

A HOME FOR THE PEOPLE.

THE VICTORIA HOTEL, SITUATED ON KING STREET.

Remodelled, Refitted and Improved in Every Way by Its Present Proprietor, Mr. D. W. McCormick—An Old Hotel Man Whom Success Has Never Left.

There is no truer indication of a city's advance, than the fact that it possesses fine and prosperous hotels. To keep pace with the times, first-class hostels must be continually making improvements and introducing new ideas into hotel management which will tend to make the house more homelike and attractive, and, if possible, the guests more comfortable.

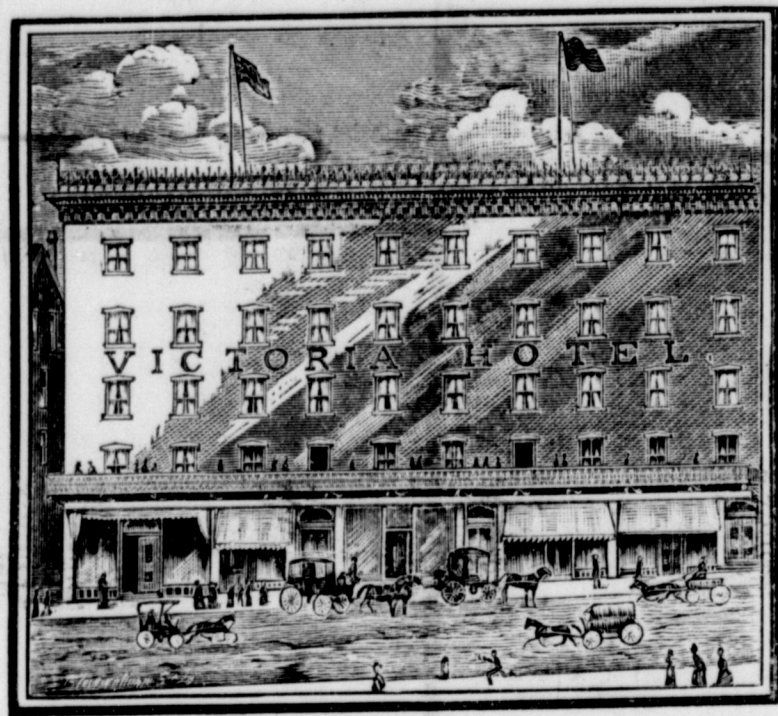
To talk about the VICTORIA HOTEL in connection with St. John, is bringing an old and well remembered name before thousands to whom it is familiar.

To locate it where the old "Waverly" stood, on King street, and connect it with

large and airy, and, what is very important, easy of access and egress. Fitted up in the best possible way with every modern improvement, the guests ought to be both happy and comfortable when within their walls. They are.

If the rooms are good, the table is better. Some people think eating the main enjoyment of this life and the only inquiry they make when they strike a new town is, "Which hotel sets the best table?" Well, tastes may differ, but the writer has found none which suited him better than the Victoria. The dining-room is a splendid room and the attendance leaves nothing to be desired—a rare compliment to pay the average hotel dining hall.

Travellers who prefer the quiet of a sitting-room to the bustle and activity of an office, could find plenty of satisfaction in the gentlemen's sitting-room of the Victoria. Situated at the stair landing it is prettily and comfortably furnished and supplied with everything that the average man



its present proprietor and manager, Mr. D. W. McCormick, is introducing two old and tried friends to the public.

It takes time to gain the experience requisite to conduct a successful and popular hotel. It is a great thing for a host to have something of the politician's memory about him always, and never forget a name or a face. It is said of some hotel proprietors that they forget no man; that, his name once registered and his face once seen, he is never again an unknown, though years may pass before he returns.

Call this what you please, it is a remarkable trait, and one possessed by the proprietor of the Victoria in a wonderful degree. It helps to make the house popular, and guests who once make it their home, whether for a long or short period, never fail to return.

Hotel life in 1872 saw Host McCormick in St. Stephen. It was almost as lively then as it is now, and a good house was appreciated. His was a good house, the first in the place and everybody went there. About May 1878, the hotel was burned to the ground, but one month later Mr. McCormick opened another fine hotel, "The Queen," for the accommodation of the public. Under his management the "Queen" was as popular and had as much patronage as any house wanted. But the place was small and the proprietor, feeling that there was an opening for another good hotel in St. John, came here in 1879 and opened the "New Victoria" on Princess street.

Progress need not dwell upon the improvements he put upon the building before he threw it open to the public. Literally he gutted it and refitted it.

Three years later he carried the same popular name to a Prince William street house which he fitted up in the best possible style for his rapidly increasing list of patrons.

The "hotel arrivals" in the daily papers showed that the St. Stephen man had caught the right kind of a hold upon the travelling public and was hanging on.

As the years went along, summer travel to St. John increased. The Prince William street house could not accommodate the people who sought it and when the opportunity came in the summer of 1887 Mr. McCormick leased the "old Waverly" on King street, and changed its name to the "Victoria."

Patrons of the "Waverly" who sought it again didn't find it. The transformation was complete. Carpenters and masons and painters hadn't been at work for months for nothing. All the best ideas of the enterprising hotel manager were carried out. The face of the building was almost completely changed. Instead of a long and narrow stairway leading from the street to a cramped office on the second story, the tenant of the store below moved out and that was converted into an office. Massive windows were put in and today the present front of the Victoria is a credit to the street.

But that was far from all. The approaches to the upper floors were altered. Before there had only been one approach, which was used by the guests and the help. All that is changed, and the broad and winding stairway leading from the lower office enhances its general appearance.

From bottom to top the house was refurnished. Almost everything was new, and when ready for occupying, it was first-class in every respect. It has continued first-class ever since, and has secured an unexampled patronage.

There are 86 sleeping-rooms, all of which are rooms, not closets. They are

requires to pass the time. It commands a view of the ladies' entrance, which is another important and necessary addition.

In fact, if the improvements and additions were fully described, this deserved notice would fill a page, but they can only be mentioned briefly.

Shortly after opening the house, Mr. McCormick determined to have more room and to gain his object erected an addition to the rear of the building, extended his back office and made a great deal more room upstairs.

This enabled him to fit out the hostelry with more conveniences, which it would have been impossible to have had under the former conditions. They were all necessary and serve to carry out the proprietor's evident intention to have everything in first-class shape.

People who wonder why the VICTORIA is so popular with provincial people and the mass of visiting strangers need not look far for a reason. The host is well known and well liked, his office assistants are as popular, and the prices are popular. The secret is revealed.

If a further reason is looked for it can be found in the capacity of the house. There have been occasions when 200 people were counted as guests. No person is refused accommodation if he can be accommodated in any possible way. Provincials like the house, because it is good and more social than any other they know of. They meet more people they know and sociability is an agreeable element, especially when away from home.

This is the reason, perhaps, that when Moncton, Woodstock, or St. Stephen and Calais arrange excursions to St. John the Victoria is the hotel selected to remain at. Here they find people they know; they know the host and they like the house. What more do they want?

To conclude: The Victoria is the house of the people. The location is central, on King street between Germain and Charlotte, and its latch string is always out to welcome any and every one who wants good bed and board.

"SAFE AS A BANK."

A Fire and Life Insurance Company that Gives Absolute Protection.

To speak in terms of eulogy of the Royal Insurance company, of which Mr. J. Sidney Kaye is agent for St. John, would seem to be unnecessary in face of the perfect confidence in it which is felt by its many local patrons. Still its policy-holders and others will be interested in reading of its present condition, as reported at the annual meeting held in Liverpool, Aug. 5. It was there stated that after providing for all dividends, there had been an increase of nearly \$3,000,000 in the total funds during the last five years, with an annual fire premium receipt of \$4,840,217.

Such an exceptionally favorable financial exhibit, after a comparatively brief existence of slightly more than four decades only—1845 to 1888—seems marvellous indeed, and fully entitles the company to be called the "Young Giant;" and this the more especially when the fact is taken into consideration that within these years operations have been carefully extended throughout the marts of the commercial world, until there is no city of any commercial standing in which the indemnity policies of the Royal are not to be found.

The Royal entered Canada and the United States about 1851. Its Canadian investments for the protection of policy-holders fall but a little short of \$1,000,000, of which some \$700,000 is on deposit at Ottawa, the balance, including the company's handsome office buildings at Montreal and Toronto, being invested in interest earning securities. Insurers can ask no better protection than this.

AT IN EVERY RESPECT.

THE GREAT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CIGAR FIRM.

Taylor & Dockrill—Enterprise and Honesty Have Given Them the Trade—Good Cigars are the Order of the Day With Them—Specialties in the Wholesale Grocery.

It is an interesting fact and one worthy of record, that after the fire of 1877, which laid the entire business portion of this city in ashes, the first brick building completed on King street is that owned by Mr. William Kennedy and his present tenants, Messrs. Taylor & Dockrill, was the first firm to return to their old stand on the



street. Wooden shanties abounded above, below and about them, but in October of 1877, about four months after the fire, this firm returned to its old quarters with a new and complete stock.

This in itself has a significance and illustrates those qualities of push and energy that have characterized the concern since it began business and made it what it is today.

In these days of close competition, when every man is engaged in a friendly strife to outstrip his neighbor in the commercial race, it is so nothing for a man to be proud of when he is acknowledged to be first; when he has the best customers and the finest goods and above all the largest trade.

Without exaggeration and with justice to everyone in the same line of business, Taylor & Dockrill can be given the first place in the wholesale and retail cigar trade. How they obtained the lead and kept it is their secret, and very properly they are not inclined to impart the inside information to any competitor. But there are some things about the business which PROGRESS gleaned, interesting to anyone who likes a good cigar—and who does not?

Sixteen years ago a small but complete retail cigar store was opened on King street by Taylor & Dockrill. The best cigars the market afforded were in it. In a short time men who smoked none other than first class goods, when they could get them, learned where they could be had and would have no other. The retail was a success. The people knew a good thing and patronized it. Only one year later the wholesale department was started. This was even a greater success. Poor cigars had flooded the market previous to this and a real Havana was rarer than gold.

There is no doubt that Taylor & Dockrill's importations revolutionized the cigar and tobacco trade. The men who would smoke enjoyed fine goods, and those who couldn't smoke had a longer lease of life when the cabbage leaves and waste left the country.

In a very short time the firm's trade reached every point in the maritime provinces. Cities and towns, villages and private houses patronized the St. John house indirectly and spread its fame everywhere.

The result of all this has been that when applied to cigars the phrase "Taylor & Dockrill" has a sort of power in itself and is a guarantee that the goods are the best that can be had for the money.

Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia are falling into line rapidly and increasing the trade of this firm. Importers of Havanas in those provinces soon realized the fact that Taylor & Dockrill had the lead, that they got better goods from the West India markets than they did and were in consequence bound to do the trade. It was and is then for their own protection that they order from them and get the brands which suit their customers.

One of the reasons for this great success is attributed to the standing instructions of the firm with the West India agents. "Our goods must always be made up to the standard." They follow this up by always refusing light weight or inferior goods, though since the change in the tariff it is a great inducement to purchase light goods. More than this the firm never sells an imitation.

Old smokers will recognize a few of the choice brands which Taylor & Dockrill have introduced into Canada. Among them are numbered *Suarez Queens*, *El Angel Queens*, *Benito Suarez*, *El Aquila Deoro* (the Eagle of Gold) and *Dias and Garcia*.

Unless Taylor & Dockrill had the best agent in Havana to select their goods for them, their efforts would in part be lost. But the best is what they are after and have. They have the best agent, the best goods and the best trade.

MANKS & CO.,

57 King Street.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S

Gifts! Gifts!

In FINE FURS;

In Medium and Cheap Furs,

—FOR—

Ladies', Children's and Gentlemen's Wear.

SACQUES, CAPS,

MUFFS, BOAS,

CAPES, GLOVES,

COLLARS, CUFFS.

All Kinds.

All Prices.

SLEIGH ROBES,

FUR COATS.

A GOOD ASSORTMENT.

57 King Street.

W. HAWKER & SON,

DRUGGISTS,

would call the attention of the general public to their POPULAR FAMILY REMEDIES, viz:

HAWKER'S TOLU AND CHERRY;
Hawker's Nerve and Stomach Tonic;
Hawker's German Rheumatic and Neuralgia cure;

Hawker's Vegetable Worm Powders;
Hawker's Blackberry Compound;

Hawker's All-Healing Ointment;
Hawker's Compound Little Liver Pills;

Hawker's Catarrh Cure;
Hawker's Dyspepsia Cure.

These preparations are the result of 30 years experience, and are prepared with great care, and we claim that they are equal to anything of the kind ever offered to the public. We are sustained in this assertion by the fact of their increasing demand both in St. John and the provinces generally.

We would also remind the public that we give general attention to our Dispensing Department, having two regular qualified dispensers.

We use only Drugs of the highest standard of purity that can be obtained.

We have also a full stock of choice Toilet articles and Toilet requisites suitable for the HOLIDAY SEASON, as well as a full stock of Drugs and Druggists' sundries.

We desire to thank our many friends for their continued generous support, and trust that our efforts to serve them have been such as to still merit their continued support in the coming days.

GILBERT BENT & SONS,

HAVE A FULL STOCK OF

Flour, Cornmeal,

Oatmeal, Teas,

Sugars, Tobaccos,

Molasses, Pork,

Beef, Lard,

Beans, Peas,

Barley, Rice,

CHEESE, BUTTER,

Dried Apples, Raisins,

Soap, Bi-Carb. Soda,

PAILS, BROOMS,

MATCHES, SPICES,

And all necessaries in the Grocery line.

Dried, Smoked and Pickled Fish;
Coarse and Fine Salt.

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COWIE & EDWARDS,

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GENERAL AGENTS

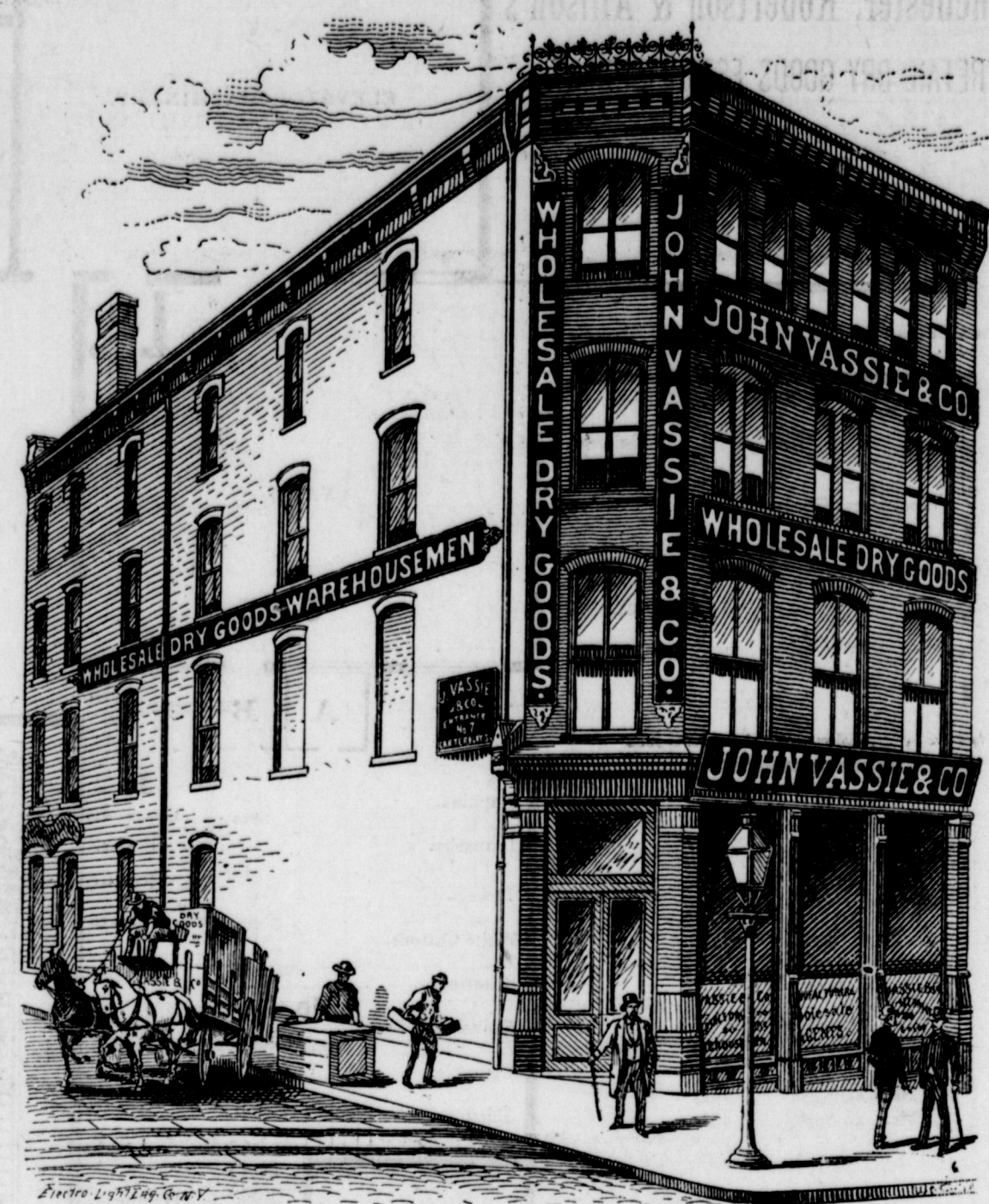
Guardian Assurance Co.,

OF LONDON, ENGLAND

J. VASSIE & CO.,

Corner of King and Canterbury Streets,

SAINT JOHN, N. B.



WHOLESALE DRY GOODS WAREHOUSEMEN.

KEEP A CONSTANT ASSORTMENT OF

CLOTHS, FLANNELS,

BLANKETS, SHAWLS,

HOSIERY,

SHIRTS and DRAWERS,

GLOVES, UMBRELLAS,

LACES, RIBBONS,

CORSETS,

MEN'S BRACES,

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.

Twiled Cottons, Batting, Wadding, Tailors' Trimmings, Bed Comfortables, Horse Blankets, Winecys, Costume Cloths, Merinos, Cashmeres, Beiges, Dress Goods of newest patterns, Floor Oilcloths, Hemp Carpets, Carpet Bags.

SMALLWARES in Braids, Buttons, Combs, Purses, Satchels, Garters, Elastics, Cotton and Linen Thread, Sewing Silk, Silk Reels, Dolls, etc., etc.

We sell Wholesale to dealers in Dry Goods only, who buy from us to sell retail. We have no connexion with any retail establishment whatever, and do a large city trade, which is the best guarantee to wholesale buyers in the country of the lowness of our prices. Samples on application.

BROCK & PATERSON,

Wholesale Millinery and Fancy Dry Goods Warehouse.

Buyers can always rely on finding a good variety of the following Goods:

LADIES' STRAW AND FELT HATS;

MILLINERY MATERIALS OF ALL KINDS;

BONNET AND HAT FRAMES;

SILKS, SATINS, CRAPES;

RIBBONS, FRILLINGS;

PLUSHES AND VELVETS;

LACES, NETS;

DRESS AND MANTLE TRIMMINGS;

GOSSAMER AND NET VEILINGS;

BUTTONS AND ORNAMENTS;

JERSEYS, HANDKERCHIEFS;

CORSETS AND BUSTLES;

FLOWERS, FEATHERS;

FLOESSELS and EMBY SILKS;

WORKING CANVAS, SEWING SILKS;

FUR TRIMMINGS, HOSIERY AND GLOVES;

FUR CAPES AND BOAS, KNITTED WOOL GOODS;

NOVELTIES ALWAYS OPENING.

32 KING STREET,

Opposite Royal Hotel.

The Liverpool & London & Globe

INSURANCE COMPANY.

Fire Insurance at Lowest Current Rates.

Life Insurance on Favorable Terms.

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