obligation of earning our daily bread.

Considering all this, is it not a fact that we give greatest attention to subjects that tend to draw the boy's mind away from the farm and towards the college, where in 99 cases out of 100 he cannot go? Is it a fact that we never teach these boys and girls one thing that will make farm life more pleasant to them, not one thing about the plants that grow on their farm, or the animals they have to deal with, or the stones, alas, they are obliged to pick up in sorrow?

I fear that sometimes it is the case. As for nature study it must begin in the academies and model schools, where our teachers receive their non-professional training and knowledge that is to fit them for the awful responsibilities of a teacher. Probably none of our High Schools give as much attention to science teaching as the importance demands, and very few make any pretence of doing so. In fact our course of study is so framed that very little time is left for science, and it is a subject that requires time. In most schools some botany is taught, but not as a rule enough to qualify a pupil to do independent work or to instil in him a love for the subject or a due sense of its importance in life. We might say that this is the only natural science taught in our schools. In the majority of our Academies in the A. A. class, there are only three or four pupils, but still the teachers have to devote as much time to them as if there were a dozen. That time I don't call well spent or at least spent to the best advantage. For most of us it would be better to drop that A. A. class entirely and to devote the extra time and energy to the large classes in first and second academy. That would give an opportunity to study natural science subjects to better advantage, and in that way qualify our teachers in elementary schools to take up the work with young children. Is it too much to expect that in the near future our elementary teachers will necessarily have a useful acquaintance with the plants, animals and rocks of this locality? When that is accomplished we may expect good results in our elementary schools.

But in the meantime let us, who have not had good training in this work, do the best we can to remedy the defects of childhood, and give our pupils a better insight into the great mysteries of nature than we were given.

The study of agriculture, which by the recent law is to become part of the course of

study in elementary schools, has its basis in botany, zoology, and geology, and it seems plain that some knowledge of these subjects ought to precede any definite course in agriculture. We understand that we are to teach only the rudiments of these subjects, but in so doing, they are to be taught in such a way as to interest the pupils, impart to them useful knowledge and create in them a desire and strong determination to know more about things they meet with every day.

In our teaching we cannot expect to use text-books with young pupils. The teacher must have books as a matter of course, but their use by young children is not to be desired. Let their studies be from nature itself and with the specimen in hand. Even before the children can read much or even at all, they seem to possess an unbounded curiosity to find out the nature of things around them. They like to pull things to pieces to see the inside and learn how they are made. They are eager for analysis. In itself there is nothing wrong in this inborn desire of children, but on the other hand it furnishes us with a mighty weapon in the education of our pupils. Having this mighty weapon at our command, what have we been doing with it? We have let it lie dormant, dying, until in many cases it seems to be utterly extinct. Thus boys and girls grow up to be men and women. It seems to me that we ought to get hold of what desire for knowledge there is, encourage it, direct it aright, add to it and thus make it a power for good.

It is this natural tendency in children that must be made use of in teaching about nature in elementary schools. As to any particular method, I have none to offer.

The course of study provides for nature study to some extent under the head of object lessons. This ought to be a valuable means of training. It will do the teacher good in preparing her lesson, and it ought to do her pupils good as well. I will not enlarge upon this idea here, but I consider it one of the best means at our disposal for nature study. Try it for yourself. Take for instance a buttercup, root, stem, leaves, flowers, fruit and seed, being present. Don't let the lesson take the form of a lecture. Let the pupils find out for themselves; but be sure that they see correctly. You can in this way teach the names and uses of the different parts of the plant, something of how it grows, and many other things connected with its life history. As to those long names that occur in treatises on natural science, avoid them as much as possible. In using a new name, let the need of it be felt first, then the word can be given and explained. Then it ought to be often repeated, and correctly, too. Compare plant after plant, as to form, size and every other particular you have noticed; note down the similarities and differences, and thus pave the way to the classification of plants.

Physiology is an intensely interesting branch of botany but it is not so easy to teach to young pupils as the ordinary structure and parts of a plant, yet the older pupils ought to know something of "How plants live and grow." As a matter of fact it is easier to teach a twelve-year-old boy the leading facts in the physiology of plants than it is to teach him the leading facts in connection with the physiology of his own body, as we are required to do, in that the former case we can resort to experiment in nearly every instance, and these experiments are simple, too, and can be made by any teacher.

The study of forest trees must always form an interesting and profitable subject for young people. It is a subject that is sadly neglected in most of our schools. The majority of children are growing up not knowing even the names of half the trees around the country. They all know the maple from a sort of instinct, I suppose, but very few

can distinguish the soft and hard maple. As for the other maples that grow in this section, few children even know of their existence. How many of us are perfectly sure that we can distinguish the spruce, balsam and hemlock, and even if we can, are we able to describe them in such a way that others may know them? Try it for yourself, and if you don't succeed, make use of this summer to remedy your case.

There is so much of interest and beauty about trees that pupils cannot choose but like the study of it if properly taken up. To add to the interest we can always have the specimens before us for the pupils to examine. Summer and winter the trees ought to be studied in order to see the changes they undergo from one season to another. We must not get the idea that there is no interest connected with trees and plants in general in winter, for there is a great deal to call forth thought and description. Some detect trees most readily by their leaves, others by bark, or shape, or mode of growth. Then we ought to be able to identify wood when sawed and ready for lumber, and for this purpose blocks of wood can be procured, made by pupils themselves, or their fathers, and showing different views of the wood. For complete identification three specimens of each ought to be had; the first showing leaves and flowers together, if possible; the second, the fruit; the third, the hard wood of the stem. For this last the specimen should be cut so as to show the wood in the direction of the silver grain, with another side cut in the direction of the annual layers, and a third section across the grain. Of course the bark would be shown on this specimen, too, and by varnishing a part, its appearance in fine work can be shown.

Drawings of the different parts of a plant and of the plant as a whole will help to fix the idea of the shape of it firmly in the mind, and this exercise will serve a useful purpose in more ways than one.

Children ought to be encouraged in beautifying the school ground with trees and flowers, and taught how to attend them and watch their growth from the time the seed is planted till the ovule becomes fertilized and a new seed is formed. But I am taking too much time for these details and I must pass on, leaving very imperfectly done what I have attempted to do.

I would like to say something in favor of the study of the animals and rocks in our section of the country. With the former it is perhaps not so easy to deal since we are treating of living beings, but the life of the animal being higher than that of the plant, there must necessarily be more interest attached thereto. Study along this line must largely be by observation. The teacher must direct the pupils' minds towards some definite object. I fancy that the most interesting class of animals that we can deal with is the insects. Spiders are intelligent little animals, but they are such fierce warriors that few young ladies care to brave them. But let us examine the insects, those brainy little creatures which often put man to shame. We are even commanded to go to the ant and consider her ways and get wisdom thereby. We don't do it and that is one of the reasons why we are not wise.

Would it not be possible to study out the life-history, say, of a butterfly? Starting with the egg, watch it grow into the caterpillar and see how this lives and moves and has its being. Notice when as a pupa or chrysalis it takes its long sleep from which it emerges in all the gorgeous dress of a butterfly. Can such studies fail to interest, to instruct, to develop the highest faculties of the mind?

Go a step higher and learn something of the bees, which live in communities as we do, and work together for the common good. Observe the laws that govern these populous

cities, notice the relations of the different kinds of bees in the hive and be thou humbled, O, man!

But I must pass on and leave this field full of interest, not forgetting that many of these insects have a pecuniary interest to every farmer in Canada.

Much ought to be said of geology, but my time is past, and I merely bring it to your notice. Pupils ought to know something of soils, for one thing. What is soil; how is it formed? What is it used for? Will it become exhausted? Under what conditions? What remedy for such soils? Some of these questions can be usefully studied in our Elementary Schools, and should be, too; for we must bear in mind that comparatively few of our pupils go to any other school, and if they are not interested in these things at school, it is likely that they never will be.

Then surely we all ought to know a piece of limestone from a granite, quartz from slate; in short we ought to be able to distinguish all the ordinary rocks of the district. And it is not too much to expect from boys and girls twelve and thirteen years old.

And now, in conclusion, let me urge upon you the desirability of making some special effort in this line. We can justly plead that we know little of these things, but the same thing holds good for every subject. Compared with what there is to know, what do any of us know? But we have this glorious Canadian summer before us, and let us make use of it to improve ourselves in this direction. Is it too much to expect that every teacher here will honestly and courageously set herself to work to extend her knowledge in one or more of these subjects.

Rest assured that your work will be both profitable and highly interesting.

New School Teachers.

In the list of teachers who received Diplomas from the Central Board of Examiners in May are the following from this district:

MODEL SCHOOL DIPLOMAS.

Katherine R. Longway, of Dunham, honorable mention in art of teaching, Arithmetic, Agriculture, English Literature, Latin, Elementary Certificate.

Mabel L. Wallace, of Sutton, honorable mention in English Literature and Grammar.

Norah Cutter, of Sutton, honorable mention in History, Botany, Elementary Certificate.

Emma G. Neill, of Waterloo.

ADVANCED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

Sylvia B. Lee, of Waterloo, honorable mention in art of teaching, history.

Hattie M. Whitcomb, of Waterloo, honorable mention in English grammar, history.

Helen Wallbridge, of Mystic, elementary certificate.

Christie Annie Matheson, of Waterloo, honorable mention in Latin.

Virginia Demers, of Roxton Falls.

Alma Z. Thompson, of North Stanbridge.

ELEMENTARY DIPLOMAS.

Eliza H. Pickel, of Waterloo, honorable mention in teaching English.

Lillian A. Tucker, of Stanbridge East, honorable mention in art of teaching.

Maggie I. Savage, of Eastman.

Esther M. Swett, of West Bolton, honorable mention for essay.

Effie M. Whitehead, of West Bolton, honorable mention for essay.

Mabel D. Hall, of Stanbridge East.

Mary E. Gould, of Waterloo.

Linden J. Carter, of Stanbridge East.

Jane I. Norris, of Milton.

Bertha L. Fessenden, of Waterloo.

Mary E. Curley, of Sutton.

Ellen E. Tupper, of Sutton.

Protection of Game.

Legitimate sportsmen are continually being irritated by the depredations being committed on the fish and game of this district by hunters who only respect the law to the extent that will probably ensure the keeping of their own skins intact.

Shooting and fishing during the close season is the regular order of things with some people and in some localities.

No doubt the evil is of smaller proportions than it is in Mogantic, where, according to a recently returned inspector of the Montreal Fish and Game Protection Club, deer are butchered and fed to hogs, but we must also consider that game is much scarcer here than in that part of the province.

It is aggravating beyond measure to ardent sportsmen to find that while they are, as good citizens and intelligent beings, bound by the letter and spirit of the law, others with easier principles are digging the ground from under their feet, so to speak.

Some one has suggested the formation of a District of Bedford Fish and Game Protection Club, and the suggestion is one worthy of consideration. If the sportsmen of the district favor the project they can easily say so through the press, a meeting could be held and the organization completed.

There should be in the three counties several hundred gentlemen who would be glad to become members of such a club. This number would form a strong association that would be able to do excellent work in the direction of looking after the preservation of the game of our beautiful and numerous woods, lakes and streams.

The Methodists of this district were assigned the duty of raising eighteen hundred dollars for the St. James Methodist Church Fund. They have more than accomplished the task, the total amount raised being eighteen dollars greater than the required sum.

Talking of large families calls to mind two cases. A French gentleman who resides in this district is the happy father of fifteen children. An English lady, who now lives amongst us, confesses to have been the mother of twenty-one children, eighteen of whom are alive and doing well in Canada, their adopted home.

Gibson's Monthly

Published at Cowansville, Que., on the First Day
of Every Month

W. N. GIBSON, Manager

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SINGLE COPIES 10 CENTS

THE MONTHLY circulates amongst the best people in the District, and will be found a high-class advertising medium.

Rates will be sent on application.

The Publishers' Column.

The mistakes and delays incident to getting out a first number are numerous and varied and scarcely to be avoided. It was intended that this number should be in the hands of the people by the first of the month, but it has been impossible to realize that ambition. Once we get in smooth working order, however, we will be punctual.

* *

Our illustrations this month are not many, but nevertheless we feel proud of them, and are sure that they will be highly appreciated. We cannot make any definite promises as to the number of illustrations we will have regularly. The expense of illustrating is not inconsiderable, and much will depend on how GIBSON'S MONTHLY "takes," as the saying is. We will try to make it "a good thing." Will our readers help and "push it along?"

* *

In the July number some very interesting articles, already arranged for, will appear. We hope our readers will not imagine that we intend to devote our work chiefly to any one part of the district. Our ambition is to make THE MONTHLY of personal interest to every resident of the district from Ely to St. Thomas, and from Potton to Milton.

* *

A portrait of some prominent person of the district will appear in each number. Histories of organizations, churches and public buildings, will be prominent features. The beautiful scenery of these counties will be shown in photogravure. In fact the available material is almost inexhaustible. It only remains to get it into publishable shape.

* *

GIBSON'S MONTHLY wishes to establish a competition for records of all sorts. We want to know who are the oldest, the tallest and the heaviest men and women in the district. We want to know what are the oldest residences, churches, etc. We would like to find out who has lived for a longer time than anyone else in the district in a single house, what living couple has been the longest time married, what mayors and councillors have held those offices for a

longer period than anyone else, what municipal or school secretary-treasurer has been longest in office, what person has the greatest number of living descendants, what municipality has the highest tax rate and what the lowest. Here is a chance for everyone of our readers to send us something that will be of interest to every other reader. We hope all will avail themselves of the opportunity.

Editorial Comment.

Within the past two years a number of historical societies have been started in the district for the purpose of gathering and compiling the interesting facts relating to the early settlement of the territory now comprising the three counties of Shefford, Brome and Missisquoi.

To this laudable object we propose, with the consent of the leaders of that movement, to lend our assistance. But we will not confine ourselves to the past. The present is also full of interest and it will be more particularly our work to keep an accurate record of such passing events as are of importance now and that promise also to be of importance to the future writer of the history of the present period.

It is neither our hope nor desire to be a competitor in the field of the local weekly papers. We believe that we can make a place, outside of that, as the subjects which we have in our mind's eye are not those towards which the weeklies devote their space or effort.

If after a fair trial we fail in the accomplishment of our purpose of putting into the hands of our readers a periodical worthy of perusal and preservation, we will recognize the fact that our "reason to be" will have ceased to exist.

But we are not riding for a fall. This project has been under advisement for several months and the encouragement held out by gentlemen prominent in the district is almost a guarantee of success.

Backed by this encouragement GIBSON'S MONTHLY appears in its volume one, number one, and awaits the decision of the people.

* *

The Good Roads movement will not be neglected in this monthly. We believe that nothing would contribute more towards the prosperity of the district or more greatly enhance its natural advantages than a system of hard, level, permanent highways. For one thing the increase in the summer tourist business would be enormous. We have within our borders a sportsman's and an artist's paradise, and that this is so little known about is due, in a large measure, to the extreme difficulty of reaching quickly and comfortably some of the most desirable spots. Travellers who have circled the globe tell us that the scenery of some parts of Brome County compares favorably with any they have seen anywhere. If we could all

J. C. McCORKILL

ADVOCATE

COWANSVILLE, - - - QUE.

Practices in the counties of Brome, Shefford
and Missisquoi.

be millionaires we might be satisfied to keep those scenic beauties for ourselves and a few favored friends, but as things are we will do well to advertise our natural beauties and invite wealthy outsiders to come and see them. If we could send out the information that this district is criss-crossed with a splendid system of macadamized roads reaching everywhere and everything worth going to or worth seeing we venture to predict that the result would soon convince even the most sceptical that we had made a mighty profitable investment.

* *

During the course of the year there are held throughout the District a number of important annual meetings or conventions of different societies and associations. It is often the case that at these gatherings very valuable and carefully prepared papers are read by persons exceptionally well qualified to deal with their subjects.

Very often such papers are read to small audiences who appreciate them highly and would like to see them published. It is seldom, however, that this is done.

GIBSON'S MONTHLY hopes to be able to print some of the more interesting of the addresses delivered at such assemblies when they occur, especially if the association holding the meeting is a district organization.

* *

GIBSON'S MONTHLY will publish statistics of all sorts that relate to this district. The handy size of this journal and the nature of the matter it will contain will combine to render it valuable for binding and reference.

* *

Although we do not, in the country districts, know the gambling evil as they know it in the cities, the recent prosecution, before the District Magistrate at Swetsburg, of a person whose infringement of the law consisted in selling raffle tickets ought to help create a healthier public opinion in respect to this nuisance. That it is a nuisance few will deny. We have yet to find the person who buys raffle tickets of his own free will and because he wants them. The vending of them is a species of begging. The person whose bicycle, or horse, or watch, or wagon is to be shaken for is a "good fellow" or he "needs the money." These are the only arguments. It is not pretended that value is given. You are told that you "stand a chance to win." Very good. So do fifty or a hundred others. The winner is usually expected to stand a treat to all the unsuccessful ones, and some cases have been known where this last part of the programme cost more than the value of the article won.

By all means let the raffle live cease to be, even if it is necessary to bring a few cases before the courts to serve as object lessons.

* * *

As usual District of Bedford boys have been conspicuous by the high standing they took at the McGill examinations. Both the District and the University are honored by their success.

* * *

It is worthy of mention that in many places the road work has been done this year several weeks earlier than usual, thus preventing the stirring up of the road bed after it had been hardened by a long spell of hot, dry weather. The new policy is no doubt one of the direct results of the Good Roads agitation, and is very commendable.

* * *

The caterpillar is out again this season, millions strong, attacking the fruit with dire results. Every effort of the individual and the authorities should be put forward in the hope of exterminating the pests.

* * *

The MONTHLY serves no political party, so what we say on political subjects we expect to be taken by our readers as being free from party bias.

A good deal has been said in Parliament this session about the exodus, whether or not such a thing exists.

Down here in the border counties there are splendid opportunities of finding out if the youth and beauty of this land continue to go down to become operators in the mills of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, to come back on a visit in a year or two, decked out in the latest fashions, and lord it for a week over the unambitious brother and sister who prefer to remain at home.

There isn't any doubt about the matter. The movement to the States continues, and no question but that it will continue just so long as young people of both sexes can get work down there who otherwise would be compelled to remain in idleness at home. Speeches, accusations and denials in Parliament are not the remedy that will cure the condition.

* * *

May 3 was Arbor Day in this part of the Province, but we have not heard that much, if any, notice was taken of it in connection with the purpose for which the day is set apart. It is evident that a bigger institution than Arbor Day will be necessary before our bare hills will be reforested and the grounds of schools and public buildings adorned with shady maples.

Historians and antiquarians are trying to discover the origin of the dollar sign. The rest of us are busily employed in hunting up the dollar itself.

Annual Meetings.

Two events of much interest to the people of the Anglican Church will take place in the district in June. The first is the closing exercises in connection with Dunham Ladies' College, on Tuesday, 20th instant. The college occupies a large place among the Church institutions in this Diocese. Of late years its success has been very gratifying, and this summer the attendance has been such that it has been found necessary to finish off the top flat of the college building in order to provide additional accommodation.

The college always takes high rank in the June examinations, testifying to the success of the efforts of the excellent teaching staff, headed by Miss O'Loane, the Lady Principal.

To the Executive Committee also is due the highest praise for the sound financial condition in which the college finds itself to-day. The members of the Committee, headed by Jas. McKinnon, Esq., of Cowansville, the Chairman, have shown the greatest zeal in their work, some of them travelling many miles in order to attend the necessary meetings.

The second event is the annual convention of the Sunday School Institute of the District. This will take place at Granby on July 6th. We have not seen the programme for this year's convention, but if it approaches in excellence those of the two previous conventions there will be plenty for the audience to think over. The Convention is found to be of great assistance to Sunday School teachers who are sufficiently interested in their work and have the opportunity to attend.

The annual meeting of the Shefford County Rifle Association was held at Waterloo on April 29. The election of officers resulted as follows: S. H. C. Miner, Patron; Col. Chas. Whitcomb, Lieut.-Col. Amyrauld, Dr. de Groisbois, M.P.P., A. F. Savaria, G. E. Robinson, G. H. Allen, John Lincoln, G. C. Wilcocks, J. Bruce Payne, Vice-Patrons; C. H. Parmelee, M.P., President; Lieut.-Col. Cox, Lieut.-Col. Bulman, Lieut.-Col. Maynes, Major Galbraith, Major Brooks, Major Martin, and Surgeon Lieut.-Col. Fuller, Vice-Presidents; Lieut.-Col. Bulman, Executive Officer; Major Whitcomb, Major Galbraith, Capt. Richardson, Capt. Seale, and R. F. Shaw, Finance Committee; Capt. Richardson, Capt. Davidson, Capt. Galbraith, Lieut. Moffatt, Range Committee; Capt. Seale, Range Officer; Lieut.-Col. Bulman and Major Whitcomb, Register Keepers.

The Missisquoi Cheese Syndicate held its adjourned annual meeting in May, and re-elected the officers of last year. They are: Jas. McKinnon, President; E. G. Welch, Vice-President; C. P. Taber, Sec.-Treas.; Arthur McFarlane, Inspector.

The annual meeting of the Bar of the District was held at the Court House

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Fine Watch Repairing a Specialty.

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DRUGS AND STATIONERY

A COMPLETE STOCK

Prescriptions carefully compounded.

H. C. HARVEY

Dispensing Chemist.

The Ottawa Hotel

COWANSVILLE, QUE.

We have just completed our new dining room and made a number of other improvements for the comfort and convenience of guests.

The cuisine is unequalled by that of any other hotel in the district.

New sample rooms for commercial men have just been erected and are now available.

There is a first-class livery.

Bus to and from all trains. No charge.

SISCO BROTHERS, Proprietors

Geo. W. Sisco, Manager

ALSO

THE MANSONVILLE HOUSE

Mansonville, Que.

B. C. SISCO, = = = Manager

RESTORATION LODGE, No. 32, I.O.O.F.

COWANSVILLE

Meets every Friday evening in the Oddfellows' Hall, Main Street, at eight o'clock.

J. LAUDER, N.G. A. E. MILTIMORE, R.S.

Sweetsburg, on the 1st of May, Hon. Senator Baker, Batonnier, in the chair. By a unanimous vote James O'Halloran, Q.C., Cowansville, was elected Batonnier for the ensuing year. Mr. O'Halloran is as highly esteemed by his confreres of the Bar as he is by the people generally. He has been in active practice for nearly half a century.

The other officers elected were E. Racicot, Syndic; Lt.-Col. T. Amyrauld, Treasurer; A. J. E. Leonard, Secretary; Hon. H. T. Duffly, G. E. Cornell and J. A. Simard, Council; C. A. Nutting and S. Constantineau, Examiners.

The 15th Field Battery Lt.-Col. Amyrauld
C. A., Shefford *Commanding*

The boundary line dividing the State of Vermont from the Province of Quebec crosses the foot hills of the Green Mountains, east and west, from Lake Memphremagog to Missisquoi Bay. The whole district of Bedford, which comprises the territory north of the line, extending sixty miles north, abounds in strong positions from which an enemy, once established, would be hard to dislodge.

While in the wars of Independence and of 1812-14, the Americans came upon us by the Richelieu and Chateauguay valleys, this frontier was comparatively free from trouble, owing to the comparative wildness of these parts, and in the latter war, to an unofficial understanding between our Governor and the Governor of Vermont, who was opposed to that war.

But things have greatly changed since; what was a wilderness has become the garden of the province; and the Fenians in 1866 and 1870 crossed the border, allured by the rich booty which they thought would be their easy prey.

They however found themselves mistaken in a manner they very little expected.

At the time of the Trent affair, an outburst of patriotism led to the formation of a number of volunteer companies whose ranks were filled with the best of our young men. The wave extended to Granby and Waterloo, in the County of Shefford, where companies were formed, which afterwards became the nucleus of the militia force in this district, which now consists of one squadron of cavalry, one field battery of artillery, and two battalions of infantry, the 60th having lately been disbanded.

On the 8th March, 1866, No. 1 Company, Granby, in which the present commander of the 15th Field Battery then held a commission of ensign, and No. 1 Company, Waterloo, were sent to the frontier, in view of the threatening movement of the Fenians, and remained there till the end of April. In the meantime additional companies were formed, and when the country's call was heard again, on the 4th of June, 1866, four companies were mustered for service and stationed at St. Armand, viz.: No. 1 Company, Granby; No. 1 Company, Waterloo, and the Frelighsburg and St. Armand Companies, of a total strength of two hundred. The Fenians having crossed the line, their camp near Pigeon Hill was attacked and taken the 6th of June, and a number of prisoners made. These companies remained on duty till September following.

In September, 1866, these companies and others recently organized, were formed into the 52nd Battalion, under command of Lt.-Col. the Hon. C. Dunkin.

In February, 1869, the companies of the 52nd, in the County of Missisquoi, were detached and formed into the 60th Battalion, under Lt.-Col. Brown Chamberlain, C.M.G.

The militia of the district of Bedford, at the time of the second Fenian raid on this frontier, was in better shape than at the time of the first, both in numbers and efficiency, and consisted of the 52nd and 60th Battalions.

The sharp and short affair of Eccles' Hill, which followed on the 25th May, 1870, and in which a number of Fenians were killed and wounded, is a matter of history.

This gallant affair won for Lt.-Col. W. Osborne Smith, who commanded there, and for Lt.-Col. Chamberlain, the distinction of being made C.M.G., and for the 60th the right to have on their colors the words

"Eccles' Hill," with the motto, "Watch the Front; Watch Well."

But Col. Smith had greatly deplored the want of artillery in that affair; had he had a few pieces he would have taught the marauders an even more serious lesson.

Upon his representation of the urgent need of a battery on this exposed frontier, permission was granted for the organization of the Shefford Field Battery of Artillery (now the 15th), with headquarters at Granby, in the County of Shefford, P.Q., and Capt. Amyrauld (now Lt.-Col. Amyrauld), of the 52nd Battalion, who had been first commissioned in No. 1 Company, Granby, in February, 1866, and who had served on this frontier in 1866 and 1870, was entrusted

tober, 1872, at St. Helen's Island, but was only supplied with guns etc., etc., in the winter of 1873. These guns were the smooth bores, returned into stores by the Montreal Field Battery.

In September, 1874, the battery marched from Granby to the camp at Laprairie, with its camp equipment and ammunition making the sixty-five miles of distance in fourteen hours of actual marching. The battery arrived in camp fresh and without any casualties, although meeting serious obstacles in the way, having to strengthen two bridges and to cross one with the help of a prolong.

The M.L.R. 9 pr. were issued to the battery on the 1st September, 1876.

The career of the battery has been comparatively an uneventful one, not having been called into active service since its organization; but officers and men have striven, not unsuccessfully, to prepare themselves to answer the country's call whenever it may come.

The rule was adopted at the start, to require all officers and non-commissioned offi-



LT.-COL. AMYRAULD

with its organization and given the command, which he has retained ever since. The battery was so organized by government orders of 10th May, 1872.

The military spirit in our rural population was strong at that time, the Fenian outrages were recent, and the best of men offered their services for the defence of their country and homes. They were intelligent and of magnificent physique. The average height of the men first enrolled was over 5 ft. 11 in.

The first officers of the battery were:—

Capt. T. Amyrauld.
Lieut. W. Nell.
Lieut. C. B. Martin.
2nd Lt. S. Maynes.
Surg. A. Gilmour.

The battery had its first training in Oc-

cers to qualify at a school of artillery, and has been adhered to since. Hence a great number of the men have at one time or another passed through the schools. The battery was sent some years, as many as fifteen and twenty men to follow a short course, and has had as many as forty-five school men in the ranks at some of the trainings. The results have been very beneficial; the battery by that means has attained a high degree of efficiency, and has been particularly noted for its good firing.

In 1876 the battery won Lord Dufferin's bronze medal for highest score with smooth bores, under the D.A.A., the sixteen competitors making the extraordinary total score of 630 in the aggregate time of eighty-three minutes and thirty seconds.

In 1879 and 1880 the battery won the D.

A.A.'s first prizes for highest aggregate score in the competitions of those years for M.L.R. 9 prs.

The rules of the association were in 1881 changed so that the firing lost its prominence, but the battery has held its own under the changed conditions in that most efficient branch of our service.

The annual reports of the inspectors of artillery are highly creditable to this battery, more particularly when the fact is taken in consideration that, owing to the men being scattered, it has been found impossible to have any drill outside of the camps.

The following extracts from the criticisms of the special correspondent of the Montreal Daily Star on the militia in camp at St. Johns, P.Q., a few years ago, may be of some interest as giving a fair idea of what this battery is:—

"The Montreal troop of cavalry and the Shefford Field Battery carry off the palm. . . . And yet some corps look very well, indeed. Montreal can, I repeat, boast of its troop of cavalry and Shefford of its field battery. . . . The cavalry, artillery, and the 79th are broad-chested, tall, good-looking fellows. No regiment in the Imperial army, except the Horse Guards, can, I believe, man for man, outmeasure or outweigh the men of those three corps. And for neatness in dress, or style on parade, I do think that there is not a troop of cavalry in the army or a battery in the service that could look better at twenty yards' distance than the Montreal troop of the 65th Regiment and the men of the Shefford Field Battery. Their belts at church parade yesterday were faultlessly clean; their helmets burnished, their spurs brightened; their boots polished and they kept their step and dressing with faultless precision. Both troops and battery are a credit to the militia of the Dominion. . . .

With the exception of the Montreal troop of Cavalry and the Shefford Field Battery, there were no words of praise lavished on the officers and men now at St. Johns. The old routine of flattery was laid aside, and both General Luard and the minister used such language, which is generally understood by the apt old phrase of saying that a spade is a spade, indeed. . . . To my left is the Shefford Field Battery. . . . and I decided to pay it a visit and learn a little more about its history, its internal economy, and its drill. The men are at the guns receiving instruction in gun drill, ammunition, construction of material, effect of shrapnell, common shell, and case shot, and an officer in charge offers to dismount and mount one of the pieces for my private inspection. I hold a watch and the men go to work; the gun is soon on the ground dismounted and soon it is in its place well on the carriage; I look at the watch and I see the time it took is only one minute and forty-five seconds and I marvel at the performance. It is a pleasure to see a sight such as this and I pass to the colonel's tent, and there learn that fourteen men in the ranks have gunnery school certificates, and I no longer wonder at the excellence the battery has shown on parade. The colonel is a scientific man, has passed through a course and I found that I was talking to a man who knew his business, and who did it without much ado."

In 1878, when Lord Dufferin visited this part of the Eastern Townships, the battery marched to Waterloo and fired a salute on his arrival there. Early the next morning the battery made a sharp march from Waterloo to Granby, twelve miles, in two hours, and arrived there in time to fire a salute on the arrival of Lord Dufferin, and take part in the reception given to this popular Governor-General.

Lord Dufferin inspected the battery, both at Waterloo and Granby, and complimented

the officers and men. Corporal Savage, who had won his medal at the competition, was called out at the request of His Excellency, and complimented. A salute was again fired at his departure.

The battery also took part in the Queen's Birthday celebration at Montreal in presence of Lord Lorne and Princess Louise, in 1879.

These were the principal occasions on which the battery mustered outside of its annual training in camp, local celebrations and attendance to competitions.

A large number of men have passed through its ranks since its formation. Many are still within the battery limits, and would be available in case of active service, if needed.

In the fall of 1897 the battery was made up to the full establishment of a six-gun battery, and camped over strength at Sweetsburg, and last year at Waterloo, where it attained perhaps its highest degree of efficiency.

Through the instrumentality of Col. Amyrauld and under his plans approved at headquarters, a magnificent gun shed and drill

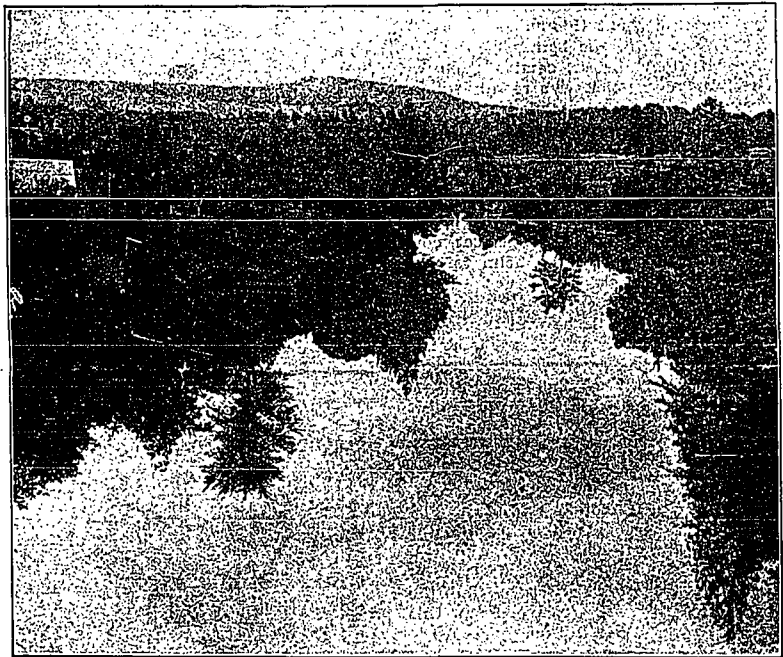
Lieut. W. Gibson.
Lieut. A. H. Amyrauld.
Lieut. R. T. Seale.
Lieut. James Gaw.
Surgeon A. Gilmour.
Surgeon Lt.-Col. J. B. Gibson.
V. S. Geo. Vittle.

The present officers of the battery are:—

Lt.-Col. Amyrauld.
Capt. O. Amyrauld.
Lieut. W. R. Seale.
Lieut. C. McK. Cotton.
Lieut. C. W. Berry.
Surg.-Major Lambly.
Vet.-Capt. W. P. Scott.

Lieut.-Colonel Amyrauld, who has organized the battery, which has been under his command ever since, over twenty-seven years, is soon to be placed on the list of the reserve of officers owing to his tenure of command expiring under the regulations, and the command of the battery will pass to his son, Capt. Amyrauld, who will be promoted to the rank of major.

"SHRAPNELL."
Sweetsburg, May 31, 1899.



A TYPICAL BIT OF DISTRICT OF BEDFORD SCENERY

A view of the South Fork of the Yamaska River, in the Township of Dunham, looking East, the hills of Brome in the distance.

hall was erected recently at Granby for the use of the battery, at a cost of about \$5,000. It is probably the best and most commodious in the country, outside of cities. The guns and stores were moved into it last April.

A few weeks ago, upon the suggestion of Col. Amyrauld, that helmets would be desirable for the battery, S. H. C. Miner, Esq., Mayor of Granby, personally gave \$100, and the corporation an equal sum, for the purpose of procuring them. They have been ordered from England, and are expected here in time for the camp this year.

The battery has had also the honor of sending a representative, Sergt.-Major Latimer, in the detachment of selected Canadian troops, who went to England for the Queen's Jubilee.

The following officers have held commissions in the battery at different times, and have retired:—

Capt. W. Kay.
Lieut. W. Neil.
Lieut. C. B. Martin.
Lieut. S. Maynes.
Lieut. A. W. Mitchell.

"Not too dusty," is a slang term that doesn't apply at this season of the year in most of the villages in this district. Dust prevails almost everywhere and in great abundance.

There is a blacksmith in the District of Bedford who is said to be such a slow worker that the following story has been told about him: A farmer will drive to the village with a team of horses leading a third one behind his wagon. The led animal will be left at the slow blacksmith's for shoeing and the farmer will drive the team to another knight of the anvil seven miles distant, have the two horses shod and return before the shoeing of the third horse has been completed.

Mrs. Newryche—"What kind of spoons are those with the plecters on?"

Jeweler—"Those, madam, are called souvenir spoons."

Mrs. Newryche—"I'll take half a dozen Our new French cook makes delicious souvenr."

CRICKET.

The cricket season has opened, and we hope the series of 1899 will be played out without any of the unpleasantness and hard feeling that was on one or two occasions only too manifest last year.

The annual meeting of the league was well attended, and there seemed to be a disposition on all sides to let the dead past bury its dead and to play cricket according to the rules and traditional gentlemanly feeling which is inseparably connected with the game in old England.

It was an excellent idea of Judge Lynch, the honorary president, to give the two trophies to individuals rather than to clubs. This will tend to minimize the feeling, which certainly has been too rampant, that the chief object to be sought is the winning of games. We want more of the feeling that will permit a club to take an honorable defeat as calmly and in as dignified a manner as it should take its victories.

The suggestion of Mr. Parmelee that Mr. Wilcocks be re-elected as president of the league was somewhat unexpected, as it was supposed by some that this officer would be chosen in turn from the homes of the different clubs. Nevertheless, coming from Mr. Parmelee, the suggestion was readily adopted. Had a change been made there is no doubt that the genial member for Shefford would have himself been chosen.

Mr. Wilcocks has shown himself an active and generous supporter of sports of all kinds, and all the clubs feel perfect confidence in leaving him at the helm for another year.

Certainly cricket should be well taken care of in the district when we see such men as judges, lawyers, bank managers, physicians, and prominent business men give up an afternoon and come out to the league meeting. No stronger indication could be given that it is the game that is most highly thought of.

The inclusion of Abbotsford into the district for cricket purposes will bring into the league several players of power, who will be a credit to the league. No true lover of the sport will begrudge the Granby Club the added strength it will receive from this amendment to the constitution.

We hope the idea to form a club from the best players in the league will be carried out. It would be possible to get together a strong eleven that need not hesitate to meet some of Montreal's best teams.

At the league meeting Judge Lynch was unanimously re-chosen as honorary president. Two honorary vice-presidents, in the persons of Hon. H. T. Duffy and S. H. C. Miner, Esq., were added to the list of officers.

For the benefit of our cricket readers, we print the schedule of matches for this summer. The first-named club is in each case the one on whose grounds the match will be played:—

- June 3—Jubilee and Knowlton.
Waterloo and Granby.
- June 10—Stanbridge East and Jubilee.
Knowlton and Granby.
- June 17—Waterloo and Stanbridge East.
Jubilee and Granby.
- June 24—Stanbridge East and Knowlton.
Waterloo and Jubilee.
- July 8—Knowlton and Waterloo.
Stanbridge East and Granby.
- July 22—Knowlton and Jubilee.
Granby and Waterloo.
- July 29—Jubilee and Stanbridge East.
Granby and Knowlton.

- Aug. 5—Stanbridge East and Waterloo.
Granby and Jubilee.
- Aug. 12—Knowlton and Stanbridge East.
Jubilee and Waterloo.
- Aug. 19—Waterloo and Knowlton.
Granby and Stanbridge East.

The G. A. A. Cricket Club of Granby has been reorganizing for the season, with the following officers: Captain, C. E. Archibald; sub-captain, J. Bruce Payne; secretary, C. B. Stewart Patterson; committee, C. E. Archibald, J. Bruce Payne, C. B. Stewart Patterson, N. Mitchell, D. K. Cowley.

The following are the 1899 officers of the Waterloo Cricket Club: Messrs. W. I. Briggs and G. H. Allen, honorary presidents; C. A. Nutting, president; G. Stevens, vice-president; F. A. Briggs, secretary-treasurer.

At the annual meeting of the Knowlton Cricket Club the officers elected were: President, L. England; patrons, Hon. S. A. Fisher, Hon. H. T. Duffy; secretary, Dr. Harris; treasurer, H. Williams; executive committee, Dr. Lambly, Dr. Cleveland, Mr. E. E. Mills; captain, E. E. Mills.

The annual meeting of the Jubilee Cricket Club of Cowansville and Sweetsburg was held at the latter place on May 4th. The officers elected were: A. J. E. Leonard, president; H. C. Harvey, vice-president; Dr. F. H. Pickel, treasurer; E. Percy Jones, secretary.

He Got Rattled.

It was a hot-water bottle that the man wanted, and he was in a terrible hurry about something, as he rushed into the store where such things are sold, and addressed the smiling expectant clerk behind the counter. "Say, mister," he yelled, "gimme a wat hotter bottle, and be quick about it."

The clerk began to grin; "you mean a bot water hottle, don't you?" he said.

"S'pose I dont know what I mean. I said 'hote botter wattle, didn't I?'"

"Yes, sir, certainly, a hot hottle water."

"Look here, young fellow, no more 'o your chin. What I asked for was a wat botter hottle, and what I mean to get is a hot wattle botter, and if you haven't got such a thing as a bot wotter hottle—"

Then the man drew a long breath, thought backward a second or two and addressing the clerk in a quiet tone of voice said:

"Say, mister, I want to buy one of those things that you fill up out of the tea-kettle and take to bed with you to keep your feet warm on cold nights."

Must Have His Money's Worth.

A countryman walked into a dentist's surgery and asked to have three teeth extracted for the price of two. The dentist agreed to the bargain, and after drawing two of the molars from the yawning cavity before him, he hitched the forceps onto the third. This one was more firmly planted in the jaw, and after the dentist had tugged at it for some time, the victim in the chair shrieked out, "howld on, ——— it, leave that one and pull another!" The pain of the third tooth was too much for him, but he was willing to sacrifice some other tooth in order to get the full benefit of the bargain he had struck.

A school boy was asked to write translations of some famous mottoes. Here is part of the result:

Erin Go Bragh—Home Rule for Ireland.
Honi Soit qui mal y pense—

Mind your own Business.
Nemo me Impune Lacesset—

Don't tread on the tail of my coat.
Ich Dien—I am dying.

Labor Omnia Vincit—All labor is vicious.

E Pluribus Unum—There's plenty of room for one.

80 Feet
Long

WIDE ENOUGH AND BRIM FULL
OF JUNE BARGAINS, THAT'S
"EUREKA BLOCK" INSIDE.

You are right, good light, day and night,
Of goods you'll see a sight.

As to brightness, Eureka Dry Goods Store is second to none in the Townships. No better lighted store in the Townships. No better lighted store in this or any other locality will be found. If there's a doubt in your mind about it, just walk in and you'll see that quality and colors are to be seen at first sight. Make your purchase at a store where you can see what you are buying. Forty-three hundred dollars worth of new goods has been added to our former stock.

A fine stock of Boots and Shoes all fresh from the makers.
Double the quantity of former days in Dress Goods and Trimmings.
Men's and Boy's Ready-Made Suits. Special values in this line this season.

Take a peep at our Fancy Straw Hats for men and boys, Gents' Linen Coats and Vests, Mohair Coats and Summer Overcoats. Quite a big stock of Tweeds and Worsted Coatings for summer suits—all will go at lowest figures.
New Carpets, Floor Oilcloths and Matting.

Drop in and see what is to be seen and bring a bundle home.
Our cash sales last month were three times larger than they were the corresponding month last year. Doesn't that look like increasing business.

J. McQUILLEN

THE DRY GOODS TRADER

COWANSVILLE

Good Roads.

Hon. E. C. Smith, Governor of Vermont, in his inaugural message to the legislature, said.—

"It is a curious fact that civilization and good roads go hand in hand; the higher the civilization the better the roads. This is true the world over. The United States has made enormous strides in other methods of transportation, but until recently has been singularly remiss in the matter of good highways. Our sister states are now fast realizing the incalculable benefits of them, not only as profitable highways for traffic but as civilizers and as advertisements to secure the patronage of summer tourists and vacation residents. They are spending millions of dollars in improving their highways. They are reaping the benefits in increase of summer population and of wealth. Vermont, with natural attractions rivalling any of our neighbors, cannot afford to delay vigorous progress in the one direction that will produce the greatest immediate and lasting benefit to us all."

Extracts from an address by Hon. W. W. Lynch, President of the District of Bedford Good Roads Association, at the annual meeting at Sweetsburg on January 6, 1899:

"I am rather disposed to think that we underrate the attractions which we possess to summer tourists, as well as the value which they would be to us; and in that connection there is no room to doubt that good roads are an important factor,

"If good roads helped to make the New Hampshire resorts the attractive spots they are to-day, is it not worth our while to make a supreme effort to do something to place our own section of the country in the same enviable position?

"It is a waste of time and energy to improve our roads if narrow tired waggons are to be permitted to cut them up while the ground is soft in the spring and the fall.

"Narrow tires on loaded waggons are, next to water, the most potent destroyers, and it is folly to talk of improving our roads so long as this destructive agency is permitted to do its work.

"Had the road tax of the District of Bedford since 1867 been wisely and judiciously expended all our main roads would be macadamized and all our other roads would to-day be first-class dirt and gravel roads. Now this covers a period of thirty-one years, within the recollection of most of us. Are we prepared to allow the same state of matters to go on for the next thirty years?"

A Pic-Nic at Eccles Hill.

We understand that it is the intention of the Missisquoi Historical Society to organize a picnic for Dominion Day at Eccles Hill.

The place and the time are very appropriate, and if the idea is carried out the event ought to attract a very large attendance. Apart from the historic interest cen-

tering in Eccles Hill, the parish of St. Armand East abounds in magnificent scenery, and is well worth visiting for that reason alone.

Would it not be a good idea for the society to extend a special invitation to all the remaining members of the militia and of the Dunham Home Guard who were called out in 1866 and 1870. Many of these are still in the flesh, and their presence would add to the charm of the occasion.

Mots and Dots.

This is the time of year when the cyclist says nasty things about road machines.

They say that Granby's millionaire citizen has made a pot of money in mining stocks. Well, why shouldn't he; isn't he a Miner?

No matter how a man may have suffered himself at the same thing, he can always enjoy watching another learning to ride a bicycle.

The Dominion will be thirty-two years in existence on July 1 this year. Time flies, but we have been doing big things in the meanwhile. Look at the national debt for instance.

Her Majesty was eighty years of age on the 24th of last month. For more than sixty years the day has been celebrated by her loyal citizens. It will be hard for us to get used to May without a Queen's Birthday.

Doukhobors, Galicians, Finns. What chances to acquire fame as linguists our children will have. But let the newcomers be welcomed. They are under the frost flag on earth, and out of the reach of the clutches of famine.

A peripatetic umbrella mender recently struck a Quebec town near the Vermont boundary line without being aware that he had passed out of the jurisdiction of that State, where, by the way, a law prohibiting the sale of liquor is in force. Being attended by a sort of consuming thirst he entered a drug store and inquired if he could purchase some brandy. He was asked what he wanted the brandy for, and explained that it was to be used only as an "internal" remedy for frozen feet. This was on a warm day in May.

The absurdities that even intelligent people commit in moments of excitement are very laughable *sometimes*. At a recent fire in a district of Bedford village where, at the time, the only means of fighting the flames was a volunteer bucket brigade, a line was formed from the river to the burning building. The volunteer at the river end of the line was a gentleman who had just donned a brand new pair of tan boots. As he filled the buckets and passed them to the man next in line, he repeatedly cautioned the latter not to spill the water on his new boots, being blissfully oblivious of the fact that he was standing in the river nearly up to his knees.

Buzzell Brothers

THE LEADING STORE OF THE DISTRICT

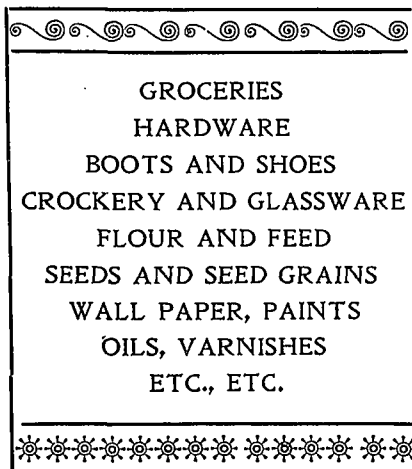


THIS STORE IS NOTED FOR THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS STOCK, THE HIGH STANDARD OF QUALITY MAINTAINED IN ALL LINES, AND THE EXCELLENT SERVICE IT GIVES ITS CUSTOMERS.



MAIN STREET

COWANSVILLE, QUE.



Last Year's Exams.

As this is the month in which the annual school examinations will be held, pupils may be interested in a comparative statement of the standing of the schools in the district in connection with the examinations of a year ago.

The comparisons are made according to the percentage of possible marks obtained by each school.

ACADEMIES.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Sutton | 83 p.c. |
| Granby | 71 " |
| Cowansville | 70 " |
| Knowlton | 70 " |
| Waterloo | 70 " |
| Dunham Ladies' College ... | 65 " |
| Bedford | 61 " |

MODEL SCHOOLS.

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Stanbridge East..... | 68 p.c. |
| Mansouville | 66 " |
| Mystic | 65 " |
| Farnham..... | 64 " |
| Clarenceville | 57 " |
| Frelighsburg | 57 " |

Scholars will be interested in keeping this and comparing it with the stand taken by their respective schools in 1899.

The Silken Robe.

The Provincial Government has appointed a large number of Queen's Counsel, among whom are four prominent lawyers of this district whom we take pleasure in congratulating on the honor conferred upon them. The new Q. C.'s are: Hon. H. Thos. Duffy, Hon. J. O. McCorkill, Lt.-Col. Amyrauld, and Mr. C. A. Nutting. All of these gentlemen are lawyers of many years standing, and prominent in their profession.

The right of the Provincial Government to name Queen's Counsel was recently confirmed by the Privy Council, having been disputed by the Federal Government. Provincial Q.C.'s now have precedence in all the courts of the Province.

Among the Queen's Counsel in this district appointed by previous Provincial Governments are Hon. G. B. Baker, J. P. Noyes and E. Racicot.

The Battle of Ballots in Brome.

Once again the famous County of Brome, a name familiarly known all over Canada, is in the throes of a contest. The forces of prohibition and the other thing will meet each other in a pitched battle at the polls on Tuesday, 20th instant. The result will decide if the *status quo* is to be maintained or if liquor licenses will be a part of the municipal paraphernalia for the next few years. The outcome will be watched with keen interest by the whole Dominion. For years Brome has been the banner county of prohibition, and as such has been pointed to with pride by the temperance people in this

and the other provinces. The result of the contest of the twentieth of June, 1899, will be written for many years in the history of Canada.

Praying for Rain.

There is an old gentleman in our district who believes in being happy, and has no patience with grumblers. A few years ago there was a dry spell in the spring for three or four weeks, and the alarmists began to forecast total failure of crops and other dire calamities. In two churches prayers were offered for rain, and the rain began and continued for so long that the old gentleman went to the ministers, and after giving them a severe scolding for their interference, demanded that they should pray again, this time to have the rain cease. Since then it takes a mighty dry spell to make the clergymen believe that the country is in danger, but whenever the people begin to wish for rain the old man goes to the ministers and laughingly tells them to hold back their prayers until he tells them to go ahead.

The Oldest Inhabitant.

Who holds this record? The question has been asked us, but we are unable to answer. It is an interesting question, and in order that we may glean some information regarding the old people, we take the liberty of requesting readers to send in short sketches of any resident of the district who

is eighty years old or over. If possible send photographs as well. We will print these biographies from time to time, and we are sure that many of them will be full of great interest.

Let us do honor to our old folks while they are with us. We need not wait until we lay them away beneath the sod.

To each old person whose biography we receive in the manner indicated above, this monthly will be sent free for a year.

Johnny—"Papa, what is Faith?"

Johnny's Father—"Faith, my son, is a feeling that inspires people to sell us goods on credit in the hope of being able to collect big prices for them at the end of the year."

First Politician—"What do you suppose should be done to prevent those long speeches in Parliament?"

Second Politician—"Don't know, unless a rule is made that no speaker will be allowed to repeat what has been said four or five times already in the same debate."

Silence prevents many a man who doesn't know anything about the subject under discussion from making a fool of himself, but it doesn't save him from the infliction of having to listen to the other fools who, notwithstanding their ignorance, are always ready to deliver an authoritative opinion on any question.

Brewer's Buggies

The Prices Alarm
Competitors
But Please
Buyers

Every one who owns a horse and believes in having a substantial and stylish rig should see my 1899 display of Concord Buggies.

THE PATTERNS are the latest
THE MATERIAL is the best obtainable
THE WORKMANSHIP is thorough

These three, combined with perfection in details, permit the manufacture of a Buggy that will be a source of pride and satisfaction to the purchaser.

Cheap labor is not employed. From start to finish only thorough competent workmen participate in the building of these buggies. This is a distinct advantage to the buyer.

A. BREWER, COWANSVILLE

District Items of Interest.

Through the generosity of Lieut.-Col. Gilmour, Stanbridge East is to have a very attractive park.

One-sixth of the Superior Schools of the Province of Quebec, outside of Montreal, are in this district.

The local papers record the death of a man at Sutton who had reached the great age of ninety-four years.

We recently heard Dunham Pond spoken of as Lock Anna. Will some reader kindly give the history and origin of the latter name?

All the militia corps of the district are to go into camp this summer. The Brome and Shefford Battalions will go to Laprairie about June 20, and the Shefford Field Battery to Levis on the 15th.

A child was recently born in this district whose father had attained the advanced age of three score years and ten. Does any one know of a case to beat that? It is an instance of virility not often met with.

Bishop Larocque will make the following visitations in this District in June: St. Joseph d'Ely, June 1 and 2; St. Mary d'Ely, June 4, 5 and 6; Notre Dame de Stukely, June 6, 7 and 8; St. Edouard de Bolton, June 8, 9 and 10.

The Catholics of Granby will this summer begin the erection of a magnificent new Church, which will cost, it is estimated, \$30,000. The building will not be completed for a number of years, but the basement will be roofed in and used in the meantime.

At a convention held in Waterloo over thirty years ago, on a motion of Prof. Robins, of the McGill Normal School, the first thought of having a Dominion Teachers' Association was made public. This, however, did not become a reality until 1892, when the first Dominion Educational Association held its meeting in Montreal; with the Hon. G. W. Ross as President.

In "Morgan's Canadian Men and Women of the Time" the names of natives and residents of the District of Bedford occur with flattering frequency. Among them are those of Hon. G. B. Baker, Senator for the District; Hon. J. C. McCorkill, member of the Legislative Council; Hon. W. W. Lynch, Judge of the Superior Court; Hon. S. A. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture; Hon. H. T. Duffy, Commissioner of Public Works; C. H. Parmelee, member for Shefford; J. P. Noyes, Prothonotary Superior Court; Ernest Racicot, advocate, Sweetsburg; Charles Thibault, advocate, Waterloo; James O'Hal-

loran, Q.C., advocate, Cowansville; Geo. G. Foster, advocate, Montreal; S. W. Foster, Knowlton; Venerable Archdeacon Lindsay, Waterloo; Rev. C. E. Bland, Waterloo; Rev. E. T. Capel, Sutton; Rev. W. Henderson, Cowansville; Lt.-Col. A. H. Gilmour, Stanbridge East. J. R. Booth, the railway and lumber magnate of Ottawa, was born at Waterloo, as were also Geo. W. Parmelee, secretary of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, Quebec, and W. G. Parmelee, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa. Hon. M. F. Hackett was born at Granby; Rev. E. H. Krans, of New York, is a native of St. Armand; Rev. T. W. Fyles was formerly rector of Cowansville and Sweetsburg; Mrs. Maria Elsie Turner Lauder, the authoress, was born at St. Armand; Geo. A. Miller, D. V. S., Burlington, Vt., and Palmer Cox, the author and artist, are both natives of Granby. Miss Addie M. Nutting, lady superintendent of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, is a daughter of Vespasian Nutting, formerly clerk of the Circuit Court, Waterloo, where she was born. A. B. Chaffee, of Montreal, was born at Bedford. E. T. D. Chambers, journalist, Quebec, was at one time the Principal of Granby Academy. Prof. G. H. Chambler and Miss Carrie M. Derrick, of the McGill University teaching staff, are both natives of this district, the former having been born at Brome, and the latter at Clarenceville. L. H. Davidson, Q. C., of Montreal, was born at Frelighsburg, and is a son of the late Rev. John C. Davidson, rector of Cowansville and Sweetsburg. Rev. W. J. Crothers, of Napanee, was born at Philipsburg. Rev. John Ker, of Montreal, was formerly incumbent of Glen Sutton, and also rector of Dunham, while his brother, Rev. Robert Ker, of St. Catharines, Ont., was once stationed at Mansonville. Another name that is well known amongst us is that of T. A. Mackinnon, Vice-President of the Boston & Maine Railway, a brother of Mr. James Mackinnon, manager of the Eastern Townships Bank at Cowansville. Short sketches of the lives of all these persons appear in the book.

The New Redistribution.

The Redistribution Bill recently introduced in the House of Commons affects the County of Missisquoi. The proposed change is to give back the parish of Lacolle to St. Johns and Iberville, and take back from that constituency Notre Dame de Stanbridge and Notre Dame des Anges in Missisquoi County. From information received we infer that the change will be acceptable to both political parties in Missisquoi.

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IN SKIRTS, UNDER SKIRTS,
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Agents for Butterick's Patterns.

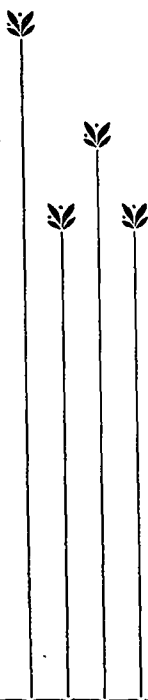
"THE HUB"
COWANSVILLE

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We invite the attention of advertisers to the claims we make.