

Miramichi and the North Shore, etc.

NELSON NOTES came too late for this week's paper. THE PRESBYTERY OF MIRAMICHI will meet in St. James' Church Hall, Newcastle, on Tuesday next at 10 a. m.

A LITERARY AND MEDICAL ENTERTAINMENT is to be given under the auspices of St. Michael's T. A. Society, Chatham, on Monday, 10th February.

FRANC SOCIETY.—The Annual public meeting of the Miramichi Religious Tract Society will be held in the Mechanics' Institute, Newcastle, on Thursday, 6th Feb'y., at 7 o'clock, p. m.

VISIT OF THE CHATHAM DUTCHERS TO NEWCASTLE.—On Friday evening a considerable number of the Chatham Dutchers attended the weekly meeting of the Dutch Reformers at Newcastle, which was a very successful affair.

THE N. W. BRIDGE.—The Advocate says:—"Mr. Anthony Adams and Mr. John Menzies, of the North West, have been successful in obtaining the contract for repairs on the N. W. Bridge. The contract price is said to be \$7,600.

We understand that the teachers for the work ranged from about \$4,000 to \$18,000. The work is to be completed by May next.

THE SECOND LECTURE of the St. Mary's Church Sunday School Course will be delivered in the School House, Chatham, on Wednesday evening, 5th February, by Rev. Canon Brigstocke, Rector of Trinity, St. John. Season Tickets are ready, and may be obtained at the stores of Messrs. R. Hocken, W. B. Howard, M. Searle and D. G. Smith, at 75c. each. Tickets for two persons \$1.40; for four from one family, \$2.40.

MASSONIC BALL.—A Ball under the auspices of Northumberland Lodge, Newcastle, is to take place on Wednesday next at that town. It will, no doubt, be the ball of the season, as the arrangements are under the management of a very efficient committee, whose invitations have been looked forward to with little interest by the "fair sisterhood" of the Miramichi. We observe that the brethren are to appear in regalia.

Tickets for the Ball may be had at Mr. Isaac Harris', Chatham.

MONSTER BEANS.—A correspondent writes us as follows:—"Having lately seen a notice of some especially good beans raised in Nelson, I beg leave to say that Blackville is very far ahead of that. While on a visit at that place lately I was shown some specimens of Beans, two of which weighed over one hundred pounds each."

Some of our readers may be inclined to doubt what our correspondent states, but we happen to be able to vouch for its truth.

LUMBER STATISTICS.—The Advocate tries to remedy its unfortunate blunder in connection with the above subject, but cannot prevent people from assuring it that it is very silly to touch matters in which it is not at home. It now proves its name a misnomer—virtually confesses that it joined the victorious army after the battle, etc., just as the party is striving to do who is now telling his friends that he had been on the other side in the late election his bills would have been paid.

Entertainment of the Dutch Reformers.—On Tuesday evening the Dutch Reformers gave their weekly entertainment in the Masonic Hall. The chair was occupied by A. D. Shirreff, Esq., and the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. T. L. Smith.

PROGRAMME. Chorus—"Are your windows open toward Jerusalem," by the Choir. Address—By the Rev. Dr. Jardine. Solo—"Far, far from Home," by Miss Templeton; accompanied by Miss Annie Shirreff. Reading—"Paddy's leather Brooch," by Mr. Tait.

Address—By Mr. Sheppard Frost. Solo—"Come in and shut the door," by Miss Jessie Johnston; accompanied by Miss Annie Shirreff. Address—By Mr. Thos. Green. Chorus—"Eileen, sweet Eileen," by Miss Virginia of Newcastle; accompanied by Miss Annie Shirreff. Address—By Mr. James M. Troy, President of the Newcastle Dutch Reformers. Solo—"When the Kye comes Home," by Mr. S. Loggie of Newcastle; accompanied by Miss Annie Shirreff. Address—By Mr. James Henderson. Solo and Chorus—"Waiting and Watching for me," by Miss Maggie Johnston and the Choir; accompanied by Miss Annie Shirreff. Chorus—"Arise and Shine," by the Choir.

There was a very fair audience, and the programme was materially assisted by the visitors from Newcastle, who were heartily received.

County Court. The County Court of Northumberland was held on Tuesday, His Honor Judge Williston presiding. The Grand Jurymen in attendance were as follows:—John Fish, Jas. Brown, Geo. Watt, Wm. Simpson, O. Nicholson, Saml. Coppington, Chas. E. Fish, Wm. C. Atkinson, Roger Flanagan, Alex. Stewart, E. Lee Street, Thos. Deshray, James O. Fish, Jas. R. Russell, E. A. Strang, John Ferguson, D. G. Smith, James Neilson, Isaac Harris, Jared Tozer, James Brown, Esq., was elected Foreman.

The Grand Jury being sworn, were addressed by His Honor, who was quite ill from the effects of a cold, and therefore, referred only to the criminal matter which the jury were to deal. This he said was the case of a young man who was charged with entering a barn in the parish of Newcastle—by forcing open a locked door—and taking therefrom a horse and bridle and proceeding to another place in the same parish and taking a set of harness and sled, with which he attempted to leave the County. In this, however, he was prevented by the pursuit of the owner of the horse, John Sheppard, of Chatham, a young man of only 18, was arraigned and pleaded guilty to both breaking into the barn and the felony of stealing the horse, as well as the sled and harness.

His Honor asked the prisoner whether he had anything to say in extenuation of the crime before he proceeded to pass sentence.

The prisoner remaining silent, Mr. Wilkinson J. C., who was in court, kindly volunteered to explain to the prisoner his position, the latter being without counsel. After a few moments' conversation Mr. Wilkinson reported to His Honor

that the prisoner fully understood the effect of the admission of his guilt just made and had nothing to urge in excuse of his conduct.

His Honor then proceeded to pass sentence, referring to the nature of the crime just admitted, the prisoner's youth and the regret he felt to see one so young before him for sentence charged with a felony. He reminded the prisoner that it was not too late for him to amend, and expressed the hope that he would employ the time for which he was about to be sentenced in seeking the moral strength and aid necessary to enable him to lead a better life when he should regain his liberty. He referred to the interest which Mr. Ketchum, Warden of the Penitentiary, took in the reformation of prisoners and hoped Sheppard would so conduct himself as to deserve that officer's good opinion, which, he said, would result in the term of imprisonment less unpleasant and, perhaps, be the means of placing in the prisoner's hands something with which to start on a new career. The sentence was two years for breaking into Mr. Brown's barn and stealing his horse and one year additional for stealing Mr. McLean's sled and harness.

In the last case E. R. Murray was discharged, no one appearing to prosecute. The cases against Finlay, Loggie, A. Wright, Hugh Creighton and R. McLean, stand over.

Owing to the illness of His Honor the civil cases which were intended for trial, were withdrawn by consent of all parties interested and they stand over until the April term.

The young people of Districts No. 11 and 12 are having a very pleasant time this winter in the new hall which was commenced last April, and is now nearly completed. The men who took the most shares and greatest interest in it were, Messrs. Baker, Adams, Whitney, E. W. Sherrard, John Menzies, John McColm and others. They are going to try and get the shareholders incorporated at the next meeting of the Legislature under the name of the Northesk Union Hall Company.

There are Dutch T. R. meetings held in the Hall once a fortnight. There is also a Debating Club, also a Quadrille club which meets once a fortnight.

The committee of shareholders held a Social last week which was well patronized. The proceeds went towards paying off debt on Hall.

Reply to One who would like to know. DOUGLASTOWN, Jan. 27th, 79. To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

DEAR SIR.—In your issue of last week there appeared a communication from a Douglastown correspondent in regard to a communication of some recent date, in the Union Advocate. Your correspondent hints that the writer of the communication in the Advocate was intoxicated, and closes his communication by not merely insinuating that I was the author of said communication. Now, Mr. Editor, as I have never been on the Douglastown skating rink, and never wrote the communication in question, I hope this will have the desired effect; viz., to draw from "One who would like to know" an apology for the unwarrantable use of my name in connection therewith.

Yours, R. B. ADAMS. Commissioner Atchison Explains. NEWCASTLE, Jan. 27th, 1879. MR. EDITOR:—Please allow me through the columns of the ADVANCE to correct a misstatement made by Samuel Thompson Esq., Secy.-Treasurer to the Municipal Council of Northumberland, to the effect that he did not tell me that, as Commissioner of Roads, he had no jurisdiction over Chinaman Street, as it had not been opened to the public. I state positively that he did tell me that I had no jurisdiction over the street in question; that Campbell street was the only street, of the two spoken of, over which I had any jurisdiction. When I asked him to look at a notice I had written to hand to Judge Williston to remove his fence, he would not touch it, as he said the Judge would blame him for the whole matter. So much for Mr. Thompson's moral courage.

Alex. Atchison, Com. of Roads, Upper District, Parish Newcastle. A Suggestion. DEAR EDITOR:—I am much pleased to see that you used the editorial power so judiciously in your advice on the victim subject and am encouraged to ask for space, and should you be kind, similar criticism on my present effort to help in the Dutch ritual. I am of the opinion that if the meetings were opened and closed not only with prayer but with old-fashioned standing-up congregational singing, it would develop and sustain in the audience the devotional spirit, which would be an effectual bar to anything improper in the entertainments and prevent the risk of the recurrence of this clergyman's timely earnest, but, I agree with you, ill-judged protest, because against the instrument instead of the performers.

I trust you will second my efforts and advise the different Dutch bodies to adopt an opening and closing service; let the managing committee select well known hymns and in some cases let the people sing and be encouraged to ask for space, and should you be kind, similar criticism on my present effort to help in the Dutch ritual. I am of the opinion that if the meetings were opened and closed not only with prayer but with old-fashioned standing-up congregational singing, it would develop and sustain in the audience the devotional spirit, which would be an effectual bar to anything improper in the entertainments and prevent the risk of the recurrence of this clergyman's timely earnest, but, I agree with you, ill-judged protest, because against the instrument instead of the performers.

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undue familiarity with religious things, that should not be encouraged.—EDITOR.]

The Scarcity of Bass, etc. A North Esk correspondent, whose notes appear in another column, referring to the scarcity of bass the present season, says some persons attribute it to the mink fishermen catching the young bass in their nets, and others to the fall freshet in the river. The unwillingness of the people most interested in the Bass fishery to realize what everyone else does in regard to this matter, is somewhat strange. They ought to remember that the area covered by the Miramichi Bass fishery is but a few square miles—not ten in all. For a good while the number of nets engaged on this ground was comparatively limited, but as numerous as could be safely used if the fishery was to be maintained. For the last three or four years, however, no less than between five and six hundred nets have been fished under Government licenses, while, in far too many instances, illegal nets of small mesh have been employed, which have taken large and small fish indiscriminately. It is only a few days ago that a reliable resident of the bass fishing district called our attention to the abuse of the regulations by the catching of small bass which, he said, were bought by the shippers at various prices. On the night of the 20th inst., he saw an Indian with a two-inch mesh net, while the regulations require the size to be five inches, and this Indian had several bushels of bass not one of which, our informant stated, weighed two lbs., while the regulations forbid the catching of bass of less than two lbs. weight.

With the fishery organization as it has been for the past five or six years (an organization formed to meet the requirements of what was, a short time since, only a comparatively small interest) under the control of a head resident at St. John and officiated chiefly by persons who have, under his rule, made the interests entrusted to them a secondary consideration, we cannot hope for the intelligent administration which would, in a great measure, preserve the Bass fishery from the destruction which threatens it. We have, in the past, sought to have independent enquiry made by the Department with a view to providing remedies for existing defects in management, but without avail. Our object, therefore, in this instance, is to make plain the absurdity of looking beyond the bass fishing grounds for causes of the decline of that fishery.

Failures in Canada and United States. The following from Messrs. Dun, Wyman & Co's circular is made up by the Montreal Journal of Commerce:—"The amount of liabilities under failures occurring in the United States and in Canada, since the beginning of the crisis in 1873, say for the last six years:—

UNITED STATES. No. of Amount of Failures. Liabilities. 1873, 5,163 \$288,000,000 694 \$12,334,192 1874, 5,820 315,250,000 996 7,096,750 1875, 7,749 391,000,000 1,303 25,451,967 1876, 9,192 391,177,736 1,728 25,541,591 1877, 8,272 299,000,000 1,803 25,229,993 1878, 10,478 294,288,132 1,607 23,968,671 Totals 47,175 1,991,059,767 9,545 123,825,495

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and the amounts paid and also stating that a building had to be removed. They had now the same road that was laid out formerly and another one, besides for \$300, whereas the former award would have cost \$160 for land with \$80 for moving a building.

The motion that the prayer of the petition be granted and that an assessment for \$300 be made on the parish of North Esk, was finally passed.

RECONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ON GRANTING 6 MONTHS LICENSES. Mr. Brown moved that the resolution of Council in favour of granting licenses for 6 months only be reconsidered.

The motion was carried on a vote of 9 to 8.

Mr. Campbell moved that the resolution be rescinded, as it was only doing justice to outside parishes, and temperance men now saw the injustice which had been done.

Mr. Loggie thought it was too late, as one man from Alnwick had already paid \$20 for a 6 months license.

Mr. Fotheringham could not see any good in the resolution that the Council had passed with regard to licenses, while injustice was done to dealers in the outside parishes who had now to pay nearly double the rate fixed by Council.

Mr. Burchill said the petition had been brought in from an important body, and was not to be slighted. It was strange that Mr. Brown had been so quiet until a man from his own parish was concerned; as, however, the temperance cause had nothing to lose by licenses being granted for one year, instead of six months, therefore he would vote for rescinding the resolution.

Mr. Whitney, thought rescinding the resolution would rather favour the temperance cause, as otherwise men would sell without license.

Mr. Crocker did not know much about the Permissive Bill, but if it could not come into force till 1880, it was useless to make the people in the outlying parishes pay double for their licenses meanwhile.

The Warden asked if the person from Alnwick who got a 6 months license could have it extended by an additional payment.

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ation of the Land Committee report be postponed till afternoon.

After considerable discussion it was ordered to defer the consideration of the Land report till the evening, and the Council adjourned till one o'clock, to allow Committees to report.

THE WARDEN took the Chair at 2 o'clock. The following petitions for liquor licenses were granted.

Chas. J. Malby, Newcastle, 12 months. Saml. Russell, Dorby, " Jas. McMurray, Chatham, " Michael Lynch, Blackville, " Thos. Flanagan, Chatham, " Thos. E. Patterson, " Christopher Whalen, Ladlow, " Sarah McClosky, Ladlow, " Mathew Carroll, Nelson, 6 months. J. B. Russell, Newcastle, " Andrew Matchett, North Esk, 12 months. Jas. Foley, Blackville, "

On motion the license of Alexander Martin, Alnwick, and John Fraser, Chatham, for 6 months were reconsidered and rescinded.

On motion an application for license on behalf of Allan McIntyre, Newcastle, was referred to a committee of three consisting of Councillors Sullivan, Burchill, and Brown, to report at the usual hour for granting licenses to-morrow.

THE DOG-TAX. Mr. Hays reported that the Committee appointed to report on the petition of Daniel Hagan and others for exemption from Dog Tax, recommended that all farmers and householders in the Parish residing outside the police district of Newcastle, excepting those in the middle district between Urquhart's and Russell's Brook, be allowed to keep one dog free from tax. The petition was adopted.

PARISH GAME WARDENS. Mr. Betts moved secondly, by Mr. Scofield, that the Council appoint a game warden for each Parish who shall act in the same manner as a County game warden.

A short discussion ensued, in which it was shown the officer was necessary to prevent infringement of the game laws, and to protect game in the close season. The resolution was adopted.

THE DOG TAX. Mr. Hays reported that the Committee appointed to report on the petition of Daniel Hagan and others for exemption from Dog Tax, recommended that all farmers and householders in the Parish residing outside the police district of Newcastle, excepting those in the middle district between Urquhart's and Russell's Brook, be allowed to keep one dog free from tax. The petition was adopted.

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