

Board of Works

THE DISPATCH.

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THE MUSINGS OF THE IMP.

HE EXPATIATES ON THE PAST SUCCESSFUL FLY SEASON.

Doubts the Wisdom of Saying all Things to a Man's Face.—Is Preparing to Write a Novel, in which Woodstock Characters will Figure Extensively.



It was the brilliant and cynical Pascal who remarked that if everybody knew what the other said about him there would not be four friends in the world. I often hear people boasting that they would never say anything behind a man's back that they would not say to his face. I always have my suspicions of such very frank people. And I doubt if they speak the truth. If my friends say disagreeable things about me to my face it hurts me; what they say behind my back does not hurt me for I know nothing of it. There is a good deal of philosophy in Canning's expressed wish that he might be saved from his candid friends. Now, think seriously for a moment! How could we get along if we each knew the uncomplimentary remarks made by the other? Never say anything behind a man's back you would not say to his face, is a very big sounding bit of advice, but it would not work in practical life. Oh, no! not at all.

I finally decided that my great talents should not be wasted entirely and yesterday morning I sat down and wrote the first fifty pages of a grand novel on an empty stomach. An empty stomach, by the way is a hard thing to write on; it doesn't take ink well. The name of my great literary effort will be "A scandalous temptation, or invited to spend a week with friends in Woodstock." The characters are mostly Woodstockers. The local champion liar figures prominently—now, don't everybody speak at once—and the young fellow who imagines that every girl who gazes upon him must be smitten. Then there are a couple of girls who think they are distractingly beautiful in spite of the evidence of their looking glasses, and a woman of forty winters, and hard winters at that, who poses for twenty-five and fondly imagines she is a howling coquette, and there is a local politician who thinks he can run the county, when everyone knows that he couldn't run a Sunday school picnic. Of course, I have put in a hero and a heroine with the regulation amount of beauty and quantity of charms. I haven't decided yet whether to allow them to commit matrimony or not. He is very poor indeed and "her beauty is all she has" so that it would be rather risky. Still I might fix it so that he could strike a vein of gold on his farm at Hardscrabble and so become fabulously rich. But where I am to get the duffer the money to buy the farm is more than I can tell just now.

The close season for flies—not base-ball flies, nor yet fly people, but simply flies—is ended. Ladies please make note of this, and hang up your deadly weapons—aprons, whisks, tangle-foot, deadly night shade, lavender, cob-webs and other legitimate sporting goods. The game-keeper is on the war-path and is liable to make his appearance at any time in the guise of a book agent, and any fresh bagged game lying around is sure to be seized and confiscated. Last season was a poor one and did not in most cases pay for the outfit and many poor women were ruined. Indeed economists of the Samantha Allen school have regarded this as the cause of the hard times which prevailed in many households, but the Imp with several of his progressive lady friends is slow to accept this theory. From the reports which come to this office the season of '95 has been a banner one and many of our sporty women have beaten the record of all previous seasons since the gany days when Moses provided more sport for Egyptian matrons than they really cared to attend. Large foreign shipments have been made and drinkers of milk assure me that the domestic market has been well supplied. Women, of course, differ in their methods, but according to all the rules of logic I ever studied, the woman who has patience enough to let the game accumulate for several days until the windows are shaded and there is music in the air, that woman is bound to bag more game than her sister who is covetous enough to chase for half a day a solitary fly which escaped from her neighbor's pantry. In any case, the new woman who goes around seeking what larger game she may devour is missing a lot of fun. I am not a law-breaker, nor do I wish to put temptation in my sisters' way, but if any of my friends of the feminine persuasion shall some warm day in Indian Summer find themselves loaded for flies and hankering for sport, I give them a cordial invitation all around to my office, and with a special permit from the Game Department at

Ottawa, I will furnish them with a guide who will conduct them to several offices in this town which abound in rare sport for the gentle manipulator of the apron and cob-web.

IN GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Free Christian Baptists Will Invade Woodstock.

On Friday, the sixty-third annual session of the F. C. B. general conference of New Brunswick will open in the F. C. B. church in this town. A meeting of the ministers will be held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. At 10 o'clock on Saturday morning the conference will hold its first meetings which will continue until the middle of next week. The officers of the general conference this year are: Moderator, Rev. G. F. Currie, Tracy's Mills; secretary, Rev. J. T. Parsons, Marysville; corr. sec., Rev. B. H. Nobles, Sussex; rec. sec., D. McLeod Vince, Woodstock; asst. sec., Dr. J. W. Burnett; treas., Jas. Patterson, Esq.; auditor, Hon. G. E. Foster, L. L. D. M. P. The conference has met in Woodstock on two previous occasions—in 1860 and in 1879. There will probably be upwards of a hundred visitors and they will be billeted among friends as follows:—

- Rev J J Barnes and Mrs J J Barnes with W Trecartin.
- Rev A Perry, James S Kinney with Mrs Alexander.
- Rev I Harvey, W Watt with C Whenman.
- Rev W R Reud, J B Bowser, Mrs G F Atherton with Rev C T Phillips.
- Rev Dr Howe, Delegate Maine State F W B Convention and one delegate 2nd District with Thomas Allen.
- Rev J B Daggett, G W Sharp with C R Watson.
- R W Cripps, Edward Carle, one delegate 6th District with C Oliver.
- G Elbridge, Thomas Dunlap with Elijah Bragdon.
- Nova Scotia Delegate, Leonard Dunphy with D A Grant.
- Dr Burnett with J Crawford.
- James Patterson, Mrs James Patterson with J J Hale.
- B S Palmer at Exchange Hotel.
- A C Smith, M P P, Mrs A C Smith with D W Smith.
- Hon G E Foster, Mrs G E Foster, with E J Clarke.
- Mrs Dr Secord, Mrs C Burt with Mrs John Shea.
- Clerk 5th District, one Delegate 5th District, Miss Carpenter, with James Mooers.
- Two Delegates 5th District with S G Jones.
- Two Delegates 6th District with J H Stairs, W Whittaker with E Flewelling.
- Free Baptist Delegates with L Dow.
- W F Keirstead, Col Alexander with Mrs Hugh Davis.
- J W Currier, Abner Mersereau with James Miller.
- Mrs Alexander, Mrs McFarlane with Mrs Jones.
- D W Clark with R J Lindsay.
- Rev L A Cosman with Mrs R Williams.
- Rev David Long, Mrs Long with T W Smith.
- Revs J Perry, J G McKenzie, E Gray with W F Estabrooks.
- Rev G A Hartley, Mrs G A Hartley, E W Slipp with G W Vanwart.
- Rev J T Parsons, Mrs J T Parsons with R K Jones.
- Rev T S Vanwart, F A Currie, A B, Mr W Peters, Mrs W Peters with D McLeod Vince.
- Rev T O DeWitt, James E McCready with Mrs Grey.
- Rev J McLeod, D D, Mrs J McLeod with F H Hale.
- Revs W J Halse, G F Currie with Mrs Z Currie.
- Rev J S Jones, A W Rideout with S Flewelling.
- Rev T W Carpenter, Mrs C W Ebbett, Mrs Stephen Barker with Rev J Noble.
- Revs John Henderson, C F Rideout with Elisha Thornton.
- Rev W DeWare, Treasurer 3rd District with Stephen Vanwart.
- Rev J W Clarke, Mrs J W Glarke with G A White.
- Revs Henry Hart, A G Downey, Mr Edward McLeod, one delegate 6th District with L G Slipp.
- Rev J A Robertson, G W Foster, Delegate Crouse 2nd District, Delegate Jones 2nd District with Charles Baker.
- Revs J H Erb, O N Mott, Mr W Shephard with B F Clark.
- Rev B H Nobles, G J Worden with Z Connors.
- Rev W H Perry with Charles Thornton.
- Rev G Swim with G Edward True.
- Rev A H McLeod, W J Owens with C Vanwart.
- Rev C B Lewis with J Hillman.
- Rev F C Hartley, A B, Mrs F C Hartley with G Upham.
- Rev A H Bonnell with J Bragdon.
- F C Bloodsworth, Samuel Barker, one delegate 6th District with George True.
- John W Britton with Adolphus Derrah.
- Two Delegates 3rd District with James McLean.
- Two Delegates 3rd District with Thomas Glue.
- Rev S J Perry, D S Duplisea with D Hipwell.
- Rev J N Barnes, Mrs J N Barnes with G W Slipp.
- Two Delegates 1st District with J Chestnut.
- Mrs J S Smith with Rev Dr Chapman.
- Mrs M Fenwick, Mrs E Dunfield with Thomas Nason.
- Miss Weyman, Mrs Weyman with Charles Estey.
- Isaac Lewis with C. W. Carpenter.

TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY.

ELECTORS OF NEW BRUNSWICK WILL DECIDE ON PROVINCIAL ISSUES.

A Summary of Mr. Blair's Manifesto.—Rumors as to Who Will Run and Who Will Not.—J. T. A. Dibblee in the Field With Two Good Men Behind Him.

Nomination Day will be on the 9th inst., one week from today. Election will be one week later the 16th.

An election like a death, no matter how certainly expected is always a surprise, when it is actually announced. When the St John Telegraph appeared with Mr. Blair's manifesto there was little surprise, though a good many people thought the election would scarcely be held as early as it now appears it will be. The DISPATCH with other sensible journals has urged that it would be wise policy to have a general election this autumn. There were several vacancies, which would necessitate by-elections. These would be necessary in Carleton, Victoria and Westmorland counties. Then the province would have to experience a general election after the coming session. In view of these facts Mr. Blair did well in asking the verdict of the people at once. He has chosen a good season of the year. To the argument that he should have waited until the full term of the legislature was exhausted, it may be replied, that it is the exception rather than the rule for governments to run out their full term, and that the vacancies in three large counties, necessitating by-elections is a good reason for having the whole thing done and over. Then a dominion election will be on next year and the people are much more likely to decide intelligently on provincial matter, now, than when their heads are crammed full of partyism and prejudice, as they will be in a few months hence.

In his manifesto Mr. Blair claims credit on the part of himself and colleagues for giving the people a vigorous, painstaking and business-like administration. He says, "our sessions of the legislature have been shortened while the public measures we have promoted and placed upon the statute book have been at least equal in quality and greatly superior in volume to those of any preceding government." He then proceeds to enumerate the acts passed by the present government, which he thinks have been in the interest of the province. Among the many he mentions, an act protecting the lumber lands of the province; an act to aid in the construction of railways; an act for the extension of the franchise to women in municipal elections; new highway act; an act relating to agriculture; public health act; an act to encourage dairying and establish butter and cheese factories; an act abolishing the legislative council, the office of private secretary of the lieutenant-governor, the office of clerk of the crown, Queen's printer, etc.; new registry of deeds act; new probate act; succession duties act; an act to prevent fraudulent preferences by insolvents; mechanics' lien act; act establishing liens on logs and lumber; wage earners and laborers protection law; an act to secure to widows' children the benefit of life insurance; an act to protect married women in their property and rights.

Making comparison between the controllable expenditure in 1882 the last year of the old government and 1893 the last full year of the present government Mr. Blair puts the expenditure in the former year at \$70,894.41; and in the latter year at \$59,080.42. He acknowledges that the interest on the public debt has increased to \$120,000 as against \$45,000 in 1882; but claims that in 1882 the second largest railway subsidy act ever enacted was passed, and adds "it is not too much to say that it has been in carrying out the engagement involved in that enactment that a very large portion of the additional debt has been incurred. Almost all of it, I may say, has been so incurred, if I may except the cost of a few important public works and bridges, the construction of which could not in the public interest be deferred, and being permanent and costly works could not be provided for out of current revenue. The government has so managed the finances of the province during the term that we are not only now paying \$80,000 per year more for interest on the public debt than in 1882; from \$20,000 to \$30,000 more out of current revenue upon the roads and bridges; \$20,000 to \$24,000 more than in 1882 in aid of education; \$10,000 more for lunatic asylum, not to mention aid to the deaf and dumb institution, boys' industrial home, school for the blind, public hospitals, fisheries, game protection and various other charges unknown to previous governments, aggregating over \$10,000 more, but we have done all this, I may say, substantially within the limits of annual income."

ANNUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE. This result has been accomplished without

seriously disturbing the equilibrium between annual income and expenditure, an object, the attainment of which, let me say, we have steadily kept in view. I concede that, owing to exceptional causes, such as an occasional shortage in our territorial receipts from stumpage, we have not been able to make every year's income fully balance that year's expenditure; but, if the total surplus for the past ten years be deducted from the total deficits of the same period, and an allowance is made upon the balance for the sum actually paid out of revenue into the sinking fund, it will be found that the total deficits for the full 10 years is less than \$40,000, a sum which would be entirely met by one single good year's receipts from stumpage alone. The one disturbing, and, I may say, the only disturbing influence in provincial finances, is the bridge expenditure of the province. The demands upon the chief commissioner in this direction have been so pressing for many years past that he has found it wholly impossible to meet the needs of the country and at the same time keep strictly within the limits of the annual appropriation for roads and bridges. The building of many new railways throughout the country necessarily led to the opening up of innumerable new highways in all directions so that the people might reach the stations located upon the lines of these railways, and with the opening up of new highways the building of multitudes of new bridges thereupon followed as a necessary consequence. The public works department adopted the policy of building bridges of iron and stone, in preference to wood, in as many suitable places as possible, and the government is convinced that while the present outlay, consequent upon the construction of public works of this character, is much greater, its policy will prove in the end to be much more in the interest of true economy. The government, being fully sensible of the great importance of exercising the utmost economy, will continue to direct its best energies in the future, as it has in the past, to a careful husbanding of the resources of the provinces; and to a reduction of expenditure whenever and wherever such reduction may be found consistent with maintaining the efficiency of the public service.

Under the act of last session Carleton, Kent, Gloucester counties have three members, instead of two as formerly, Victoria and Madawaska two instead of one each.

For this county, the government candidates are J. T. Allan Dibblee, the former member, Charles L. Smith and H. H. McCain. Their joint card will be found in another column. It is generally conceded that they form a capable and popular ticket. Mr. Dibblee has been found to be a first class representative ever alive to the good interests of the county. Mr. C. L. Smith is a farmer living at Lower Woodstock. He has been identified all his life with the agricultural interests of the county, and representing the agriculturists should get an excellent support. Mr. McCain is well known throughout the county as a dealer in country produce, his head quarters being East Florenceville. There is little doubt that these three candidates will be elected. One represents the lower section of the county, one the town, and one the upper section.

Mr. Geo. W. White has a card out in which he announced himself as a free lance. There are rumors of other candidates, but at the time of going to press there was not much worth taking stock in.

An Optimistic Farmer.

It is a pleasurable thing to meet a farmer who has a cheerful note in his song. An Aroostook farmer paid this office a visit within the past few days. He wanted a live Woodstock paper and, of course, subscribed for THE DISPATCH. He was not all full of the superiority of Aroostook Co. to Carleton Co., but he was full to the neck with the superiority of farming over all other callings. "I take as much care of my farm, as I do of my body," said he, "and I like farming over all other callings." This was something to do a man's heart good. He believed in mixed farming every time, and the exercising of proper judgment in putting in crops. His impression of his fellow farmers was that they rushed things to death. It potatoes were a big crop one year, twice the quantity was raised the next year. If oats sold high one year, the next year, you would see nothing but oats in the land. He goes on a different principle. "If there is a big price for any commodity this year, everyone will be for raising it next year. Now, I will do just the opposite. You will see everyone will be raising oats in Aroostook next year because they are high just now, I will do the other thing, will raise few oats and a good deal of something else. This is my policy, and it has been successful."

In the Yachting World.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—The Valkyrie will remain in Erie Basin for the winter in charge of a watchman. H. Maitland Kersey, a representative of Lord Dunraven, said to day that the reason for keeping the Valkyrie here was "to obtain a fair open race with the Defender." Mr. Kersey also said that the report that it was Lord Dunraven's hope to again sail for the America's cup with the Valkyrie was "all rubbish."

WHY THE PLUMS FAILED.

FRANK SHARP SAYS IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE DROUGHT.

An Interesting Talk with the Upper Woodstock Sage.—Apples Suited to this Climate will Always Thrive.—About Prices and Markets.

"The New Brunswick apple is never a failure." This was the remark made to me by Frank Sharp, the apple inventor of Carleton county. He was busily engaged in turning his apples into vinegar, working as hard as any of the men in his employ. "The New Brunswickers and the Wealthies never fail," he continued. "They are suited to the climate of New Brunswick, and will always bear. In a certain two acre field of mine I have raised an average of 150 barrels to the acre ever since I began to raise apples at all. Some years there have been more and some years less, but the average is as I have said."

"How is the price?" "Only fair. The fact is there are more apples produced than we have a market for. Before the McKinley tariff we used to send to the States, but we have been knocked out of that."

"Did you ever try the English market?" "Yes! Apples have been sent there, and they have brought a good price. The New Brunswick apple will sell in any market, but the trouble is we have no facilities for shipping."

Mr. Sharp thought there was no use in trying to make St. John a port for the province. Portland and Boston were the natural points for shipping.

"Then why not send them in bond to either of these ports?"

"Too much machinery about that," was the laconic reply. He then told me that the Alexanders were only one quarter of a crop, the Fameuse about an eighth, and the Peabody Greens very short. "These are delicate varieties, and the delicate varieties did not mature."

"I notice you are making vinegar. Do you find a good market for that?"

"I find a ready market for all I can make. The apple vinegar is simply soured cider, and it has properties which no other vinegar has. A man who was in California where wine is cheaper than cider, tells me that the cider vinegar is preferred there. It contains what is called malic acid which alcoholic vinegar does not, and this malic acid is considered to have great digestive virtues."

"Were the plums a complete failure this season?"

"Practically a complete failure."

"And can you name the cause?"

"I was working on that problem almost all summer and now I think I have the cause. It was the drought. And I'll tell you how I reached this conclusion. Pat McLaughlin, over the river, had some trees in a wet spot in the corner of his land. They bore while all the rest of his orchard was a failure."

"But you have had dry summers before?"

"Never so dry as this, that I can remember. At first I thought it was the insect, but now I am convinced it was the drought."

"What would you estimate the loss to amount to?"

"Well! to between 5000 and 7000 peck crates anyway."

Mr. Sharp told me that although it was a poor honey season he had had good luck. From one hive he had taken out seventy pounds.

To Benefit Ireland.

A late dispatch from London says: Every-thing points not only to one, but to two sessions devoted chiefly to Ireland. According to the Times, the land question will be settled in 1896 and this will be followed by an Irish local government measure in 1897, which will probably include the creation of a central council in Dublin. Horace Curzon Plunkett, who accompanied Gerald Balfour on his recent tour of Ireland, and who is now recognized as the adviser of the chief secretary, has developed a scheme for the establishment of an Irish Board of Agriculture, which is certain to lead to the formation of other special Irish departments. The Westminster Gazette and other Liberal organs admit that the Unionists have begun their administration of Irish affairs with a settled determination to avoid coercion by adopting the lines followed by their Liberal opponents.

50th Anniversary.

The Rev. Canon Ketchum, D.D., rector of St Andrews, recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination by the late Bishop Medley. Communications congratulating him of the event, were received from the deaneries of St. Andrews and St. John and from numerous other quarters.

A Tooth Powder of the Finest Quality is being prepared by Dr. Kirkpatrick.