

THE DISPATCH.

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AT THE GLASSVILLE FAIR.

A DRIVE THROUGH THE COUNTRY IN GRAY AUTUMN.

Signs of Thrift and Prosperity on All Sides. Passing Glimpse at Rockland.—Fine Opportunities for Cheese Factories.—The Big Cattle Show at Glassville.

This is not the most favorable time for a trip through the country on a tour of observation. The glory of the field and of the tree has departed. The ground is brown and lifeless, and the forest is "in the sere and yellow leaf". A few weeks earlier and nature was clothed in all her dying splendour. Now, she is robbed of almost all that attracts, and her devotees have forsaken her, and left her to the tender mercies of her relentless enemy—the frost.

From Woodstock to Glassville is somewhere between twenty-five and thirty miles, and the drive at the right season of the year, must be delightful. You pass through district after district of fine farming land, and knowing well that but a small percentage of available and good land, is yet in the hands of the cultivator, can form a good idea of the possibilities of this wealthy country.

The farm buildings along the way look well built and well kept. A hovel such a frequent object in poor farming countries is unknown, and every few miles the traveller sees a country house which tells plainer than words of the opulence of its owner. In my trip the other day, we crossed the ferry and drove up direct to Hartland. That is a town growing rapidly, and which is undoubtedly destined to play an important part in the future of the Upper St. John country. It is business and bustle all around, and the traders are doing a thriving trade. The road we took from Hartland goes directly back, and there is a good deal of uncleared woodland to pass through, but the greater part is open country, and as elsewhere, the farms look flourishing.

Rockland is reached after a drive of some miles. Here is one of the numerous centres which are found throughout the county. There is a post office, a couple of general stores, a mill and a blacksmith shop. Two or three nice looking new houses show that business is not done at this point. The Free Baptists are just finishing the erection of a pretty parsonage, which will be a happy companion in architecture to their neat and tidy chapel.

From Rockland to Glassville the country is fertile, and the farms appear well cultivated. The roads are also, in general, well kept, though in some parts a judicious expenditure of government funds would do no harm, and would probably be welcomed by the farmers along the way, who have no railway close at hand, and can hardly expect one in the very near future. There has been a good deal of talk among the people out this way, about starting a cheese factory, but so far it has not got any further than talk. Judging from the fine pasturage it would be a good thing. And when one considers that the cost of starting a factory is not heavy, and the market for good cheese, according to Prof. Robertson is practically unlimited, it is surprising that one has not been erected in the neighbourhood before this. There is a good chance to make cheese out this way, and a good chance to raise mutton, for both of which there is said to be a good demand at present.

The agricultural exhibition at Glassville was what took us there. Glassville, be it known, is none of your common settlements. It is within the recollection of most middle aged men when Rev. Gordon Glass, Presbyterian minister undertook the settlement of that region. He brought out a number of families from Scotland, the government assisting, and the original immigrants and their descendants now make up the population of the village.

The place was simply crowded with people and teams, and stable room was at a premium. The hundreds of people who came to see the fair were fed by Mr. Love who runs the Glassville hotel, a very commodious inn, and provision for meals was also made by the ladies of the Presbyterian church, who dispensed meat and drink across the way. The cattle show, the main feature of the exhibition was held in a large field off the turn of the road as it makes for Highlands. There was some fine stock in horses, horned cattle and sheep, and much interest appeared to be taken in the awarding of the prizes by the many spectators. If all the worthy stock were brought to one mammoth show in Woodstock what a magnificent advertisement it would be for the county! Aberdeen would play second fiddle to no other parish.

In the hall over Mr. McIntosh's store was the display of fancy work. There was nothing imported; it was all the handiwork of the women of the parish, and it was certainly a most creditable showing.

The fair was visited by people from all parts of the county, and Woodstock sent a large contingent. Hon. Wm. Lindsay was busy renewing old acquaintances. Dr. Colter, M. P., was admiring the babies, as well as the other stock, in which he was joined by J. T. A. Dibblee, M. P. P. Dr. Atkinson, of Bristol, another gentleman with strong political proclivities, was also on the spot, while Mr. G. W. White of Centreville, and Mr. E. S. Gillmore of Esdraclon, were engaged in studying the merits of the cattle, and in feeling the political pulse of the people.

During the day a daughter of Rev. Mr. Bearsto the Presbyterian minister, was run over by a team and injured, it is hoped, not seriously.

A grand ball in the evening brought proceedings to a close.

Woodstock and Centreville Railway.

There has been a change of affairs in Woodstock and Centreville railway affairs and new hopes have arisen in the hearts of a good many people interested, that the road will yet be put through. The annual meeting of the directors was held in the office of A. B. Connell on Wednesday last, and when the meeting was through the contract had changed hands.

A. E. Mason, of Boston, was elected director and president; — Lowell, of Boston, and P. O'Mullin, president of the People's Bank of Halifax, were elected directors. A contract for the construction of the road was signed with Killeen & Moninger. Mr. A. B. Connell was re-elected secretary. Frank Killeen, the main man in the firm, is an Irishman who went to Texas and claims that as his State. He is now engaged in building 220 miles of railway near Louisburg, N. S. He has had extensive contracts, and at one time had charge of the Gould system in Texas. Mr. Moninger is now on the ocean en route to London. It is said that a large English financial concern is at the back of these contractors.

There are a number of rumors afloat regarding the intention of the new contractors, one being that the route of the road will be changed, and that it will go up the creek as far as Marvin's brook, thence to Lakeville. It is also said that by the contract the concern is bound to spend \$6000 in car shops at Woodstock, and build three stations at least along the road.

However this may be, those qualified to give an opinion, say that work will be rushed in the spring. Mr. Killeen will be here in the course of a week, and may have more details to give.

The Woodstock Bridge.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

SIR,—I am aware that much has been written, and much more said about the "so called Woodstock bridge," and it may perhaps seem superfluous to add anything further to the comments that have already appeared from time to time. But there is at least one view of the matter which may not be generally known, and it is this: That to my certain knowledge Mr. Came has been repeatedly urged to run his temporary work across to the opposite shore in order that he might get the last span completed before the rise of water, which is always sure to take place some time in October, but instead of taking the advice of those who knew something of the St. John river, he thought he knew it all, and, with the result, that the water is up to almost freshet pitch with a large quantity of logs and driftwood running, so that it will be impossible to finish the bridge before the ice begins to make, and in the meantime those who are obliged to cross the river will have very soon to pay double fare, and, in addition, there will be a short time at least when crossing will be out of the question. Now, sir, I contend this is an outrage on the community, and unquestionably an injury to the business of the town, which might all have been avoided had Mr. Came used ordinary common sense in the prosecution of the work.

Thanking you for your valuable space, and expressing the hope that the bridge may be completed sometime before the year 2000, allow me to subscribe myself,

A PATIENT WAITER.

Provincial Appointments.

The following provincial appointments are recorded in the last Royal Gazette:—

In the county of Carleton.—George Anderson and Charles McLean, of Woodstock, Russell R. Ross, of Peel, J. R. Earl, W. Wallace Hemphill, and James Good, to be Justices of the Peace; James Good to be a Commissioner of the Parish of Wakefield Civil Court, in room of James Simonson, deceased.

In the county of Madawaska.—Levite Theriault to be Registrar of Deeds, in room of Levite J. Cyr, resigned.

TO MAKE BETTER ROADS.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER HAS A GOOD SCHEME OF ROAD REFORM.

To Have District Engineers who Will Take the Place of Numberless Supervisors, and Report to Fredericton.—The Public would Find the Change a Benefit.

More interest is being taken these days in good roads than for many years past. And this newly awakened interest is in no small measure due to the extended use of the bicycle. At least, authorities on the question of good roads in the United States say that the wheelman has created a regular revolution in the matter of road making.

For the past couple of decades people have been so intent on building railways that they had no time left for the highways. But the railway, while it has created a wonderful change on the face of the earth, has not done, by any means, all that was expected of it. If our farming operations are to be extended, it is plain that this must be accomplished in face of the fact that a railway cannot be built to every man's door.

Again, there has been and is now such an amount of "boodling" in the matter of railways, so much charter-getting and charter-selling for the selfish ends of a few individuals, such a complete overlooking of the real needs of the people in locating and building lines, that, at last, the people at large are beginning to see through it all, and disgusted with unfair treatment in the matter of railways, are demanding that the high roads be improved. It is a distinct and rapidly growing "movement," and he is not up to the times, who disregards it.

Subsidies are given to every conceivable railway, and if you have friends at court you can get a subsidy to build a road to the moon. That is if you are an influential "political wire puller," and stand well in with the party, doing the "square" thing by the party when elections are on. The more subsidies to railways, the less money remains for public highways.

The chief engineer of public works at Fredericton, Mr. A. R. Wetmore has a scheme for complete reform in the road building operations. It will not recommend itself to the politicians of the old type who value patronage but it will recommend itself to the people who want good roads. Mr. Wetmore, it is understood, thinks that the present manner of road making is not effective. He is in favor of doing away with the supervisors of great roads, and having, instead, engineers over certain districts who will spend the money only in places that require improvement, entirely irrespective of the political leanings of the people affected. These sub engineers shall report to him, and the work shall be immediately under his eye. He shall be supplied with maps of the parishes, so he can place his finger on any road, at any time. Whether Mr. Wetmore's suggestion will be adopted by the government remains to be seen. It strikes me as a most worthy suggestion. But, it will undoubtedly meet with a strong measure of opposition, especially from those members who find the patronage they dispense with regard to great roads, a most important factor in securing their elections. Then, the supervisors of great roads will object to being thrown out of a job, which many of them, no doubt, find tolerably lucrative.

Thus the good roads reform, like every other reform will not be carried without opposition. But it will likely come about in time. Education is working its work in all sections of the country. Independence in thought, and a sense of responsibility for action are two results of education. Popular rule, for many years past, has been more of a term to spout during election times than anything else. It is now coming about that the people know that they do rule, and mean to rule in deed as well as in name.

One of the first indications of an awakened public opinion on local government, is the demand that road building and "boodling" shall be once and forever separated.

Musings.

One can scarcely take up a paper without reading of some tragedy, murder or suicide, in which the revolver has been a potent factor. Within the past week, a Toronto young man was called to the door by the bell ringing, and on opening it, was met with a bullet from a revolver, which ended a young life. The assassin has so far baffled the utmost exertions of the detectives. On Friday last, in the city of Montreal, Mr. W. R. Elmerhorst president of the St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery was found dead by his coachman, with the mark of the deadly revolver bullet on his forehead. These are

but two instances of the same kind of thing happening every day. We seldom read of the revolver being put to a good use in self defence. For one time that we do hear of this, we get a hundred reports of its being the instrument of murder or suicide. It is very much fancied by those mortals who, rather than face the ills they have, flee to those they know not of. I doubt not that many a man trifling with a pistol, in a depressed state of mind, puts it to his head and pulls the trigger, who, if he had to go a longer about route to suicide, would be still living. Banish the revolver! If we fear tramps and burglars, let us arm with good old fashioned clubs, and better than all take some lessons in the manly art of which Mr. Jas. Corbett is such a satisfactory exponent.

If a member of the W. C. T. U. had been driving from Glassville to Bristol one rainy afternoon last week, she would have seen an instance of intoxication which would have made a fine point at a temperance gathering. A resident somewhere out there had been to the exhibition, and by the time he was coming home he was making a fine exhibition of himself. It would not have been so bad, had he been alone, but in his waggon with him was his wife and a little baby. The man was simply maniacal, and as he drove furiously along, yelling like a Comanche Indian, passing every other team on the road, making no attempt to clear stone, gutter or anything else, every sign of manhood seemed gone. He was lower than a beast. The rain was pouring down, the wind blowing furiously, and the poor woman with her babe hugged close to her breast, must have experienced the very iron entering her soul. How they got home I don't know, but it was a sight to make one overlook all the weak spots in the prohibition agitation, and to sympathize with the movement.

Circuit Court.

The Circuit Court opened yesterday morning at 11 o'clock Mr Justice Vanwart presiding.

The following grand jurors answered to their names, and were duly sworn: W S Saunders, Geo Palmer, Wm Love, G A White, Geo Balmain, John Lindsay, John McCormack, Williamson Fisher, Donald Munro, U R Hanson, B B Manzer, A Boyer, L R Harding, A E Jones, Howard Clark, Wm Wright, J T Garden, W B Jewett, Chas McLean, G L Holyoke, John Miller. Geo L Holyoke was elected foreman.

The counsel in attendance when court opened were Geo F Gregory, Q C; A B Connell, Q C; S B Appleby, R K Jones and F B Carvell. Hon A G Blair, Q C, arrived during the judge's address so the grand jury.

The judge, in addressing the grand jury, immediately referred to the cases which the jury would have to deal with. The first case was the Queen v Wm Boyd, rape. The next case was Queen v Elias Worth, a similar offence. He explained the law as it bore on this subject. The next case was John S Leighton v Jas H Crockett, criminal libel. His honor read definitions of libel as given in statutes. It was a recognized rule, quite universally adopted by those more experienced than himself to make little or no comment on the question of libel, but to leave the matter simply for the jury to determine, whether they, in their judgment think there was libel or not. There was another matter to which he thought it necessary to refer, and that was the unsanitary condition of the gaol. During the summer months there had been a great deal of sickness among the inmates. It was very important indeed the prisons should be kept in as sanitary condition as possible. It should be seen that the surroundings of the gaoler's family were as good as those of the jurymen or other citizens. It would be well for the jury to visit the gaol, examine the condition of affairs and see if some steps should not be taken to improve their condition. If they did so he would see their recommendations received due attention. The institution of the municipality should be kept in repair, even if the cost was somewhat heavy. This is the civil docket: Catherine Sullivan v Thomas Sullivan, action of assumpsit. Mary A Kibby and Geo Davis v John S Leighton jr, action of assumpsit. Wm Ryder v Michael Welch, case of assumpsit.

Statue of Sir John Macdonald.

A memorial statue of Sir John A Macdonald was unveiled last Saturday in Queens Park, Toronto, with imposing ceremonies, and in the presence of an enormous assemblage. The ceremony was performed by Sir John Thompson, who delivered an eulogy of the dead statesman. Hon. McKenzie Bowell, Sir Adolphe Caron and Sir C. H. Tupper also spoke. Hon. J. W. Ross, minister of education in the Ontario local government, likewise delivered an address. The money for the statue was raised by local subscriptions. Sir John Macdonald and Hon Geo. Brown, combatants in political life, now remain quietly and peacefully, in bronze, in Queens Park.

FREE BAPTISTS IN SESSION.

REPRESENTATIVE PROVINCIAL GATHERING AT TRACY'S MILLS.

Delegates from all Parts of the Province Fill the Free Baptist Church.—Hospitality of the People.—Forty-three Ordained Ministers in the Province.

The 62nd annual session of the Free Christian Baptist General Conference met at Tracy's Mills on Saturday last. Tracy's Mills is a pleasant place, and for pure and unadulterated hospitality, its people are notorious. But on this particular occasion all the elements of nature seem to have conspired to rob the surrounding scenery of its beauty.

The church, which had recently been the recipient of a general cleaning up, looked inviting. The walls and ceiling were tastily papered and painted, and gave the eye a good sensation as it encountered them.

A goodly number of people were present, so many that one wondered where they all would find accommodation, but after a fellow had received numerous cordial invitations to partake of the good things of life, he could not feel uneasy for other strangers present.

The officers, Rev. J. W. Clarke, moderator; Rev. John Perry, vice-moderator; Rev. B. A. Nobles, corresponding sec.; D. McLeod Vince, recording sec.; J. Patterson, treas., were present as well as the following clergymen: Revs. J. Noble, G. A. Hartley, T. Connor, J. T. Parsons, J. N. Barnes, T. S. Vanwart, T. O. DeWitt, J. McLeod, D. D.; C. F. Rideout, E. Gray, C. T. Phillips, T. W. Carpenter, J. Henderson, Henry Hartt, J. J. Barnes, J. H. Erb, O. N. Mott, G. W. Foster, G. F. Currie, W. H. Perry, Gideon Swim, A. H. McLeod, C. B. Lewis, F. C. Hartley A. B., H. A. Bonnell, A. McIntosh, L. A. Cosman, A. G. Downey, A. J. Perry, W. R. Reud, S. J. Perry, and J. B. Dagggett, licentiate.

The first district was represented by F. C. Bloodworth, clerk; S. Barker, treas, and D. Brown and R. D. Currie, delegates. The 2nd dist. by W. J. Owens, clerk; A. W. Rideout, treas, and W. J. Page, J. W. Boyer, I. E. Slipp, T. H. Belyea and L. G. Slipp, delegates. The 3rd dist. by W. Sheppard, clerk; G. F. Atherton, treas, and G. F. Sleep, J. G. Jewett and G. A. Bartlett, delegates. 4th dist. by J. F. Kenny, clerk; Abram Smith, delegate. 5th dist. by J. A. Jones and H. W. Slipp, delegates. 6th dist. by E. McLeod, treas.; A. Branscombe and J. E. McCready, delegate. There were also present: E. W. Slipp, treas. foreign miss. executive; A. C. Smith, M. P. P., B. L. Palmer and L. S. Vanwart, members of board of managers; Rev. C. F. Cooper, delegate from General Conference of Nova Scotia, and Rev. A. C. Thompson, delegate from Maine State Conference. These two latter gentlemen, after addressing the meeting on behalf of bodies they represented, were invited to a seat in the conference.

Early in the day the following gentlemen were appointed a committee on nominations: J. N. Barnes, W. J. Owens, F. C. Hartley, Mr. Kinney, L. S. Vanwart, Mr. McCready and E. W. Slipp.

On motion of Dr. McLeod, the report of Cor. Sec. B. H. Nobles was accepted. In this, the first report entered on the minutes, Mr. Nobles spoke in terms of some satisfaction of the past, and was hopeful of the future. He said, "to the most casual observer marked improvement is noticeable throughout the denominational field, especially when you contrast the present condition with that of eleven years ago, when our conference met with the church entertaining us on the occasion. At that conference only 96 churches reported, and the first district which this year reports \$460 for support of ministry, reported but \$76, while amount reported as contributed for support of ministry through out all districts was \$11,089.04 as against \$13,650.93 reported this year. At present there are 43 ordained ministers and 8 licentiates. 45 out of these are in active service and have a resident church membership of 6018. He thought it very necessary that the young people should be taught denominational loyalty. While of the 113 churches reporting this year only 56 had been blessed with increase of church membership, yet others gave evidence of christian growth by increased subscriptions. The maintenance of regular services in churches is now more uniform than heretofore. There have been, in the past year, added to the church 773 new members. There was collected: For support of ministry 13,650.93 For current church expenses 2,883.84 For buildings and improvements 6,832.96

23,372.73

(CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.)