

IN FINANCIAL TROUBLE.

THE TREASURER OF A COLLEGE BEHIND IN HIS ACCOUNTS.

The Bomb was Exploded at the Annual Meeting Last Week—What the Delegates Thought of the Matter—The Way in Which the Affairs were Adjusted.

Last week during the Baptist convention being held at Barwick N. S. the financial report of Acadia University was submitted by treasurer Rev. A. Cohoon. As section after section was read over the convention adopted them with an occasional change, but when that part of the report in which the shortage of the late treasurer X. Z. Chipman was enunciated there at once arose a loud murmur of disapproval among the brethren. The clergy present were all fully aware of the deficiency most of them being determined not to let it pass without making known their extreme condemnation of the defaulting official, who was nearly \$4,000 behind in his accounts.

It was the general impression among the clergymen present that this serious matter should not be passed over for in such a case the financial standing of the Baptist people of the province would be entirely wrecked. Pleas and requests, are being almost constantly made for the support of their educational institutions, argued those taking a principal part in the discussion, and if this matter of \$4,000 misappropriation was allowed to slip unnoticed the people would be quite justified in withholding their subscriptions on the grounds of lack of faith in the management of affairs. The Board of Governors of the college were held partly responsible for the shortage as Mr. Chipman had been engaged by them. Auditor Roscoe whose signature adorns the end of the report states he audited the books and found them to be correct in every particular. This statement which on the face of it was false, called forth considerable criticism of Mr. Roscoe. He however made a statement in which he claimed to be correct in signing the statement and washed his hands clear of all participation in the matter.

When the much abused clause of the report was under discussion Lawyer Smith of Moncton capped the climax of excitement by jumping to his feet and moving that the words "theft" should displace "shortage" also that "criminal," "convictions" etc. should be inserted instead of milder phrases. He thought it was a great shame to so abuse the good-nature and christian attitude of the denomination towards Acadia, by being lenient and vacillating in such a serious and criminal matter. He therefore moved a resolution in which he suggested swift justice and conviction of the guilty party. The clerical portion of the convention were dumb founded by such a move, but it seemed in no small degree to place before them in its true light the enormity of the offence, and following lawyer Smith's remarks several prominent divines spoke very forcibly on the matter condemning in strong terms the utter carelessness and doubtful honesty of the erratic ex-treasurer.

Mr. Chipman was present during the discussion of his shortage and at a certain point in the debate asked to be allowed to speak. After apologizing for his appearance he said he was quite aware that he should not be present, but he found it very hard to have his alleged wrong doing discussed in his absence. He came to hear all that was to be said, for and against him and as far as was in his power he would give an explanation of affairs. The old gentleman was very nervous and looked considerably shaken in health. At times he appeared much affected, but managed in all to tell a plausible story.

He said ever since he had been holding the office of treasurer and before that, college officials had met all obligations. Financiering in the most stringent sense had to be resorted to keep things moving along satisfactorily, to the accounts gradually lagging behind. Out of his own private funds he had loaned the institution at different times sums ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 and it was the ex-treasurer's impression that some of these he lost sight of in the whirl of financial matters around him. For over fifteen years Mr. Chipman said he had received no remuneration whatever for his care of the college books, but the institution was now paying the sum of \$200 for that work. It fifteen years of service at the above rate were estimated it would amount to \$3,000. He felt quite sure that the books were all right as they had been audited by an expert, and, according to his own statement found correct. The ex-treasurer acknowledged his incompetency to keep a regular set of books, and said that mistakes and loans which he had made from the funds and which he afterwards found himself unable to pay through failure of private business, had caused the shortage named. He had mortgaged his property to help pay

off the deficit and would continue to if possible, lessen the debt.

A resolution was passed after much discussion in which the Board of Governors of the college and the Chipman family were held responsible for the lost \$4000. This was a very satisfactory settlement of affairs to the convention as it certainly preserves the faith of the people in the manipulation of their offerings and hard earnings.

HE PAID FOR THE DIAMOND.

After He Had Been Sued by the Jeweller—Several Other Caplases.

HALIFAX, Aug. 28.—K. Bezanon, a Moncton Jeweller figured successfully in the Halifax civil court and with the police of this city some days ago. William Spain a baggage man on the railway purchased a \$40 diamond ring from Bezanon for which he did not pay at the time. He was sued for the money and judgement was obtained. Then came an order for examination before Commissioner Alexander McNeil. He did not appear as commanded and then, under the collection act of 1894, a warrant was issued and on order for his commitment to jail was made out and placed in the hands of Policeman Lovitt, who, by the way, is a carman whom Jerry Casey, of Boston, wants a chance to measure blades with. Lovitt arrested his man safely enough, and could have trotted him off to jail. But he did not do that as summarily as he might; instead giving him a little time so that the needed \$40 was raised and Bezanon's claim settled. The costs had added about \$6 to the bill, an amount which might just as well as not have been saved had the ring been paid for at the start.

In connection with capias it is surprising how many people there are who will not pay anything till they are forced by the law. An instance of deferred payment is just furnished in the case of Professor Bernard Walther, who owed Collector Theakstan the sum of \$4.74 in city taxes. Walther was supposed to be on the verge of leaving the city, and as he had "not paid to Caesar's" the things that were Caesar's" the city collector issued a capias. But though the debtor was not inclined to pay the taxes he was inclined to go to Cow Bay for a pleasant weeks outing, and it costs something to stay at Cow Bay for a week or more. That capias was all ready for service on the musician immediately on his return from the watering place, when the alternative was the amount of the taxes or a free lodging in jail. The taxes were chosen.

The hackmen of Halifax charge \$1 for bringing a passenger in from North street depot to the hotels after midnight. The other night one T. E. Stewart engaged a cab under those circumstances and when asked for the dollar at the end of the journey refused to pay what he thought too big a sum. E. M. Power was the cabman and he is not the kind of man to surrender what he considers his right. So he went up to the city clerk Tremaine and without delay lay took out a capias, had it served our steward, and the upshot of it all was that the traveller had to hand over \$2.05 to square the account.

THEY ARE FOND OF DANCING.

But the People Object to Raising the Funds in That Way.

RICHBUCKTO, Aug. 25.—Some of the residents of Kouchibouguac, which is situated twelve miles north of here, have been a little troubled within the past week over a matter affecting the moral standing of the village and surrounding country. The protestants there are mostly presbyterians, and they have religious services only six months in the year, the Miramichi presbytery supplying an incumbent. For some years past it has been customary to hold an annual picnic in aid of the preacher's salary and one item of the programme, namely dancing, has always disturbed the mind of a great number of the congregation. Every year was to be the last in which dancing would be made to supply funds for the church, but on Wednesday last the annual picnic was held and the dance materialized again; the wheel of fortune went around and the money came rolling in.

Not very many years ago an ordained minister presided over the Kouchibouguac congregation for a season, but he would not accept the dance funds under any consideration. W. R. Robinson, lecturer in this province for the I. O. G. T., has been exhorting the brethren of Kouchibouguac and looking after their spiritual condition for the past two summers. Mr. Robinson is not connected with any church, school or college and is not opposed to dancing. It is said that if he decides to go into the ministry it will be under the Methodist banner, so in that case he will have to modify his opinions on the dancing question. However some of the Kouchibouguac people who do not believe that the end justifies the means even for the church, will make an effort to have dancing and other modes now used in the interests of the Presbyterian church there stopped for all time.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

HIS BRIGHT SMILES WON THE LADY'S AFFECTIONS.

And the Poor Young Man Was in a very Awkward Predicament—The Timely Arrival of an Official Extricates Him—He Won't go to Fairville any More.

This week the inmates of an institution near the city were treated to their annual picnic; and as they are not always responsible for their actions, the invited few who attended were eye witnesses of many a funny scene. For instance a young lawyer attended the picnic, partly because he was invited and partly through curiosity. On the grounds he was like a stranger in a strange land; this was because he is naturally bashful and then again he was rather frightened. He thought his safest plan was to observe from a distance all that went on, and thereby satisfy his curiosity as to just how the inmates would act at a picnic. The youthful lawyer had just seen something that was funny enacted at the other side of the picnic grounds, so he smiled. That smile was fatal, as the disciple of Blackstone is only pretty when his face is lighted up by his sweet smile. An inmate saw the smile; the inmate was of the female sex and fell before it.

She wended her way to where the lawyer stood; she gazed in his face, but fear had driven every vestige of amusement from it, and ashen paleness was all she saw; except the gold chain hanging from his eyeglasses. Longing to see him smile once more, she tried a few magic passes before his face, as if to hypnotize him, and bring back the radiance of his rapidly paling brow. The other spectators at the picnic saw nothing so interesting as the frightened lawyer, flat against the fence, and the frantie female inmate in front of him.

They gathered closer to see what was going on and were surprised to see fear and consternation written on every feature of the poor captive's face.

On the crowd approaching, his admirer frowned at what she thought an intrusion on their part and she left. The guileless youth saw her leave, so he felt safe as his friends were about him; and he smiled once more. Alas, she saw the smile and all the fire of love was again kindled in her heart so back she came more determined to make an impression than before.

She pleaded to the youth to come to her arms; to fly with her on the wings of love; and through all her bursts of passionate love the youth trembled violently; his teeth chattered loudly against one another and his trembling limbs almost refused to support his body. The love sick maiden saw nothing but that blisful haunting smile; so she kept on pressing her suit, and the young man, but as he failed to respond she settled down to steady work of love making.

This was kept up so long that the lawyers glasses were in danger of being broken, his delicate features were being battered against the more rugged face of the woman, so he called for help. It was that call that alarmed those who had roved over with him in the bus, and they took up the call for help. The timely appearance of one of the officials prevented the ardent woman from carrying the lawyer bodily away.

This will doubtless be the young lawyer's last picnic this year, at any rate he has sworn off attending any more at the place referred to.

THEY WENT CANOEING.

Two North End Lovers Who Had an Exciting Canoeing Experience.

There was lots of excitement at Indian-town on Thursday evening over the narrow escape from drowning of a young couple. The accident occurred close to the Indian-town ferry and it was the fact that many young men were sitting about the wharves which prevented a fatality. A North end druggist and his best girl were the principals; they were out for a romantic sail in a frail canoe on the harbor at Indian-town, and after spending two hours or more in padding about, they attempted to land at the ferry wharf.

The young lady was not as cautious as she should have been, and the canoe not being fitted out with centre board and keel, it soon upset and the lovers were in the briny deep with their ardor considerably dampened. The young lady's squeals took several persons to the scene of the accident and the pair were fished out; though the young druggist, 'tis said, was very gallant in diving under the wharf and fishing his sweetheart from her dangerous situation. They have decided not to go canoeing any more.

Mr. Tippit's Expulsion.

Very little indeed is known of the misconduct which has caused the expulsion of Mr. Tippit from the Methodist ministry but if the reports which have reached the public are in any degree correct the action of the conference committee was not too prompt. Mr. Tippit was well known in the

church. He has filled several important stations and while not a brilliant man, was always considered as one of even temperament, agreeable to his parishioners and an average success in the ministry. He was not considered as a ladies man and it is understood that he was not. There is little if any excuse for natural crimes against society, but unnatural offenses are held in abhorrence by any community.

LET THE TALK DROP.

The Elections are over but the Unmanly Newspaper Warfare Continues.

Now that the election in Queens and Sunbury is over and the Minister of Railways has been elected by a handsome and substantial majority the talk about money and rum indulged in by the Sun and the Telegraph is as amusing as it is ridiculous. The organ of any party is always expected to make the best possible excuse for a defeat but the experience of the Sun should have taught it that the reason assigned for the overthrow of Messrs Foster, Wilmot & Co. are not absent from any election run in this country. It is a regrettable fact no doubt; but so long as there are elections under the present laws money and rum are not apt to be absent from the contest. The resources of both parties were thrown into the fight. The best speakers, the ablest organizers, the most expert electioneers, from both the Conservative and Liberal ranks were on the ground. The Tories were beaten with their own weapons—why then this wail about "money and rum." Both of the leaders in the fight Messrs. Blair and Foster are abstainers from liquor and their followers and supporters agreed with them in that as well as other things the consumption of liquor would have been nil. But it is quite evident that they did not, and it is poor and unmanly politics to discuss this day at which party sinned the more in the use of these potent arguments. It is far better to retire with the understanding that the electors have spoken and have made their choice of whom they wish to represent them. Many of the more moderate conservatives fully admit that the contest was a mistake and against the counsel of some of their ablest advisers. The countries had returned a good liberal by a fair majority and it was not in the interests of the province to oppose the election of a member of the government. The effect of the crushing defeat of Mr. Wilmot and Mr. Foster will no doubt be felt when the bye elections resulting from the protests are held.

THEY WANT CUSTOMS REFORM.

Halifax People Think the Custom House is Not Managed Properly.

HALIFAX, Aug. 27.—If the Laurier government wishes to make itself popular with the people of Halifax they will take the customs department of this city vigorously in hand and work it in the interests of the people and not allow a host of clerks to work the service simply in their own interests. The most effective means for making liberal votes during the past few years has been the Halifax customs house, and particularly the appraisers' office. There have been here, it is said, a dozen different standards of valuation for the same line of goods. The fancy of the appraiser was frequently the rule rather than the regulation of the department. These things were aggravated enough, but there were other features in the conduct of this office which made it yet more unpopular. Discourtesy of officials who act as if they were the public's masters instead of its servants, was often getting in the extreme.

A reform the government should institute is a readjustment of the hours for duty in the whole customs house. The men in the Halifax office should be asked to work on ordinary business days and during hours which will suit the business public. From 9 to 4 is the maximum time these clerks are to be found in their offices, and the great bulk of their work is concluded by 3 o'clock, after which hours but few entries are received. Two hours a day should be added to the time to be spent by these clerks at their desks, and in the appraisers' office the staff should certainly be kept at work till 6 o'clock in the evening.

Possibly a still better reform would be the dismissal of half the staff, and a goodly proportion of the younger. But whatever the government does let there be a reform. The people want it in the Halifax customs house.

Labor Day Pleasures.

On Labor day the yacht club hold their annual outing at Watters landing, which gives promise of being one of the best days of first class sport St. John has seen for a long time. Among the events will be two yacht races, two Dinghy races, four oared shell race, and a host of field sports including running races, jumping contests and bicycle races. Steamer Aberdeen has been chartered to run morning and afternoon trips. City Cornet band will furnish music for dancing.

THAT BOGUS PRICE LIST.

THE HARDWARE CONTRACT IS A GENUINE CIVIC SENSATION.

The Investigating Committee Report Failure to Find Just Where the List Came From—Everybody Smiles and Looks Wise and Advises a Dose of Patience.

HALIFAX, August 27.—The hardware contract was the most genuine civic sensation we have had for many a long day. The committee which investigated it found that, while Black Brothers' tender was nominally the lowest, that the bills for May were paid on a price list, higher than either of the tenders, which was mysteriously placed in the board of works office. The committee reported that they could not tell where the remarkable price list came from. The city council by a vote of 9 to 8, threw out that report, that body satisfying itself with the statement that Black Brothers' tender was the lowest.

One noteworthy phase of this strange case—scandal it may fairly be called, is in connection with the committee's report. They said they could not tell where the bogus price list came from, whereas Clerk Reilly stated most positively that it came from Dr. Johnstone of the engineer's office. So that instead of calling it 'Reilly's list' the poets and others who have been talking about the document, should call it 'Johnstone's list' if they wish to be correct.

On that investigating committee there were three candidates for the mayoralty, when Mayor McPherson steps out. All three, and certainly strictly in accordance with the evidence decided that there had been irregularities in connection with the hardware contract. That decision might have had a marked effect on the features of any one of the candidates if the other two had taken an opposite view, but all got into the same boat and no electioneering capital can be made by any of them out of the affair. It looked for a while, as if Alderman Mosher would escape a share in the responsibilities of the report, but Alderman Hamilton was too smart for that. The alderman saw that the resolution of censure would carry, but that without Alderman Musgrave's vote it would be a tie. Accordingly he bent all his energies to keep Alderman Musgrave from voting. This he succeeded in doing on the ground that Mr. Musgrave had brought the charges and therefore should not vote. So Chairman Mosher had to express himself after all. He had to decide the tie.

All three, true enough, are in the same boat, so far as the results of their action in the investigation are concerned, but the incident may make a serious difference to each. It may mean that the prize of the mayoralty will be kept for a year longer than it otherwise would be from the grasp of whoever is to get it. Mayor McPherson might have intended to retire at the end of this year and leave the field open to the new aspirants. It was highly probable, indeed, that he would have done so. What if now, as an act of reprisal for the practically hostile report of the committee, as regards himself, Mayor McPherson should decide to hold on to his office for another year claiming the full three years which usage generally grants to our chief magistrate.

Mayor McPherson may get even with the men who would sign a report reflecting on the management of his department, even if it was in accordance with the evidence, by saying "all right, my friends, you may just wait for twelve months longer than you otherwise would before any of you obtains the prize you so much covet. Don't be so hard-hearted, Mr. Mayor as to do anything like that!

But where, after all, did that bogus list come from on which Black Brothers, the lowest tenderers, were paid prices during May for the hardware they supplied higher not only than H. H. Fuller & Co., asked, but higher than their own offer? Clerk Reilly says Assistant Engineer Johnstone gave it to him, Mr. Johnstone repudiates all knowledge of the document. And how did H. H. Fuller & Co., obtain that copy of the list from the board of works? Fuller & Co., have steadily refused to give any information on this point. They obtained the list, that is sure. And another thing seems certain—they have facts up their sleeve which will be brought down when the right time comes. They are not slow to say they can give a full history of that price list, or at least of how they secured it. W. C. Brine, who has worked up this case, and who put Alderman Musgrave 'on to it' when asked for a pointer, on the list, smiles a bland smile, which looks as if it concealed volumes of information, and merely wards off inquisitive questioners by saying 'it will all come in good time.' Look out for it, then!

A Successful Season.

The McAuliffe-Green company, which has been playing here this week, will close a successful engagement this evening. The various pieces have been very well received especially the "Black Flag" in which the individual work was better than at any

other time during the week. Messrs. McAuliffe and Green are conscientious in their work and are anxious to please their patrons. The productions are clean; though sensationalism is of course not wanting. The engagement closes this evening.

NEEDY ALWAYS SPEAKS HIS MIND

Now He is After John W. Rubland and Recorder MacCoy.

HALIFAX, Aug. 27.—Alderman O'Donnell is not very much if not outspoken. His outspokenness often verges on the vulgar, but sometimes it is necessary, in the interests of truth, to lay oneself open to the charge of vulgarity. At last week's city council meeting the alderman waxed very indignant, his excitement making him almost eloquent, as he waged war on Recorder MacCoy. It seems that Alderman O'Donnell owns a property on South Brunswick street once known as a not very savory resort. This was before the days of the alderman's real estate triumphs. Now the place is in decay and a couple of years ago almost fell down. A fence was erected round on the front of the house, encroaching on the sidewalk. This fence has been there for two years, much inconveniencing pedestrians. Recorder MacCoy is putting the law in force, in the direction of compelling the alderman to remove the nuisance. Is anyone surprised to learn that this procedure made Alderman O'Donnell very mad.

At the council meeting Alderman O'Donnell saw the recorder sitting like a good honest man beside Mayor McPherson in all the dignity of legal adviser to the city of Halifax. The sight was too much for Edward, but he rose to the occasion. It transpired that there were two men to undergo the withering ordeal of Alderman O'Donnell's flood of vituperative eloquence. One of these of course, was the recorder, the other was John W. Rubland grand master of the freemasons of Nova Scotia.

Alderman O'Donnell charged that Rubland was erecting a house on Grafton street in violation of the building law. He went on to say, by direct implication, that this house was to be used as a place of questionable resort, and that it is only one more of 64 such places in full swing in this good city of Halifax. The alderman defied any city father to contradict what he had stated regarding the number of such resorts in this city. Then he fixed his gaze on Recorder MacCoy and told him that Rubland was safe from molestation is his work because he (Rubland) happened to be head of an honorable order in Nova Scotia, an order to which the Recorder also belongs and of which he is the ex-head. He was willing to stake almost anything on the certainty that Recorder MacCoy would not do anything to interfere with what he called the illegal conduct of Grand Master Rubland. Then he sat down.

Recorder MacCoy replied with warmth that the law would be enforced in its entirety against Rubland and everyone else in Halifax who dared to break it, and he would take precious good care to see that no fences which should come down were allowed to remain erect one minute after he could cause their removal. People now are watching both Rubland's Grafton street house and O'Donnell's South Brunswick street fence.

STILL ON THEIR HONEYMOON.

Two Union Street Couples Who Persist in Public Exhibitions

There are lots of married people who forget just when to bring a blissful honeymoon to a close, and there are more who have their honeymoon in their courtship days and close it with the wedding ceremony. This city, like all other cities has both kinds.

There is a quartette of lovers that vie with each other in seeing who can do the most billing and cooing, and this they do almost in the eyes of the public, or where a good portion of the public can see them. The quartette occupy the same apartments on Union Street near Sydney, and although they are on the top flat, they are seen by a curious crowd who watch for the circus to begin. Those composing the quartette are a woman and her husband, her daughter and her husband. The eldest woman is the bride of about a year, she having married a youthful husband after a few years of widowhood.

In June last her young daughter betook to herself a husband old enough to be her father. The June wedding attended as it is with the billing and cooing seems to have enthused the previously wadded pair, for they have ripened out into a second honeymoon and now the idle corner loafers are treated to two shows going on at the same time. The old lady and her boy husband in the one window hugging and kissing, and the pretty young bride and her grizzly hubby at another. The scene is one full of honey and is such a treat that now the boys invite their friends around to the corner to watch the show.

They have no objection to the quartette making love, but they do wish they would pull down the blind.