

THE WOODSTOCK DISPATCH.

ISSUED WEDNESDAY

From the office, 46 Queen Street, Woodstock, N. B.

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

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Editors and Proprietors

WOODSTOCK, N. B., MAY 23, 1900.

NATION BUILDING.

The older people in the community can well recollect the strife, between parties over Confederation. There was a bitter struggle, more so in this province than in any other, perhaps, as it was New Brunswick which practically settled the question. Some of the best men, the most loyal and the most liberal, were strongly opposed to the scheme. It is, indeed, only of late years, that the anti-confederates have become quite silent. When the battle was on, and for several years after, they had much to commend their views. The Maritime Provinces, and particularly New Brunswick, did not gain by the confederation. The large manufacturers of Ontario, swamped the smaller concerns in this province. Had our rulers of half a century ago been wiser, had a Maritime Union been formed 40 years or so before Confederation there would have been one great province by the sea. How much we have lost by the expenditure—utterly useless and unnecessary, of maintaining three governments, it is hard to estimate. The people in the three provinces have long known that they have been paying for three systems, when one would have done the work, but the people are scarcely equal to controlling the politicians. There are perhaps 900,000 people in the Maritime Provinces,—one large city full. How many laws and statutes and ordinances are passed each year, and how much money is paid to look after these 900,000. More than this, there is a barrier between the people of each province. Different laws relate to Nova Scotia, to New Brunswick, to Prince Edward Island. Every year a new batch is turned out—generally crudely gotten up, more famous for the difficulty in getting at their meaning, than for their lucidity, until even lawyers find it difficult to keep track of the law. So rapidly do the laws accumulate, that the ordinary laymen are like the people of Rome during the rule of one of her many tyrants, who made a code of laws and then posted them up so high that the people could not read them. Nevertheless, then, as now, ignorance of the law was no excuse.

Doctors, lawyers, druggists, dentists, and all professional men moving from one province to another have to submit to "special treatment" before they can carry on their avocations. The ways of Nova Scotia or the Island are as strange to us, as the ways of British Columbia. With all the complex machinery, the wasteful expenditure in legislation, the lack of common interest, it is no wonder we are referred to as sheds and patches, or that we do not go ahead as rapidly as other provinces.

It seems too late to attempt a change. We have got into these expensive habits—brought up, as it were, in the lap of legislative luxury. We are like some family of ancient ancestry and wealth, used to many servants and retainers. If times change, they mortgage the places, the plates, the furniture, the pictures, anything, but they will not give up the servants and equipage. Still, let others profit by our example.

New provinces will soon be formed in the territories. Let them look to the Maritime Provinces and take a lesson, to be what we are not. So may we be useful even in our folly.

Australia is in for federation. It is said, they are going to be clear on this question. Their states will be something like states. There will be no three states with a beggarly population, three \$10,000 governors, three mock parliaments.

REAL LIBERTY IN THE TRANSAAVL.

What the Boers May Expect Under British Rule.

PARIS, May 20.—An able article, by M. Tallichet, appears in the Bibliotheque Universelle, the old-established Lausanne review. M. Tallichet attributes the sympathy of the Swiss with the Boers to the supposed analogy of their own struggle for independence, but he says that the analogy holds good only of the period of Swiss decadence, when Berne, for instance, was an oppressive oligarchy treating the bulk of the population just as Mr. Kruger treats the Uitlanders. He also shows the striking resemblance between the Boers and the American secessionists. But victory rested with the North. As to Russian and German outrages against the threatened oppression of the conquered Boers by England, M. Tallichet says:—

"The fate of the Transvaal when conquered and made an English colony will in no way resemble that of Finland or Alsace-Lorraine. The Boers will be compelled to treat with justice the natives, whose territories they have taken, and 'the strangers within their gates,' to use their own scriptur-

al language. But their personal, civil, and social liberty will be complete, and their share in the government ensured. They will not have to fear any police supervision or any prosecution and condemnation for lese-majeste. The conscription will not touch them, nor will there be any obligation on them to serve two years in the army, and much longer in the Landwehr. Nothing will prevent them from leaving the country if they choose, or from re-entering it, or from exercising hospitality towards their relations and friends without the necessity of permission from the authorities.

"Liberty will also be given them to proclaim their opinions, even if they be subversive, either at public or private meetings, and such meetings will have become perfectly free, which is not now at all the case in the Transvaal. They will even be allowed to conspire unfettered and to oppose the Government as many Cape Afrikanders have done for years, on the sole condition of not passing from intentions to acts, for the latter would involve judicial prosecution. And even then, they would have full liberty to defend themselves. In short, they will enjoy liberties and guarantees of personal independence such as would be sought in vain in the greater part of Europe.

"When Europe understands the real pith of the question—and it must be allowed that the English have done little or nothing to enlighten it, but rather the contrary—sympathy will veer round to them, and they will no longer be twitted with wanting to monopolize everything, although wherever they plant their flag all peoples without exception are allowed to enjoy the same advantages, protection and liberty as themselves. It is in the interest of Europe and all mankind that England should finish her work. For the Boers themselves nothing is more desirable."

A Cheap Medicine Chest.

Mrs. D. Williams, Gooderham P. O., Ont., writes: "I have used Haygard's Yellow Oil for Burns, Scalds, Sprains, Bruises, Sore Throat and for Pains in the Stomach and Bowels, and it has always given relief. My mother says it is a regular medicine chest in itself."

Kipling Under Fire.

In the Daily Telegraph recently its war correspondent, Mr. Bennet Burleigh, gave an interesting account of how, in his company, Mr. Rudyard Kipling saw the fight at Kurée Siding, both being for a time under fire.

They went in Mr. Burleigh's Cape cart. "To go voluntarily where shells are bursting, scattering fire-hail of murderous missiles, and viperish bullets dart through the air, snap, burn, and whip upon the ground, demands purpose and resolution. Mr. Kipling had both, and went forward. Fate and chance, with a little guiding, granted his desire, yielding a not too brusque first experience to the brilliant poet and author."

Again and again they drew up to exchange greetings with some Tommy and get his news.

Mr. Kipling would hand his rich plug of tobacco to the soldier, that the latter might cut off a pipeful for a smoke. How alike and straight is human nature when not warped by cultivated meannesses. Not a Tommy, hard as he might be pressed for a smoke, but cut sparingly; just a pipeful, no more—the pride of the poor man—not to rob a friendly, generous 'matey' willing to hand his baccy cake."

"Presently the correspondent and Mr. Kipling got under fire. They got within 400 yards of the enemy, the bullets flew overhead, and they had to let the cart go and escape among the kopjes.

"We were afoot upon rather bare upland, without a stone any bigger than a marble, as Mr. Kipling declared, and truly it was no place for two unarmed non-combatants. So we turned and walked south towards where I had left the cart. At first the enemy were too busy with the cavalry to pay special attention to us, but the horsemen soon getting under cover, the enemy began to prove to us what excellent long-range shots they are when nobody is disturbing their aim by firing back.

"Still, we did not suffer, except that they hurt our feelings. Then they took to shelling us two poor wayfarers, and I altered my tactics by moving zigzag to the east, and though once or twice they got near, all was well, and by-and-bye we walked down the slope and so out of sight."

Dyspepsia Eight Years.

Nine bottles of Laxa-Liver Pills cured me of Dyspepsia and Pains in the Stomach after I had suffered 8 years and could get nothing to do me any good.
Mrs. Asa Hamilton, Bear River, N. S.

The Oldest Copper Mines.

The copper mines of Sinai, on the north-west of Arabia, were worked thousands of years before the Christian era. It is stated in Comptes Rendus that those copper mines are the most ancient of which history makes mention. According to authentic documents they were worked from about 5,000 years B. C., until about 1,300 or 1,200 B. C. Their possession had been the object of several wars, but it had been abandoned for 3,000 years or account of the poverty of the ores. It was from these mines that was obtained

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the sceptre of Pepti., a king of the Sixth Dynasty. This sceptre, made of pure copper, is preserved in the British Museum. The adits still exists, as well as the ruins of the furnaces, the crucibles, the huts of the miners, and some fragments of their tools. In some of the specimens obtained there occur three ores—turquoise, copper-pyrosilicate and sandstones impregnated with copper. Among the debris have been found slags and cinders, but there is no evidence of the use of fluxes. Some of the fragments of tools contain arsenic which was used by the Greek and Egyptian alchemists for hardening copper.



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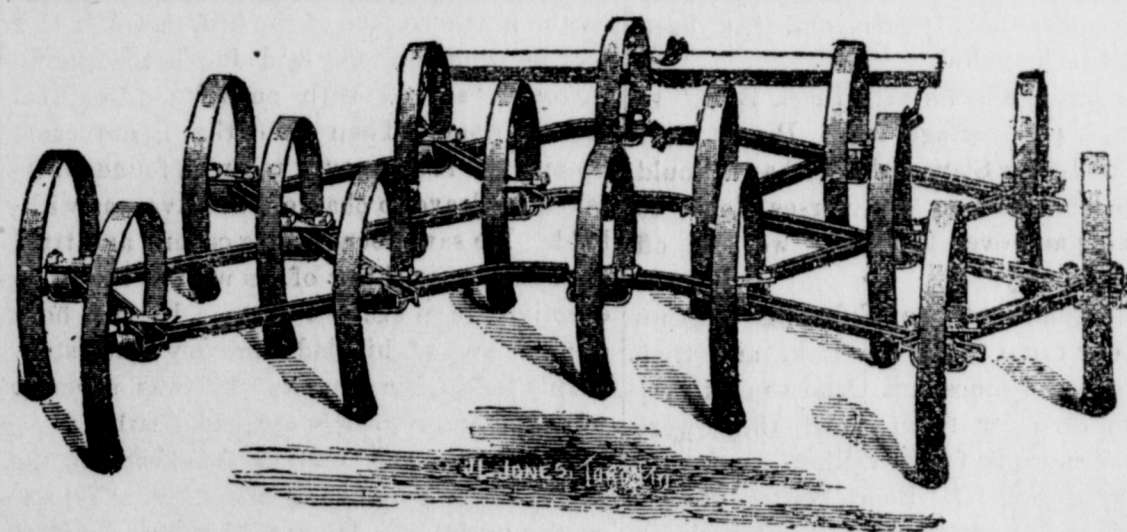
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