

GETTING TO WORK.

Meeting of the Executive of the Agricultural Society.

COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS SUBMIT A REPORT.

New Building to be Erected at a Cost of \$3,000.

THE PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT FOR A FIRST CLASS EXHIBITION.

The meeting of the executive of the agricultural society at the Queen Hotel yesterday afternoon was attended by the President, John A. Campbell, M.P.P., and Messrs F. B. Coleman, J. A. Edwards, D. McCatherine, J. D. Jago, D. Lee Babbitt, F. B. Edgecombe, Edward Moore, Geo. Y. Dibblee, Wm. McKay, F. S. Hilyard and others.

Chairman Dibblee of the committee appointed to inspect the grounds and buildings, submitted his report, recommending that a new building be erected to be used for fine arts, and that repairs be made to the existing buildings, and also that the grounds be put in first class shape. The report was adopted after some discussion and the committee was instructed to employ Harry M. Clarke to prepare plans and specifications for the proposed structure. The committee is to hold a conference with the architect at the Queen hotel this evening. It is understood that the new building will cost in the vicinity of \$3,000.

Messrs Coleman, Edwards, Chestnut, Jago and Edgecombe were appointed a committee to nominate all standing committees to prepare for and carry on the exhibition.

The deputy secretary for agriculture has been requested to communicate with all the agricultural societies of the province and invite them to patronize the exhibition.

The next meeting of the executive will be held on Monday afternoon at 2.30, when the nominating committee will submit a report.

THE ATTACK ON MR. RAINSFORD.

An Answer to Allegations of a Weekly Newspaper.

In a weekly newspaper published in St. John there appeared last week an uncalled for attack on Henry B. Rainsford regarding his former connexion with the municipality of York, which does that gentleman great injustice.

Mr. Rainsford was not dismissed from the secretaryship, but resigned when he discovered that persons in his employ whom he trusted with handling the municipal accounts and cash, had victimized him to the extent of several thousand dollars. When the discovery was made Mr. Rainsford sacrificed his property to make good the amount of the deficit for which he was not directly responsible, and the balance was secured by the person charged with the defalcation turning over to the county an insurance policy, which the council carried until the company went into liquidation. The public believed then and believe now that Mr. Rainsford was the victim of circumstances, that he was robbed, and did not profit a dollar from the deficit in the county funds, and it is a cruel thing to revive recollection of the circumstances which deprived Mr. Rainsford of his property and his position to shield the guilty one.

We reproduce from the Fredericton Capital of July 9, 1885, the following resume of the affair, and it is a complete answer to the charges of the St. John weekly which has revived the matter, seemingly as an excuse for defending another party in a recent municipal sensation:

"Another event, and perhaps the most important one of the session, is the resignation of Henry B. Rainsford, Esq., from the position of Secretary and Treasurer for the county. Mr. Rainsford has held this office for a quarter of a century, and, although he now retires in unfortunate circumstances, it is nevertheless most satisfactory to the county to know that the honorable name he always borne in this county remains untarnished. It is a rare occurrence for a public officer like Mr. Rainsford to retire confessing a deficit in his accounts and still retain the fullest confidence of the body for which he has acted. The late Secretary-Treasurer has been victimized by misplaced confidence; and that he has been perhaps a little careless in the management of his office business, is the only charge that can be preferred against him. Mr. Rainsford has, throughout the whole term of his

office, manfully defended the interests of the county, and in almost every case has come off the victor. In one case his foresight in drafting an Act of Assembly saved the county a debenture debt of one hundred thousand dollars. In litigation also, the Municipal Corporation has not suffered in Mr. Rainsford's charge. A very large majority of the actions brought against the county, as well as those instituted by the county, have been decided in its favor, a fact that speaks a word for the sound advice upon which the county acted."

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MR. FENETY EXPLAINS

About His Liability in the Matter of the Opera House Rent.

W. T. H. Fenety complains that an item which appeared in the Herald a few nights ago regarding hall rents due the city, hardly did him justice.

Mr. Fenety says that the matter of hall rents is controlled by Mr. Calder, acting manager of this department for the city. It has been the custom for some years past to keep a running account for hall rents with Mr. Fenety (he being the largest individual contributor to this department), and as each date engaged by him is filled the amount of hall rent is charged up to his account, and as payments are made by him he is always credited with the amount on account. During the past year, up to December 31st, Mr. Fenety's charge for rents totalled the snug sum of \$622, which amount was all paid by Mr. Fenety previous to the closing of the accounts for the year ending December 31st last.

On the present year's account Mr. Fenety has rented the hall to the amount of \$181, and has paid in on account \$92 leaving a balance due of \$89. So it will be seen that the arrangement this season is the same as has always prevailed, and the affairs of the hall under Mr. Calder's management have always been approved of by former city councils and have given entire satisfaction. Mr. Fenety has already booked the hall for 16 nights for the year 1901, so it will be seen that the city revenue of this department promises to be fully up to any previous year.

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