

THE DISPATCH.

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ASPHALT AND TAR CAUSE A ROW.

NO ONE SHALL HOLD A SPADE OR SHOVEL UNLESS HE PAYS THE TOWN A LICENSE.

Coun. Leighton's Motion Carried on Division.—Several Pointed Speeches on the Subject.—Couns. Murphy and Connor at Loggerheads Over Wellington and Queens Wards.

"It was the liveliest session since I've been there," said one member to THE DISPATCH, of the meeting of the Town Council on Friday evening last, and it certainly was a pretty spicy sitting.

Coun. Sutton was the only absentee. The special committee to deal with the question of an engine house in Wellington Ward, recommended that authority be given the committee to erect a building 20x40 feet on the lot in Wellington Ward, the first floor to be finished for a hose room, and the second floor for a tenement. \$200.00 to be spent this year.

The report was adopted. The special committee to deal with an account rendered by Fisher & Connell, reported back that the amount be paid, except the first item, which is referred back to the council. This is an item of \$21.80, for the defence in the case of T. Alward against the Town Marshall.

Coun. Murphy objected to the legislation which allowed the presentation of such bills. If \$70 was paid for the collection of \$20, it was no wonder the town was \$5000 in debt. The report was accepted.

This leaves the first item of Fisher & Connell's bill yet in the hands of the council.

Coun. Leighton's motion to incorporate a provision in the by-laws, imposing a license of 25 cents a day, 50 cents a week, \$1 a month and \$4 a year on outside laborers was next dealt with.

Coun. Leighton said the Town Marshall had already collected between \$10 and \$12 of these licenses, and if the by-law was not passed he would have to refund it. He moved that the by-law be introduced.

Coun. Churchill seconded the motion. Coun. Murphy—I am opposed to this motion on principle. I am opposed to taxing the poor man. I say we should not pass any legislation that will have a tendency to depopulate the town. I object to placing too much of a burden on the poor laboring man who toils "from early morn till dewy eve." If we are forced to raise the revenue of this town let us take some other course than to impose a tax of this kind on the poor laboring man.

Coun. Jones—I am in favor of this motion. I do not believe that laboring men should come into the town, who pay no taxes at all, and take work from the laboring men of the town who pay taxes.

Coun. Watts—I am as anxious for the welfare of the laboring man as any member of the council. We all know that at certain seasons it is impossible for a householder to obtain laborers to do necessary work. Take any one of us requiring a laboring man, we often cannot find one, or if we do find him he is holding up some of the buildings. Well! I go and get a man to come in and supply my necessities, and he is to be charged 25 cents a day. Speaking about the bridge, where are we going to get thirty laborers in the town of Woodstock. If Coun. Jones finds it necessary to employ fifty men in a job, it is not fair for the town to take advantage of his necessity and impose a tax on those men.

Coun. Dickinson—I have some men working for me living on the outskirts of the town. They feel that they are being unjustly used by having this license put on them. They say they spend their wages in the town. With regard to the number of laborers in town, I may say I am over-run with applications for labor during the winter. I think, myself, in justice to the taxpayers of the town that they should be protected in this matter. (Applause by spectators.) These men pay their taxes into the town and they have a right to be protected.

Question was called. Those who voted nay to Coun. Leighton's motion were: Couns. Connor, Murphy and Watts.

Coun. Murphy introduced the question of P. S. McNutt of St. John, who complains of too high an assessment on goods he has here, and on which he also paid taxes in St. John. In dealing with the question Coun. Murphy said that he was himself assessed too high.

"I am taxed on personal property \$1500, when I would sell all my personal property for \$500. My neighbor who has as much personal property as I have is only assessed \$200. I am not given to queeling, but this strikes me as unfair."

Coun. Connor called for a report from Coun. Murphy, the chairman of the street committee, as to a letter he had received from Geo. S. Fisher & Sons of St. J.

Coun. Murphy read the letter. This firm quote asphalt at the same price as last year, \$22.00 for 2000 pounds net, 3% discount for 30 days, delivered at C.P.R. Station here.

Coun. Connor—Last year we got 45 barrels of tar at \$3.45 per barrel and 16 of asphalt at \$22 per 2000 lbs. According to our appropriation this year, we should have 11 barrels of asphalt and 30 barrels of tar, costing about \$160, and I make a motion to that effect.

Coun. Dickinson seconded the motion. Coun. Murphy—I am not prepared to vote for this motion to-night. I think we ought first to report what quantity would be necessary and what amount we propose to lay.

Coun. Connor—Coun. Murphy is trying to get out of this affair. The fact is if he cannot get Queen street asphalted, which will cost about \$500, he thinks he will not put asphalt anywhere. Now, I want my portion of asphalt for Wellington Ward. Mr. Murphy won't allow anything to be done there. I ask the council to give me my portion of this money. The councillor then entered into a defence of his action in grading the street between Connell's foundry and the station.

Coun. Murphy—With all due respect to Coun. Connor, his statement has no foundation in fact. What he says about me with regard to Queen street is not true. I am perfectly willing that Wellington Ward shall get its proper proportion. I did object to Coun. Connor having a piece of sidewalk in Wellington Ward torn up without consulting me or Coun. Taylor.

Coun. Connor—I went to Coun. Murphy's office two or three times and he was away. When I did see him he said he would bring the matter before the council. I represent Wellington Ward, and am not supposed to wait till Coun. Murphy gets back from Fredericton or St. John to attend to a bad bit of sidewalk which has become a danger to pedestrians.

Coun. Murphy—It was not a work of necessity.

Coun. Connor—It was a work of necessity. His Worship then proceeded to pour oil on the troubled waters. He thought if Couns. Murphy and Connor would get together again they could come to an amicable understanding. So far there had been no report from the street committee as to where or how much asphalt was to be laid. He suggested that a report be brought in at a special meeting of the council. The suggestion of the Mayor seemed to produce a soothing effect on the belligerents.

Coun. Murphy presented a petition from R. K. Jones, Small & Fisher and Williamson Fisher asking for a lease of a piece of the land, for the use of a railroad siding, between the railway track and the road leading down to the old bridge. They apply for 150 feet along the track. He moved, seconded by Coun. Dickinson, a resolution that the petition be granted.

Coun. Leighton moved in amendment, seconded by Coun. Connor, that this matter lay over till next meeting of the council, and in the meantime be referred to a special committee.

After some further discussion this was agreed to and Couns. Murphy, Watts and Dickinson were appointed a committee to report at an adjourned meeting of the Council on Monday night.

Shall the Bridge Men be Exempt.

Coun. Murphy rose in his place sedately at Monday's meeting of the council and moved that the street committee be authorized to procure eleven barrels of asphalt and thirty barrels of tar from Mr. Fisher of St. John.

Coun. Connor seconded the motion, and then moved that forty per cent. of this be used in Wellington ward, forty per cent. in Kings ward, and twenty per cent. in Queens ward.

This roused Coun. Murphy's ire. He would not make this concession. It would be better to wait until the asphalt was here.

Coun. Taylor.—I am of the same opinion.

Coun. Leighton, who seconded the motion made by Coun. Connor, said the question should be decided now. Queens ward had a great share of work now and as a small ward should be satisfied with the proposed appropriation.

Coun. Murphy accused Coun. Leighton of thinking that his "ipse dixit" should be final.

Coun. Jones.—This committee works in a queer way. It takes matters into its own hands. They should recommend where to lay the sidewalk and submit their recommendation to the board.

Matters threatened to be lively, and the mayor promptly informed the members that he would enforce the rules preventing any councillor from speaking more than twice.

"I only want to say," said Coun. Connor, "that of the 29 days work done this year on the streets 6 days work has been done in Wellington ward, 7 in Queens, and 16 in Kings, and I am prepared to prove it," he added, as Coun. Murphy looked as if he meant to take objection.

The question was then put and being supported only by Couns. Dickinson, Connor and Leighton, was declared lost.

The question of granting a lease of a piece of land near the railway track, below the water works, to Small & Fisher, Williamson Fisher and R. K. Jones, was next considered.

M. Wendall Jones was heard by permis-

(CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.)

WOODSTOCK SIXTY-FOUR YEARS AGO

HOUSES AND STORES WERE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN, AND POSTAGE RATES HIGH.

Interesting Reminiscences of over Half a Century Ago.—How Mails were Carried Between Quebec and Fredericton.—Names of Several Boats which Came Up the River.

A DISPATCH representative had a talk with Mr. Wm. F. Dibblee the other day about old times in Woodstock. Mr. Dibblee came here some sixty-four years ago, and he has many interesting things to tell of Woodstock of old.

"In 1830," he said, "Woodstock was a pretty small place. Chas. Perley had a house and store at the Lower Corner, situate just about where John Connor has his house now."

"Richard English was then building on the bank of the creek below the saw mill."

"Jeremiah Connell was raising a building where R. B. Manzer has his store now. A year or two after this his brother, Charles Connell, went into partnership with him."

Mrs. Richard Smith had a house situate about where Milmore's place of business now is, and there was no other building between that and old Mr. Baker's, a two storey building on the way to the Upper Corner.

Across the Creek, nearly in the same spot as the present bridge, was an old hemlock bridge. There was an old fashioned mill where Craig's mill now is, that was built by a man named Dickey. It was afterwards bought and remodelled by John and Walter Bedell.

"We used to get a mail once a week, and paid nine pence for a letter from St. John and seven pence for a letter from Fredericton. In those days, you know, letters were not prepaid. The person who received them used to have to pay the postage, and very often there was a good deal of grumbling, for the letter was often not worth the price. A Frenchman named Martin used to carry the mail from Fredericton to Quebec. He used to bring his mail—in winter time—on a sled hauled by a dog, and piloted an old hand cart in the summer time."

"The mode of travelling was by tow-boats and canoes on water, and on foot or horse-back on land. I remember that old Mr. John D. Beardsley had the first wheeled carriage, and it was quite a curiosity."

"Do you remember when the first steam boat came up river?"

"I can't recall the exact date, but the name of the first boat to come up the river was 'The Novelty.' Captain Phillips commanded her, and I recollect she ran into an island at the mouth of the Guimic. 'The Gazelle' was another boat which attempted to make the run between Fredericton and Woodstock. She got up to the Meductic Falls, struck a rock and turned around and went back again. These boats simply made experimental trips."

"The first regular boat to do good service was the 'Carleton,' which was owned by Mr. George Connell. In my opinion she did the biggest business of any boat ever run on the river. She used to run about all the summer."

"A couple of other boats on the river were the 'Bonnie Doon,' and the 'John D. Pierce.' The 'John D. Pierce' blew up about twenty-five miles down the river. The pilot was never seen after the explosion, and among the passengers was a Mrs. Johnson, daughter of the late Chas. Wetmore of Fredericton, who was killed in the blow up."

"In 1836 there was a big speculation in land—a regular boom. I remember that two Americans, named Webster and Washburn, bought up all the land on the hill on this side of the Creek. One or two Woodstockers made quite a pot of money out of the transaction. That is the only thing in the shape of a boom I ever remember Woodstock experiencing. The growth has always been gradual, but sure."

The Grafton Literary Society.

One of the interesting features of the thriving village of Grafton is its Literary Society. This concourse of ladies—gentlemen are a luxury that is strictly prohibited—meets on Thursday evening of each week at the residence of one of its members and executes an interesting and carefully prepared programme in a manner and with a spirit that would do credit to a place making more metropolitan pretensions. At present the members whose name appear on the roll are Mrs. John Shea, Mrs. John Baird, Mrs. Fred Hale, Mrs. George Hale, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Rankin, Mrs. Jones, Misses Aurilla Hale, Ivy Hale, Cora Hale, Essie Brackett, Cora Nevers, Mary Tweedie, Katie Rankin, Ethel Shea, Hattie Shea, Vena Nix, Zillah Stone, Clara Bragdon, Agnes Taylor, Della Taylor, Augie Price, Lillie Gill. Of these Miss Annie Rankin is President; Miss

Flora Brackett, Vice President; Miss Addie Olmstead, Secretary; and Miss Lillie Shea, Treasurer.

Some Woodstock women have at times availed themselves of the courtesy of the society and have attended their meetings. They would have done so even oftener had it not been that the facilities for crossing the river are somewhat tedious and uncertain. When the bridge finally gets itself built it may be expected that more frequent intercourse between Woodstock and Grafton in a literary way will come to exist.

For a small village Grafton has an unusually large number of women interested in things other than gossip.

The members are of almost every age, all taking a live interest in the object of the society, which is a thorough acquaintance with English Literature in its fullest variety.

The interest does not seem to lag in the summer. Efforts towards self improvement of this kind have been made in Woodstock from time to time and all would go swimmingly in the winter, but when the evenings would thaw out and present outdoor attractions, the literary zeal would give place to some less intellectual passion and the organization melt into air.

Grafton is to be congratulated on its intellectual atmosphere.

Substitute for Hemlock.

The following item appeared sometime ago in a paper.

As the hemlock forests have receded from about the great tanneries in Maine, New York, and Pennsylvania, under the onslaught of the lumbermen and "bark peelers," the finding of new sources of supply of tannin to use in the manufacture of leather has become of increasing importance. One resource to which the leather makers are turning expectantly is the canaigre plant of the Texas New Mexico and Arizona plains, the root of which contains a large amount of tannin. This plant grows naturally and abundantly on the prairie.

Mr. C. D. Dickinson is a man who can well lay claim to being an authority on the subject of hemlock bark. He told THE DISPATCH that the use of the canaigre plant has got beyond the experimental stage. It has now become a success. The extract is being sold in Chicago, Boston and New York. The canaigre is a very small plant. The extract is taken from the roots. As hemlock does not reproduce and is always becoming less plentiful, this discovery is a important one.

Play Ball!

The base ball game played in the Park last Friday between Houlton and Woodstock clubs was in many ways a good contest. The teams were evenly matched; at least in size, though before the game was half over, it was seen by all that the Woodstock boys were altogether too skillful for their opponents. The battery for the home team, R. Williams and H. McKinley, endured throughout the whole game; the visitors in despair put in one battery after another but the Woodstock club continued to bat "three baggers" running the score up ridiculously. During the latter part of the game the Houlton boys braced up a little and managed to get several runs. This saved them from too bad a showing, for up to their sixth inning they had gained but three runs to twenty. The score at the end of the game stood 27 to 15 in favor of Woodstock, who did not take their ninth inning. A return match is being arranged with the Ricker Institute club to be played in the Park at Woodstock on June 16.

The Woodstock boys are surely putting up good ball this season. Closely following the victory of June 8th, came last Monday's game. Both teams that contested the game on Monday were composed of rather larger men than that of Friday's game, but the home team wisely retained the same excellent battery, R. Williams and H. McKinley. Williams pitched with his usual clever strategy. Batter after batter didn't bat, as it were. True, they stood up before the pitcher, muttered dire threats against the ball, and then tossed down the useless bat, unable to touch the "curves." Houlton had no especial pitcher. Nearly every member of the club took a turn at that difficult post, but the forty scores that Woodstock calmly ran up did not argue very well for their dexterity. The game throughout, notwithstanding the large score, was unusually interesting, and in some respects unusually well played. A large number of spectators were edified by the contest. The score (should it be mentioned) stood at the end of the game 40 to 14 in Woodstock's favor, with an inning to spare.

Michael McDade, Provincial Delegate of the A. O. H., went to Moncton on Saturday for the purpose of organizing a new division of that Order.

A. E. MELLISH of the Merchants Bank started on his bicycle last Saturday at 9.30 o'clock, a. m., and reached his destination, Fredericton, at 7.30 p. m.

THE INTERCOLONIAL CONFERENCE.

WHAT IS THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE MEASURES TO BE CONSIDERED.

Sir John Colomb Asks Some Pertinent Questions. He Says the People of England Are in the Dark, and Want More Light as to What will Be Done.

In the British House of Commons a few days ago Mr. Sydney Buxton, Parliamentary Secretary for the Colonies, referring to a question by Mr. S. Crombie, in regard to the matters to be discussed by the Intercolonial Conference at Ottawa, said the conference would consider the questions of cable communication between the United Kingdom and Australia by way of Canada, and improving trade relations between Canada and the colonies generally.

Sir John Colomb, in a letter to the Times to-day, devotes his attention to the approaching Intercolonial Conference at Ottawa, and urges the necessity for a clearer exposition of the aims and objects of the convention. The people of England are, he says, quite in the dark as to the precise nature of the conference, and fuller information as to its power and limits should be demanded. Especially should it be explained whether the gathering of representatives has been arranged by the whole series of Colonial Prime Ministers, or if it is simply a means by which pressure can be more surely brought upon the Imperial Government in order to obtain the subsidy necessary to float the Pacific cable and other schemes. If the object of the conference is simply to improve the trade between Canada and Australia, why in the name of reason should the Cape Colony send delegates to Ottawa? The present large demands on behalf of the British navy forbid the guarantee to the proposed railway in Uganda, and Sir John argues that it is fair to presume that the same cause will preclude the granting of a subsidy to a fast Atlantic mail line or a Pacific cable enterprise.

The Times advises the members of the conference not to forget that they will be expected to do something likely to result in practical good. It says: "It is scarcely doubtful that the tone of the Ottawa Conference will be imperialistic, but it is essential that sentiment give way to the business object of the convention, which is to promote shipping and telegraphic communication, with a view to develop trade within the Empire. . . Delegates will probably be asked to bear in mind that the primary object of the Conference is to produce a practical scheme for the Pacific Ocean cable. Upon this step others necessarily will follow. But if the attention of the Conference is allowed to wander over a whole range of interesting topics it will be vain to hope for a definite result."

Rev. Mr. McCully Resigns.

Although Rev. Mr. McCully, vicar of the Cathedral, Fredericton, has intimated to friends his intention of resigning and removing to Baltimore to engage in the practice of law, he has not yet handed in his resignation to Bishop Kingdon. There have been serious rumors in circulation in Fredericton for some days regarding a very close acquaintanceship between Mr. McCully and a pretty and popular young lady of another congregation than his own. Careful enquiry in the matter proves that many if not all of these rumors are exaggerations. The rev. gentleman's association with the young lady in question has at most been nothing more than a flirtation, and the only facts which can be pointed to in this connection are that the two have on three or four occasions been seen walking together. The fact that they lately walked through the public thoroughfare in the central cemetery, between Brunswick and George streets, Fredericton, just before nine o'clock, at which hour the gates are closed by the caretaker, gave rise to a rumor that they were put out of the cemetery by the caretaker, and many other exaggerations grew out of this one. Mr. McCully, upon learning of these rumors, realized that no matter how unfounded they were, his influence as a clergyman was seriously affected and concluded to hand in his resignation at once and remove, as intimated, to practice law at Baltimore, where he has relatives. His friends, however, advised him to await the return of Bishop Kingdon and see what course His Lordship would advise. The latter has not been formally notified of the matter as yet, but has only incidentally learned of it, and Mr. McCully who is in great distress, has not yet had any consultation with him.—St. John Globe.

Chief Justice Coleridge.

Chief Justice Coleridge, who has been seriously ill for some time past, is not expected to recover from his present illness.