

THE EVENING GAZETTE

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ST. JOHN, N. B. FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1889.

MR. ELLIS AND HIS FRIENDS

John Valentine Ellis, M. P., and editor of the Globe, having found the attacks of THE GAZETTE upon his record as a public man extremely damaging, has been importuning his friends to suggest some means by which the Province to come to his rescue.

The result is a series of attacks on THE GAZETTE from various quarters, from the Moncton Transcript, from the Yarmouth Herald, and from the St. Andrew Beacon, all abounding in these choice epithets which Ellis himself has been in the habit of using against his opponents in times past.

The idea that John V. himself had supplied his newspaper friends with a choice stock of billingsgate for immediate use against THE GAZETTE, the moving cause of the high and mighty state of indignation into which these papers have worked themselves against THE GAZETTE, appears to be a singular article which appeared in our editorial columns a day or two after Mr. Ellis fainted in court.

The object state of terror to which John V. Ellis had been reduced by the proceedings taken against him for contempt of court was shown by what occurred in the Supreme Court room on Saturday, when just before the time when sentence was to have been pronounced upon him, he fainted away.

It is a matter of no interest to the court or the public, but it is a singular fact that the drunkenness of Mr. Ellis was looked for in a prohibition state.

The prohibition does not prohibit drinking or eating to prevent such scenes as are above described, but it does prohibit a lawbreaker from being drunk.

The Commission has ordered the election of a Mayor to be held on the 12th of August, a convenient date, by which time the Carnival will be over, and every one will be ready to give his attention to the important work of choosing a new Chief Magistrate.

There are a great many who are not in sympathy with the present Mayor, and they are not only so, but they are also in sympathy with the present Mayor.

The Globe informs its readers that Mr. Attorney General Blair was in the city on Wednesday, that his brief was unclouded and his manner as serene as that of a bishop, and also that "from every quarter he had announced that the government is strong in public confidence."

All this is very fine; there was another party named Blair who was in the city on Wednesday, and who was also in the city on Wednesday.

It is believed by many that the Provincial Government will postpone the 28th John elections until a new election is made up under the act passed last session for the extension of the franchise, and that when this is done a general election will be ordered.

This course, if followed, would bring on a general election in January, and it is not unlikely that this is the government programme and it would be for their opponents throughout the province to be prepared for it.

Miss Annie Gilroy, who will be remembered as a member of the Maritime Company, with Jay Hunt, Canadian, when they were in this city, last year, is now in the city, and is engaged in the same business.

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THE ONE CENT FERRY

The influence of THE GAZETTE in moulding public opinion in St. John was shown yesterday in the prompt acceptance by the Common Council of the plan which we have persistently advocated of placing the rate of ferrage at one cent instead of three cents, as at present.

The Gazette took up this matter at a time when the people of the West side considered themselves aggrieved because the scheme of union, which had been adopted by St. John and Portland, would deprive them of their separate revenues and, in their view of the case, increase their rate of taxation.

Many of them were agitating for a bridge and others for a free ferry, but THE GAZETTE recognized from the first the impossibility of either being obtained, and began to agitate for the reduction of the ferry toll to a uniform rate of one cent. In this agitation it received no support whatever from any St. John paper, nor so far as we know was the subject of a one cent ferry so much as even mentioned in the columns of either the Telegraph or Sun or Globe.

It was not to be expected that such able and well-known journalists, as the editors of these three papers could begin to take any notice of a proposal, emanating from the obscure and unknown writers for THE GAZETTE. So our three contemporaries preserved a solemn and owl-like silence and proceeded to discuss the "climate of Gustavus," "Chartered Accountants" and other subjects of thrilling interest to the St. John public. The result shows that the support of THE GAZETTE to any scheme of public improvement is of more consequence than that of all the other papers combined.

The one cent ferry idea was adopted by Mayor Barker in his inaugural address, and recomended to the council the ferry committee took it up and agreed to it, and now it has been adopted by the council, to take effect on the 22nd July, the day of the opening of the carnival. We accept this prompt adoption

of the one cent ferry scheme as the highest compliment that the common council could have paid to THE GAZETTE.

In our opinion it would have been better for the one cent ferry rate had been adopted without any provision for monthly tickets, because their use will complicate matters so that it will be almost impossible to keep a check on the receipts at the terminals. However, this is a matter of minor importance, the main thing was to obtain for the people of Carleton the reduced rate, and this has been accomplished.

DOES PROHIBITION PROHIBIT?

The State of Maine has had a prohibition law upon its statute book for more than twenty years, and this law has been several times amended, so as to make its provisions more stringent, and any evasion of it more difficult. Yet, after more than thirty years of prohibition, the newspapers of Bangor and Portland, are engaged in a vigorous controversy, as to the amount of drunkenness in these two leading cities of Maine.

The Portland Advertiser declares Bangor to be "the drunkenest city on this continent." The Bangor Commercial contends that this distinction belongs to Portland, and, in proof of this opinion quotes from the Portland Advertiser, of July 4th, 1887, the following remarkable statement:

"There was more drunkenness in Portland yesterday than on any holiday for years. Several hundred men were taken to the sheriff and police made large seizures on Saturday night and Sunday, enough liquor was on hand Sunday to make several hundred men drunk. In some parts of the city the scenes were disgraceful. Drunken men were laid on the sidewalks and doors were being broken down. Around the city many of the benches were overturned by sleeping men. Around the city many of the benches were overturned by sleeping men. Around the city many of the benches were overturned by sleeping men."

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THE BEAUTIFUL SLAVE

"The Beautiful Slave," a revised version of Uncle Tom's Cabin will be the opening attraction at the Chestnut street Philadelphia theatre next season.

Richard Mansfield will open in Boston in October with Richard 2d.

Frank Mayo will open at Milwaukee August 16 in Davy Crockett.

