THE EVENING TIMES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JAN. 19, 1906.

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JOHN RUSSELL, JR., President. A. M. BELDING, Editor.

CITIZENS' LEAGUE

The executive of the Citizens' League will meet this evening and the discussion of a ticket for the next civic elections will be a feature of the meeting. The executive are understood to desire to have such a ticket to present for consideration at the general meeting of the League to be held as already announced.

There will be much public interest in the movements of the League. If it can put in the field a strong ticket of able and energetic citizens, it will doubtless receive general support. Much depends upon the personnel of the ticket. Doubtless the list will contain the names of some members of the present council.

It is really more important to get the best men as candidates than to formulate policies. Any policy would work out badly unless there were good men behind it.

THE NEW BERTHS

While the report of the transportation commission is still in the public mind, the city council should press with promptness and vigor upon the government the need of continuous dredging on the west side until enough has been done to provide three more steamship berths. The volume of winter trade is increasing, larger steamships are coming, and it is necessary to have the assurance that the work of continuous wharf extension will be made possible by a continuation of the dredging. The city will then be in a position to go ahead with its contracts for new berths as fast as they are required and the progress of the dredging will permit. The council has authorized a delegation to lay the matter before the minister of public works, and it is now up to the delegation. Time is an important factor in the case.

MARSHALL FIELD

The late Marshall Field was born in Conway, Mass, in 1835, the year in which Chicago, where he made his fortune, was founded. Estimates of his wealth vary from $100,000,000 to $150,000,000. Of his public gifts it is said:

"Mr. Field always retained his interest in his old home and birthplace, Conway, Mass. He has visited there once a year, and in 1900 he erected there the Field Memorial Library, in memory of his parents. At the close of the world's fair in 1893 Mr. Field endowed with $1,000,000 the museum known as the Field Columbian Museum, for which a home valued at $8,000,000 is soon to be erected in the heart of the city. He later gave to the University of Chicago land valued at $450,000 to be used for athletic purposes, and a portion of it is known today as Marshall Field. He was extremely charitable in other directions."

THEY HAVE THE RIGHT

Despite the Sun's comment that the Times begs to repeat the statement that the aldermen have the right as well as the power to exclude from committee meetings the reporters of newspapers and especially of those which break faith. It is a safe and fair proposition to let the committee decide, especially in matters affecting men's reputation or the interests of the port, what it is judicious to publish. Aldermen may do foolish things at times, and they may commit blunders and merit censure for their failure to conduct civic affairs successfully; but they are the elected representatives of the people for the time being, and they are responsible to the people and not to the reporters.

It is, of course, conceivable that there might be aldermen who would seek to suppress news of importance, but no such disposition has been shown in the case under discussion, nor in the recent history at least of St. John city councils. In the present case a sworn enquiry was being held and a stenographic report being taken, to be submitted to the council. There was no attempt whatever at concealment. If because this was a sworn enquiry the rights of the aldermen were in any way restricted, their claim to ordinary courtesy still held good.

THE CLOUDED SUN

The Sun is pursuing a very petty and foolish course with regard to City Hall matters. Yesterday afternoon a question was to be privately discussed by the board of works. The reporters who were present were given permission to remain and hear the discussion for their own information, and of course for the information of the editors, if the latter cared to know. The Sun reporter withdrew, because that paper could not be permitted to do as it liked with the discussion. This morning the Sun published a totally incorrect and misleading report of what transpired.

The Sun refuses to rely on the judgment of the aldermen. Have not the aldermen an equal right to distrust the Sun? Let's have a square deal.

The citizens would doubtless be glad to read in the Sun a calm and dispassionate review of civic affairs, but attacks based on ill-temper are not likely to be impressive.

The Liverpool correspondent of the London Timber Trades Journal of Jan. 6th says:- "New Brunswick and Nova Scotia spruce deals are in about the same position as they were in November, the import for December being practically the same as the consumption. Parcels of spruce still continue to come forward by every liner from both provinces. Of course, these are sold as soon as they arrive, or before, and under pressure of these weekly arrivals, the market has weakened to some slight extent."

The Globe's fears that some enemy of St. John may rejoice because the ferry steamer Ouangondy was steered on a mudbank is not well based. But if it were contended because she touched ground that therefore St. John harbor was dangerous for large steamers, and the statement was printed in Montreal papers, the enemies of the port might have good reason to smile with satisfaction.

It is assumed that the (Allan mail) contract is on the same terms as the old one in respect to the winter ports. One of the conditions ought to be an undertaking on the part of the contractors not to make an annual request for the privilege of cutting out one of the contract ports, and to refrain from slandering the port and harbor of St. John.—[Daily Sun.

The city council could probably prevent the dumping of ashes into the harbor by enforcing a by-law under which the trap door through which the ashes are dumped into the water would be sealed while the vessel remained in port. Then the ashes would have to be hauled away.

It is an off-day that does not tell of some clergyman whose views respecting creeds differ from those of some of his flock. Religious thought is in a transition stage—as it always has been, since man first attempted to explain himself and his relation to the universe and its Creator.

The Allans have secured the Atlantic mail contract for five years and provisionally for ten years. Their steamers will continue to visit St John. Hereafter it would be better if they discussed conditions in St. John harbor with St. John people, instead of Montreal newspapers.

The Globe makes the publication of the fact that the ferry steamer was run upon a mud-bank the subject for a sneer at "clap-trap journalism." The Globe's clapper is gradually subsiding, to the great relief of the public. It is a very noisy and extremely discordant clapper.

There is already a gain of about $2,455,000 in the value of exports by the winter port steamers this season when compared with the business of last season. The prediction that this will be a record season bids fair to be verified.

The Star last evening electrified its Conservative readers with another fervid eulogy of Hon. Mr. Emmerson's railway policy. This may now be classed as part of the regular menu for Star readers.

The Bank of England statement yesterday was much better than that of a week before.

From the Victorian to the Ouangondy. That is a greater fall than the tide gauge shows.

POLYGAMY IN ARIZONA

It Causes Prof. Wolfe to Renounce the Mormon Faith.

SALT LAKE, Utah, Jan. 18—W. M. Wolfe, professor of theology in Brigham Young College, a Mormon institution at Logan, Utah, has caused a stir among Mormons, according to a Logan dispatch to the Tribune, by resigning his place and renouncing his belief in the Mormon faith. According to Professor Wolfe, his change of faith was due to a trip to Mexico which satisfied him that the Mormon Church had reinstated polygamous marriages. "The Mormon settlements in Mexico are closely in touch with those of Arizona," he said, "and in each polygamy is practised as freely today as it ever was."

Professor Wolfe asked Apostle John Henry Smith how these polygamous marriages could be reconciled with the Woodruff manifesto, abandoning polygamy, and quotes Apostle Smith as saying: "Why, Brother Wolfe, do you not understand that the manifesto was only a trick devised to beat the devil at his own game?"

Professor Wolfe is the son of a Presbyterian clergyman. After engaging in the newspaper business, he came to Utah ten years ago and became a convert to Mormonism.

CASE SETTLED

The case of Adams versus the city has been settled out of court by the payment of $115 as damages to Mrs. Adams for injuries received.

This action arose some three years ago. The city had occasion to open a street in Carleton for some sewrage work and an embankment was thrown up, partly covering the sidewalk. It was said the place was well lighted and a watchman frequently on the spot. Some time afterwards, however, a claim from Mrs. Adams for damages for injuries from falling over a rock on the sidewalk was received. The matter dragged on for a long time and was frequently before the water and sewerage board but no settlement was arrived at. Since the accident two men who were in the city's employ and would have been called as witnesses, have died. It was therefore decided at the last meeting of the board to leave the matter to a committee with the recorder to effect a settlement if possible. The board were of opinion that it would be as expensive to defend the action as to pay moderate damages. The matter was accordingly settled yesterday by payment of $115.

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"Am I Pollard?"

"I am inclined to think you are, after measuring you with my eye and catching a glimpse of that wart on the off side of your nose, which is Pollardian or nothing."

"Do I act like Pollard?" (He was loading his pipe from my tobacco jar), "Tell me that."

"You do." This was said with emphasis.

"Well, is it Pollard that is talking to you?"

"Oh, no! Pollard is a child of the ages, and the ages talk through Pollard. Like all the rest of us, he is a sort of walking gramophone. I doubt if he ever constructed a sentence or originated an idea in his life. In fact, I know he never did."

"This is becoming offensively personal," answered Pollard, with considerable spirit, as he lit his pipe. "Why not say I am an ass, and have done with it?"

"My dear fellow," I replied, "We are all asses, though it is six thousand years or more since the light first shone into our eyes. We totter about like children and talk like parrots, though all the wisdom that has been garnered by our ancestors is at our command. The other night you misquoted from the Feary Queen, and you thought you, Pollard, were saying something rather good, and I have often heard you quote Shakespeare, Johnson, Bacon and even some of the Old Testament writers unconsciously. You are an ass, a parrot, a turnip, Pollard, and so are we all."

Pollard was somewhat mollified by that "so are we all."

"I see," said Pollard," there is nothing new under the sun."

"Solomon!" said I.

"My line," continued Pollard, "extends back six thousand years or more. I descend from thirty-six hundred ancestors. I have been an object of solicitude to all of them. I inherit their strength and their infirmities, their wisdom and their folly, and we have picked up a good deal, especially of the latter, from chance acquaintances outside the family, during all those six thousand years. And how much have we forgotten! One of my ancestors worked on the pyramid of Ghihez, another mixed the pigments for the decorators of the palaces of Pompeii; another lighted Babylon by electricity and stretched telephone and telegraph wires from Tyre to Sidon. Then we forgot and centuries later it came to Morse and Edison in their dreams how some of these things were done. I doubt if anything good or bad is ever utterly lost. We mislay things, but they still exist. I carry about with me all the hopes and fears, all the joys and sorrows of my thirty-six hundred ancestors, and even though I were an ass, as you have intimated, I would not recall them if I knew how to do so."

Pollard was still a little ruffled, but he refilled and relit his pipe.

"We have been six thousand years or more acquiring an education, and still we are like 'children crying in the night,' like ships at sea without chart or compass. We chase butterflies and when we catch them we find they are nothing but dust. We run a race the end of which is a stumble,-a fall and—what? A thousand have guessed, but very few that I have ever met have been satisfied by their guesses. Yes," concluded Pollard, "we are like children crying in the night," and, buttoning his coat, he left me to my reflections.

White Head, Kings Co, Jan. 17.

FRANCE AND ITS PRESIDENT

In his work on "The Development of European Nations," recently published, Dr. J. Holland Rose says: "The third republic has now lasted a quarter of a century. That is to say, it rests on the support of a generation that has gradually become accoustomed to representative institutions—an advantage that its two predecessors did not enjoy. The success of institutions depends in the last resort on the character of those who work them, and the testimony of all observers is that the character of Frenchmen has slowly but surely changed in the direction which Thiers pointed out in the dark days of February, 1871." France "has attained to a full sense of responsibility. No longer are her constructive powers hopelessly outmatched by her critical powers. In her political sphere she has found a due balance between the brain and the hand. From analysis she has worked her way to synthesis."

Clement Armand Fallieres, who has been elected president of the French republic, has been a political factor in France for nearly thirty years, though he is only about sixty-five years old. He was born in Mezin, Nov. 6, 1841, studied law, was admitted to the bar at Nerac, and was elected mayor of Paris May 25, 1875. At the elections in the following spring he was elected to the Chamber of Deputies as a Republican by 8576 votes cast for his Bonapartist opponent. In the National Legislature Fallieres joined the group of the Republican Left. He jumped into prominence at once as an orator. After the Act of May 16, 1877, he was one of the 363 Leftists who refused a vote of confidence in the De Broglie cabinet. In the fall of the same year he was reelected deputy by 8955 votes against 6810 cast for the candidate for the Government. In the new Chamber, Fallieres followed the same political lines as the Moderate Republicans. May 17, 1880, he was appointed under secretary of state. He left the cabinet, together with the other members of the Jules Ferry ministry Nov. 10, 1881, having been reelected to the Chamber of Deputies a few months before.

He returned to power as minister of the interior in the Duclere cabinet, and when Duclere resigned as prime minister on account of ill health Fallieres became president of the cabinet, taking charge of the portfolio of foreign affairs at the same time. He resigned, together with the whole cabinet, Jan. 29, 1883, because the senate refused to accept his bill directed against the pretenders to the throne of France.

When Jules Ferry, minister of public instruction, resigned his portfolio to become minister of foreign affairs Fallieres, Nov. 20, 1883, was called to replace Ferry in the former capacity, but resigned with the rest of the Ferry cabinet in 1885. He served again as member of the cabinet in 1887 in the Rouvier ministry; was called by President Carnot in 1887 to construct a cabinet of his own, but did not succeed; served as minister of public instruction in the Tirard cabinet 1888, was retained in the Freycinet cabinet of 1890, and was elected in December, 1891, member of the Senate. March 3, 1889, he was elected president of the Senate, defeating M. Constans by sixty-six votes. He was reelected to this office only the other day.

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