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The Daily Herald.

THE WEATHER.
Fine and very cold to day,
Saturday moderating with
light snow falls.

VOL XII

FREDERICTON, N. B., SATURDAY JANUARY 26, 1907

NO. 23

E. A. O'Brien & Co.

Specials for To-Morrow

Sat. January 26th,

Another lot of Ribbon at 5c per yard.
15 pairs Corsets at 25c per pair.
Special lot of Laces, Hamburgs, Insertions, at 5c per yard.
10 pieces of Colored Hamburgs at 3c per yard.
Seamless Cashmere Hose 25c per pair.
Extra Heavy Wool Hose at 25c per pair.
10 pieces Heavy Wool Cloths, 54 inches wide at 35c per yard.

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U. N. B.

Watch Fobs with Enameled colors

25 Cents at

THE BOSTON 5 and 10.

R. G. LEE & Co.

Opposite Soldiers' Barracks, WOL

Hamaca Cigars

5000 Just arrived

GEO. Y. DIBBLEE,

PEOPLE'S DRUGGIST - opp. City Hall.

Fredericton's Leading Drug Store.

Chestnut
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Imperial Cold Cream needs but a trial to convince you that it is the most delightful toilet preparation you have ever used. Soothing, healing, smoothing, softening and nourishing to the skin. Price 15 and 25c.

"THE QUALITY STORE,"

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'COMMUNITY' Silver Plated Knives,
Forks and Spoons

Made in one quality only. Guaranteed for 25 years.
Excellent finish and beautiful pattern for sale by

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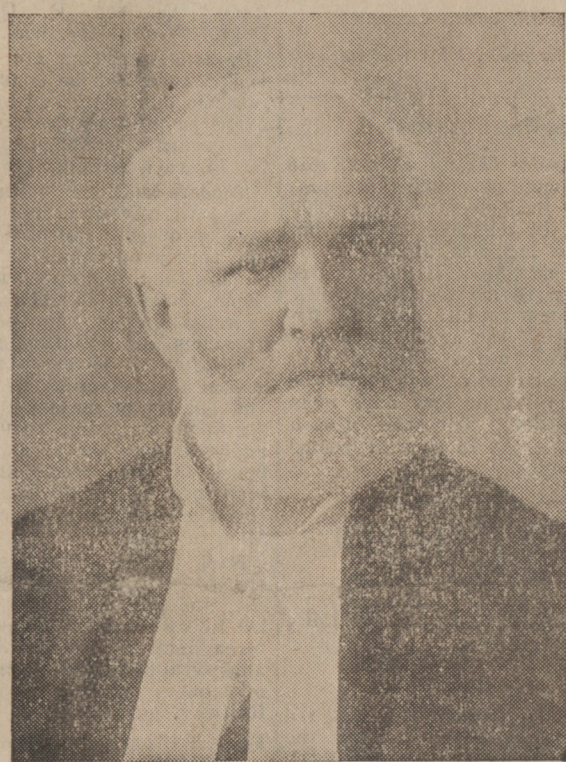
Opp. Normal School

SHOCKINGLY SUDDEN DEATH OF HON. A. G. BLAIR.

Distinguished Frederictonian Passed Away in This City Last Evening
Without a Moment's Warning.

His Long Life and Notable Public Career in Both Local and Federal Arenas.

Universal Expression of Regret at His Decease, and
Affectionate Tributes to His Memory.



HON. A. G. BLAIR, K. C.,

Born at Fredericton March 7, 1844; Died at Fredericton, Jan. 25, 1907.

Hon. A. G. Blair is dead. Like a bolt from a clear sky came the sad announcement to the citizens of Fredericton last evening, that the eminent lawyer and statesman had succumbed to heart failure at the residence of his sisters-in-law, the Misses Thompson, Waterloo Row.

At first people were loathe to believe the sensational and stunning report, but confirmation came all too soon. Hon. Mr. Blair passed away at 5.50 o'clock, while reclining on a couch in the sitting room of the Misses Thompson's residence, chatting to Miss Mary Thompson. He collapsed while in the middle of a sentence, and in less than five minutes had passed away.

WAS HERE ON BUSINESS.

The honorable gentleman arrived in Fredericton from Ottawa by the noon train on Thursday to transact some business in connection with the merger of the New Brunswick and Central Telephone Companies. He was about the city on Thursday afternoon in company with Mr. W. T. Whitehead, M. P. P., and as is his custom when here called upon a number of his old friends. He seemed to be in the best of spirits, and so far as outward appearances went, was apparently in the enjoyment of his usual good health. When he arose yesterday morning he complained of an attack of intestinal grippe and his sisters-in-law, gathered from what he said that he had not passed a very comfortable night. At ten o'clock he walked up to the telephone office, and remained closeted there during the remainder of the forenoon with Mr. J. H. Barry, K. C., the company's solicitor. At one o'clock, when they separated he informed Mr. Barry that he was not feeling very well and did not think it would be wise for him to venture out during the afternoon. He arranged with Mr. Barry to meet him at the Misses Thompson's home at seven-thirty o'clock in the evening to finish the work they had in hand.

TAKEN SUDDENLY ILL.

Mr. Blair ate scarcely any dinner yesterday, and remained in the house during the afternoon. He conversed with some friends over the telephone during the afternoon, and busied himself going over some legal documents in connection with the telephone merger. About 5.50 o'clock, while resting on a sofa in the sitting room he was joined by his sister-in-law, Miss Mary Thompson, who is employed on the educational staff. He was chatting pleasantly with her on some matters connected with her duties, when all of a sudden he gave a gasp as if in pain, and collapsed. Greatly alarmed at the sudden attack which had come over him, she ran out and summoned to her assistance Judge Wilson, who resides in the upper half of the same house. The Judge was at the side of his old friend and former colleague in less than a minute, and was much startled to find him unconscious. He was breathing in a labored manner at the time, and the Judge promptly loosened his collar, and made him as comfortable as possible. He felt his pulse, but was unable to detect the slightest movement of it. He spoke to Mr. Blair several times, but there was no reply forthcoming, and he quickly realized that his old friend was no more.

Dr. J. W. Bridges reached the house a few minutes later, and on a telephone message, and on a glance at Mr. Blair's prostrate form satisfied him that he was beyond the power of human aid. He expressed the opinion that death had resulted from heart failure, which opinion was shared in by Drs. G. J. McNally and R. H. McGrath, who arrived a few moments later.

THE CITY SHOCKED.

The news of Hon. Mr. Blair's sudden demise spread like wild fire about the city, and was the sole topic of conversation during the evening. Mr. Blair was always regarded as a strong man physically, and his numerous personal friends and citizens generally were simply dumbfounded by the sad news that he had been stricken down.

Mr. W. T. Whitehead, M. P. P., a close personal friend of Hon. Mr. Blair left here for Montreal by last evening's train, but was notified by wire of the sad occurrence when he reached Fredericton Junction, and returned to the city by the evening train.

Senator Thompson, another close

personal friend of the deceased left Montreal by last evening's train for St. John and received the sad news by telegram. He reached home by the noon train today and it is needless to say is greatly broken up over the tragic occurrence.

Hon. Mr. Blair was to have left for St. John this morning to attend a joint meeting of the directors of the New Brunswick and Central Telephone Companies. It was his intention to return to his home in Ottawa early next week.

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

Hon. Andrew George Blair was of Scottish descent and a native of this city having been born here on March 7th, 1844, being therefore in his sixty-third year. His father was the late Mr. Andrew Blair, architect and crown land surveyor, who came to Fredericton from Pictou, N. S. His mother was a Miss Segee, a sister of the late Mr. George N. Segee, barrister at law. Mr. Blair was educated at the collegiate school in this city, and when fourteen years of age entered Mr. Segee's law office as a student and clerk. Upon the death of Mr. Segee, a few years later he completed his studies with the late Mr. John C. Allen, afterwards chief justice. He was admitted an attorney in 1865 and was called to the bar in 1866. Soon afterwards he formed a professional partnership with the present Judge Gregory, which continued down to 1887. The firm was dissolved immediately after the general election of that year, and Mr. Blair then admitted to partnership Mr. Jeremiah H. Barry of this city. This partnership was dissolved in 1892, upon the removal of Hon. Mr. Blair to St. John.

AS A LAWYER.

As a lawyer Mr. Blair enjoyed a high reputation his frequent appearance before the supreme court as counsel, in important cases having brought his name prominently before the legal world. His practice extended to all parts of the province, and few lawyers enjoyed a larger measure of success in the courts. Hon. Mr. Blair became attorney general in

March 1883, following the office until July 1896, a period of over thirteen years. In 1891 he was created a Q. C. by the Earl of Derby. As attorney general Hon. Mr. Blair went to England in 1892 and argued the famous maritime bank case before the imperial privy council. His contention was that the claim of the province against the defunct bank took priority over private interests, and in this he was upheld by the judgment of the privy council. He was tendered a great reception by the citizens on his return to Fredericton.

Although his time was pretty well taken up with official and professional duties he always took a warm interest in the affairs of his native city and was highly esteemed as a citizen. He was for a time chairman of the trustee board of the Victoria Hospital. This city undoubtedly suffered a distinct loss, by his removal to St. John in 1892.

FREDERICTON'S SORROW

While Hon. Mr. Blair's death has occasioned general regret throughout Canada, nowhere will his loss be more keenly felt than in this city, which claimed him as its most gifted son. While his sudden taking off is a calamity it seems peculiarly fitting that his last hours should have been spent in the city of his birth the scene of his early struggles and some of his greatest political and forensic triumphs in after life. To many people in this country the general election of that year, and Mr. Blair then admitted to partnership Mr. Jeremiah H. Barry of this city. This partnership was dissolved in 1892, upon the removal of Hon. Mr. Blair to St. John.

Of the late Mr. Blair it may be faithfully said in the words of a famous orator: "He added to the sum of human joy, and were every one to whom he did a kindly act, to bring a blossom to his grave he would sleep beneath a wilderness of flowers." Mr. Blair was married in 1866 to Annie E., eldest daughter of the late Mr. George Thompson, deputy superintendent of education, of this city. They were blessed with a family of ten children, of whom seven, two sons and five daughters, now survive with Mrs. Blair to mourn the death of a kind and loving husband and

parent. The children are A. George Blair of the railway commission, Ottawa, Donald Blair at present studying in Boston, Nellie, wife of R. F. Randolph of this city, Amelia, wife of Rev. Mr. Brevin, Episcopal clergyman of England; Audrey, wife of Dr. McCarthy of Ottawa, Marion, wife of Mr. C. W. Clarke of Montreal, and Miss Marjorie Blair at home. Another son Lewis died shortly after the family removed to Ottawa, and another daughter, Miss Bessie Blair was drowned while skating on the Ottawa river in December, 1904.

Not the slightest reproach was ever cast upon Mr. Blair's private character even by his bitterest political opponents and his domestic life was all that it possibly could be so far as happiness is concerned. To the members of the family the blow occasioned by his death is a most severe one, and public sympathy will go out to them in the hour of their bereavement.

Mr. Blair is also survived by one sister Mrs. Rossborough, wife of Rev. J. Rossborough of Musquodouit, N. S., and one half sister Mrs. Amy Penney of this city, now in her 93rd year. Another sister Mrs. Wiley, wife of Rev. A. L. Wiley died a few years ago at Great Village, N. S.

INTERMENT AT OTTAWA.

The family of the late Mr. Blair have decided to have his remains interred at Ottawa, alongside those of his two children, who have passed away since the family removed to that city. The body was prepared for burial by undertaker John G. Adams, and was forwarded to Ottawa by the 5.50 train this afternoon. The body was embalmed, and encased in a couch cloth covered casket, with gun metal mounting. Those who were privileged to look upon the body after it had been made ready for burial were struck by the remarkably life like appearance of the deceased.

A private funeral service for relatives and intimate friends was conducted at the residence of the Misses Thompson at 4.30 o'clock by Rev. Willard Macdonald. At its conclusion the body was taken to the railway station for shipment to Ottawa. The funeral cortege, which followed the remains to the depot was a very lengthy one, and in it were noticed many old friends of the deceased gentleman.

Those accompanying the body to Ottawa were Mr. and Mrs. C. Walter Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Randolph, Senator Thompson, Mr. W. T. Whitehead, M. P. P., and Miss Mary Thompson. General Manager Pottinger of the I. C. R., kindly placed his private car at the disposal of the mourners. Mr. Blair, when in Ottawa was a regular worshipper at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, and Rev. Dr. Herridge, the pastor, will officiate at the funeral services.

HIS POLITICAL CAREER.

Mr. Blair Was Twenty-Five Years in Public Life.

As far back as 1870 when only twenty-six years old Mr. Blair was a candidate in York for the legislature, but was defeated. He ran again in 1874, but met a similar fate, and his first successful campaign was in 1878, when with his colleague, Senator Thompson, he was returned to the Assembly heading the poll and in opposition to the Fraser government. The other successful candidates in that contest were Hon. J. J. Fraser, premier, and Mr. Geo. J. Colter his supporter.

When Mr. Blair took his seat in the assembly in the session of 1879, the government was very strongly entrenched in power. The opposition led by the late Hon. J. S. Covert of Manguerville, numbered only half a dozen, but the accession of so energetic and vigorous a young politician as Mr. Blair, put new life into the organization. Mr. Covert resigning the leadership at once and Mr. Blair was elected his successor.

The sessions of 1879-80-81 and 82 were fighting sessions with Mr. Blair leading slashing attacks on the administration. He began to develop very forceful lines of assault and though continually outvoted by enormous majorities, the discussions which he led with such force and earnestness commenced to tell in the

country, which recognized in the young leader, a man of much more than ordinary ability.

In 1882 Mr. Fraser resigned the premiership to run for the House of Commons and the local ministry was reorganized with Hon. D. L. Hanington as premier and Mr. Geo. J. Colter representing York, taking the portfolio of public works, but the government as reconstructed was short lived.

In the elections which were held in June 1882, the government was practically beaten in the country, although when the session of 1883 opened Mr. Hanington and his colleagues felt fairly sure of a small majority in the house.

Mr. Blair had again been returned for York with Mr. Thompson as his colleague, and the government representatives elected in this constituency were Mr. Colter and Mr. E. L. Wetmore.

OVERTURNED THE GOVERNMENT.

The session of 1883 was a memorable one. The House met Feb. 28, and was prorogued March 3, but a lot of things had happened in the meantime.

The late Mr. J. E. Lynott of Charlotte was the government nominee for Speaker and was elected in opposition. Mr. Blair and his party not caring to expose their hand and not feeling quite sure of their voting strength.

But the government got no further with its business.

The address was moved and then Mr. Blair took the floor, the crowded galleries anticipating at least a keen and lengthy debate, in which however they were disappointed.

Mr. Blair made no speech. He simply moved a bald want of confidence resolution, "That the government does not possess the confidence of this house."

Mr. Elder, member for St. John and editor of the Telegraph seconded the resolution. The premier Mr. Hanington spoke for only a few moments, and the debate closed, the government feeling confident of a majority, and not for a moment realizing that a trap was about to be sprung on them. The division bells rang, members stood up to be counted, and it was found that Mr. Blair had a majority of four and the government was defeated.

Mr. Hanington and his friends had they known of their danger, could have drawn out the debate, and trusted to manipulation to stem the tide of opposition, but they went to the slaughter without any intimation or expectation that the ministry was in danger.

The passage of the non-confidence resolution and the downfall of the government created a great sensation in the House and throughout the country. The House almost immediately adjourned till the following afternoon, March 3, when Mr. Blair announced the personnel of the new government as follows:

Hon. A. G. Blair, premier and attorney general.
Hon. Wm. Elder, provincial secretary.

Hon. James Mitchell, surveyor general.

Hon. R. J. Ritchie, solicitor general.

Hon. P. G. Ryan, chief commissioner of public works.

Hon. Thos. F. Gillespie, president of the council.

Hon. Arch Harrison, Hon. G. S. Turner, Hon. Dr. Vail, without portfolio.

The House was prorogued the same day to permit the new ministers to seek re-election, and all were returned. Mr. Blair was opposed in York by Mr. Leverett Estabrooks, but won out with a large majority, and when the House met again in April, the government was firmly entrenched in power, and added to the following during that session. The government carried the general elections of 1884-1890-1892 and 1895, under Mr. Blair's leadership, winning by large majorities, but in the contest in York in 1892, Mr. Blair and his colleagues were defeated, largely through the agitation which sprang up over alleged violation of the school law in Thurston.

Mr. Blair was offered, and accepted a seat for Queen's County, Mr. Thos. Hetherington making way for him, and he sat for that constituency until his retirement from the legislature in 1896 to accept a seat in the Laurier government, being returned by acclamation with Hon. L. P. Farris in the general election of 1895.

In his campaigns in York he had been twice unseated, in 1878 and in 1880, but was returned by increased majorities on appealing to the constituency.

(Continued on fifth page.)