

while it is equally as curious a fact that there were then certain prominent Tories, — Mr. Macnutt of the *Herald*, for instance, — who are now dyed-in-the-wool Grits! I am now, as I have always been, a Conservative and opponent of the present Local Government: poorer in pocket no doubt, but rich in the conscious pride of doing right. If these conversions had been caused by honest convictions, adverse criticism would be unreasonable; but no one with a knowledge of the facts will presume to claim that a change of principle has been the underlying motive in the cases cited. Cannot the philosophic mind find extenuating reasons for the wholesale sale of votes in this county by the rank and file of both political parties, when so pernicious an example is set them by their leaders? Did not Mr. Blair, although posing as a staunch Liberal, in constructing his government in 1883 and up to the time he left it, avail himself of unprincipled Tories to bolster up his Government? It is apparent to every political student that this course has been utterly demoralizing in many of the Counties, and more especially so to the Liberal party in this constituency, creating trimmers, opportunists, and unscrupulous professional politicians.

The defeat, at the two last general elections in this county of the whole of the Blair ticket, and the complete rout in York of Mr. Blair, personally, at the election in 1892, is unquestionably but retributive justice to that Macchivalean politician, and a noble affirmation by the electors of York in favour of the honest administration of public affairs.

After securing a full discharge of all my liabilities due the person who held the lien referred to, and who having a full reliance on my honour had not recorded it, sometime after midnight of the 28th October 1889, in the presence of the elder members of my family, I handed over the keys of my old establishment to the party deputized to receive them, his employer, the holder of the lien, having come up from St. John by the evening train. This news quickly spread all over the town a few hours later, and evoked kindly expressions of sympathy and friendship from many quarters. For some of these, the reader is referred to our seventh page.

Having been refused the use of the editorial columns of THE CAPITAL, as already stated, to make such explanations as the circumstances warranted, on the grounds that this would evoke public sympathy, which would be prejudicial to the new regime, I concluded that I surely would not be debarred from its advertising columns for the simple purpose of returning thanks: so on Thursday I handed the copy of the following card to Mr. C. H. Lugin, who had been engaged to edit the paper. After deliberately reading it, that gentleman assured me it would appear in the next issue of the paper. The reader will observe that I took the precaution to indicate that this card was to be inserted among the advertisements, and, of course, to be paid for as such. On the following Saturday afternoon, I went to the store of Mr. Daniel Lucy, immediately under THE CAPITAL office, and when the first newsboy came down stairs I bought a copy, to ascertain what would be said about the change of ownership, as well as to read the advertisement alluded to. I was amazed to discover that it was not published. Instantly comprehending the gross injustice of this treatment, and that an immediate explanation should be demanded, and intuitively realizing that a witness was necessary, I called on Mr. Amos Wilson, whose bindery was in THE CAPITAL building, to act as witness; but as he was not in, Mr. George Creighton, who was in the bindery at the time, accompanied me for this purpose. With the utmost apparent composure I asked the foreman for an explanation of the omission of my card. It was quite evident that this individual had been carefully coached for a reply; but having some conscience, he was painfully ill at ease. I well remember, for the scene is fresh in my memory, that in the midst of my interview, he suddenly bethought himself of the steam-engine, and darted off to examine the gauge. This gave him time to collect his wits. After all his reply was, that he "didn't have time to put it in;" but, on being interrogated, admitted that he had the copy since the previous Thursday, the date it was given to Mr. Lugin. As it was perfectly manifest he had instructions from the Head Centre not to

publish it, I asked him for the copy; and here it is, and in THE CAPITAL, too:—

[Advertisement for The Capital. — H. A. C.]

TO THE PUBLIC.

Circumstances that my utmost endeavors were unable to conquer, have, during the week, deprived me of the ownership of THE CAPITAL and of the Printing and Publishing Establishment which, a quarter of a century ago, I created in this city.

To my brethren of the press who have so fraternally endeavored to mitigate my adversity by their kindly, cheering editorial comments on this great event of my life, I beg to acknowledge my gratitude, and to heartily assure them that I can not adequately express my thanks; and to my fellow-citizens who have extended their hands to me since the announcement, and have given such gratifying evidences of their sympathetic sentiments, I beg to convey the assurance that I deem these evidences of friendship as of priceless value.

To my customers generally, and especially to the numerous patrons of THE CAPITAL and of my Printing Office, I also beg to return my thanks for the generous favors bestowed on me.

H. A. CROPLEY.

Fredericton, Nov. 1st, 1889.

There are now two daily, four weekly, and two monthly papers published in this city; I cannot, therefore, claim that in increasing this great number by the addition of THE CAPITAL, I do so to "fill a long-felt want." But I feel that my long residence here, my knowledge of modern improvements and progress in cities, and my love for Fredericton, qualifies me for giving it a paper, even if issued only monthly, that will be of considerable service to it. Owing to the demands on its space for personal explanations, the present issue contains less local matter than there will be in subsequent issues. The life and prosperity of the paper will depend, to a very considerable extent, on the advertising patronage which will be accorded it. To ensure a good advertising patronage, a large circulation must be attained. It starts with a circulation of 1,500; and I shall make the most strenuous efforts to produce a paper that will command a much larger circulation than this. The value of advertising in monthlies in the estimation of a wide-awake people is attested by the vast number of advertising pages in *Munsey*, the *Cosmopolitan*, the *Century*, and other American magazines. With a full realization of the labour involved in this undertaking, and of the gravity of the fact that two of the competing publishing and printing offices in town are run by companies, while I must rely on my own unaided efforts, I appeal to my fellow citizens for support in this venture, and for a continuance of their generous support to the other branches of my business.

H. A. CROPLEY.

A FOOT-WALK ON THE RAILWAY BRIDGE.

The erection of a foot-walk on one side of the railway bridge, somewhat similar to that alongside the highway bridge, would be an immense convenience to the residents of the lower part of the city, as well as to the residents of Gibson, Marysville, and even those who reside for some distance below the Nashwaak. The danger of crossing the railway bridge on foot as it is at present is very great; apart from this, the crossing is, to many, both tedious and tiresome. On this account every day many persons make long detours out of their way and use the highway bridge, thus incurring loss of time as well as fatigue. When it is considered that the expenditure of barely about \$600 is only requisite to secure the building of such an indispensable convenience as this proposed foot-walk, no further delay should be tolerated in its construction by those who will be benefited by its erection. We beg to suggest that Mr. William Lemont, the President of our Board of Trade, take the necessary action to secure the co-operation of the residents of the places named above, to realize this desirable convenience.

THE QUEEN'S MEDAL.—Fred. B. Edgcombe is giving away with each suit of Boys' or Young Men's Clothes, the Queen's Commemorative Medal, and each patriotic youth should wear one this summer. Mr. Edgcombe is showing a fine stock of Boys' Wear this spring.—Adv't.

FREDERICTON vs. SUSSEX.

Why Sussex, instead of Fredericton, has been selected for the holding of the brigade camps, is difficult to understand, as equally as good grounds are available in this locality for this purpose. At different times, even so recent as 1885, some of the largest militia camps ever held in the Province have been held in this city. It may be advanced as an objection to Fredericton that the rifle range here is not sufficiently large to admit of the target practice of so large a body of troops as there is in a brigade being performed within the limited number of days (generally twelve) that the troops are under canvas. But this objection can be justly met by the statement that there is a large and excellent range here now, which can readily be enlarged, if necessary, at a small expenditure; and that a somewhat similar range, but a few yards distance from the present site, answered all the requirements of the largest brigade camps ever held in this Province. A yet stronger argument in favour of Fredericton in this particular aspect of the question is the fact that, not many years ago, the rifle matches under the auspices of the Dominion Rifle Association, were held in a suburb of Fredericton.

We can understand why St. Andrews, in former years, was selected for the brigade camps of the York and Carleton Battalions, and the reasons which rendered St. Andrews so popular among the force as a place for drill: its climatic advantage (on the sea-coast) being unsurpassed, and the site for the camp, "Joe's Point," all that could be desired. But Sussex, on the contrary, is an inland, dreary village, is also exceedingly hot, and has so few attractions that hundreds of the troops never even visit the village. The grounds are good; there is a good rifle range; and that is all that can be said for Sussex.

It is an outrage on common sense to take the militia of York and Carleton Counties all the way to Sussex. Fredericton possesses every advantage possessed by Sussex for the holding of these camps. Why, then, is the large expenditure incurred for the transport of these troops to Sussex and back, with the additional loss of time involved in the journey? Undoubtedly political exigencies have hitherto operated in favour of Sussex in this respect. Will Colonel Domville, M. P., be in favour of prolonging this indefensible state of affairs?

To make this point more clear, and to strengthen our contention in favour of Fredericton, it is necessary for the reader to understand that the Carleton County militia,—consisting of the Woodstock Field Battery (numerical strength 79), the Brighton Engineers (100), the 67th Batt. (412), a total of 591 officers, n.c.o., and men,—have hitherto passed by Fredericton en route by rail to Sussex, and thus unnecessarily have had their journey increased by 138 miles, or double that distance going and returning.

In addition to this, the York County militia (the 71st) number 323, all ranks; when the Royal School of Infantry is added, the total strength is about 423. With the exception of the Junction and St. Stephen Companies, all of the 71st Batt. mobilize at Fredericton when going into camp. Omitting these two companies, which are even nearer Fredericton than Sussex, the number of the Carleton and York militia combined is 1,014 men. The great expense of transport to and from Sussex of this large number of men and baggage can be saved if the camps are held here.

It is true that there are other corps in the Province which perform their drill in camp, the Newcastle Field Battery and the 73rd Batt. at the North Shore, and Colonel Domville's Regt. of Cavalry and the 74th Batt. in King's County; but Fredericton is nearer than Sussex for the North Shore troops via the Canada Eastern Railway, and the cavalry could perform the journey, mounted, from King's Co. to Fredericton and back, and the journey on horseback would be decidedly beneficial. Good stabling for the horses can be had here on the Agricultural Society's grounds.

An additional reason why the York and Carleton militia should drill here, is that they number more than the two other rural Battalions, the 73rd and 74th, which, combined, have only eleven companies; whereas the 67th and 71st have, combined, sixteen companies; and, as before remarked, the 73rd is as near Fredericton as it is to Sussex.

Another important argument in favour of Fredericton is the fact that it is the militia headquarters of the District (or Province), is a garrison town, and has, in consequence, a military hospital and barracks.

This is an important subject, and we trust that it will receive the attention that it deserves.

Subscriptions for this paper (50 cts. per year, in advance) received at CROPLEY'S BOOK STORE.