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Queens County Gazette. GAGETOWN, N. B., APRIL 27, 1898.

ST. JOHN LETTER. About Poetry—News Notes—The Markets, Etc.

The Chap Book intimates that never before in the world's history was so much poetry written and so little read as now, and thinks that shortly it will be actually true that there are more makers of verse than there are of readers. The Chap Book shoots wide of the mark in its intimation that poetry is not read as much as formerly: Tennyson, Longfellow, Whittier, Bryant and Poe are read as much as ever as the booksellers will attest, and nearly every verse that is written by Joaquin Miller, James Whitcomb Riley, Frank Stanton, T. B. Aldrich, E. C. Steadman, Alfred Austin and a few others of their kind as copied by hundreds of newspapers and appreciated at their true worth by thousands of readers. The magazine poets of this generation have brought verse into discredit, because their verse, which the public have been led to regard as representative, is almost always idiotic. Very little real poetry has appeared in an American magazine during the last thirty years; it is found in the corner of newspapers and is generally of unknown authorship. Whitcomb Riley and Frank Stanton would be unknown today had they sought to reach the public through the magazines for no sensible man or woman ever reads "magazine poetry."

The civic election last Tuesday excited but a languid interest except among the candidates for office. Edward Sears was elected Mayor by a majority of 175 votes.

There was a large attendance at the Art Loan Exhibition in the rooms of the Y. M. C. A. all this week. One of the pictures is valued at \$50,000.

H. C. Tilley, of this city, is in Boston, where he will be married to Miss Bessie Tucker today.

Work will soon begin on an extension to the grain elevator here, to cost \$175,000.

Mayor Robertson sailed for England on the 20th inst. on steamship Lake Superior.

There was a slight fire in the Salvation Army headquarters on Pitt streets last morning.

Unswick vessels are in demand from Maine ports, on account of the situation between the United States and Spain.

Goods which they find it difficult to come to Northrup & Co., of South wharf, from as far west as Victoria for their celebrated golden haddies and Brown Bros. famous Lepreaux clams. These goods are among the best that are put up by any canneries in the world.

There is a general strengthening in the markets and the recent advance in flour is maintained. Cornmeal has declined 10 cents per barrel. There is considerable activity in beef and pork both of which are quoted 50 cents higher today. Cheese is lower; choice is quoted at 9 cents. Molasses remains about the same; extra choice P. R. sells at 27 cents and choice Barbadoes at 24 cents. An understanding having been arrived at among the paper bag manufacturers the discount to retailers is now 20 per cent instead of 50 per cent as formerly. Sugars are very firmly held at the recent slight advance. Very marked changes are shown in the tea trade. The largest importers, who formerly carried twenty or thirty lines of China teas and two or three varieties of Indias and Ceylons are now carrying a half dozen qualities of China teas and thirty or forty grades of Indias and Ceylons, in addition to numerous grades of blended teas consisting almost wholly of Indias and Ceylons. Good butter is in active demand at 17 cents and eggs are neglected at 9 cents. George S. DeForest & Sons are landing several invoices of fine imported cigars and are paying especial attention to this branch of their business which is increasing to large proportions. They are represented on the road by A. F. DeForest, Andrew Brown, B. W. Keith and Sam Likely, the latter giving most of his time and attention to the city trade. The are making rapid strides in the tea business and preparing special blended packet teas for numerous wholesale jobbers in St. John and for the largest trade throughout the maritime provinces.

Thomas Sharpe of the North End, aged 85 years, died last Thursday, leaving a widow and five children.

EDWARD EDWARDS St. John, April 25.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

April 20.—Mr. Bergeron called the Speaker's attention to the vacancy for Bagot, occasioned by the death of Mr.

Dupont. The Speaker said the warrant for writ would be issued at once. The House went into supply. On the charges of management Mr. Foster told Mr. Fielding that he believed the whole work of engraving bank notes had been done in New York. Mr. Fielding said he had no knowledge of the matter. On the item for salaries in the government general's office there was some discussion. The department of justice was next reached, when it was found that of six clerks qualified for an increase four got the raise and two did not. A long discussion took place on the item of militia salaries, respecting the superannuation of Accountant O'Mera and the appointment of Mr. Borden, of Kentville, in his place. Mr. Borden said in reply to the question that the new accountant was his cousin, but he was the brother of the member for Halifax. When the House adjourned at midnight the militia clause had not been voted. Mr. Davin moved that the item be reduced \$600.

OTTAWA, April 21.—The plebiscite bill was presented today. On moving the first reading Mr. Fisher gave a brief summary of the contents of the bill, which provides that only one question should be submitted to read as follows: "Are you in favor of the passage of an act prohibiting the importation, manufacture, or sale of spirits, wine, ale, beer cider and other intoxicating liquor, used as beverages?" The remainder of the bill, which contains fifteen clauses, contains the machinery for the taking and recording of the vote. The persons qualified to vote are those entitled to vote in a Federal election. The government is authorized to fix a date and appoint returning officers. Organization on each side of the question are permitted to have representation at the polls. The form of the ballot is designated, and is such that the voter makes a cross in a space under the word "Yes" or under the word "No," according as he favors or opposes prohibition. The return of the vote is made as in ordinary elections. The bill provides that the election be held according to the procedure and on the list of the franchise and election bill now before the House.

Mr. Foster thought a clause should be added providing that in case a majority of the votes were cast for prohibition, effect should be given to the decision. Mr. McInerney pointed out that the bill required a vote to take place on the franchise act of 1898. There was no such act. Mr. Fisher replied that the government were determined that the bill now before the House should pass. Mr. McInerney—"More than one bill which this government was determined to pass has failed to become law."

Premier Laurier thought that this suggestion was of the nature of a threat. The government did not intend to withdraw the franchise bill and did not expect its defeat. Mr. Bergeron would like to know whether in case Quebec should vote "No," as he thought it would, Quebec would be included in the prohibitory law. The franchise bill was then taken up. On the clause adopting the provincial lists Mr. Heyd proposed an amendment that the Indian votes enfranchised by the federal laws, but disqualified by the Ontario acts, should remain electors. Mr. Lister supported the amendment. At midnight Mr. Heyd's amendment was still before the committee, when progress was reported and the House adjourned.

In Time of War.

As the result of the war, a number of New Brunswickers who have been for some years in the States have returned home. It is believed the travel in this direction if the war keeps up for any time will be unprecedented. The expectation is that many wealthy Americans will send their families here so that they will be safe in the event of any bombardment of the coast cities. The prospects are that American seaside resorts will be deserted. It is said not a single cottage at Bar Harbor has been leased and that the conditions at other resorts is about the same. The Intercolonial line boats will continue to run between this city, Portland and Boston until there is danger in so doing, and the management here does not believe they will be interfered with at all, or that there will be any Spanish warships seen in these northern waters. The railroads are making preparations for a large traffic, and it may be, if the trans-Atlantic liners make this a terminus, that we will see here solid vestibule trains with beautiful sleepers and dining cars, with writing rooms and stenographers, bath rooms, barber shops, and all other luxuries of modern travel.—Globe, St. John.

Trouble in Argentina.

New York, April 21.—A despatch to the Herald from Valparaiso, Chili says: New and startling developments have arisen in the boundary dispute with Argentina, and great excitement prevails here.

It is reported semi-officially that during an interview with president Erazuriz and members of the cabinet. Senor Beltram, chief engineer of the boundary sub-commissions, acting by order of Senor Moreno, chief of the Argentine boundary commission, has been working with a large force of laborers in an attempt to change the course of a river in order to cheat Chili out of a large portion of the territory rightfully belonging to this country.

The Buenos Ayres government will be asked for an explanation.

Up the Nile.

LONDON, April 20.—A despatch to the Daily Telegraph from Asoum on the Nile says, a gunboat that returned to Dakala from Shendy reports that it had an engagement near El Aliad, with fugitives from Mahmoud's army, killing two hundred and capturing seventy.

IN MEMORIAM.

Lida Palmer, A. B., died April 1, 1898. "Virtue alone has majesty in death." How great a change in everything I see! For naught can charm me now nor solace me. How great the change in everything I hear!

For every sound is discord in my ear. In me or all things else this woful change? Alas, in me, and therefore is not strange, Since thou hast gone not to return again. And gone so far beyond my voice and ken, The world is as you left it: yet are here The strange unrest, pain, death, the falling tear;

The sky's above, the ground beneath; and still All things save man perform their maker's will; Beyond, the solemn whirl of worlds goes on, Amazing now as 'twas ere thou hadst gone;

The glorious sun gives earth his dazzling light; The moon his lustre softens for the night; Night follows day, as when thine eyes could see, And night is mine, the day no more for me!

For me the dark, the woe, the anguish here! For thee the light, the calm, the transport there! The loneliness, the "vanished hand" are mine!

Reunion in that Blessed Land is thine! More privileged than I, "where thou art gone Adieu and farewells are a sound unknown."

Enunciated earlier than I, My junior here, but elder born on high. Thou hast begun the bright immortal years, Unflecked by sorrow and these earthly tears.

And I remain, how long a time my ken Informs me not, but short at most—and THEN! But now I must alone the toilsome way, Mine eyes intent upon your Golden Day! Hopeful at length, mine own last struggle o'er,

To join you there, where we shall part no more; That our endeared associations here We may continue in a happier sphere. O 'tis an awful mystery to me That Death should lay his fatal hand on thee!

My dear companion of the days gone by! I cannot tell, but thou and God know why? Why thou so young, so grand a life in view, Must bid me all, and ME so soon adieu? "Some day we'll understand!" that day is thine, And, when I leave the dark, it will be mine.

But I remember in my woful dole "The glorious instincts of thy deathless soul!" And now that these refined by heavenly grace

Destined thee early for an angel's place! Though why? so vast a mystery to me, I never heard one murmur come from thee.

Contrariwise, undaunted, undismayed, Thou sawst all thy hopes in ruin laid! Felt fell disease his fatal work perform! Preparatory to the dreadful storm!

I saw thee die! saw "life's last embers burn!" I saw thee leave me never to return. Saw thee sustained by thine unflinching faith!

In the supreme and delightful hour of death! At thy last words, thy dying hands in mine! He gave thy wish,—another hand took thine!

Ah me, how lonely I since thou hast gone, And yet my saddened, weary life goes on. I see thee not, I hear thy voice no more! And I this feature of thy death deplore. I may not once again converse with thee On God and Heaven and Immortality.

Eternal Goodness! how abashed am I! Why hast Thou—ah, I dare not ask Thee why? Enough for me that Thou art All, and she, Whom here I find not, is at Home with Thee!

So I will nourish the indwelling hope, As in this gloom my lonely way I grope, That I shall safely gain that Haven too, And at the most but little alter you!

H. A. PALMER. Scotchtown, N. B., April 15.

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