

To PATRONS.—This week's number of the Advance closes the fifth volume and marks the beginning of another business year. We therefore ask our patrons to remit their subscriptions promptly.

The yellow slip on the top of the first page indicates the date when payment was or will be due. Those who have let the time go by without paying, now owe from the date marked. Those who continue to pay in advance need only to remit one dollar for the coming year.

Miramichi and the North Shore, etc.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION. A letter from some of the parishes, received too late for this week, will appear next week.

ST. ANDREW'S.—The Ladies of St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, including a Bazaar during the Christmas holidays.

DISSEMINATED GIRE.—The Catholics of Kou Harbour have lately presented their pastor, Rev. H. A. Doucet, with a set of silver mounted harness.

THE "ADVOCATES" did not reach its Chatham subscribers yesterday and they said it did not make much difference as they had an atmospheric disturbance. There were therefore ten contented persons in the place.

PERSONAL.—J. C. E. Carmichael, Esq. of the Ontario Service, who has been spending his vacation shooting on the Tabbing beaches, has returned home.

STORM AND HIGH TIDE.—An old-fashioned castly rain storm, accompanied with high wind, visited this section of the country yesterday.

BARNES' NEW BRUNSWICK ALMANAC.—Barnes' New Brunswick Almanac for 1880 has come to hand, and will be found to contain a great variety of Statistical, Nautical, and other matter intimately connected with the Province.

McMILLAN'S AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL ALMANAC.—We have received McMILLAN'S Agricultural and Natural Almanac for 1880. It is very neatly got up, and exclusive of its value as an almanac has nautical tables of high water (mean time) at St. John, and Charlottetown, P. E. I. besides a large fund of information relative to provincial and Dominion matters, of which the Revised Tariff is not the least valuable.

CRISLY FROE.—The title of an advertisement in another column. People are promised many wonderful things in the Western Standard and things out of the usual course happen there and while the Dever land company may be entirely sincere in their offer it would be well for any who feel inclined to secure lots from them, to make enquiries as to their good faith through friends in that section before investing.

A MINIATURE SEA SERPENT has been sent to us from Red Bank, where it was found in the river. It is a foot long and about as thick as what is known as rabbit wire. It is of exactly the same size from one end to the other and resembles more a piece of violin string than any thing else that we can think of.

PRESBYTERY.—Rev. Messrs. Herdman, of Campbellton, Houston, of Bathurst, Russel of Dalhousie, Johnstone of Blackville, McKenzie of Richibucto and Fogo of Tatousiac, were in town this week attending the quarterly meeting of the Miramichi Presbytery.

CAUTION.—We learn from a friend at Chatham that a fellow calling himself W. C. Ferguson and claiming to be an agent for THE TIMES, Telegraph, News, Mohawk and certain N. Y. papers, is travelling in Miramichi. The fellow says that the Mohawk is published in THE TIMES office—an honor to which we have no claim and which appertains exclusively to the News office, St. John. Ferguson is a fraud and a scoundrel. THE TIMES has no Agents except Mr. Norman McKenzie, who is well known to most of our patrons, and who is now in Kent County.

WE have information from the Telegraph that Ferguson is a fraud.

NEW RESIDENCES.—Several new and very handsome residences have gone up in Richibucto and Kingston during the past year. In the former place those of M. Flanagan, W. J. Smith and W. G. Madison; in Kingston Messrs. Brait have a very neat and comfortable dwelling just about finished. A new school house has just been completed in this village, also, on the site of the one recently destroyed by fire. It is a handsome two-story building, with a portico and bell-tower, and is intended for two departments. The trustees were fortunate enough to have sufficient insurance on the one burned to build and complete the new one.

SILVERKEEPERS WANT IT to make their silverware bright.—Diamond Dust Polish—Miramichi Bookstore—sents a box. It is equally good for silver, silver or gold-plated ware, nickel-plated etc. For cleaning glass it has no equal. Unlike other glass, it does not wear the surface of the least; it is entirely non-corrosive, does not scratch, is applied in the most simple manner, without labor and, by being simply wiped off, leaves a surface of surprising brilliancy. We confidently recommend the polish as being an article of great merit. Send 25 cents to the Miramichi Bookstore and get a box that will last you six months. There is nothing like it for plated harness-mountings.

Entertainment of the Chatham Temperance Reformers.

On Tuesday evening the Chatham Temperance Reformers held their weekly entertainment in the Temperance Hall. Alex. Cantley, Esq., Vice-President, occupied the chair at the opening of the meeting, until the arrival of the President, L. J. Tweedie, Esq. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Jardine. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie of Richibucto and by Mr. J. U. Loggie; a recitation was given by Mr. J. U. Loggie; a solo by Miss Margaret Johnston, and choruses by the Choir. Miss C. Johnston presided at the piano.

At the conclusion of the meeting it was announced by the Chairman that next Tuesday evening the committee would be appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing quarter. There was a fair attendance.

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Distressing Accidents.

Two blasting accidents, one of which resulted in the death of Mr. Ephraim Sherrard occurred on Friday last on Mad-Lion's Stream, Northwest Miramichi. Sherrard, with two others, named Donnelly and McKenzie, who were employed by R. P. Whitney, Esq., blasting rocks which obstructed steam driving operations, attempted to draw a charge that had failed to explode, when it went off, shattering poor Sherrard in the hip, cutting his face and the left hand thumb and little finger. He was hauled twenty miles through the woods over a portage road on a sled and died soon after reaching the settlement, leaving a wife and one child.

Donnelly was hurt in the leg and McKenzie received a few wounds of no particular importance.

On Saturday, the foreman of the work, Mr. David Whitney, was absent a brother named Sparrow and a third man whose name we did not learn, drew a charge which failed to explode and in tampering a new charge with a steel bar it ignited. The explosion shattered McKenzie's hand and scalded his face and damaged Sparrow's eyes—one of them, very badly.

Dr. McDonald was called to attend such of the above as required medical treatment and Dr. Smith held an inquest on the body of Sherrard.

The Municipal Elections.

CHATHAM. John Fotheringham, Esq., the retiring Councillor, was elected Chairman of the Meeting, and D. T. Johnston, Esq., was appointed to act as Secretary. The following nominations were made:—

Wm. Lawlor, by Robert Bain, seconded by Geo. L. Britton.

Andrew H. Crimmin, by Wm. Lawlor, seconded by G. C. Smith.

Dan'l Crimmin, by Peter Loggie, seconded by Thos. F. Keary and Dan'l Desmond.

John McGowan, by R. Wilkinson, seconded by—

John McGuire, by Wm. Wyse, seconded by Charles Bernard.

Considerable interest was manifested in the contest throughout the day and the friends of Mr. Crimmin, who it will be remembered, was a candidate last year, exerted themselves with all zeal to secure the return of their man. Messrs. Lawlor and Johnston ran together on the citizens' ticket and received an excellent vote.

It was generally believed that Mr. McGowan was not serious in being a candidate, as he was quite well aware of the fact that he was disqualified, but those who encouraged him to run did so in the hope of lessening Mr. Lawlor's vote, though it is not probable that Mr. McGowan realized that phase of the arrangement beforehand. The same astute gentleman put up Mr. Stapleton last year and behaved with the same good faith towards him as they did towards Mr. McGowan on Tuesday.

Mr. McGuire was constrained to run because he had promised, some time since to do so, and was probably encouraged because he was known to be generally in sympathy with Messrs. Lawlor and Johnston's friends and it was hoped that he, too, would help to lessen Mr. Lawlor's vote and, perhaps, thereby make Mr. Crimmin second man on the poll.

The same consideration which led the majority of the Chatham ratepayers to elect Messrs. Lawlor and Fotheringham last year by a square "ticket vote" induced them to centre on the Lawlor and Johnston ticket this year and vote in a manner which showed honor and good faith, notwithstanding a number of canvasses much more clever than truthful, invented for the purpose of creating distrust and encouraging the means known as "plumping." Mr. Crimmin has reason to congratulate himself on the large vote he received and to thank the influential friends who worked so faithfully for him, and if he and they should receive extra credit for any one part of their policy it is that by those really most interested were induced to "lie low" so far as open work was concerned. The candidates received the following votes:

A. H. Johnson, 293
Wm. Lawlor, 274
Dan'l Crimmin, 183
John McGowan, 25
John McGuire, 13

There is considerable comment over the fact that Overseer Wm. Candide polled so small a vote and it is unfortunate for Mr. McGuire that he allowed himself to fall into such hands.

NEWCASTLE. In Newcastle Councillor Hays and James Brown, Esq. were returned without opposition.

NELSON. There was considerable interest manifested in the election in Nelson parish, no less than five Candidates being in the field. Their names and the number of votes polled for each were as follows:—

John O'Brien, 144
John P. Birchell, 103
John H. Hays, 85
Peter Esion, 65
Allan Saunders, 77
Councillors O'Brien and Birchell were, therefore, re-elected.

THOS. AMBROSE, Esq., was Chairman of the meeting.

SOUTH BIR. The candidates were Messrs. W. S. Brown, Jared Tozer and James Somers. Messrs. Brown and Tozer were elected.

NORTHSHIRE. The candidates were Messrs. Whitney, Anthony Adams and Jasper Maddox. Messrs. Adams and Maddox were elected.

DEERY. The candidates were Messrs. James Robinson, John Betts, Wm. Cliff and Thos. Vye. Messrs. Robinson and Betts were elected.

BLACKVILLE. Messrs. Edward Hays and W. T. Underhill were returned without opposition.

GREENGL. Messrs. Fitzpatrick and McNaughton, no opposition.

Red Bank Notes. A Redbank correspondent writing on 22nd inst., says:—

THE EARLY OATS are of good quality. THE LATE OATS are poor in quality and in many cases, have been damaged by the frost.

WHAT is of good quality and gives an excellent return for the quantity sown. POTATOES are an excellent crop of good quality.

THE POTATO BUG.—Potato bugs are very plentiful in the fields where the potatoes have been dug and are likely to be a scourge next summer.

I am informed by the fishermen that the salmon are very numerous, and very large. Both rivers are barred by the nets, Sunday and Monday, and every day, whether lawfully or not, I will not say, but large quantities must be taken, as the snow goes often. [We hope there will be no 'fang' on the salmon this year.—Ed.]

Northumberland County Court.

BEFORE HON. EDWARD WILLISTON, JUDGE. [We hold over the record until next week, for want of space.]

One of the most important cases that has been before any of our courts for a long time was that of Desmond vs. Guizot. It was an action for breach of contract the cause arising at the port of Chatham in June last. L. J. Tweedie, Esq. appeared for the plaintiff and Wm. Wilkinson, Esq., C. C. for the defendant. The witnesses examined for the plaintiff were Daniel Desmond (plaintiff) and Harry Broecker and for the defence A. H. Johnson, J. B. Snowball (French Consul Agent) Wm. Cherry, D. Crimmin and C. R. S. Joyce.

It appeared from the evidence for the plaintiff, that on a certain Sunday in June the plaintiff went down the river in the tug, Sultan, with a party which included Broecker (an interpreter) J. O'Malley, (representing Messrs. Watt's Ship Chandlery), P. Coleman and John Blako, (Stevewores) and others. The interpreter deposed that he knew the French barque Eglantine, consigned to Messrs. R. A. & J. Stewart, was below and on running down to her the party were put on board. The Captain could not speak English and he engaged Broecker as interpreter, who was to be paid \$30 for his services while the vessel was in port. Broecker having introduced the plaintiff, Desmond, as a stevedore, Captain Guizot made an agreement with him to put his cargo of deals on board and stow it at \$1.25 per standard, the plaintiff agreeing to give employment to whatever sailors belonging to the ship the captain would furnish and to allow the ship \$1. per day for them. Broecker wrote out a memorandum of the agreement in English and French and it was signed the next day on board the vessel. Broecker testifying that the captain sent for Desmond for that purpose. While the vessel was being prepared to receive the cargo the plaintiff received notice from the captain that the memorandum of agreement relating to the stowing of the cargo had not been carried out, Messrs. Stewart's Business Manager having refused to sanction it, and it being one of the conditions on which it was made that it was to be approved by the approval of the consignees, and would be prepared with men &c. to load the vessel, holding the captain responsible for damages if he were prevented from doing the work. When the vessel was prepared for loading the plaintiff, Mr. Nelson, plaintiff presented himself with his men, but was not allowed to go to work, the captain having meantime, made an agreement with Mr. Cherry (another stevedore) for the stowing, at \$1.10 a standard. Plaintiff set his damages at \$100 and swore that, calculating his own loss in consequence of the breach of contract, and that of his men, he made an actual loss of some \$24. He calculated, however, that had he been permitted to do the work it would have cost him only \$180 to stow the 224 standards which the vessel held there at \$1.25 a standard would have left him a clear profit of \$100 for 6 days, or rather 5 1/2 days—the latter being the time occupied by Mr. Nelson, plaintiff presented himself with his men, but was not allowed to go to work, the captain having meantime, made an agreement with Mr. Cherry (another stevedore) for the stowing, at \$1.10 a standard. Plaintiff set his damages at \$100 and swore that, calculating his own loss in consequence of the breach of contract, and that of his men, he made an actual loss of some \$24. 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