A GLANCE AT THE LOCAL NEWS OF FREDERICTON 27 YEARS AGO

(From the DAILY HERALD FILES of May 7, 1907)

Internal Operation

Mrs. J. C. Berrie of Gibson underwent a delicate internal operation yesterday and is doing as well as can be expected today.

Moved Down Town

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Spurden have removed from Brunswick Street to the handsome residence at the Corner of Charlotte and church streets owned by the Bank of Montreal.

To Get Degree

D. W. Hamilton, principal of the consolidated school at Kingston, Kings County has received the good news that the faculty of the University of New Brunswick has awarded him a Ph. D. degree which will be conferred on Encaenia Day May 30th. Mr. Hamilton's thesis on the weeds of New Brunswick will probably be published in bulletin form by the department of Agriculture.

A Record Cut

At the Mitchell Boom yesterday Holly Kimball did a big day's work with a sawing machine run by a gasoline engine. In 8 hours Mr. Kimball cut 40 cords of wood making two cuts to a stick. He sawed one cord in six and one half minutes. This would be at the rate of 90 cords of wood per day for a ten hour day. Mr. Kimball claims that this is a record and it was certainly fast work.

Court Martial

A district court martial composed of Lt. Col. George Rolt White, D.O.C. Major Fiset and Lt. McPeake convened at the drill hall this morning and tried privates Goucher and Bourque on a charge of desertion. The finding of the court will be forwarded to Col. Drury of Halifax before being made public.

Church Promotions

Rev. Canon Newham, rector of Saint Stephen has been appointed an archdeacon of Fredericton by Bishop Kingdon in room of the rate Archdeacon Neales and Rev. C. P. Hannington of Hampton has been created a canon in place of Archdeacon Neales.

Property Sale

W. Tom Murchie has purchased the McClish property on Union street and it is understood will occupy it as a residence.

River Falling.

The water in the river fell about six inches last night but now that the weather has moderated a higher freshet may be looked for. A good many logs apparently of last seasons cut are reported to be running into the boomes.

Bishop's Reception

Coadjutor Bishop Richardson was tendered a reception at Chatham last night. He was presented with an address by Hon. John P. Burchill on behalf of Mr. Burchill Sr. who is the oldest church warden in the parish. The Bishop made a suitable reply. Speeches were delivered by Mr. Burchill, F. E. Nale, William Dick and Dr. Joseph Benson.

Peculiar Funeral

A remarkable funeral was that of Bliss Seeley, the young man who was drowned on a drive on the headwaters of the Oromocto River a few days ago. The service was held at Center Blissville, owing to the high freshet the young man's body had to be carried on a raft for more than half a mile and there were many boats and rafts following. The procession formed at the water's edge and was headed by the members of the firm of Smith Brothrs, Ltd., who followed the body to its resting place in the Baptist cemetery. Rev. D. W. Foster, a former pastor was called from Keswick to conduct the services which were held in the church were the deceased had so often attended divine service.

Splendid Lecture

The story of the great Battle of Waterloo was both graphically and entertaingly told by the Rev. J. W. McConnel last evening before an audience that completely filled the Opera House. As a lecturer the Reverend gentleman has few equals in New Brunswick and no superiors and those who were privileged to hear him last evening enjoyed a great treat. The strong points in the character in those great military genises Napoleon and Willington were well brought out and the eloquent outburst of the lecturer in referring to the achievements at Waterloo of such historic regiments as the Scotch Greys and the Guards aroused the patriotic ire of the audience to a high pitch.

Rifle Club Annual

The annual meeting of the Fredericton civilian Rifle Association was held. On Monday evening with Lt Col. T. G. Loggie in the chair. The election of officers resulted as follows: Captain, Lt. Col. T. G. Loggie; vice-captain James Pringle; sec'y treasurer H. H. Hagerman, managing committee, J. W. McFarlane and F. A. Good, Auditors: James Pringle and J. W. McFarlane. It was decided to hold the first regular club practise on May 24th. T. W. Gregory of Gibson was reappointed caretaker of the rifles belonging to the club.

Equity Court

Judge Barker held the May sitting of the Equity Court here this morning in the case of A. A. H. Randolph and other assignees of R. A. Estey. J. H. Barry, K.C., was granted leave to take bill pro confesso at the hearing for the September sitting.

Hospital Board

The trustees of Victoria Public Hospital met last night with vice-president Allen presiding, the others present being His Worship the Mayor, M. Tennant, A. H. Randolph and J. H. Barry. Senator Thompson, Willard Kitchen and Dr. Vanwart, were out of the city. The matron reported that on April 1st there were 22 patients in the hospital and before the month closed 46 were under treatment. Since the 8th of January 33 cases of typhoid fever were under treatment and no deaths occurred. With filtered water it is expected that such a showing will not be made again. Pursuant to notice the gas has been shut off at the hospital and this has caused great inconvenience in many ways. The light was especially valuable for heating the sterilizer as well as for other purposes. Acetylene gas and other inventions have been suggested but nothing definite has been decided upon. A check for $125 from Williard Kitchen was received to defray the cost of printing the annual report.

Steamers Collide

About noon yesterday on the Washademoak River just below Starkay's warf the steamers Crystal Stream and Aberdeen were in collision and both were somewhat damaged. From Outward appearances the Aberdeen suffered more than the other as her bulwarks were stove in nearly her whole length. The steamers had been at Coles Island and were returning to St. John where they were due at 2 o'clock. They were steaming along almost side by side when they came together with a crash. Captain Perry places the damage to the Aberdeen at $300. All breakage was above the water line.

SUPERSTITIONS OF THE SEA ARE HARD TO DOWN

(New York Sun)

The latest mishap to the luxury liner Bermuda has caused seafaring men to regard it as an unlucky ship. Several months ago, when lying in harbor at Hamilton, Bermuda, a great part of the ship, which is only about a year old was ruined by fire. She was towed across the Atlantic to Belfast for repairs and for the second time fire mysteriously swept the proud ship causing a total loss.

Some ships are dogged by bad luck throughout their career. Recently there was no such vessel involved in numerous collisions with other liners, besides running into the ice in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River and taking fire in Prince's Dock, Glasgow.

The British Admiralty is influenced by the superstitions of the sea. Naval vessels, for instance, are never named after reptiles, it being considered that the name has a great deal to do in warding off disaster, and that names such as snake, viper, cobra, &c., are exceptionally unlucky.

In the event of a ship of the British navy coming to grief the name of that ship is allowed to die and is never used again.

Another sea superstition concerning impending evil is that if rats are seen to leave a ship then that ship is doomed and will sink on its next voyage. There was a belief prevalent among those who go down to the sea in ships that if an eclipse of the sun or moon took place during the building of the ship it would meet with disaster.

However this belief has disappeared entirely, evidently as a result of man's greater knowledge of astronomy and the simple explanation of the cause of an eclipse.

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