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W. K. C. PARLEE, Manager.

E. C. MACNUTT, Editor.

DAILY HERALD.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1906

HOPE FOR TEACHERS.

Premier Tweedie has declared that the additional subsidy to be received by New Brunswick from the federal treasury, will be devoted in part towards improving the financial position of the teachers of the province. This may include an increase in the provincial grant, and the founding of a superannuation fund.

The Premier's declaration will be good news to the teachers, in whose behalf there has been for many years an agitation to better their condition and prospects.

The teaching profession will never attain to what it should be until those who engage in it are given sufficient emolument to induce them to make it their life work, and the province itself will never receive the full benefit of the free schools until that condition is secured.

Teachers of the present day make the profession a mere stepping stone to something that will bring better financial results. It is all very well for theorists to talk of the nobility of the great work teachers in the public schools are doing for the state, but there can be little pride in the nobility of any profession where the members are paid starvation salaries. The bread and butter question is an important one with all businesses and professions, and the man or woman who can see nothing ahead but penury and possibly actual want in the necessities of life will not likely take much pride in a profession that holds out no promise of future comfort.

If the government finds itself able out of its increased revenue, the result of patient, energetic action of Premier Tweedie, Attorney General Pugsley and his colleagues, to aid the teachers with large grants, they will be doing as excellent work for the cause of education, for the maintenance of an experienced and vigorous teaching staff lies at the very root of success in the public schools.

CAN FIDDLE AND DANCE.

Some of Nova Scotia's public men can throw off the dignity of their positions in the social circle and be really boys again.

There is Sir Frederick Borden for instance, who has been known to assist in entertaining a crowd of his friends by playing the violin, and they say he plays it well too.

And Governor Fraser to see him dance a Scotch reel with all the zeal and vigor of the real Hielman was something Fredericton Scotchmen will not forget for many a day. He was "one of the boys" again just for that evening, and he got closer to his friends during these few hours at the "Smoker," than he could have in years of starched stiffness in gold lace and feathers.

"A man's a man for a' that" and the Hon. Duncan Cameron Fraser, although a governor, remembers that he is also a man, and his popularity will not be decreased by his freely mingling among the people in his everyday dress.

Some awfully dignified people may turn up their noses at a minister of militia and a Knight, playing the fiddle at a public dinner, or a lieutenant governor dancing a Scotch reel at a smoker, but when the heart is right, and the official duties are correctly and faithfully performed, is there any reason why gentlemen occupying high positions of state may not take relaxation just like other people?

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Scotchmen had a fine, dry day, and they do say it was a moderately moist night. "They were nae fou, but just had plenty."

That Queen County man who has two widows after him and his estate is not to be envied. He was evidently a gay old love maker.

"My house at Halifax will always be open to Fredericton men," was one of the observations Governor Fraser made to The Herald before leaving this city Friday morning. "I have spent some of the pleasantest days of my life among your people here, and their kindness and hospitality is unbounded," added His Honor as he hustled off to catch his train.

"You have your five o'clock teas, where your neighbors are ripped to pieces, and then you go home and thank God that you are not like Burns."—Governor Fraser at the Burns memorial unveiling.

Governor Fraser's oration at the unveiling of the Burns memorial easily ranks as one of the most eloquent and effective deliverances ever heard in this city or province, and it has been read and admired by thousands.

The Ontario authorities are taking prompt action to place the responsibility of the bank wreck where it belongs. General Manager McGill is under arrest and President Cockburn is also being called to account.

Mr. Foster will no longer be able to stride through the country with that "I am holier than thou," attitude and expression towards far better men. The Insurance Commission revelations has unmasked a large sized skeleton.

You can tell a Fredericton Scotchman now a block away by his proud, swinging gait and head erect. The Burns monument makes him thrill, and since Thursday's unveiling he is renewed with the thought that "a man's a man for a' that."

Mr. Foster and Mr. Fowler both honored King's County this week with their distinguished presence, but there were no torchlight processions for them, nor was there a killing of the fatted calf. The King's County people, no doubt, feel very much shocked and pained over the revelations of the western land deals.

A straight jacket would not be an appropriate garb for the Baptist deacon who cut loose at a Baptist convention in Peterboro, Ont., and called Sir Wilfrid Laurier a Jesuit and a traitor and the late Hon. Alexander McKenzie, an ignorant Baptist. The violent brother is said to be a well known Orangeman, but it is to be hoped he will promptly be disowned by that order.

The clergymen of Canada are commencing to note the land deal revelation. Rev. Dr. Chown, the leader of the temperance and reform department of the General Methodist conference, says: "The sensation of the moment arises from the fact that certain prominent members of parliament have been enriching themselves out of the public domain, using as a means to that end tips received from railway magnates, who presumably by this means attained to such ascendancy over the legislators as to affect their vote and influence in the House of Commons."

BITS OF NEWS.

A Hamilton, Ont., despatch says Rev. W. H. Sedgwick, the newly inducted pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, well known to Fredericton Presbyterians, preached there for the first time last Sunday, and made a favorable impression.

Rev. A. J. Prosser, Baptist clergyman of St. John, has received a call from a church in Indian Head (Sask.) He said last evening he had not yet decided whether he would accept the call, but in all probability will go west, either this fall or early in the spring.

At a meeting Friday evening of the Provincial Teachers' Association, Montreal, Rev. Dr. Barclay, the chairman, announced that "Sir William MacDonald had added to the list of his many benefactors to McGill by giving an amount sufficient to endow a chair of education and that Principal Peterson would soon announce the name of the first occupant.

Pride of Profession.
Old Barney Maguigan was as well known on his "sweep stretch" as the bluecoats on the beat. As his work became somewhat burdensome with the increase of years the residents of the neighborhood urged the employment of an assistant.

Barney did not look upon the suggestion with favor—it savored too strongly of the time when he should be "laid on the shelf"—but he consented to the trial of a new hand at last, and a stout youth was engaged whose broom made quick work of the leaves and litter.

"Yes, sir," Barney admitted reluctantly a few mornings later when asked by an old friend if he did not find his assistant a good worker—"yes, sir, there's no denying he's got the muscle to swing a broom in the open; but, man alive, when it comes to the fancy touches round a lamp post or a sewer mouth, why, he's no good at all!"

Wellington as a Wit.

Although it cannot be said that the Duke of Wellington shone to any great extent as a humorist, he was quite capable of administering a crushing retort when occasion demanded, as the following story, called from a biography of the Iron Duke, shows: Louis Philippe once introduced the duke to one of the French marshals whom he had defeated in the peninsula. With unparadonable discourtesy the marshal turned his back on his old foe during the presentation. The king apologized with what grace he could.

"Forgive him, sire," laughed the Iron Duke. "Why, it was I who taught him to do that in the peninsula!"

White Ants of Africa.

Natives of the east coast of Africa do not object to the presence of the great white ant colonies in their neighborhood. The ants exercise great fertilizing power on the crops. A resident of that country writes: "Every season I have seen the wonderful effects the white ant hill produces on the Kaffirs' maize and corn. Whenever there happens to be an ant hill in a garden its immediate vicinity can be at once distinguished, as the maize and corn are fully double the size of the surrounding crop. The bush country a few miles from this place is swarming with white ants and has also a large native population. The ants do not attack green crops to any extent."

A Taste For Dogs.

Mark Twain was once talking of war and of the hardships and privations of sieges.

"A Frenchman," he said, "called one day on a woman who had two dogs. They were ugly little brutes, and when they came near him the man pushed them out of the way with his foot."

"I perceive, sir," said the woman coldly, "that you are not very fond of dogs."

"The man started in surprise. 'I'm not fond of dogs!' he exclaimed. 'Why, madam, I ate more than twenty of them during the siege of Paris!'"

Objections Raised.

The objections founded on social grounds appear to have been more formidable if less concrete. Nobody was able to arise and plainly state them, but there were many vague and mournful allusions to the deplorable social conditions that would result in families where a man's sister-in-law was domiciled and his wife living. After all, the chief difficulty was found in the fact that the Roman Catholic Church disapproved of the marriages, and that the Church of England forbade them. The House hesitated to take a step that might be construed as an affront to either of these bodies. Difficulty was also encountered in the marriage laws of Nova Scotia which existed by an Imperial Act, and which it was not in the power of the Dominion Government to amend. Finally, after great tribulation, the bill worked its way through the House and into the statutes of the country in 1882. That there has been any harm done as a result there is no evidence to show. With the passage of the law in Great Britain, the principle that marriage with a deceased's wife or sister is right will be recognized in England as regards such unions effected in British possessions which have removed the prohibition.

A Story of Disraeli.

Among the stories told of Benjamin Disraeli (Lord Beaconsfield) Esq. the following: The statesman was in love with a widow, Mrs. Lyndham Lewis. One day he went to call, the lady, sitting by the window, saw him approaching, and ordered the servant to say that she was not at home. When the maid reached the hall the statesman was hanging up his overcoat. "Mrs. Lewis, sir, is not at home," said the flurried maid. "I did not ask for Mrs. Lewis," was the calm, statesman-like reply. "But I don't know when she will be back," urged the maid. "Neither do I," philosophically replied Disraeli, "but I am going to wait till she comes back, so please make me a cup of tea." He did wait, he got his tea and he married the widow.

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Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Brockway, Harvey Station and other offices on route and at the office of the Post Office Inspector at St. John.

G. C. ANDERSON, Superintendent.

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One Little Prisoner.

In the island of Sark the most serious offenses are trespassing and leaving gates unlocked, for the result is that often the cattle get on to the cliffs and fall into the sea. There are 400 inhabitants and one prison, but it never had but one prisoner, a small girl, who had stolen a handkerchief, and she sobbed so loudly that they let her out.

The Creation.

The Orthodox Jews date from the creation, which event they place in the year B. C. 3760.

The Fates.

Fable teaches that the fates were three goddesses, holding one a spindle, another a distaff and the third a pair of shears. They spun the thread of human life, then cut it off, and man's destiny was either happy or unhappy according to the texture of the wool employed by these inexorable deities. Might it not be said that here below we play more or less the part of the fates? It is we who, in some degree, mold our own destinies.

Another Shock.

"Yes," said the waiter, "this cafe is thoroughly up to date. We cook by electricity."

"Is that so?" said the guest, pointing to a platter. "Then will you please give that beefsteak another shock?"

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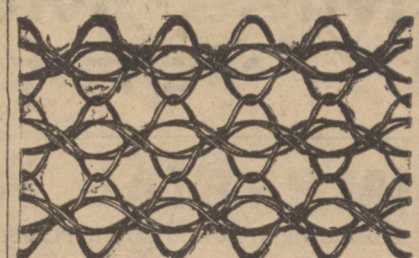
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