

# THE DISPATCH.

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## THE MUSINGS OF THE IMP.

WE WILL SOON BE FORBID TO LOOK AT THE OLD MASTERS.

Puritanical Censors will Destroy Art.—Meditates on the evil Influence of the Disillusionist.—Rejoices that Winter is nearing its End.



On day last week an art dealer in Toronto was compelled by the authorities to remove from his window a number of pictures taken from paintings and statues of the most celebrated galleries in Europe. Among the artists represented were Angelo, Raphael, Murillo, Rembrandt, Durer, Vilasquez, Van Dyke, Holbein and others. The authorities say the pictures were immoral in their nature. A party by the name of Longfellow has written a poem, "The Building of the Ship." I quote:

And see! she starts!  
She starts,—she moves,—she seems to feel  
The thrill of life along her keel,  
And spurning with her foot the ground,  
With one exulting joyous bound,  
She leaps into the ocean's arms."

A certain puritanical trustee not long ago wanted it eliminated from the school reader, because, forsooth, it was immoral. It is getting worse and worse; or perhaps some one will say, "better and better." If this sort of thing keeps up it wont before I wont be allowed to read Shakespere. Then perhaps they will take the Old Testament away from me. By the time the millenium strike us our literature will be reduced to the "Pansy series," and a few facts on temperance, and our art to the demure productions on the Canadian wall paper factories.

"The days are beginning to lengthen" and as I make this innocent and comforting remark, Mr. Blue Ruin comes along and adds "Yes, and the cold begins to strengthen." But, we have had no cold of any account this winter, and although we may have a day or two or even a week, perhaps of snappy weather, winter has pretty well finished its innings. And, we are not sorry for it. It is only to the very vigorous that winter is not trying. Only twenty-three more days, and in comes March, that most fickle and deceiving of months. Skate, vigorously, young men and maidens, for the ice passeth away and the vanity thereof.

Something ought to be done with the disillusionist. He has destroyed more air castles, and pulled down more fool paradises, punctured more air bubbles, and done more damage generally than ever Falstaff's army did. He told me there was no Santa Claus, and I have been unhappy ever since. He proved to me that my doll was stuffed with sawdust and the world has been sawdusty ever since. He has laughed me out of my faith in ghosts and with my lost faith have gone the most blissful terrors of my life. He tells me there are no fairies or witches, and I am unhappy because I half believe him. William Tell never shot an apple off his little boy's head. There was no such man as Tell and he never had a little boy and there were no apples. I did not find any money at the foot of the rainbow and have been poorer ever since. I was disillusioned. I thought once that merchants always told the truth, and that the last opportunity for getting goods below cost had come, and I rushed to the store to find goods at the same old price. I thought once that preachers always practiced what they preached. I found out that they could not do it, on their salaries. I once thought that lawyers were the only men who lied. I have been disillusioned. I once thought that a woman would tell her correct age, and a newspaper the correct number of its subscribers. I have been disillusioned. I once believed a man when he told me he was without sin and blameless. I have been disillusioned. I travelled fifty miles and back to hear my hero lecture. I went, a bashful boy, to grasp him by the hand. He took it so coldly and looked so cold that I was disillusioned. Now I decline to be introduced to my heroes. I don't want to be disillusioned, and I want the disagreeable man who tells children there is no Santa Claus, and who jumps up to assure me that there are no ghosts, no fairies, no money at the foot of the rainbow, suppressed, or put in jail, or hanged, or something.

### An Awful Collision.

There was a terrible collision in the North Sea last week, the North German Lloyd steamship Elbe, colliding with the British

vessel Craithie. The Elbe sank almost instantaneously and 374 of the passengers and crew are estimated to have been lost.

The following statement of the disaster was officially given out by German Vice-Consul, Herr Bradbeer, and was corrected by him. The statement was made after sifting and cross-questioning the officers and crew, and may be classed as the consensus of the officers' opinions:—"The scene of the collision was 45 miles from Merschelling lightship. Though both the Elbe and the colliding steamer were going full steam ahead, the concussion was very slight. Immediately after the collision the Elbe began to settle down stern first, her bow mounting high into the air, and rendering it impossible to reach some of the boats. As everybody crowded upon deck immediately after the shock, and in a state of great alarm, it was impossible for the orders of the captain, who was standing on the bridge, that the women and children should be saved first, could be obeyed.

"A rush was made for the boats that were accessible. The first boat to touch the water immediately swamped, and the passengers who had crowded into it were drowned. The second boat launched was lost sight of in the high sea which was running, but it is feared that she capsized. Into the third boat, at the last moment, when the water was up to the promenade deck, the vessel sinking under their feet, and two minutes before she disappeared, there crowded 19 men, the women and children having rushed to the other side, owing, it is said, to the command that they should get into the boats there. This third boat pulled away from the ship, and in so doing shortly afterwards passed a female passenger, Miss Anna Boecker who clung to the gunwale or side of the lifeboat. Some time elapsed before she could be pulled into the boat. The twenty survivors drifted about until 11.10 a. m., the heavy seas repeatedly washing over the small craft, which was in constant danger of being swamped, and drenching its occupants, who had not a morsel of food to eat. Miss Boecker lay in the bottom of the boat, half-drowned and in a semi-conscious condition.

"The lights of many vessels were seen all around, but no one approached though after daylight a steamer and two fishing vessels passed. Their crews, however, did not notice the signals of the lifeboat. Finally the waving of a shirt from the boat attracted the attention of the crew of the fishing smack Wildflower, which rescued the survivors with extreme difficulty. After the collision an unknown steamer passed under the stern of the Elbe, and proceeded on her course, without paying any heed to the shrieks of the people on board the sinking Atlantic liner."

### Hard Mission Field.

The address given in the parish hall on Friday evening last by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Moosonee was most interesting. The bishop had a large map for the purpose of pointing out the territory over which he exercises spiritual jurisdiction, and further interest was added to the lecture by the excellent views displayed by means of a magic lantern. The lecturer explained that "Moosonee" is only an ecclesiastical term. The diocese embraces 600,000 square miles in the basin of Hudson Bay. The northern limit of the diocese is not yet defined. "When the north pole is discovered," said the bishop "I will have a church there." The principle station and where the cathedral is situated is Moose Fort. There are no roads, post offices, or farms in the diocese. Of the 10,000 inhabitants there are but 100 whites. Two or three hundred are half breeds, and the remainder Cree, Ojibway and Chippeway Indians. Of the 10,000 Indians 6000 are now Christians, 5000 of these being members of the church of England, and 1000 communicants. The Indians are often put to great hardships for a living. In the summer they go to the coast to make a sale of their furs to the Hudson Bay company. They then return to the hunting ground. Some seasons fish and food supplying animals are scarce and many of the poor natives perish. In one year as many as 300 hundred died from want of food. The bishop does not hold out much hope for the country as anything more than a feeder to the Hudson Bay company, and even the fur production is on the decrease.

The bishop has five clergy, and eleven churches. There is not much intercourse between the missionaries, for, as has already been pointed out, the electric car system has not yet reached that land. One of the clergy, a Mr. Lofthouse and his wife, live at Churchill, a point on the northeastern side of the bay. They have been there for five years, and during that time have not seen one educated white man. The present bishop, who succeeded Bp. Horden a couple of years ago, has not seen Mr. Lofthouse at all. The missions under the Bp. of Moosonee have in the past been largely supported by the church in England, but it is now not unreasonably demanded that the church in Canada should carry on the work. The audience thoroughly appreciated the lecture, and at the close a collection in aid of the work was taken up.

A collection amounting to \$26.00 was taken up in aid of the bishop's work.

## GETTING USED TO HARNESS

NEW COUNCILLORS FALL INTO LINE AND SEE DAYLIGHT AHEAD.

Road Committee Makes a Report and is Allowed to Tender for Gravel.—\$2000 for Streets.—Action Against Town.—Standard Time.—Wharf on Water Street.

The new town council came to order at 8 o'clock sharp on Monday evening, his worship mayor Saunders in the chair. There were present Couns. Vanwart, Carr, Nicholson, Jones, Leighton, Gallagher, Sutton, Payson, Bailey.

The treasurer reported that the debit balance was \$114.00.

Mr. Vanwart asked what was the debit balance at the end of the year.

The treasurer—It was about \$1700.00. The bills since paid were contracted by the old council.

The report was submitted to the finance committee.

\$53.50 has been collected by the town marshal in licenses since the beginning of the year.

A question arose as to whether the committees should report the amount they needed at once, or whether the committee of the whole should apportion the amounts at once. Finally the ice was broken by Mr. Carr submitting a report on behalf of the street committee. The committee had 80 rods of road to look to extending from the new station crossing to the old station house; 44 rods from that point to the bridge; King street from the fountain to the bridge 32 rods. Main street from the fountain to the post office crossing 43 rods. He asked leave to get 80 cords of gravel from Tedlie's bluff. The committee would require the sum of \$2000 for the streets this season.

Coun. Nicholson—Does the chairman of the street committee mean to do anything to the street from the bridge to the foot of Institute hill?

Coun. Carr—We have that under consideration.

Coun. Vanwart—I notice there is nothing provided for sidewalks; nor is anything said of the removal of the dung from the streets.

Coun. Carr—We have not given in detail the work we will do.

Coun. Jones—Will the \$2000 include sidewalks?

Coun. Carr—Yes?

Coun. Vanwart—You cannot build sidewalks without beach gravel.

Coun. Gallagher—I think by good rights the street committee should have over \$2000. I think it would be a good thing for the town to purchase a stone crusher.

It was moved that the council go into committee on Mr. Carr's report. Coun. Sutton moved in amendment that the street committee be authorized to ask for tenders for eighty cords of gravel.

Coun. Vanwart moved in amendment that the committee be authorized to ask for 150 cords.

Coun. Sutton's motion carried.

A number of bills were read and submitted to the audit committee.

On motion of Coun. Vanwart, the audit committee was ordered to make separate statements of the debts contracted last year and this year.

The council got into a wrangle over the cost of holding the elections. The usual custom has been to pay the officers who hold election for the wards \$4.00 each, those who hold the election for mayor and for councillors at large \$6.00 each. Then comes the question of room. Coun. Leighton moved that \$6.00 be paid Mr. McKinnon for the use of his house for Wellington ward and \$2.00 paid to Mr. Queen for his office for Queens ward.

Coun. Leighton's amendment was lost. The motion which now came up was that McKinnon be paid \$5.00 and Queen \$4.00. This was lost.

Then Coun. Leighton moved that the bills of these men be paid when they come in properly. This motion was carried.

The mayor announced that he had been served with a writ in the action taken by Mrs. Mary Glidden against the town for damages sustained by her falling over a hydrant. The matter was referred to a special committee composed of Couns. Carr, Leighton, Nicholson.

Among the communications to the council was one from the Board of Trade, requesting the council to adopt standard time for the use of the town.

Coun. Carr moved that the communication be placed on file and be taken up for discussion at some future meeting of the council. Coun. Vanwart seconded the motion.

Coun. Nicholson—It is a great inconvenience to the citizens to have two times. I think we can settle this matter tonight. It would be a great advantage to have standard time, and I move as an amendment that the request of the board be granted.

Coun. Jones seconded the amendment.

Coun. Carr—I am not ready for the amendment. I am well aware that this question has disturbed some of the best minds of this province. For this council to deal with the matter hurriedly is not just to the town or to the Board of Trade.

Coun. Gallagher—We live in an age of progress. Let us live up to the age and adopt standard time.

Coun. Jones expressed himself strongly in favor of the adoption of standard time.

Coun. Vanwart—I am not opposed to adopting standard time, but would really like a little time to consider the question, and to see how the citizens feel in the matter. Individually I am in favor of it.

Coun. Nicholson—I cannot see the use of making inquiries. If all our clocks were turned back at once we would not know anything of the change.

Coun. Bailey was opposed to the amendment.

Coun. Carr said if the council passed a motion adopting standard time this evening, quite likely they would do as a former council had done, repeal their vote the following evening. He favored standard time, but thought the council should not be too hasty in the matter.

On a vote being taken, Couns. Nicholson, Jones and Gallagher voted for the amendment. The main motion was carried.

A matter of the Star Line Steamship Coy. represented by Geo. Anderson, with respect to the transfer of lease the wharf was referred to a special committee, Couns. Jones, Bailey and Gallagher.

Edward Botreau was appointed a constable.

Coun. Carr moved that \$60 be expended on the lumber work for a wharf on Water street where the old lock up was. He proposed using the refuse to filling up the wharf, and thereby build up the street. The motion was adopted.

On motion of Coun. Nicholson, the Boy's Brigade was granted the use of the town hall on Thursday evenings.

### Mock Parliament.

Rev. C. T. Phillips, deputy speaker of the Mock Parliament, came out on top at Friday evening's session. Mr. Wadleton moved the resolution of which notice had been given, coming close to a censure on the deputy speaker for his continued absence. Mr. J. J. Gallagher defended the deputy, and after other members had taken a hand in, the member for Alberta, Mr. J. A. Lindsay, moved an amendment that the government had lost confidence of parliament through its incapacity in the appointment of a deputy speaker. Mr. W. P. Jones, the premier, thought a motion of confidence could not be given without notice. The speaker ruled that the amendment was in order, but thought parliament, not the government, was responsible for the appointment of a deputy speaker. Mr. Lindsay decided to withdraw the amendment, and the original motion was voted down by a vote of 4 ayes, 9 nays.

The bill of the minister of justice affecting railways came up for its second reading. After the minister had concluded his explanation of the bill, Mr. J. A. Lindsay spoke briefly in opposition, followed by Mr. U. R. Hanson, who strongly commended the bill. Mr. J. C. Hartley moved the adjournment of the debate.

The first order of business this Friday evening will be opening of the debate on Mr. T. C. Ketchum's motion favoring the admission of Newfoundland into the confederation.

A spectator of the doings of the Mock Parliament contributes the following:—

The quarrel in the government led by Mr. Jones that has been smouldering since early in the session has again broken out, and the Hon. member from Annapolis threatens to join the McCarthys unless the minister of justice drops the Railway bill.

The post master general says he does not intend to allow the premier to take charge of the post office bill which he took so much trouble to fetch before the house.

The Railway bill will be killed in the red parlor.

The minister of finance is evidently waiting for an agreement in the cabinet before he brings down the budget. One gentleman very near the administration says the government are only looking for some reasonable excuse to dissolve as there is sure to be a large deficit.

There is evidently some disagreement in the government as a number of the members have been absent from the house from the beginning of the session.

The iron hand within the glove was felt last session when the supporters wheeled into line on the deputy speaker's vote.

### Last Marshal of France.

Paris, Jan. 28.—Gen. Can-Robert, the last marshal of France, died day-of phlebotis. He was 86 years of age and had served with distinction in the French army both at home and abroad. He was the last of the marshals of France.

### To Make Bricks.

A movement is on foot at Moncton to establish a large brick-making industry by a company with a capital of \$20,000, to be known as the Maritime Terra Cotta and Pressed Brick Co.

## PEACEFULLY PASSED AWAY

SUDDEN DEATH OF GEORGE H. SEYMOUR LAST SUNDAY.

General Expression of Grief for His Untimely End.—Remains taken to St. John. A Town that Appreciates a Public Library.

Everyone in Woodstock was shocked when it became known about noon on Sunday that George Seymour had been found dead in his bed. He had been working all day Saturday, at his business as a barber, and did not leave the shop until midnight. Those who had any conversation with him on Saturday say that he seemed in excellent spirits. Mr. Seymour boarded at Mr. Geo. W. Holmes, over Balmain Bros. store on Main street. It was his custom to get up about eight o'clock on Sunday mornings. The people at the boarding house supposed, when he did not appear, at that hour, that he had simply overslept himself. However, as he did not come out of his room, about eleven o'clock Frank Jones knocked at his door, and getting no answer looked through the keyhole, and saw Mr. Seymour, apparently lying on his back asleep. He called and knocked again, but there was no answer. The inmates of the house were now thoroughly aroused.

Mr. Holmes feared the worst. He got an iron bar and pryed open the door. Mr. Seymour was lying on the bed, dead. There was no sign of a struggle. The deceased had evidently been reading, after he had retired, as a magazine was on a chair beside the bed, and the lamp had been put out. He was lying on his back, the clothes drawn well over him, and his arms folded. It seemed that he had passed away in his sleep without a struggle. The eyes were closed.

As soon as it became known that Mr. Seymour was dead, Dr. Sprague was called in, and later on Dr. Hand and Coroner Wallace Hay. It was decided that an inquest was unnecessary. The deceased came to his end through heart failure, from which he had suffered for several years past. When the body was found, he must have been dead four or five hours. The remains were prepared for burial and late in the afternoon removed to the residence of Daniel McCarten.

Geo. Seymour had been for the greater portion of twenty years in Woodstock. He was of a kindly disposition, and a favorite with everybody who knew him, and sincere expressions of sorrow were heard, when the sad news became public. Mr. Holmes, with whom the deceased boarded, says he was one of the pleasantest and most agreeable young men, with whom he has had to do.

Two brothers have come to take charge of the remains, one from Boston and one from St. John. A service was held at the house last evening by Rev. Cimon Neales. The remains were taken to St. John by the late train Tuesday, where they will be buried.

### Town Libraries.

The Board of Trade of Fort Fairfield is interesting itself in the establishment of the public library which the intelligent people of that intelligent town demand. Says the Beacon:—

At the recent meeting of the Board of Trade steps were taken toward the actual establishment of the much-mentioned public library. At last year's town-meeting \$200 was voted by the town for a library, it will be remembered, to go with \$200 that has been donated by the Chautauque Circle and made up by private subscription. But there was a missing link in the authorizing business, and consequently the selectmen could not allow the drawing of the money. H. W. Trafton, W. T. Spear and A. O. French were appointed a committee by the Board of Trade to look into the matter, and get the selectmen to call a special town-meeting soon, to supply the missing legislation, so that the money can be drawn and the library really established, in order that the 10 per cent of the whole money expended (\$400) will be refunded by the State May 1st of this year, instead of having to wait till May 1st '96.

The committee has been at work and drafted a fine set of by-laws for the library association, and the town meeting has been called for next Monday, in G. A. R. Hall, at two o'clock p. m. It will without doubt ratify or legalize the association and its by-laws, and the library itself can soon be got under way. This special town-meeting will thus be worth \$400 to the town. \$200, or some such reasonable amount, should be raised by the town every year to be used in making additions to the library, which, before long now, will be a reality. It would be money well expended. A public library is an easily accessible and always reliable public educator.

Are we ever to have a library in Woodstock?