

about fifty miles from Lowestoft, the most easterly part of Great Britain, and a long way from the channel which is on the south coast of England.

We always like to give the due (though 'Praise the Pigs' we don't owe him much) and must in justice say: all the speakers were not of the same inferior, ranting, roaring type. The Rev. D. Fiske, and Mr. L. E. Young, showed that they possessed a little more acumen and perspicuity; and did not, like the Centerville divine, attempt to drive the thick end of the wedge in first.

"I want a hero, an unconquered man. Since every year and age sends forth a new one: Till after cloying the gazettes with cant, The age discovers he is not the true one." So sang one of the great poets, and so the Third Party are sighing. They want a Hero; one, who like the noble Roman patriot, of old, flung himself into the rent in the forum and saved the Eternal city. One who is willing to immolate himself on the altar of public opinion and take the ignominious defeat in store for him, with stoical philosophy. The honour of this proud position seems to be going-a-begging.

Weel Done McLeod.

The Rev. Dr. McLeod, who was nominated by the prohibition convention as a candidate for the Dominion parliament for York, has declined the nomination. The Dr. gives as his reason, that he cannot persuade himself that a minister of the gospel has any business to enter the political field. Weel done! "Son of the people." Why not teach your co-religionists to realise the cogency of the time-worn motto *Ne sutor ultra crepidam*.

Newfoundland.

A private letter received by a merchant in Birmingham (England) from Newfoundland, explains the cause of the financial crash as being mainly due to the political system of the colony. "The only chance we have," the letter adds, "is to revert to a Crown colony and shut up the Legislature. It is now only a refuge for pauper members, who squander the money of the country, and have brought us to a state of insolvency. The railway expenditure is more than we can bear, and the sooner it is abandoned the better; the short line (to Harbour Grace and Placentia) may pay working expenses, but where the money will come from to pay the contractor (for his work on the long line) is a puzzle."

This is a pitiful story of incompetence and mismanagement. May the powers preserve our own fair province from any such fate.

Birch Timber.

The birch timber business seems to be in a thriving condition this winter, notwithstanding the fact that low prices for the commodity, are the general rule. A great many hands have been busily engaged in falling the trees, hewing them, and putting them in shape for market; and a great many teams are steadily employed hauling the products of the forest away to the river. A procession of teams passes our office every day "From frosty morn to chilly eve" each carrying one or two fine sticks. By and by, when the winter snows have disappeared, and the

spring freshets have raised the streams, rafting operations will commence, and the timber grown away in the backwoods of the province, will be floated away towards the ocean.

A RETROSPECT OF THE MONTH.

That evergreen topic, the weather, at all times obtrudes itself on our notice, whether we will or not. The month just departed has been very much like many previous Februaries in regard to meteorological phenomena. Early in the month a severe gale swept across the country, and seriously damaged some farm buildings in this locality; but, with that one exception the weather has been quite congenial as we usually have at the season. Life in our quiet and secluded little city is very uneventful; as a pebble cast into a serene and placid sheet of water produces a series of waves and rings, so small events make a great commotion on the calm surface of our everyday life. However, stirring events have not been plentiful of late, the great event of the month was the Prohibition meeting, that did create a little diversion, for several of the speakers prophesied one or more, contested elections within a short time. These prophetic utterances raised up the drooping spirits of the voting part of the audience, many of whom think we ought to have an election every spring at least, for crisp new "greenbacks" are never so plentiful as at election times.

We had a pleasant call the other day from our old friend W. E. Thistle, Esq. Hartland, a great admirer, and staunch supporter of the *News*.

FACETIE.

near town. Why, only the other day, Old Mrs. Whittlepost went off down to Woodstock, and paid fifteen dollars to have a corn extracted. Why damme, I'd have amputated her whole foot, for that money.

STUTTERLY: Ev-ev-every-th-th-thing sus-sus-sus-seem to b-b-be on t-th-the in-sta-sta-stal-ment plan now-a-d-days.

SMITH: Yes, even your conversation.

A lady-contributor to a fashion paper wrote a short time ago that 'white pique costumes are now popular.' The intelligent compositor set up, 'white pine cof-fins are now poplar.'

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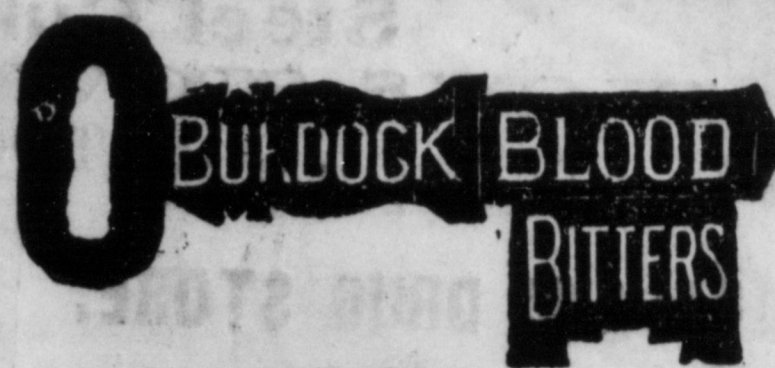
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