

# PROGRESS.

## SPECIAL EDITION.

### PROGRESS

Thy Name Is  
Fredericton.

### THE OLD TOWN AND THE NEW

Fifty Years Ago, a Secluded  
Village,

TODAY A THRIVING CITY.

Men and Institutions That Have Wrought  
The Changes

HERE PICTURED AND DESCRIBED.

Engravings and Accounts of Queen Street, as It Was and as It Is, the University of New Brunswick, Government House, the Parliament Buildings, Past and Present, the Post Office, Provincial Normal School, and the Railway Bridges, with Portraits of Mr. Thomas Temple, M. P., Mr. George E. Fenety and Mr. J. Douglas Hazen.

It may not be strictly correct to term this and the accompanying pages a "boom" edition of Fredericton, but no one can question the assertion that it illustrates in a large degree the substantial progress of the capital of New Brunswick.

Before now strangers have termed Fredericton a slow town; they have looked through and around it, coming to the, perhaps, hasty conclusion that, with few exceptions, the Celestials were a happy-go-easy, contented community, with little ambition to acquire wealth, but solidly prosperous in the acquisition of honorable business principles, making sufficient for comfortable livings and to guarantee their indulgence in those pleasures for which they had a capacious enjoyment.

Years ago such an estimate was nearer the mark than it is today. The first real awakening seemed in the direction of city improvements, and from that hour to this the progressive march has been steady and sure. The present health and safety of the city and many of the every-day conveniences of the people may date from the completion of the system of water works—far too expensive, both in their construction and operation, but still an inestimable boon to a community so located as Fredericton.

It is not the intention of this brief and incomplete introduction to note every step in the progressive march, but in a few words the material evidences of advance may be commented upon.

Half a century is quite a long period, yet one can hardly realize that the business portion of Fredericton, 50 years ago, and the commercial locality today, as represented upon this page, are upon the same spot. The jolly winter scene is reproduced from an old painting; the beautiful square and substantial brick and stone structures represent Queen street today.

The contrast between the low wooden structure—the old parliament buildings—and the handsome and imposing stone building where the people's representatives assemble today is great, and needs no comment.

The greatest advance, however, made in and about the city has been in the direction of railways and bridges, the former bringing the city nearer every part of the province, and the latter closely connecting, in one instance, the city and what may be termed its suburbs, and in the other the eastern and western railway system of central New Brunswick.

The passenger bridge, which is shown spanning the St. John at a time when its waters were highest, connects the city and its sister town, St. Marys, thence to Gibson, Marysville and the whole of eastern York county. Its completion did away with the time-honored and expensive ferries, and gave an impetus to business which the citizens were not slow to take advantage of.

The iron railway bridge, one of the longest structures of the kind in Canada, was completed but a few months ago and no idea of its usefulness, of its effect upon business and traffic can well be estimated, but a very good idea may be formed when it is considered that the main line of the Canadian Pacific, the New Brunswick roads, the Northern & Western, the St. John Valley and the Central and Temiscouta roads,

will, in time, all run their trains across its abutments.

The active operation of the Northern & Western railway, the construction of the railway bridge and the road through the city, the start upon the St. John Valley route have all had one tendency, to make Fredericton the liveliest and most prosperous city in the province this summer. If any further evidence of this fact is needed, it may be supplied, in the fact that more buildings have been erected this summer in that thriving spot than in all St. John, Portland and Carleton.

It would be an easy matter to enumerate the manufactories and their prosperity, to

### A BANK OF THE PEOPLE.

A FIRM AND SOLID FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.

Something of the History and Splendid Success of the People's Bank of Fredericton—A Measure of the City's Financial Standing and of Its Growth.

The idea of banking is a comparatively modern one—the Bank of Venice, the first European bank, being established in 1171, while it was not until five hundred years after that date that the idea of the brilliant Scotchman took form in the foundation of the Bank of England. And it is only in the last 50 years that the bank has as-

this business, which engages the attention of some of the greatest minds of the century.

Coming to our own province, we find that banks have only been in general use for the last 20 or 25 years, and among those establishments which, early started, have gained the confidence of the people and increased their business steadily from the time of their foundation, is the People's Bank of New Brunswick, which, more fortunate than many, has ever had at the head of its affairs a firm and skilful hand to guide the financial ship through the panics and disasters of commercial life. Incorporated at Fredericton in 1864, with a

feature of the bank has been its rapid increase of capital from \$60,000, in 1864, to \$180,000, and a rest of \$95,000, in 1888. The secret of this was, that, besides careful management, the bank was in a position to carry a very large circulation with a comparatively small capital, owing to the fact that there were much fewer banks doing business in New Brunswick some years ago than at the present time.

Such has been the progress of the bank since its establishment nearly twenty-five years ago when, starting with but a small capital it struck bravely out in the struggle for existence, and now after a quarter of a century under careful management, it pos-

### NO MUSHROOM GROWTH.

A BUSINESS THAT HAS PASSED ITS FORTIETH YEAR.

The Store of Messrs. Lemont & Sons, Where One Can Buy a Complete Household Outfit, from the Pots and Pans to the Piano, and Get Good Bargains.

I had been wandering through the city all the morning, inspecting the leading establishments in the different lines of business, when I met my old friend, Mr. Wm. Lemont, the senior member of the firm of Lemont & Sons, and at his request I took a tour through the firm's premises, which more than repaid me for my time; but as I viewed room after room, floor after floor and warehouse after warehouse, I thought of my rashness in trying to examine such a stock of goods in the latter half of a forenoon. My advice to any one who wishes to see the firm's whole stock is to rise early in the morning, take a lunch and spend the day in the establishment.

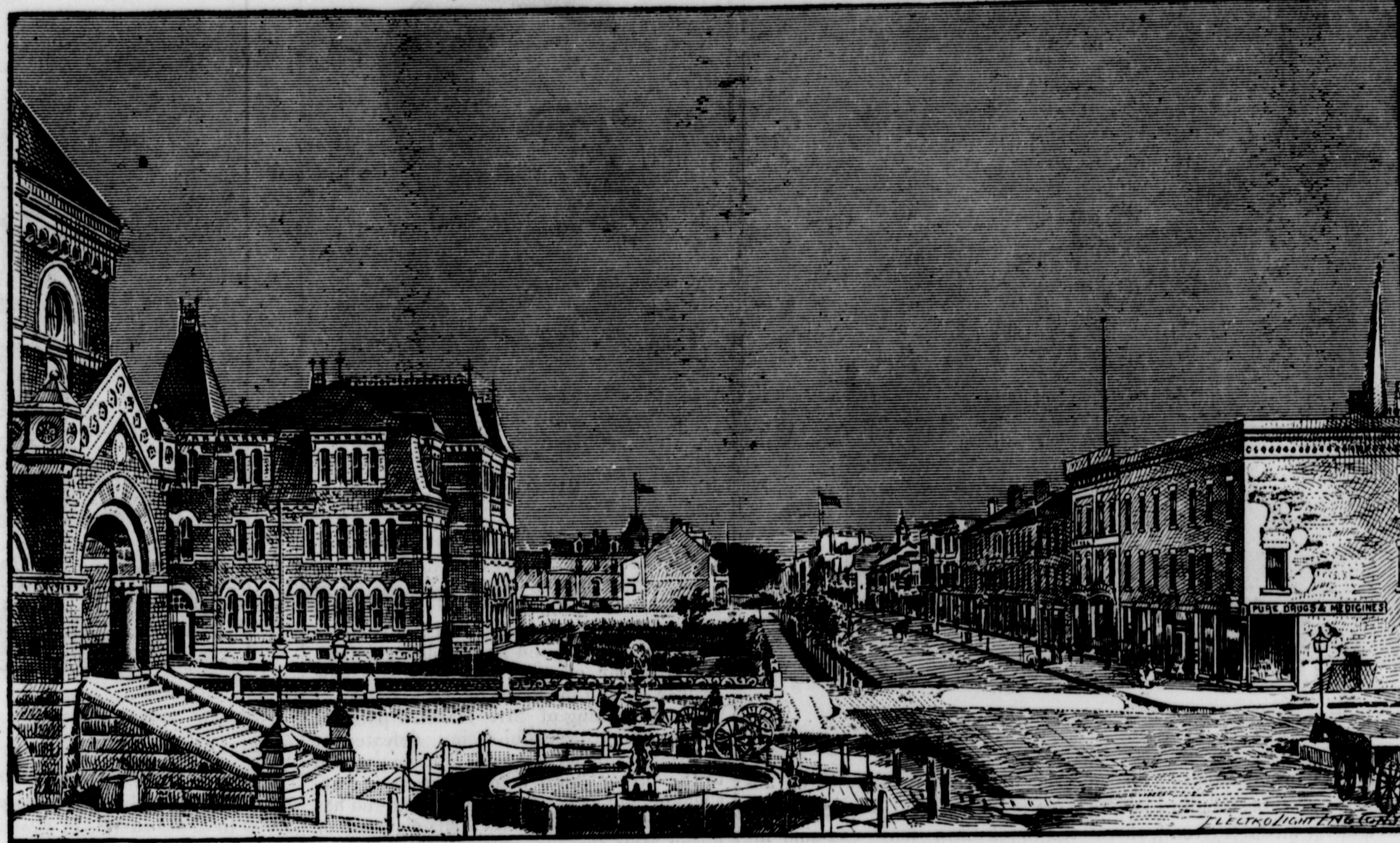
Such a business as that of the Messrs. Lemont is not the creation of a few years. Martin Lemont, the father of the present proprietors, started in the year 1844 in the Slason building, where the Sharkey block now stands. Both his place of business and residence fell a prey to the big fire of 1850. Opening again on Phoenix square the fire again in 1854 destroyed his house and store. Mr. Lemont then moved down town into Coy's block, but the devouring element was not yet satisfied and five years later he was again burned out. The present premises were then erected and have since been occupied by the firm of Lemont & Sons. In 1864 the back store was destroyed by the Grieve's fire, and again it fell a prey to the flames in February, 1874. Since the decease of their father in October, 1881, the business is carried on by William and Martia Lemont under the old style and firm.

The main building is of brick, 90 feet long, 24 feet wide, three stories high, with cellar the whole size of the building, giving a floor space of 7,636 feet. In the rear is a large stock-room, two stories high, and across the street is the firm's furniture shop, where the bedroom sets, lounges, easy chairs, etc., are turned out complete. In the rear of Mr. William Lemont's residence is another warehouse filled with pianos, organs and furniture.

To get a systematic idea of the stock, I started on the third floor of the main building, and went through the establishment to the cellar, finding every available space taken up with goods. On the third floor, the various grades of furniture are stored, embracing 25 different bedroom sets, in walnut, mahogany, ash, elm, birch and pine, and no less than 66 patterns of chairs, among which may be noticed some nice folding chairs, and also some rattan chairs, iron and wood bedsteads, spring beds and mattresses, a specialty among the latter being the woven wire mattress, of which a large stock is kept constantly on hand. A nice selection of sofas and lounges was worthy of notice, the upholstering of which was done in the firm's own workshop. Descending the stairs to the second floor, I found a very valuable stock of furniture, embracing elegant parlor suits, in hair-cloth, repp, raw silk, brocette and other coverings. Among the bedroom sets were some nice samples of the firm's goods in black walnut, while a sight of the easy chairs made me (for the moment) lazy. On this floor are also stored the carpets, into which department the Messrs. Lemont are at present entering, the patterns shown being able to satisfy the most fastidious buyer.

Another descent and the ground floor is reached on which is placed the enormous stock of crockeryware, among which are breakfast, dinner and tea sets in china and ivoryware besides commoner stone and delf sets of all patterns. Cutlery, tinware, woodenware, baskets, plated ware, oil-stoves, birdcages, dolls, etc., help to fill up the numerous shelves. Among the special attractions, if any can be called special in such a stock, are some very handsome hanging and table lamps, a large number of individual cups and saucers of quaint designs and a splendid assortment of Bohemian vases. The stock of Christmas novelties is always most complete and to my mind it seemed as if kindly old Santa Claus might do worse than make the store of Lemont & Sons his headquarters. In the line of Indian goods the firm carries a large assortment of moccasins and snow shoes, which they sell wholesale and retail; among the Indian curiosities I might mention Mr. Wm. Lemont who speaks the Micicete language fluently and is thus able to use their own tongue in trading with the makers of the Indian goods. In the cellar is stored the reserve stock, consisting principally of crockery.

We have no such establishment in St. John as that of Messrs. Lemont, where the intending housekeeper can buy a complete household outfit even to the oil paintings and piano. There is hardly anything in common use which this firm does not include in its stock; in fact it would take less time to name the things it has, so varied and extensive is the stock. Description falls short of the reality; it must be seen to be fully appreciated.



City Hall. Normal School. Phoenix Square Fountain. Barracks.

### QUEEN STREET TODAY.

speaking of the increase in the volume of business, to note recent improvements, such as the introduction of the electric light, but illustrations take so much space that it is impossible to do so.

This is the first edition of this nature ever issued in the province. Its object is simply to show by illustrations the substantial business portion of the city; the provincial institutions and principal objects of interest, and in this way to give the general public some general idea of the city's advance, with brief sketches of the business history and prosperity of a few enterprising firms whose interests are identical with the city's.

sumed anything like its present importance, so that to us of today, accustomed to make use of some one or other of the numerous banking concerns in almost every one of our business transactions, the first years of the present century appear, as it were, "Dark Ages," in which this, among other modern inventions and conveniences, was comparatively unknown, and we almost wonder how the business of the world could ever have been carried on without the presence of such a helpmeet as the banking system. Since 1840 the banking of the world has increased about eleven fold, that is, three times as fast as commerce, or

capital of \$60,000, the addition to the capital from profits has increased it to \$180,000, at which figure it now stands. Besides this capital, the bank has a rest of \$95,000. Dividends have been paid at first at the rate of 6 per cent., then at 7 per cent., and since 1883 at 8 per cent. In 1885, besides the 8 per cent. dividend, a bonus of 1 per cent. was paid to the stockholders.

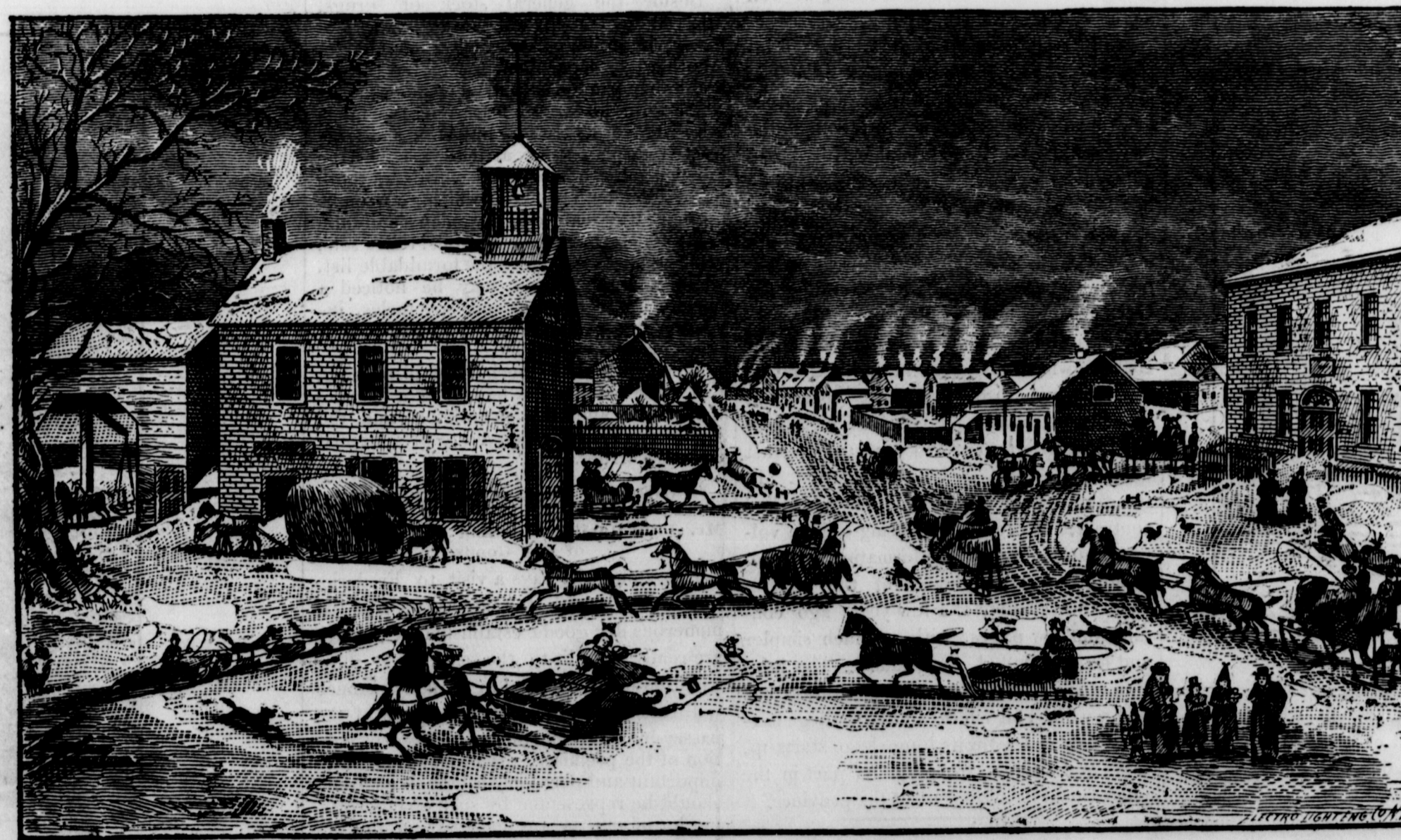
Mr. A. F. Randolph, the president of the bank since its formation, is a gentleman well known in business circles, a large shareholder, and one of those mainly instrumental in the establish-

ment of the bank, and no name could be a better guarantee of the efficient management of the concern than that of the above-mentioned gentleman. S. W. Babbitt was the cashier till the time of his death, in December, 1880, which important position Mr. J. W. Spurden has filled since that time; and if we may judge anything from the increasing prosperity of the bank and the commendations showered upon him by his numerous friends, we should say that Mr. Spurden was the man suited for the position. The People's bank is the only bank in the dominion, with the exception of the St. Stephens bank and three banks in Prince Edward Island, which enjoys the privilege of issuing \$1 and \$2 notes. The most remarkable

on the voyage which has turned out so successful, and today they have equal faith in the city's future advancement and among the institutions of the capital the last to play its part in the establishment of a brighter future and the development of the city's resources will not be the People's Bank of New Brunswick.

Their Advice is Always Sound.

Attention is called to the card of Messrs. Black & Hazen, barristers-at-law, in another column. This firm occupies a leading position among the legal fraternity of the capital, and any business entrusted to them will, PROGRESS is satisfied, receive prompt and satisfactory attention.



### QUEEN STREET FIFTY YEARS AGO.

[Reproduced from an Old Painting.]

### FREDERICTON.

Sweet in the patriot's ear thy tumult swells!  
Thy shrilling whistles summoning skillful hands,  
The white-winged rush of barks from ultra lands,  
The thunder of thy trains through fruitful dells,  
Are fitting sounds where the Canadian dwells.  
Six days with vigorous toil thy frame expands,  
And hallowing the week's fulfilled demands,  
Booms sacred tumult of thy Sabbath bells.  
Sweet wild-dove City in the forest's shade,  
Thine are all gifts of greatness to enjoy  
For in thy stars this prophecy I find,  
"Her years of plenty shall not be delayed  
If but her idle opulence employ  
Her craftsmen's broad stability of mind."  
BARRY STRATON.

### A PROVINCE TOWN IN MAY.

Shadowy town of the tall elm trees!—  
River of drowsy warmth, and dreams,  
And river willows athrob with bees  
Golden-zoned from the yellowing trees!  
Achievement is given to others, but these  
Are gleams of elysian lands and streams.  
Shadowy town of the tall elm trees!—  
River of drowsy warmth, and dreams!  
BLISS CARMAN

thirty times faster than population, and from the place where money was wont to be intrusted as in a position of greatest security, the bank has been developed until it has become one of the modern sciences, with its means of supplying exchange and discount, its powers of circulation, its attention to accounts and its care of deposits. It is at present the motive power of the world's trade, and an ample supply of banking capital has come to be one of the prime needs of every commercial community. In Canada alone the capital employed in banking is \$175,000,000, while among our neighbors across the line the banking capital amounts to several billions of dollars; so that from these figures we can gain some idea of the importance of

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