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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., AUG. 15, 1895.

COMING ELECTIONS.

The elevation of Mr. Wood, the member for Westmorland, to the senate was announced recently and at the same time notice was given of the issue of a writ for the return of a member to serve in the Commons in his stead. The 24th of the present month was named as election day, and the opposition press are remarking upon the alacrity which the government has displayed in the matter. It is not always, not usually, in fact, that the ordering of an election follows so sharply on the occurrence of a vacancy in the representation. In this respect all governments federal or local, exercise their discretion, and it has happened in some cases that there have been long delays which have been complained of. Our own provincial government has been a frequent sinner in that regard if such delay is to be counted an offence. It is not often that, as in the case of Westmorland, there can be any complaint on the score of promptness in issuing the writ. In fact it would be more equitable as between the contending parties if all vacancies in the popular representation were filled within a few weeks.

At the time of this writing conventions of both parties have been called in Westmorland with a view to the speedy nomination of candidates. Mr. Wood's majority in the election of 1891 was so great, he having polled more than twice as many votes as his Liberal opponent, Mr. George, that it was by some expected that the government candidate would now be permitted to be returned by acclamation. But none can deny the right of the opposition to contest the election, if only for the chance of reducing somewhat the large majority now standing against them. The busy midsummer is not a favorable time for a long campaign, and doubtless the electors will be content to have the contest soon over. The newly elected member, whoever he may be, will have but a single session at most before the general election, and the politician's lot is not a happy one who has to run two elections within a year.

There are already two vacancies in the provincial legislature, one caused by the elevation of Mr. Baird of Victoria to the senate of Canada, and the other by the death of Dr. Atkinson, M. P., for Carleton. Just now it seems probable that one of the local members for Westmorland may be called to contest the seat in the Commons, and if so a third vacancy in the local house would result. So many vacancies might prompt Premier Blair to dissolve the house and surprise the opposition with a general provincial election this fall or early in the coming winter. Messrs. Stockton and his lieutenants would do well to be on the alert, notwithstanding the attorney general's expressed intention of having another session before an appeal to the people. It is to be remembered that at the last session provision was made to increase the representation of several counties whenever the next general election is held, and this fact, together with existing vacancies, might afford the wily leader the pretext for a dissolution, should he desire one.

There are rumors current which tend to give body and consistency to the vague surmise of an early provincial election. It is known that Hon. Dr. Pugsley, at present law clerk of the legislature, has accepted the nomination of the Conservatives of Kings County for the Commons. This will involve his resignation of the law clerkship at the proper time. Hon. A. S. White, it is said, would prefer the law clerkship to his present position of solicitor general. Mr. Blair some time since had selected Hon. A. D. Richard for the post of solicitor general, but the electors of Westmorland did not second his choice at that time. It is hinted that they are to be again asked to approve of Mr. Richard in that capacity. Other changes in the local government may grow out of the possible nomination of Hon. Mr. Tweedie or one of his colleagues for a seat in the Commons, and these changes would all go to strengthen the chances of a dissolution not later than January next. The political

barometer does not indicate settled fine weather for the near future.

At the convention held in Dorchester on Monday, H. A. Powell, Q. C., was chosen as the standard bearer for the Liberal party. Mr. Powell, who is 40 years of age, as a native of Richibucto.

At the Liberal convention in Moncton on Tuesday afternoon, A. E. Killam, M. P., was chosen to oppose Mr. Powell, thereby making another vacancy in the local house. Mr. Killam is a very strong man, and his chances for election are good. At the general election of 1892, for the provincial legislature, he led Mr. Powell 118 votes.

NORTH WEST CROPS.

All accounts agree that the grain crop of Manitoba and the North West will this year be a most abundant one. The season is now so far advanced that most of the wheat is already harvested and the entire yield is quite out of danger from frost. The Manitoba wheat crop has so increased from year to year as to closely crowd Ontario in the race for first place as the granary of the Dominion. In the excellence of her wheat the prairie province is undoubtedly now at the head not only of the provinces but of the world. Manitoba hard wheat has no rival. Hence her great crop of thirty million bushels becomes an important factor in the prosperity and well-being of the entire country. Without Manitoba Canada would have but one wheat-growing province, and if from drought or other cause, there was a failure there, the Dominion would be dependent upon other countries. In Manitoba we have a second Ontario so far as bread-producing goes, and are by so much guarded against the chance of scarcity.

But the Manitoba farmer can hardly grow rich, however abundant his grain harvest, while prices remain so low as they are at present. The long distance to the sea board and the heavy railway charges on transportation deprive him of the possibility of profits. This is one strong reason why the hope of a shorter and cheaper outlet through Hudson's Bay proves attractive to the Manitoba people. The alternative route, if only open for a few months of the year, would prove a check upon the Canadian Pacific, on which the farmers of the Northwest are now wholly dependent for an outlet. It is to be observed that the C. P. R. is the strong and active opponent of the Hudson's Bay railway project, which the government did something to aid by the appropriation made at the close of the session. It is worthy of remark too that the same journals which have blamed the administration for favoring the monopoly too far are now loudest in their objections to a project by which alone that monopoly can be broken and the Manitoba wheat raiser given a competitive outlet.

The hopes of those reformers who clamored for the abolition of the legislative council was largely based upon the saving to be effected thereby. It was argued with a show of reason, that the province could ill afford a legislature of two houses in the present straitened condition of the provincial finances. But those who thought that the entire expense of the upper house would be saved by its abolition were suffering under a grave delusion. Already the creation of a law-clerkship and two or more additional sessional clerkships in the assembly, with the necessary accessories spoils the face of \$2,000 a year. Then it has been found necessary to add five members to the popular branch, and the indemnity, mileage and perquisites of these alone will about equal one third of the cost of the old council. We know not what is yet to be added to the new machinery which takes the place of the old, but it is already demonstrated that little, if anything, will be saved by the abolition. Our provincial rulers should once in a while give us a taste of real economy, if only by way of variety!

With the commencement of the present month Mr. George E. Fenety, the veteran Queen's Printer, gave up his office, and Mr. Tibbitts, the deputy provincial secretary, has been appointed his successor under the new act of the legislature, it is said, at a nominal salary. The law required that the new appointee should be a practical printer, but when or where Mr. Tibbitts acquired his practical knowledge of the "art preservative" does not appear. The Royal Gazette is hereafter to be printed at the office of the Frederickton Herald, the home organ of premier Blair. What will be the saving to be effected by the change we shall know when the bills for public printing are all in.

In front of the imperial palace at Peking two massive statues of lions of supernatural size, made entirely of solid gold, have been standing since times immemorial. When the combined English and French armies advanced upon Peking in 1860 the Chinese painted these statues gray, so that the Europeans took them for bronze and left them alone. When recently the Japanese threatened an invasion of the sacred precincts of China's capital both lions were taken from their pedestals and hurriedly secreted. Now that peace again reigns supreme in the flowery kingdom the emperor has given orders to return the lions upon their former places. The value of these relics is simply incalculable.

MUSIC IN HUMAN LIFE.

What We Cannot See With the Eye, Grasp With the Hand or Comprehend With the Mind, is Revealed by Music.

(Written for the Halifax Herald Woman's Extra)
 Music spiritualizes man and lifts him above the stupefying contact with a purely material existence. Music is not of this world alone. In the play we see life with all its deformities; in the novel we hear the same wail and see the same soiled faces that confront us on the street; but music ushers us into a new region, into fields of beauty and peace; it is no longer the harsh and hard sounds of the street, the coarse and soiled faces, but new forms and new faces full of grace and beauty, that we behold and hear. Music is not German or Italian; it is human and is understood by people and races which do not understand each other in any other sphere without an interpreter.

Music is the speech of the heart, and the heart speaks in the same universal, accents of love and hope, of fear and hope the world over. Again, music is like a new sense to people. What we cannot see with the eye, or grasp with the hand, or comprehend with the mind, is revealed by music. Again, music refreshes and recreates by recalling to our mind, in vivid pictures scenes from our past life. Music alone can resurrect them from the grave. Once more we feel ourselves young, we think of love as the first stirring of passion in our breast. Oh, how music revives the hidden things of memory, and marshals forth from every nook and corner of the mind the images of the past. We hear old voices, we see departed faces, and feel their breath upon our cheeks and the touch of the vanished hand. And just step and think how many in the world have been given "the gift of music," but lack the needful dollar to improve their talents. Many of our Canadians, nay, some in our provinces would have made their mark in the world as musicians, if only they could have had opportunity. Louis Lombard says, "being in the overwhelming majority the children of the poor should receive the greatest results in all the arts and sciences"; but that does not hold true in this country as regards music, because proper tuition cannot be secured gratuitously. The government does not maintain free conservatories, thereby enabling the gifted offspring of the poor to develop their faculties. There are no subsidized music schools in this country, where only pupils evincing aptness are admitted, thus saving much time and vexation to the incapable, where rigid examinations are periodically made, and students dismissed for having failed to make the necessary progress. To raise our young Canadian nation musically to the standard of Europe, our Dominion or local government, following the European example, ought to subsidize and direct some opera houses and schools of music.

Why does Germany produce so many musicians? Max Maretzek answers the question thus: "because Germans are nurtured on music; from their infancy they hear it, not street bands and organs as our children do, but music of the highest order. Almost every town has its opera, which means at least one orchestra. The expenses are small and all can enjoy it." If instead of building gorgeous music halls, our wealthy men would provide us good music free for the working classes they would rear for themselves imperishable monuments, which would make future generations bless them.
 Mrs. Albert Dennis.
 New Glasgow, August, 1895.

Dixon's Point and Vicinity.

Aug. 8.—The farmers are about through making their hay. Generally it is a poor crop.

We are getting some showers which is a great benefit to the crops. The farmers seem to be in good spirits.

There was a picnic on Tuesday. A number of sixteen embarked aboard of a boat and set sail for Cocagne Island, arrived safe, all feeling the craving of the inner man. The tables were quickly spread on a large rock and all seated around did justice to the good things supplied to the ladies. After all betook themselves to explore the Island. Those who have been there before will remember the beautiful caves in the rocks. After enjoying themselves in various ways they all got aboard of the boat and started homeward feeling well satisfied.

Mrs. Dunn is here from the States visiting friends.

Miss Ella Taylor, of Sackville, is visiting friends here.

Miss Edith Dickie spent her vacation at home. She goes back to Dorchester to teach again.

Mr. Melbourne Dickie is home from the States.

Mr. Frank McPhadden has returned home from the States.

We had a great wedding at Mr. Henry Robichaud's on Monday. His brother-in-law, Mr. Arcad Cormier, was married to Miss Maggie Arseneau. There was a great number present.

The Ontario government is to go out of the business of manufacturing binder twine and will lease the plant to a contractor now that it has been demonstrated that the project can be well run with prison labor.

Cocagne.

Aug. 12th.—Forest fires have been raging here all last week. These fires which do an incalculable amount of damage to wood, fences, crops, etc., are deliberately set by people who care not for the loss and trouble, that is so unjustly entailed upon others, so long as they may temporarily brighten themselves, and yet, after all the damage that has been done last week, these reckless individuals will undoubtedly repeat the act again next year when it gets real dry and nice when even the ground itself will burn, and will be again allowed in our midst untouched. The sooner these scoundrels are made to toe the mark and repay all the damages they willfully do the better for the community at large.

Mrs. D. Moffat and her sister Miss Katie Johnson of Boston are visiting their parents Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Johnson of Notre Dame.

Mrs. James H. Peters and children of Maccan, N. S. are spending the summer with relatives here.

Mrs. Mary Dysart returned from a visit with friends in Notre Dame.

L. Higgins and party of Moncton drove through here on Sunday.

Provincial Secretary Mitchell was here last week in reference to the bounty to be given the cheese factories. It is not known whether he decided to give two bounties or to which factory the bounty, in case of only one being granted will be given.

Mr. Vertina's cheese maker for the Grandigue cheese and butter company, has returned home owing to a scarcity of milk at this factory.

Our school opens to-day under the management of Miss L. Daigle.

A very pleasant event took place at the residence of Mr. Blitha Murray on last Friday. The principals being Miss Lillia Murray and Mr. Arthur Smith, merchant of Notre Dame. We extend to the happy young couple our heartiest congratulations and wish them a long and happy life.

Mr. Bowen Smith, our principal lumber manufacturer and merchant has gone to P. E. I. on a trip.

A certain well known and popular young gentleman who has been most urgently pressing "his suit" for some time past, now has the tailor engaged in pressing "the suit." I hope we'll be invited.

Miss Marie Bourque, of Buctouche, was visiting Miss Emma Brooks last week.
 DIXIE.

To Sunday School Workers.

Dear Brethren: Our County Convention which meets at Buctouche Sept. 17th and 18th has a most excellent programme. A number of speakers have already promised to take part. Their names are a guarantee that the convention will be a success.

The Executive urges every school in the County to send its representatives. There are many teachers who have never yet attended a Convention. They should make an extra effort to attend this one. And they should begin to plan now.

The brethren at Buctouche will welcome all the delegates and an outing at Buctouche in Sept. will be refreshing physically as well as spiritually.

Brethren see that your school sends its representatives. Begin to talk Convention.

It is encouraging to note that many brethren have already sent in a cash contribution as per the Red Figured slips. The amounts will be published when they are all in.

Complete programmes will be published as soon as possible and in good time for the Convention.

Will all pastors, Supts and teachers pray, both publicly and privately, for a special blessing upon this convention.

Yours very truly,
 F. W. MURRAY.
 Bass River, Aug. 12th, 1895.

A Gaspé special says: The fishery on the coast this season has been almost a complete failure—not one-third of last year's catch. The outlook is extremely black, and many fear starvation unless the autumn catch is extremely good.

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We have also received a large stock of Wall Paper with Borders to Match, consisting of 3,500 rolls, among which will be found some elegant designs.

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