THE WOODSTOCK DISPATCH.

DESUED WEDNESDAY From the office, 46 Queen Street, Woodstock. N. I

Subscription: price \$1.00 per year. Advertising rates made known on application. Telephone. P. O. Box E.

CHARLES APPLEBY & T. CARL. L. KETCHUM, Editors and Proprietors

WOODSTOCK, N. B., JULY 6, 1898.

PUBLIC DEBATE.

There is a good deal of talk about talk, that is, talking in Parliament. It is very often designated a waste of time. Mr. Davin, M P., who knows something of talking, and who can talk a good deal on a stretch, and talk well at that, gives his reasons in the Montreal Witness, why a member of Parliament should talk, and why the people should be patient with him, even if at times he is a bore. Anything is better, he thinks, than rushing through measures, without debate.

Mr Davin is right. Before laws are put in the statute books, they should have the most ample discussion, and the people should be well informed as to the trend of the discussion.

Mr. Davin, incidentally, puts in a word for the independent newspaper. He regrets that papers are becoming less, instead of more independent. Mr. Davin is a good Conservative and a frank expression of this kind from him is worth hearing. He advocates perfectly fair reports, and claims that "it is not the business of the reporters to characterize; he makes presentation. When the Conservatives were in power and controlled the 'Empire,' a member who was also interested in the paper would be reported verbatim; another member would be told that he had made a fool of himselt. This was the danger a danger to the constitution and the country -for this partiality struck at the independence of parliament." The talented and popular member from the West has a right to speak of newspapers, for, he was many years engaged in journalism.

When either of the political parties next accuse THE DISPATCH of being on the fence, we will refer them to Mr. Davin.

published the views quoted above, the same its relation to the doings in Congress. Under the heading "Is Debate in Order?" the Herald says:-"Hitherto it has been considered among the enlightened nations of the world that an important feature in statesmanship is debate. Statesmen have developed their strength and established their ascendancy very largely in this way. The greatest men in American councils have been its great debaters. . . The great debates of the legislative department of the government are priceless national treasures. Their usefulness did not cease with the occasions that elicited them. They throw valuable light upon the history of the country and on the principles REST. that prevailed in the establishment of its government, and ought to control in the interpretation of the constitution. Their value as an instructive agency is of the utmost importance. . . In the earlier years of the republic, there was never a shadow of doubt as to the propositions we have laid down above. The country looked to its statesmen for guidance and counsel, and found these best of all in the mental encounter between the ablest of them in the halls of Congress. The introduction of a measure of vital importance was the signal for a great debate with regard to it. It was held practically without limitation, for to check it was to place restriction upon that which directly benefitted the people. There was always the danger of the tyranny of party striving to do this, but such action was regarded as a confession of a weak cause, and there was a pride of opinion, if not a consciousness of strength, that deterred public men from attempting to avail themselves of such advanvantages.'

The Herald, then, laments that a change has taken place. A bill to annex Hawaii is to be rushed through without debate. This, the Bostor journal, just quoted, strongly condemn It continues: - Such proceedings may be appropriate in a party caucus. They are unworthy the character of a great nation like the United States; they are beneath the dignity of a body such as the United States Senate once was, and such as it ought to be now. No measure like this one, entering upon a policy which involves the most momentous consequences to the nation in the future, should be considered hastily or adopted summarily. The fathers would have given it extended debate, exhaustive discussion. Their sons have deplorably degenerated in taking the reverse course with regard

Let us be patient over long discussion in our legislative bodies. Let us even be merciful to the bore. Like the poor, he will be always with us. We must not allow our disgust of the bore to lead us to such a dangerous course, as even the suggestion of curtailing ample public discussion of public affairs.

To be perfectly proportioned, a man should weigh 28 pounds for every foot of his height. on Chapel street. Apply to WM. CONNELL.

The Constable Test.

Political circles are much interested in the text case, taken to the Courts of Appeal by Premier Hardy. It is held by some that the Constable at a polling booth, in a provincial election cannot vote. If the Court sustains this it will make a material effect on close

The Ontario Election Act is obscure on the point of issue.

Section 5, which is regarded as the governing clause, on the question, reads:-

1. "No returning officer or election clerk, and no person who, at any time, either during the election or before the election, is, or has been, employed at the elections, or in reference thereto, or for the purpose of forwarding the same, by a candidate, or by any person whomsoever, as counsel, solicitor, agent or clerk, at the polling place at the election, or in any other capacity whatever, and who has received or expects to receive, either before, during, or after, the said election from any candidate or from any person whomsoever, for acting in such a capacity as aforesaid, any sum of money, fee, office place of employment, or any promise, pledge or security therefore, shall be entitled to vote at the election.

2. "The preceding provision shall not apply to deputy returning officers and poll clerks appointed under this Act, and receiving as such the fees to which officers are entitled under this Act.'

Although provision is made for the payment of constables, there is no direction for the employment of constables, except at the personal fiat of any deputy returning officer. Section 138 permits, but does not require, the deputy returning officer to call and swear in as many special constables as he deems necessary, and section 139 empowers the candidate to demand the swearing in of such special constables. Nothing is said as to the right of such constables to vote.

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I do hereby certify that my daughter, Grace Ella was cured of Eczema of several years' standing by four boxes of Dr. Chase's Ointment.

W. E. Thistle, Druggist,
Witness.

Andrew Aiton,
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Why He Fainted.

It is related of a tramp who rang doctor's About the same time that the Witness door bell and asked the pretty woman who opened the door if she would kindly ask the subject is discussed by the Boston Herald, in doctor if he had a pair of old pants he would kindly give away "I'm the doctor," said the smiling young young woman, and the tramp

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they are apt to be up then. Don't judge all men by the models dis-

played in front of a clothing store. Don't cast sheep's eyes at a girl; she may think you are a muttonhead.

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