

# THE DISPATCH.

VOL. 4. NO. 12.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., MAR. 16, 1898.

PRICE TWO CENTS

## Consider Yourself Unfortunate!

If you do not succeed in providing yourself with some of our

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Lawns, Muslins,  
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Before they all go. They are disappearing rapidly. Any person who wants every cent to do its full duty as a purchasing medium, should not ignore

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Best Bread Flour Made.

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Good for All Purposes.

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Choice Pastry Flours.

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## THE A. I. TEED CO. (L'td.)

## ABOUT HALF A CENTURY.

L. P. Fisher Reviews His Long Connection With Public Affairs.

Was the First Mayor.—Who Were His Associates.—Criticisms of the Public School System.—Not What it Was Meant to be.

On Thursday afternoon last, the Mayor and town council, the board of school trustees, members of the bar of this county, and a number of private citizens waited upon Mr. Lewis P. Fisher, at his residence.

The occasion was the presentation to Mr. Fisher of addresses from the town council and school board. Among Mr. Fisher's guests at the time was Mr. Justice Hannington.

His Worship, Mayor Hay, read the following address from the town council:—

To Lewis P. Fisher, Esquire, Judge of Probate for the County of Carleton and Barrister-at-Law.

DEAR SIR,—The Town Council of the Town of Woodstock on behalf of the Citizens of the town and itself, desires to express their appreciation of the efforts put forth by you during your long occupancy of the position of Mayor, for the efficient and economical administration by you of the affairs of the Town. It is rarely the good fortune of a Town to be able to obtain for so many years in succession the services of so careful, painstaking, and faithful an Administrator as this Town has found in you from the time of its incorporation in 1856 to the year 1890, a period of over twenty-four years, during all of which time you received no remuneration except the satisfaction which you must have felt in knowing that you had performed the duties of your position well and satisfactorily to the citizens whom you represented. We remember also that this is not the only capacity in which you have endeavored to conserve the interests of the Town, but owing to the fact that the Board of School Trustees, of which you were Chairman until your recent resignation, intend to present you with a testimonial of their appreciation of your service in that capacity we will not refer to that further than to say that we join them in their good wishes to you.

We cannot forget the great service rendered by you in the business management of the Sinking Fund, by which you enabled the Town to pay off the \$20,000 worth of Railway debentures without knowing hardly that they were being paid. We cannot compliment you too highly on the ability exhibited by you in the management of that fund and for which we feel exceedingly grateful.

We remember also that at all times, often at a great sacrifice to yourself and your business interests, you have been willing to render valuable assistance to the Town and to your successors in office. Your kindly courtesy and timely counsel have been important factors in engendering pleasant feelings between you and your successors, and in preventing undue extravagance.

We beg to tender you and your estimable wife our best wishes for your health and happiness.

Dated at Woodstock, N. B., this twenty sixth day of February A. D. 1898.

On behalf of the town Council.

W. W. HAY, Mayor.

J. C. HARTLEY, Town Clerk.

Dr. Hand, chairman of the school board, presented this address on behalf of the school board:—

Lewis Peter Fisher, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and Judge of Probates:—

DEAR SIR,—The members of the Woodstock Board of School Trustees, having in charge one of the most important interests of the town, feel it incumbent upon them for themselves and the citizens they represent, to address you. They would convey to you, sir, on your retirement from the position of chairman of this Board, a position the duties of which you have so long, so efficiently and so acceptably discharged, an expression of the deep sense of the loss that has been sustained by such retirement and as well of the obligation under which you have laid the community by the services so cheerfully and gratuitously rendered.

You have always during your lengthy residence in this town shown an unceasing interest in its youthful element. Hundreds who have grown to womanhood and manhood as well as those who are in the initiatory stages of education, will ever cherish with loving regard the memory of your kind counsel and assistance.

We trust that the recollection of your varied intercourse with the young people will be a constant source of pleasure to you in your retirement from active association with them.

We, as a board, will continue to recognize the impress of your wise and considerate direction of its affairs while in office, and it will be our honor and pleasure to imitate your good works as closely as we can in that regard.

We trust that this token of appreciation, with others you have and will receive, will serve when you have laid aside the harness of active conflict, to recall some pleasant memories of the past, and that they may also tend to fire the ambition of those coming after you to emulate your noble example.

You have been tried in many a hard case and your well earned reputation caused you to be selected as counsel for those in trouble. That in these trying times you bore yourself with the same calmness and dignity which we know, in you, every one in the community has recognized.

Your success as a lawyer of great repute must indeed have been gratifying to you, not only for the opportunities it afforded you of doing good, not only because it gave you a personal reward, but because it enabled you to carry out a plan of action which showed you to be possessed of that high sense of honor for which others have received the admiration of mankind.

May you, sir, who have these many claims to distinction and esteem, accept the homage of those who are gathered around you as a sign of widefelt regard and appreciation. May your vigorous frame preserve your power of doing good, and because it enabled you to carry out a plan of action which showed you to be possessed of that high sense of honor for which others have received the admiration of mankind.

Again praying that to Mrs. Fisher and yourself will be given many years of health and happiness—

We remain respectfully yours,  
W. N. HAND, Chairman.  
H. A. CONNELL,  
JOHN McCORMAC,  
W. S. SAUNDERS,  
W. DUFFA SMITH,  
WENDELL P. JONES,

Woodstock, February 26, 1898.

Mr. Fisher, could not speak for some little time, by reason of emotion. When he could sufficiently command his words, in the course of his remarks he said:—Mr. Mayor, members of the town council, Mr. Chairman and members of the board of school trustees, I see a great many young men here, who have grown up under my eyes. I am very much obliged for these addresses, and the generous appreciation of the public work I have endeavored to do. It is ancient history, but you do not, the most of you, know of the public work that I have done since I came to live here in this place. I can look over 45 or 50 years, and recollect that from the very beginning of my citizenship, or within a year afterwards, I was called upon to do public work. I was commissioner of highways, a peculiar position for a lawyer. I built the road here and I built the bridge across Uphaus creek. It was determined to build a culvert. That culvert is there now, and will be there as long as most of us are here. Farmers used to come and look at this work as it was going on, and say "that is what you get for employing a young lawyer to look after your roads." For the building of the poorhouse, you are indebted to the late H. E. Dibblee, John Dibblee and myself. The road running by here was built. The man who took the contract worked a day or two and ran off. Mr. Truesdale said he would take up the work himself, and so it went on and was named the Truesdale road. If it had continued as it was then intended the roads in Wakefield would have been in a very different state from what they are today. I was superintendent of a Sabbath School thirty years ago, and I suppose I would be yet had I chosen to stay. I was leader of the choir. Now, in saying this I am not blowing my own trumpet. It may be a marvel to you how I managed to do as much work with my large legal practice. I can say this that a young man in my early days did not come to his office at 10 o'clock and leave at 5 o'clock. They went before breakfast and stayed till night, and sometimes worked long into the night. Some reference has been made to the long time that I was mayor of the town. In the older days, before incorporation, we used to have parish meetings, which elected officers, who were confirmed by the sessions. At several of these meetings I presided. The matter of incorporation was formally submitted to the people and they determined that the town should be incorporated. The first council was elected in the town of Woodstock on the 1st of May, 1856. The councillors were W. T. Baird, Hugh McLean, W. W. Hammond, S. Bradley, W. F. Dibblee, Edward Smith. L. P. Fisher was mayor. They had their first meeting on May 19th, 1856. D. L. Dibblee was town clerk. C. H. English was town marshal. The assessment of that year. How much do you think it was? You are living in an age of progress now. The assessment was \$720. I paid last year \$400, more than that myself. Is this evolution or revolution? Has the town doubled its population since that time. It was then 1600 or 1700. Now I should say it is between 3000 and 4000. So we have gone along year by year till the assessment is now about \$16000 or \$17000 every year. The duties of the council were very different those days from what they are now. We had very frequently to try persons for offences, such as are turned over to Mr. Dibblee now. That was in addition to other duties. Had you been there, Mr. Mayor, your comicality would have been excited very frequently. I remember on one occasion we had a poor fellow, a Frenchman, up for being drunk on Sunday. He refused to swear from whom he got the liquor. He was put in gaol, and when he had been there some time, the gaoler came to me and said the prisoner would now come and swear. When the Frenchman came to me, I asked him why he did not swear in the first place. He said "the liquor seller took me up to a justice and swore me that I would not swear."

In reference to the sinking fund. It surprised a great many people as much as it surprised myself. The way the sinking fund came to be used was just this. When it was decided to take stock in the railway it was thought well to establish a sinking fund and I said I would not leave the office of mayor, unless at the public wish, until the debt was paid off. The amount of stock taken was \$20,000 and debentures were issued bearing 6% payable in 20 years. \$200 a year was put into the sinking fund. I got the money by saving it. We never had a year then that we did not have a surplus. The tax-payers were not taxed any more. I bought the bonds of the town some of them for 85% some for 90%. About the 18th year we found that the sinking fund was pretty well up. Whenever I

## UNITED STATES BILLS

Should Be Taken By Banks Here, at the Face.

Question Discussed at the Board of Trade Meeting, and a Resolution Passed.—Houlton Takes Our Money at Par.—The Rule in St. Stephen.

There was a well attended and interesting meeting of the Board of Trade on Monday evening, the president, W. Fisher, in the chair.

Communications from the St. John board re the stamping of the date on canned goods, from D. W. Campbell of the Beaver Line and from Thos. A. Peters deputy minister of agriculture, about markets for farm produce in England, were read.

The following new members were elected: Willard L. Carr, Carr & Gibson.

The following resolution moved by George Balmain and seconded by Frank B. Carvell, was unanimously carried:

Resolved, That this board represent to the various banks doing business in town the inconvenience of the discount on American funds, and ask that such funds be taken at the face.

Mr. Balmain spoke of the absurdity of this practice of charging a discount. A merchant going to the banks with U. S. bills meets another coming from the bank with Canadian currency and they change monies. The result is that our money is driven out of circulation. At present from 50 per cent. to 75 per cent. of the money in circulation is American money. Perhaps the banks do not charge the discount to make money, but I doubt if it costs  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 per cent. to exchange the money.

F. B. Carvell—The banks are semi-public institutions, and they need the public as much as the public needs them. Three quarters of the money we receive in our business to pay out is American.

W. Fisher—Two thirds of the money we pay monthly in wages is U. S. currency. We keep the American money we receive for that purpose. We pay it to the men and it comes back to us.

Wm. Dibblee favored the resolution. The only question was the best mode to pursue to reach the desired end.

J. T. Garden—The St. Stephen Bank in St. Stephen, takes American money at the face.

M. E. Smith—I think that the Bank of Nova Scotia in St. Stephen also takes American money at par. I am not positive of it, but will find out.

J. N. W. Winslow—I think the banks are agreed that it would be far better to do away with the discount, but they claim that they must charge the discount to recoup them for the cost of exchanging. If we can get support generally in asking for this change it might be brought about, but I doubt if one town can have much effect on the banks.

Mr. Carvell called attention to the peculiar situation of Woodstock, so close to the border, St. Stephen being the only other town in a similar position.

Mr. Balmain—If the St. Stephen banks takes this money at par, and other banks will not, it might be well to consider the question of asking them to establish an agency. Thirty or forty accounts would probably bring them. We have the remedy in our own hands.

Mayor Hay thought we should be used the same as St. Stephen. It was a great inconvenience as it now is. It would be well to find out positively what course the bank of Nova Scotia, adopts in St. Stephen.

The president and secretary were appointed to decide upon the most advantageous mode of approaching the banks, on the subject.

## A Happy Send Off.

Charles Munro, late of The Baird Co., and John Lee, late of the firm of Burr & Lee, were given a farewell supper by Ivanhoe Lodge, K. of P., at Lee's Restaurant, on Tuesday evening of last week, on the eve of their departure for the west. A large number of the members were present to bid farewell to two of the most popular members of the order. Chancellor Commander W. P. Jones, officiated as toast master. Harry Lee did a very snug trade at the piano and solos were rendered by Miss Clynick and Fred Mooers. The toasts were:—

The Queen—God Save the Queen.

Departing Brethren:—John Lee and Chas. Munro.

Past Chancellors:—W. B. Nicholson, Past Grand Chancellor; and J. C. Hartley, H. V. Mooers, Frank Foster and E. R. Holyoke, Past Chancellors.

The Press:—John Malaney, of the Sentinel.

The Medical Profession:—Drs. Sprague, Rankin and Kirkpatrick.

Commercial Interests:—C. J. Tabor, W. R. Snow, B. Craig, N. Brawn and S. Hull.

A very pleasant evening was put in and Messrs. Lee and Munro have left town in the knowledge that they have many friends here.

CHESTNUT & HIPWELL call attention to their fine assortment of wagons and carriages. They will soon have 50 carriages ready for market.

[Continued on Fourth Page.]