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[By JAMES McLAUCHLAN.]

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WOODSTOCK, N. B., FEBRUARY 2, 1856.

NO. 23

Carleton Municipality.

SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION.

Court House, 12th January, 1856.

Council met—Warden in the chair.
Present.—Messrs. Gray, Hemphill, Bubar, Wheeler, G. M. Giberson, Gallop, Kerr, Phillips, Dibblee, Clowse, Cowperthwaite, Hay, M. Giberson, Carville, Wade.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

Auditor presented a Report on the accounts of Overseers of Poor for Wakefield, which is as follows.

The Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor for the Parish of Wakefield for 1855, have been examined by the Councillors for that Parish, agreed upon, and passed as follows:—

George Wasson expended and paid out (and now due him), £1 1 0

Due from Wm. McGee as per settlement with himself, £7 6 3

Due from Geo. Grass, per his account, 9 11

£7 16 2

The Councillors for the Parish of Wakefield have requested me to report to the Council that it is desirable to have the sums described above, as due to the Parish, paid over to the Overseers for 1855, and to ask that an order be made to that effect.

Tbos. E. PERLEY, Auditor.

On motion ordered, That the Report be accepted and its recommendation carried into effect.

On motion of Mr. Gallop, seconded by Mr. Cowperthwaite,

Resolved, That the decision of yesterday, in the matter of School District No. 5, in the Parish of Brighton, be reconsidered.—Decided in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Gallop, seconded by Mr. Cowperthwaite,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition in the matter of the said School District, be complied with, (as the proper certificates have been furnished,) and that a warrant be issued accordingly.—Carried.

On motion ordered, That the Secretary Treasurer renew the Insurance upon the Goal, ending 1st February, 1856.

On motion of Mr. Hay, seconded by Mr. Dibblee,

Resolved, That the sum of £75 be assessed upon the Lower Fire District, in the Parish of Woodstock, for Fire purposes, in accordance with the petition of the Fire Wardens for the said District.

Mr. Dibblee from the Committee appointed to make regulations for the guidance of Agents to sell Liquors, submitted the following Draft, which on motion were ordered to be accepted and to stand for the government of Agents in such cases appointed.

[The Regulations for the government of Agents relating to the sale of Liquors, published in the Sentinel of January 19th.]

Mr. Dibblee presented a List of Parish Officers for Woodstock, with additions to the number elected to which he and his colleague had agreed, and asked to have the same confirmed.—Confirmed.

On motion of Mr. Cowperthwaite, seconded by Mr. Gallop,

Resolved, That the Parish of Wakefield be assessed in the sum of £30 for support of Poor for 1856.

Assessors fees 2 1/2 per cent, Collectors 5 per cent. On motion of Mr. Hay, seconded by Mr. Gallop, Whereas great dissatisfaction prevails throughout the County from the continuance in office of the present Inspector of Schools for this County, therefore

Resolved, As the opinion of this Board, that the present Inspector should be removed from office; and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Government, signed by the Warden and Secretary Treasurer.

On motion of Mr. Hay, seconded by Mr. Gallop, Resolved, That in case of a vacancy occurring in the office of School Inspector for this County, this Board is of opinion that James McLaughlan is a suitable and competent person to discharge the duties of that office; and further

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be signed by the Warden and Secretary Treasurer, and forwarded to the Executive.

On motion ordered, That the rate per cent allowed to Assessors and Collectors for the levying of Assessments for Charity purposes be the same as that fixed for Parish purposes on the several Parishes.

On motion of Mr. Dibblee, seconded by Mr. —

Resolved, That the penalty of the Bond to be given by the several Agents appointed for the sale of Liquors be fixed at £100.

After several amendments and a reconsideration of the question, the penalty was fixed at £50.

On motion of Mr. Hay, seconded by Mr. Dibblee,

Resolved, That the Councillors for my Parish, where an Agency may be established, be a Committee to observe the labours of such Agent, and report at the next Semi-Annual meeting of this Council, their opinion as to the compensation corresponding to his services, which, with the returns of sales made by such Agent, will enable this Council to determine the amount requisite to recompense him for the discharge of such duties.

On motion of Mr. Dibblee, seconded by Mr. Hay,

Resolved, That Wm. L. Ferguson be appointed Agent for Woodstock.

Petitions were read from a number of individuals applying for the appointment, when a Ballot was taken, and Mr. Ferguson having a majority of votes was declared Agent for the Parish of Woodstock.

Mr. Clowse presented a list of Parish Officers for Northampton, which he asked to have confirmed. Confirmed.

On motion ordered, That the fine imposed upon Daniel Gillan, in consequence of his Horse breaking out of stable, and impounded for running at large, be remitted, and that an order be drawn requesting the Overseers of Poor for the Parish of Brighton to refund the same.

On motion ordered, That the Auditor be allowed £5 extra for his services, in addition to his half year's salary.

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Petitions making application for Agencies in the Parishes of Richmond, Wakefield and Brighton were read, but no appointments were made.

On motion ordered, That as the Committee appointed to procure wood for the Goal have an offer to supply the quantity required for 8s 9d per cord, they be authorized to accept the offer, and thus save time.

Mr. Gallop read a Bill to extend the Gaol limits, over the County of Carleton, accompanied by petitions to the Legislature to that effect.

On motion ordered, That the petition now introduced meet the concurrence of this Board, and that the same be signed by the Warden and Secretary Treasurer, and presented at the next Session of the Legislature, and further

Resolved, That the Bill and the foregoing Resolution be published in the *Carleton Sentinel*.

Mr. Dibblee read a petition from James Clarke, stating that he had been rated by the Assessors for Woodstock, for the sum of £100 real estate, both for Poor and Fire Tax as well as for Road Tax, of which he possessed none for 1855, and prayed that he be refunded to the amount of 10s.

On motion ordered, That he be refunded the Fire Tax, and the Road Tax after deducting £s the amount the law allows for Poll Tax.

On motion ordered, That the School Trustees in future file a Record of all School Districts with the Secretary Treasurer.

On motion ordered, That all accounts passed this Session be paid, and that the Warden and Secretary Treasurer draw for the same.

On motion ordered, That James Clarke be paid £s, for five days attendance upon this Council.

On motion ordered, That the Gaoler be allowed for one year, the use of the unoccupied part of the Public lands, near the Goal, formerly used by the Sheriff.

Council adjourned *sine die*.

The Crimea.

ACTIVITY OF THE RUSSIANS.—A letter from Sebastopol, dated the 7th December, describes the extensive works which the enemy has thrown up on the North side:—

The summit of the Plateau Constantine is now covered by a fortification to which it would be difficult to give a technical name; it is a pile of batteries and counter-batteries, of signalars and redoubts, united together, to Fort Constantine by numerous covered ways. In the rear of Fort Constantine is a small bay, in which there are several large storehouses. There are two batteries at the bottom of this bay, and the Russians are now engaged in constructing a third. After Fort Constantine comes Fort Catherine, constructed, like it, of granite, with a double row of casements and embrasures. It has been strengthened by fresh earthworks, and the upper part—that is to say, the terrace—is filled with heavy guns *en barbette* and heavy mortars. This fort is in the form of an oblong square, with the corner opposite the port round off, while the other corner on the same side is flanked by a large crenelated tower. The part towards the land is defended by two strong towers, large ditches, and a horn-work, situated on a small tongue of land which runs out toward the port.—Two earthworks, having each fifteen guns, have been thrown up on the right and left of the fort.—A little above this fort, on an intermediate plateau, is another strong battery, and on the summit of the plateau is a large construction which serves as a sort of advanced work to the citadel. Between this fortification and those mentioned at the commencement of my letter, there is a redoubt mounted with guns of very heavy calibre. After Fort Catherine there is another point on which the Russians have cut out in the earth and rock series of fortifications on a most gigantic scale, the whole point being, in fact, metamorphosed into a citadel. There appear to be here several rows of batteries, then barracks for the troops, and then more batteries. In the rear of this point may be seen some small clusters of houses or stores, and some small vessels lying on the shore. The beach is defended by a strong battery, which extends all round the bay, as far as Fort Severnaya; which is of itself an assemblage of batteries placed one over the other, and defended on the land side by a large ditch. To the right of the Severnaya are some sunken steamers, and then another village or collection of barracks and storehouses, protected by two batteries.

All these are commanded by the citadel; which has been so much increased that all that formerly existed is now concealed behind the immense work recently constructed.

According to intelligence received from Kinburn the Russians exhibit their usual energy in casting up defensive works along the banks of the Bug, and there is reason to believe that they are equally active in throwing lines across the Spit before

Kherson, and in making redoubts to oppose the march of any force from Kinburn upon the last named city. The Dnieper is supposed to be quite impractical, and the Bug will speedily offer enormous obstacles to the advance of even the most heavily armed and lightest built gun-boats and mortar vessels. The enemy are also placing Ochotokoff in a condition of defence, and confine themselves to making works on the upper cliffs, which can scarcely be touched by the fire of our ships.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.—By an Imperial ukase, dated the 21st inst., Prince Menshikoff is appointed Military Governor-general of Cronstadt, with all the rights and powers appertaining to a General-in-Chief in time of War.

The Emperor has commanded Count Perovsky, Minister of Apanages, to issue a fresh proclamation to the peasants of the Crown domains, calling on them to raise a second corps of sharpshooters, to bear the name of the Imperial family and defend Holy Russia against the enemies of the orthodox faith.

The Ministry of War has advertised for tenders for the supply of 133 complete mortar carriages, and fittings for an immense number of others. All are to be delivered early in the spring, 5,220 cwt. of ordnance iron to be delivered at Archangel. The arsenal at this port is ready to contract for the delivery of 200,000 lbs. of Russian lead. Similar advertisements are appearing daily in the *Gazette*.

On the 16th inst., there was a solemn procession in St. Petersburg for the purpose of exhibiting to the people the colours and other trophies captured at Kars; the guns from the Peter Paul citadel boomed their accompaniments of salvoes, and squadrons of cavalry with drawn sabres escorted the procession through the streets. There was also at the same time special Divine service in the churches, at all of which the priests adverted to the recent victory of the Cross over the Crescent.

General Todleben is now at Cronstadt. He has been treated like a prince. At the banquet given to him by the pupils of the Engineer School, the Grand Duke, the inspector general of that branch of the service, proposed the health of the Russian Vauban, and proclaimed him to be the greatest warrior in the Empire.

An Imperial ukase orders a new coinage of copper to the amount of three millions of silver roubles, to be commenced as soon as the issue previously ordered shall have been completed.

The position of Austria in the Danubian Principalities becomes daily more inexplicable. Her army there, which was 80,000 strong, with 300 guns, has been strengthened to an enormous degree within the last few weeks, and preparations are making for something exceedingly like a permanent occupation of the soil. There is no room for doubt that the Government of Vienna contemplate the probability of holding these Provinces by force, not against Russia, but against the Allies. The very least we can conceive as her motive, is that of having a 'material guarantee' that her voice shall be heard in the final settlement of the war. Whatever be the result, we must make up our minds, in all speculations as to what is before us, to the ugly fact that Francis Joseph commands 100,000 men on the Lower Danube.

THE WAR IN ASIA.—The *Hamburg Correspondent* states, that in consequence of orders transmitted from St. Petersburg, Vassif Pasha, General Williams, and six of the other Pashas taken prisoners at Kars, will be taken to Moscow, and from thence to St. Petersburg. The other officers and the soldiers will remain for the winter, part at Tiflis, and the rest in the fortified places in the Caucasus.