

FREDERICTON, N. B., November 21, 1883.

The Mayoralty.

Mayor Fisher in the Reporter Saturday formally announced his intention of retiring from civic life for the present. This was quite the correct thing for him to do, as he has served three years as Mayor, and should be well satisfied. But before he finally takes his leave of office, it would be popular and becoming for him to call a public meeting and explain to the citizens the character and importance of the works that have been undertaken during his tenure of office.

The Settlement of the Country.

The Globe never would stick to a point. When it attempts to discuss the best plan for the settlement of the agricultural lands of New Brunswick, it merges itself into an attack on the Dominion Government, and wants to know what that body has done towards the object. Will the Globe please announce when we may expect the public meeting? Up to the present time, only one candidate, Ald. Wilson, has been prominently mentioned in connection with the Mayoralty for 1884.

Printing the School Books.

The Local Government last week heard a deputation of printers, consisting of Mr. Hugh Finlay, and Mr. James Perry, representing the St. John Typographical Union, and Mr. Robert Barnes, the well known publisher, on the subject of printing the School Books in the Province. We are not aware what reply, if any, the deputation received, but there can be no doubt that their claims are just, and such as should be promptly conceded. It is a grave reflection on the skill of our own artisans in the printing and book-binding line, that all the work for the New Brunswick Schools is done abroad, even the multiplication tables used in the Public Schools, being the production of foreign workmen.

Newspaper Work.

There are very many varieties, but all are equally interested in the work of their victims. It is really surprising the intense regard this class of nuisances exhibit in their regular call on the editor. One perhaps has not a lengthy extract from some journal bearing on a subject in which he himself is deeply interested, but for which the public don't care a fig. His donation finds its way speedily into the waste basket, but that does not prevent him from calling again on a similar errand. Then we have the amateur poets and possessors, who are hard to resist, who are hawking for their effusions. The individual however whom the average newspaper man most commiserates is the notoriety seeker, who writes notices of his own movements, and asks their publication. This class of hoarse embraces quite respectable people. A particularly mean newspaper bore is one who wants to personally attack some enemy under the protection of an assumed name. That is the kind of men we always feel like sitting upon. His trade is more filthy than the street scavenger, and he ought to be summarily kicked out of every newspaper office. Then there are bores who run taunting, oyster suppers, picnics, etc., who think it a compliment to the editor to give a twenty-five cent ticket for a two dollar puff, and with these may be classed those who ask a ten inch local notice gratis, to accompany a fine line advertisement. All these bores are directly interested in the master and means of the newspaper make up, and do not enhance the regular office bore who stalls in and settles himself in the editor's easy chair, or perhaps on his desk, talks glibly of everything and nothing, his ill manners seeking the lead of his ignorance. Ward politicians, general loafers, book agents, sporting characters and that sort of people, properly come under this head. It is wonderful and expediting the number of these people who know more about running a newspaper, than the editor does to. The same class usually, are full of mischievous gossip and meddling. They retail threadbare anecdotes and senseless drivel, while their audience inwardly curses if he is a profane man, few editors are however, and pursue outwardly with pen and scissors, the even terror of his way. These people if not closely watched, will steal your exchanges and steal your tobacco. They are simply intolerable, and are worse nuisances than a hazaar begging committee.

The Sunbury Elections.

Mr. David Morrow of Ormoco, a brother-in-law of Mr. Charles Burpee, M. P., is opposing Mr. Glasser in the Sunbury Local Election, nomination for which occurs on Monday the 28th inst., and polling Monday Dec. 3rd.

An English Church Sensation.

The people of Halifax have been treated to get another sensation which proceeds this time, however, from the church. For the past two weeks visiting Episcopal clergymen have been conducting a "mission," with the consent of Bishop Binney, and under the auspices of all the Episcopal rectors but two, in the city. A Rev. Mr. Maturin is one of the missionaries, and his utterances have given rise to the sensation which has greatly shocked Protestants and awakened the interest of Roman Catholics. Mr. Maturin from the doctrines he preaches, would evidently be more at home in the Roman Catholic Church than in his present connections. He declares himself entirely in favor of abolition and the confessional and even invited his hearers to the altar. He alleged that the teaching of the Church of England, and that he would not remain within its pale one hour, but spurn it from him, if he was so dishonest as not to declare those doctrines. His authority he said for teaching these things came from the church, which he was bound to defend with his life. The church by the hands of the bishop in ordination, gave him the power to receive confessions and grant absolution. He believed that God had given him the right to absolve, and he said to every sinner that he had the power to forgive sins. It made him burn with indignation, he said, when he thought that some of the ministers of the Church of England ignored the confessional. God had commanded him to absolve the sinner, and he had the authority by the commission of his church. After the sermon he told the congregation that he would be in the church to receive confessions and grant absolutions all the next day, and urged the people not to be influenced to stay away. If they had any doubts as to his teaching and arguments, they would not go to any other minister, but to go to him as he would clear their doubts. He expressed his intense dislike to the word Protestant.

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CURRENT COIN.

The Western Union telegraph company has 12,917 offices. New York has 244 miles of street paved with granite blocks. A Maryland justice decides that a husband is liable for his wife's slander. Admiral Porter says that the American navy now is "mostly officers and water." Out of a population of 16,333,276 in Spain 11,978,168 can neither read nor write. There are 287,000 Indians in the United States, who hold 161,307,708 acres of land. In a recent South Carolina marriage the bride was seventy-five and the groom eighty-six. The daughter of Dr. Ayer, the famous pill-maker of Lowell, is now the reigning belle in Paris. The walnut tree used as a whipping post for deserters and traitors during the Revolution still stands at Fishkill, N. Y. The late J. P. Hale, of New York, left \$10,000,000 much of which sum goes to a cousin who can neither read nor write. It isn't because a woman is exactly afraid of a cow that she runs away and screams. It is because gored dresses are not fashionable. Of the 1,228 railroad companies in the United States only 250 only paid dividends in 1882, and the average rate was but 2.19 per cent. Pendragon, in the *Referee*, says that he timed the Ritchie-Cowie hundred yards sprint in England, and that it was 10 2-5 sec. For cramps, pain in the stomach, bowel complaint or chills, use Perry Davis' pain killer. See advertisement in another column. The largest oyster shell in the world is in the Church of St. Sulpice, in Paris. It weighs over 600 pounds, and is used as a baptismal font. The insurance statisticians now say that men live two years longer than they did thirty years ago, and women three years and four months longer. A woman applied for a place as street car driver. "Can you manage mules?" asked the employer. "I should smile," she said, "I've had two husbands."

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CURRENT COIN.

The Western Union telegraph company has 12,917 offices. New York has 244 miles of street paved with granite blocks. A Maryland justice decides that a husband is liable for his wife's slander. Admiral Porter says that the American navy now is "mostly officers and water." Out of a population of 16,333,276 in Spain 11,978,168 can neither read nor write. There are 287,000 Indians in the United States, who hold 161,307,708 acres of land. In a recent South Carolina marriage the bride was seventy-five and the groom eighty-six. The daughter of Dr. Ayer, the famous pill-maker of Lowell, is now the reigning belle in Paris. The walnut tree used as a whipping post for deserters and traitors during the Revolution still stands at Fishkill, N. Y. The late J. P. Hale, of New York, left \$10,000,000 much of which sum goes to a cousin who can neither read nor write. It isn't because a woman is exactly afraid of a cow that she runs away and screams. It is because gored dresses are not fashionable. Of the 1,228 railroad companies in the United States only 250 only paid dividends in 1882, and the average rate was but 2.19 per cent. Pendragon, in the *Referee*, says that he timed the Ritchie-Cowie hundred yards sprint in England, and that it was 10 2-5 sec. For cramps, pain in the stomach, bowel complaint or chills, use Perry Davis' pain killer. See advertisement in another column. The largest oyster shell in the world is in the Church of St. Sulpice, in Paris. It weighs over 600 pounds, and is used as a baptismal font. The insurance statisticians now say that men live two years longer than they did thirty years ago, and women three years and four months longer. A woman applied for a place as street car driver. "Can you manage mules?" asked the employer. "I should smile," she said, "I've had two husbands."

The Frog Industry.

The exportation of frog meat has become quite an industry at Belleville, Ontario, and vicinity. Mr. Roderick Keen, of the Township of Seymour, has been diligently prosecuting the business for some time past. The field of his operations is the river. He has a small boat, with a net attached to the end, the frog catcher glides along the edge of the rivers and creeks in his boat and when he sees a frog, he is then carried to a small boat where they are killed and all thrown away but the hind legs, which are skinned and packed in barrels on ice, when they are forwarded to New York and Boston. The market is becoming wider every year. Huge consignments are being sent to Alexandria Bay, where tourists consider frogs a rare delicacy. The frog preferred by epicureans is the green frog with striped back.

Plain Talk from the Pulpit.

At the Mission Services in the Halifax Academy of Music Sunday, Rev. Mr. Osburn astonished his hearers with some plain talk, making a local application. Said he: "A world has fallen from its high estimate of the value of human life. People now-a-days speak of it as 'shooting' instead of 'murder.' The tone of society generally, and the language of a portion of the press, ought to be raised. He referred in the plainest and most unmistakable language to recent scandals in Halifax, and was applauded by the audience. He said, trifling with human life, in any stage of existence, was murder—murder most foul. Abortion, under any circumstances, was murder. He denounced in burning language the sin of seduction, and the state of society which winked at it. Speaking with great emphasis he declared that society was linked with the devil; society was a mass of sinners, and he asked whether on Cogswell street or Grafton street was reeking with crime! (Applause.) Taking advantage of the moment, he remarked: You applaud; and asked: But will you obey? He pleaded eloquently for personal purity, and pointed out the evil results of immorality. Men who were made in the image of God, ought to live. This address, which he preferred by the people, was several times applauded. Never before was such plain speaking heard in the academy."

The Shaw Failure.

An adjourned meeting of the creditors of F. Shaw & Bros., was held at Boston, on the 16th inst. Chairman Billings, of the Advisory Committee, submitted a report stating that the firm had so far failed to render an account of his doings as Trustee, in relation to the appointment of Mr. Forgan as Co-Trustee, Mr. Wyman produced a large number of names of persons objecting, who he said had written to him, and sent very small amounts, and a considerable portion not appearing on the books. The committee recommended that H. A. Piper be authorized to examine and audit the accounts of the Trustee, Chairman Billings then presented to the meeting the following from the counsel of the Shaws which Mr. Billings said the committee had no opportunity to consider.

The Armaton of Europe.

A French economist, M. Neyrac, makes some calculations in the *Journal des Economistes* touching the present cost of keeping the peace in Europe generally, the bearing of which on the growth of the great nations. They are startling enough for those who are uneasy—as many are—about the stability of our present social organization, and the progress of commercial and industrial life. There is now spent annually in Europe on the maintenance of fleets and armies nearly \$900,000,000; nearly 3,200,000 men are employed in the service of the ships, most of them very costly, are devoted to military purposes. In this no count is taken of the loss caused by the withdrawal of these men, all in the flower of their youth, from the pursuits of industry.

The Armaton of Europe.

Every European country now has an enormous debt, contracted wholly, or almost wholly, for war or preparations for war, and the annual charges on these are nearly equal in amount to the annual cost of the army and navy. For instance, England spends annually on the army and navy (about \$142,000,000) on the interest of the public debt, \$169,000,000. Italy spends \$52,000,000