

The Daily Herald.

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We are showing a larger line of the above goods than ever before.

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A Full Assortment of Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats in all the latest Canadian and American Styles at lowest prices. Special Reductions in Trimmed Hats.

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THE RAILWAY LANDS

History of their Grant to the Company Reveals
Gross Negligence of a Tory Government

Act of 1870 not Complied with in Issuing Grants

For the benefit of our readers we give the story of the New Brunswick Railway lands, as it appears from the public records.

For many years the question of re-acquiring these lands for settlement has been a live one in Victoria county. The first move in the matter in the legislature was taken by the late Thomas Lawson, when a member of the House, who in the session of 1901 moved a resolution in favor of re-acquiring these lands and having them opened up for settlement. Mr. Lawson supported his motion in an eloquent speech, setting forth the facts of the case, which was seconded by Mr. Porter, and passed unanimously. Dr. Pugsley spoke on behalf of the government reviewing the difficulties in the way of complying with the resolution, showing that the government had already set on foot enquiries in the matter.

A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION.

As a result the government instituted a thorough investigation into the position of the lands granted to said company under the Acts of 1870, and which as appears by the fifth section of that Act were never intended to be shut out from settlement.

It was found that between the 21st day of December, 1872 and the 17th day of December, 1875, orders in council had been passed authorizing grants to issue to the said company of 1,634,037 acres of Crown land, situated in the counties of York, Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska; that said orders in council, instead of directing that all the grants should contain regulations for settlement as the Act provided, only did so in reference to 350,000 acres, and that settlement clauses were in fact inserted in the grants of 65,665 acres. It was also found that about \$3,000,000 of debentures were outstanding against the N. B. Railway and the lands combined, secured by a mortgage to the Central Trust Company of New York, as the trustee thereof.

The government had maps made of all the lands of the company, showing the location of each block, and designating which lots were granted subject to settlement clause, also caused an estimate to be made of the quantity and value of the spruce lumber on the whole tract. The settlement conditions referred to were price not less than 75 cents per acre, and subject to such regulations as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council might prescribe.

Messrs. Lawson and Porter, having been defeated in the elections of 1903, the matter was taken up by their successors Messrs. Tweeddale and Burgess, and at the session of that year an Act was passed authorizing the government to purchase from the company such lands as were granted

with settlement conditions and to open them up for settlement. Dr. Pugsley taking the ground that the government could only compel the company to do so as to those lots in which there were settlement clauses, or in which they should be inserted.

The government was unable to do anything with the company and in the session of 1905 the legislature passed an Act authorizing proceedings to annul certain of the old grants. This brought the company to time and resulted in the agreement for the conveyance of 50,000 acres of selected lands in Victoria county to the province, which has been done at the rate of 75 cents per acre. As has already been stated the title to these lands has been confirmed to the province by an Act of the legislature passed last session. Some 15,000 acres of additional lands of the company situated at Baker Lake and Combeau Ridge have also been sold by the company to the government, which makes up the quantity covered by settlement clauses, as granted by the old government.

The government has made regulations to facilitate the settlement of these lands and has appointed proper officers to receive applications and make locations; also regulations have been made to regulate the cutting of lumber of these lands and a scaler appointed to see that they are complied with, each lot being taken out of the license as applied for and allotted.

OUTSTANDING POINTS.
In the above recital of facts, and in the development of the recent discussion on this subject, a few points stand out in bold relief:

1. The negligence of the old government in not having settlement clauses ordered to be put into all the grants as contemplated by the Act of 1870.

2. The negligence of the Crown Land Department under the old government in allowing grants to issue without settlement clauses contrary to orders made to that effect, except as to 65,665 acres.

3. In contrast to the above, the satisfactory manner in which the present government has proceeded to re-acquire on reasonable terms so much of said lands as it legally could and placing it at the disposal of intending settlers at the lowest possible cost to cover expenses; and

4. The asinine stupidity displayed by Mr. H. F. McLeod in bringing in to the limelight the gross negligence of his old political friends, to say nothing of his own ignorance and want of patriotism in the matter. It might be able to work considerable injury to the province, but he has long since been labelled by his admirer the editor of the Gleaner, as in the "laughing stock" class, so he is not taken seriously.

NEW YORK TRAGEDY

Speculator with Unbalanced Mind Shot
Banker and Committed Suicide

NEW YORK, December 21.—James H. Oliphant, senior member of the stock exchange firm of James H. Oliphant & Co., is dying from a bullet wound inflicted at his office yesterday afternoon, by Charles A. Geiger, a customer from Beaufort, S. C., who, after firing upon Oliphant, killed himself.

The men were closeted in Oliphant's private office at the time and all that is known of what immediately preceded the shooting was learned from the dying broker.

Oliphant said that his refusal to extend further credit to Geiger caused the tragedy. There is reason to believe, however, that Geiger had become mentally irresponsible. A notebook found upon his person contained computations by which the writer apparently figured that he would be worth \$3,000,000 by January 1, 1908. He actually possessed, so far as his personal effects showed, less than \$11.

Geiger owed the Oliphants \$5,000 and had been asked for a settlement. He called at the office yesterday, and after explaining that he couldn't meet his obligations, asked that the firm advance him sufficient credit to carry 5,000 shares of a certain stock

until a rise in the price yielded him a profit. His request was refused, and the shooting followed.

The offices of Jas. H. Oliphant & Co. are at 20 Broad street, in the centre of the financial district, and the tragedy caused a sensation in the street, and temporarily interrupted the business of the curb traders, which takes place in front of the big office building.

Clerks who pushed their way into Oliphant's office when they heard shots fired, stumbled over Geiger's dead body. He shot himself in the mouth and in the right temple. A revolver was clutched in his right hand. Oliphant had slipped from his chair and lay half concealed under his desk. A bullet had entered his stomach, but he was still conscious. As the hospital, where the operation of laparotomy was performed, it was found that the bullet had grazed the kidneys and lodged in his back. It was not removed.

Oliphant's ante-mortem statement was supplemented by a statement from the broker's partners, who included Oliphant's son, J. Norris Oliphant.

According to young Oliphant, Geiger belonged to the class of speculat-

MARYSVILLE POLITICS

Rather a Hot Time at Friday Night's Big Meeting of Electors

Mayor Gibson made a Statement of Town Business—
Candidates Proposed.

A lively and very interesting meeting of the ratepayers was held at the Orange Hall at Marysville, Friday evening, fully three hundred electors being present.

Dr. E. B. Fisher acted as chairman, with Samuel Hallott secretary.

The chairman invited Mayor Gibson to take a seat on the platform, and he accepted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted after some discussion.

A report was read from the committee which had been appointed at the last meeting in reference to the financial statement.

A communication was read from E. A. Tapley, town clerk, but it appeared to be unsatisfactory to the committee.

MAYOR GIBSON

on rising to speak was given a rousing reception and was heartily cheered when he announced that he could again be a candidate for the office of mayor.

In his speech Mr. Gibson gave out some detailed statements in reference to the receipts and expenditures for the past three years and stated that the town of Marysville is still in debt to the county to the extent of nearly three thousand dollars, and that the taxes unpaid amounted to about that much.

Mr. Gibson said that it had always been his intention to have side walks built on the eastern side of the river, but last year, there were no funds to carry on the work.

Mr. Gibson took the expenditures up item by item and showed where the money had gone to.

The total assessment of the town was \$5,000, \$300 of which went to the county, six hundred to the board of health, over six hundred on the roads, four hundred to the poor, two hundred for Victoria Hospital, nearly a thousand for police protection and with other small items there was very little left, especially when so many were behind in their taxes.

Mayor Gibson said that he had always worked hard to keep the taxes down and did all in his power to have things kept straight.

EVERYTHING IS STRAIGHT

Mr. Rowley said that all the town's business was done through the store and that there was no regular town book, but he could show vouchers for every cent spent. Harry Gibson, who is treasurer, is at present in the woods, but his books are ready for inspection at any time.

Mayor Gibson said that if the committee would meet the council at their next regular meeting on the 2nd Tuesday in January they will be

pleased to furnish all the information required in regard to their financial statements of the town's affairs.

GENERAL DISCUSSION.

There was a warm discussion between Mayor Gibson, George Ward, Samuel Hallett and Joseph Marshall and at times excitement ran high.

Fred Yeomans wanted to know if the Town Treasurer kept the accounts and names of those who were behind.

The Mayor said: "Of course he does!"

Norman Cochrane asked where the \$900 was that they got as a rebate from the county.

Mr. Rowley informed him that the \$900 had not been paid over but was only deducted from the debt, the town owed the county.

NOMINATIONS MADE.

After considerable rough and tumble discussion it was decided to proceed to the nomination of mayor, councillors and assessors for the ensuing year.

The following were suggested to be ready on election day to come before the people:

FOR MAYOR.

Alex. Gibson, Jr., C. H. Hatt and Charles Fisher.

COUNCILLORS.

Ward No. 1—Robert Gamble, John R. McConnell, Dr. Fisher and Alfred Marshall.

Ward No. 2—John Sloat, Elbridge Staples, Walter Walker and Claude Clayton.

Ward No. 3—George Ward, Horace Pugh, C. A. Smith, John A. Stoford, Bradford Pond, W. L. Estabrooks, Wm. Davenport and Chas. Sloat.

FOR ASSESSORS.

Ward No. 1—A. D. MacPherson, D. P. Reid.

Ward No. 2—W. T. Day, Geo. A. Tapley.

Ward No. 3—James Waterman, Thomas Morrison, W. H. Gregg and Wm. Bubar.

Two councillors and one assessor from each ward are to be elected. Tuesday, January 7.

Judging from the long list of candidates it looks as if there would be a very interesting and exciting election, which will be the first contested civic election in the history of Marysville.

On motion it was decided to have another meeting on the call of the chair after the committee have called on the council in session.

At 9.45 the meeting adjourned.

ors known in the street as "odd lot customers," the term being applied to those who always have something on the board, buying or selling in ten or twenty share lots and never invest a great amount, but frequently risk all they possess. Geiger's tradings were always on a small scale it was said.

Papers found in a room which Geiger occupied last night, at the Holland House, indicated, however, that he had lost no less than \$75,000 in dealings in Steel common and that he still owed the Oliphants \$5,000. It is also inferred from these papers, and is partially confirmed by acquaintances, that Geiger had lost all he possessed and that when he went to the broker's office yesterday it was in the hope of obtaining credit by which he might recuperate his fortune.

He opened an account with the Oliphants on Sept. 25, 1905, and operated 1907, when he left for Beaufort, S. C. At the time his account was secured but the recent depreciation in the price of securities resulted in a debt balance against him of \$5,000.

On Nov. 30, while stopping at the Piedmont hotel, Atlanta, Ga., he wrote to the Oliphants, asking them to send a check to the Fifth Avenue Bank here, for \$250, to be credited to his account. Oliphant replied that request could not be granted, because he owed them money. They added that if his account was closed out on the floor there would be a loss of \$5,000. The firm offered, at a certain price and to allow him to make good later whatever balance then remained in favor of the firm. Whether this arrangement was concluded is not clear.

Late Thursday Geiger reached New York and registered at the Holland House. Yesterday morning he called on Mr. Oliphant and, though evidently disappointed at not receiving further credit, left, it is said, without any unpleasantness. In the afternoon he returned, renewed his propo-

sition, and, upon again being refused suddenly drew a revolver and commenced firing. Oliphant, while supported in the arms of his son, was able to say: "He shot me. I guess the poor fellow's mind was deranged."

Subsequently at the hospital, Oliphant told more about his interview with Geiger.

Aside from his Wall street transactions, comparatively little is known of Geiger here.

Oliphant's home is at 415 Clinton avenue, Brooklyn. He is prominent in business and society.

MINISTERS SCATTERING

Not enough at Ottawa to hold a Cabinet Meeting

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—(Special)—The meeting of the cabinet called for yesterday had to be cancelled on account of so many ministers leaving the city.

Hon. L. P. Brodeur left for Montreal to attend the funeral of Mr. Tarte, from there he will go to Nicolet to speak for the Liberal candidate.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. W. S. Fielding left to be present at the funeral of Mr. Tarte.

Hon. G. P. Graham has gone to Centre York to take part in the political contest there, and Hon. S. Fisher has gone to Stanstead to attend the Liberal convention to select a candidate in the place of the late Mr. Lovell.

When a pretty girl doesn't have her say, it is because she is not dealing with men.

A pinch of salt added to the coffee will improve its aroma.