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Will be held EVERY EVENING at the Ward Committee Rooms as follows:

KINGS, QUEENS, DUKES and SYDNEY—No. 23 King Street, upstairs.

WELLINGTON and PRINCE--No. 22 Waterloo Street.

DUFFERIN—Fairyland Hall, No. 135 Mill Street.

VICTORIA—Victoria Rink.

LORNE, LANSDOWNE and STANLEY—Temple of Honor Hall, opp. Adelaide Road.

GUYS and BROOKS—'Prentice Boys' Hall, W. E.

All opponents of the Local Government are invited to attend.

W. H. HARRISON,
Secretary Opposition Executive Committee.

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WOMEN'S CLUBS AND THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

Miss Mabel Peters Calls Attention To a Striking Article by a Michigan Suffragist On the Duty of Womanhood In This Matter.

Cocoa, Florida,
January 28th, 1908.

Editor Times:

Sir,—Knowing that the Woman's Clubs of St. John are to be asked by the Suffragists to indorse their petition to the legislature for full parliamentary suffrage, and knowing, as I do, the avowed "conservative" sentiment of some of the Woman's organizations only too well, I feel that the following, taken from an article by Mrs. Rose E. Helme, in the Michigan Patron, of Jan. 1st, is very appropriate to the situation.

MABEL PETERS.

THE "CONSERVATIVE" WOMAN'S CLUB.

There are certain women's clubs, even as there are certain individuals, who seem, by some impossible process of reasoning, (or lack of reasoning), to have acquired the idea that to call themselves "conservative" is to rate themselves as somewhat superior to the so-called "common class" —that great army of struggling, striving human beings who are doing most of the world's work and who are directly responsible for most of the world's progress and achievement. The universal onward-and-upward movement of womankind today has no stumbling block in its way of so serious proportions as this conservative woman's club; it has no enemy (unless it be the saloons) so crafty and so powerful as this same "conservative" women. There is no other one thing which would have so powerful an influence in the elevating of our moral standard, as the universal enfranchisement of women, a casting off of the fetters, mistakingly forwed, which have since time began bound her—not the body, but the soul—to a life of narrow creeds and limitations. But the circle of her limitation is ever widening by sheer force of necessity, and it is merely a question of time when she will come into her full inheritance. The average man of today means to be just and broad and would, I feel sure, welcome woman to a place by his side, but this "conservative" will not have it so; not only does she insist on staying in the rear herself, but she will use her combined influence to keep the great sisterhood of women in moral slavery. And the very women who are doing this are the women who, in each instance, are holding themselves up as examples of superior intelligence, moral integrity and religious devotion. That is why the blow which they strike is double edged, and why they should think seriously before throwing their influence into the balance.

In support of my statements I wish to quote that our best authorities define "conservative" as "adhering to the existing order of things, opposed to change; hence, often opposed to progress.

Look about you, yes, and look backward into the pages of history, who are the ones who have stepped bravely out from the ranks and led the procession onward in the great march of civilization. Is it the "conservatives?" or is it the thinkers, the toilers, the do-and-dare souls who have lost sight of self in striving for universal betterment.

Remember the greatest soul is always the one with the broadest conception of individual liberty. Show me one "conservative" who has marched one mile along the highway of progress and I will show you a dozen anti-conservatives whose influence has belted the globe.

To return to the question at issue—the suffrage question—all of the really great men, the great women, the great teachers, the great ministers, the great reformers, the great statesmen, the great poets, past and present, have been, and are, in favor of suffrage for women. It could not be otherwise, for the real student soon discovers that the only real argument in the case is that it is "everlastingly right." All other puny arguments and excuses are soon swept away in the light of this one great truth. It is not a question of asking for any rights which we do not now possess, that would be impossible. It is merely the question of using the rights and privileges bestowed upon us by our Creator.

When a body of intelligent and cultured women express a desire to remain in a class with the disfranchised citizen, they are, to say the least, seeking society that is anything but elevating; the savage, the idiot, the criminal, the slave (if such there be) and the insane. We all know that the most humiliating punishment that our government can inflict upon an intelligent citizen is to take from him the right of citizenship, to disfranchise him, and to make of him an outcast and a nonentity.

To the women's clubs who have not "studied this subject I would respectfully suggest that they lay aside for a few sessions, the study of ancient history and things remote, and give their attention to the pressing needs of the day, so that they may be prepared to throw their influence without hesitation on the right side of any question submitted to them.

R. E. H.

LECTURE BY H. A. POWELL

Appreciative Audience Hears Talented Speaker in Stone Church School Room.

An interesting and instructive lecture dealing with Some Forgotten Events in History, was delivered by H. A. Powell, K. C., in the school room of the Stone church last evening before a large and representative audience which followed the lecturer with marked attention. In his subject he included, reference to the far reaching effects of the black death in the middle ages, the pathetic incidents in the childrens' crusade and the recent discovery of the ancient land of Ophar. Mr. Powell dealt with each in a manner which showed his thorough grasp of history, and his well known ability to present facts in a way to entertain his hearers.

J. Roy Campbell, president of the Church of England Institute, under whose auspices the lecture was held, occupied the chair and briefly introduced the lecturer.

The far reaching and lasting effects of the black death on the English people was the first subject dealt with by Mr. Powell. After speaking of the enormous mortality resulting from the plague, by which England lost about 2,000,000 of her population, he went on to show how in 1350 this event led to the passing of the statute of laborers in order to prevent combinations and an abnormal increase in wages. In this connection he pointed out that in Canada the direct result of this legislation to prevent combinations had only quite recently been repealed. The deleterious effect on the clergy from all sorts of undesirable people being rushed into the church was also referred to. The black death, he said, threw England back some 150 years in the scale with the result that it was not until the days of Queen Elizabeth that she recovered.

Mr. Powell then turned to the consideration of an event which he described as one of the most remarkable of any period in history. He directed his hearers attention to the history of a ruined church on the island of Saint Pietro, off the coast of Sardinia, which was erected by direction of Pope Gregory as a memorial to hundreds of children who perished at sea while bound on a crusade to the Holy Land.

Dealing with the remarkable story of this crusade he graphically told how through the preaching of Stephen, a shepherd boy, 30,000 children banded together in France with the idea of conquering Palestine by the force of their innocence; how in Germany Nicholas, a boy orator, gathered together another 20,000 children and how yet a third band, making 60,000 or 70,000 children in all, set out on a march to the Mediterranean.

Of the first German contingent thousands died from hardships and starvation; the second embarked from the south of Italy and was never heard of again. The children of the French crusade fell into the hands of two designing villains who, after undertaking to provide ships to convey them to Palestine, landed seven shiploads in Egypt, where the children were sold into slavery. Two other ships were never heard of and years afterwards the Church of the Innocents was erected on Saint Pietro to the children's memory.

The third forgotten event had reference to the gold industry of Ophar, which was carried on by the ancient Phoenicians in the days of Solomon. The whereabouts of Ophar, the lecturer said, had been a mystery until quite recently and he proceeded to give an entertaining account of discoveries of ancient gold workings and cities in Rhodesia which proved beyond question that a large area in that country abounded in unmistakable traces of the presence of the Phoenicians and their predecessors, the Sabean Arabs.

In closing Mr. Powell said the complete disappearance of the highly civilized Phoenicians and the fact that they had been succeeded by a black race in Rhodesia afforded much food for thought. He referred to the decay of nations as the result of giving themselves over to luxury. The great secret of a nation's success, he said, lay in simplicity of habits and purity of morals. He paid a tribute to England's methods of colonization and in urging the advantages of organized union spoke of the great principle of representative federalism as being strong enough to safeguard the nation's future.

Archdeacon Raymond moved and Hon. C. N. Skinner seconded a cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Powell briefly replied and a most interesting and instructive evening was brought to a close.

Ottawa, Feb. 18—Hon. Geo. E. Foster asked Mr. Graham if he had inquired into the question put yesterday as to the two Intercolonial Railway employes taking part in the New Brunswick elections.

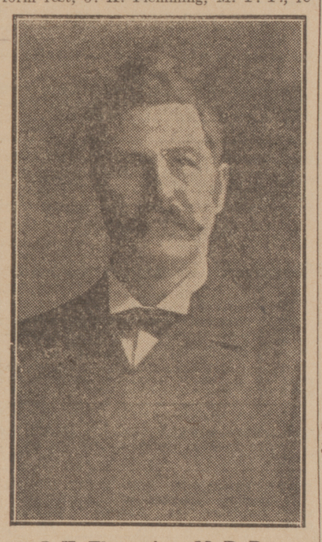
The minister of railways replied that he had made some inquiries but had not obtained that definite information which Mr. Foster would no doubt desire to have. From the inquiries he made he failed to ascertain if they took any part in politics.

J. K. FLEMMING'S CHALLENGE TO THE PREMIER

Hon. C. W. Robinson Must Make Good or Retract.

Mr. Flemming Invites the Premier To Hold Joint Debate With Him in St. John On the Provincial Finances.

Hartland, N. B., Feb. 18.—Interviewed by your correspondent as to whether he would let the matter of challenging the premier to meet him on the public platform rest, J. K. Flemming, M. P. P., replied emphatically that he did not intend to do so.



J. K. Flemming, M. P. P.

"Yesterday," said he, "I wrote the premier and as the letter is not a private one The Telegraph is at liberty to print it."

He produced the document and the following is an exact copy:

"Hartland, N. B.,
Feb. 17, 1908."

"Hon. C. W. Robinson:

"Dear Sir,

"On Jan. 1st last you characterized statements made by me which appeared in The Telegraph of Dec. 31 re provincial finances as 'unparalelled misrepresentations and an insult to the intelligence of the people.' I invited you to met me in St. John and thus give you an opportunity of discrediting me before the people of the province, if your words were true or justified.

"I wish now to advise you that I will be in St. John for a public meeting on Feb. 21st next, when I will refer to this matter and I ask you to come there and on a common platform make good your words. If you will not do this, which is only fair to both of us, then I will ask you to have the manliness to withdraw the unfair and untrue statements made against me. Awaiting your convenience,

"I am
"Yours truly,
J. K. FLEMMING."

P. S.—You are at liberty to make any use of the above letter you wish as it is not private.

The members of Council No. 2, St. John, Marine Engineers Association, had an enjoyable dinner last evening in A. W. Johnson's, North End. Thomas Whelpley, president, was in the chair. After the menu had ben discussed, the toast to the King was honored and other patriotic and association toasts were proposed. Speeches were made by Wm. Barton, Neil J. Morrison, Geo. Waring, jr., Alex. Wilson and others.

New Spring Suits FOR MEN

All Desirable Shades.

Prices $6.50 to $16.00

Wear The King Hat,
.....$2.00.....

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Dock St. and Market Sq.

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Main 2034-11—Burchill, T. Elmer, residence, 25 Sewell.
Main 1396—City Corporation Stable, 19 Carmarthen.
Rothesay 2—Fairweather, J. H. A. L., residence, Main Rd., Rothesay.
Main 2027—Holder, J. A., residence, 48 Adelaide.
Main 599-11—Hornbrook, N. A. & Co., Furniture, King, number changed from Main 1792-21 to Main 599-11.
Main 1571—Holly, Murray McL., residence, 69 Main.
Main 64—Hannington, T. B., residence, 7 Paddock.
Main 154-31—McDonald, John F., residence, 42 Garden, number changed from Main 1875-41 to Main 154-21.
Main 1618-11—McPartland, E., Custom Tailor, Pressing and Repairing, 72 Princess.
Main 1885—Prichard, Joseph H., residence, 95 Elliott Row.

F. C. NISBET,
Local Manager.

February 11th, 1908.

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400 pairs of WOMEN'S and MISSES RUBBERS, sizes 2, 2 1-2, 3, 3 1-2, 7, 7 1-2 and 8, to be closed out at

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Come quickly and avoid disappointment.

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MONCTON SMALLPOX AND THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Because of there being several smallpox cases in Moncton the St. John board of health held a special meeting yesterday afternoon to discuss the situation as affecting St. John. A report from the Moncton board of health was received, stating that there have been seven cases in four houses, that all the cases except one have been placed in isolation hospital, that all precautions have been taken and that the situation is not alarming.

Dr. Fisher, secretary of the provincial board of health, was also communicated with. The St. John board had met to discuss the advisability of placing a medical man on the trains but this was considered as unnecessary as matters now stand.

John E. Ryan, of Norton, was in the city yesterday en route to Boston, where he will visit for two weeks.

Col. D. McLeod Vince, of Woodstock, was in town yesterday.

$390,606.10.

In the Auditor General's Report, the above amazing sum is alleged to have been expended on Roads and Bridges throughout the Province, during ONE YEAR, 1906:—

Ordinary Bridges, Wharves, etc., -	$ 94,826 20	Report Page 124
Permanent Bridges, - - - - -	79,297.47	" 171
Road Superintendents, - - - -	72,724.41	" 145
Special Expenditure Roads, - -	5,339.10	" 139
By Roads, St. John Co., - -	2,410 20	" 142
Advance from 1907 on Account, -	69,999.00	"from 174 to 289
Municipal Grant, - - - - - -	66,009.72	" 145
Total 1906 expenditure, - - -	$390,606.10	

Remember, this immense sum—representing as it does 44 per cent. or almost **ONE-HALF OF THE TOTAL REVENUE OF THE PROVINCE**--was mostly given by the Government to its own adherents as **PAYMENT IN ADVANCE** for such wretched work as our people have seen for themselves and suffered through—or, work that was never done at all! Thus did the Government ruthlessly sacrifice on the altar of Graft, the vital interests of the whole community of friends and foes alike—and this. **SOLELY THAT A LIMITED FEW OF ITS INDIVIDUAL ADHERENTS MIGHT REAP A DISHONORABLE REWARD.**

Does the present lamentable condition of our roads and bridges yield the slightest evidence of the **HONEST** expenditure of the above amount by the Government?

FARMERS, what do YOU think about it?
COUNTRY PEOPLE generally, what have you to say?

Is it not time you had a Government which would consider the interests of **ALL**, rather than the interests of a few favorites in each constituency? Then

Vote the Opposition Ticket.