

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Mr. Charles Dalton, President. J. R. Burnett, Editor and Publisher. D. K. Currie, Associate Editor.

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GOVERNMENT FEED

The letter of Liberal Elector in this issue will, we understand, strike a responsive chord in other parts of the province. King's County did not get all the bad hay; there were others. How much hay has been imported, what middlemen are mixed up between the government and the producer of the hay or what the original cost was, no man knoweth except the Department of Agriculture and the immediate members of the machine. All that is known is what has been revealed by purchasers and would-be purchasers of the hay and the information is not to the credit of the government.

There was an opportunity this season for the government to do a real and tangible service to the province; fodder was very scarce in many sections of the province; farmers who had ample means to purchase all the feed they required but, on account of the low prices for produce, had no money with which to buy it. The government undertook to supply the need; they imported largely and the needy farmers were given to understand they could buy Number One hay at cost and on such terms as merchants always supply their customers. "Liberal Elector's" letter shows how this expectation was fulfilled in the vicinity of Montague. The hay arrived in sealed bags; the draft for the price came through the banks attached to the bills of lading; the cash for hay and freight was paid in the bank before the purchaser was permitted even to look at the hay. When the hay was inspected some was found to be not only worthless as feed but so mixed with noxious weeds that nothing but the starvation of his cattle would tempt a farmer to use it.

Probably there may have been good hay among the hundreds of cars imported, as usually the worst is generally heard from; possibly also some faithful Liberals would swallow the sow-thistles and the weeds for the sake of the party, as some of them have swallowed the extravagance and the overcrowding of officials, but the fact remains that the government's importation is like practically every thing it has done since it came into power, deception, disappointment, autocecy—compelling the farmers to take what is thrown at them and "holding their noses" till they swallow their medicine.

Many thousands of dollars are involved in this hay business; many farmers have been obliged to accept and to pay for hay that was absolutely worthless; some understand have had the courage to throw the worthless stuff back on the hands of the government and intend looking to the government for a refund of their money. Others have been unable to procure feed at any price as the government was importing large quantities had cancelled their orders for hay.

The government owes the deceived public an explanation of this questionable transaction. Did they pay the same price for the bleached and worthless as they did for Number One? Did they charge the same price for both? Who bought the hay and what precautions were taken to insure that the hay was as represented? Of similar import is the letter of "One Interested." Under the guise of helping the farmer the government has imported seed and feed oats, sold it to the farmer for spot cash. Thus the farmer who has plenty of money to buy seed can get it at cost from the government while the poor farmer whom the government's generosity was supposed to benefit is obliged to go without because the government won't give him credit

as the merchant has always done. A good deal has been said about the quality of the government's imported seed oats and much of it has not been complimentary. In any case farmers will be well advised if they carefully inspect their seed before sowing as they may sow along with it the seeds of trouble for years to come.

It would appear as if the government's unholly passion for spending money had got into the feed and seed business also.

A SERIOUS MATTER

The fire at the Imperial Oil tanks Saturday afternoon was a somewhat serious matter and created a condition bordering upon panic in the vicinity. It is said there is approximately a million gallons of gasoline and kerosene in the tanks and guesses as to what would happen if the fire got into the tanks or the oil escaped, varied from an explosion like the Halifax disaster to a general conflagration. It is quite improbable that either of these would have happened although there are many possibilities in such an eventuality and most people have a not unnatural prejudice against playing with fire around a gasoline tank.

It is regrettable that the tanks are so near a residential part of the city and probably all that can now be done is to adopt such precautionary measures as prudence may suggest. The wooden building in which the fire originated should never have been built there, nor should such a building hereafter be permitted there or anywhere within a reasonable distance of the tanks. The provincial government should see to this as the tanks are without the city's limits.

The possibility of danger at this point was referred to at a recent meeting of the Red Cross Society, as a result of which we understand some correspondence has passed between the Mayor and the Company.

PATRIOTIC MONUMENT

We understand the proposal to erect a provincial monument to commemorate the Great War and in memory of the sailors and soldiers who gave their lives in defence of the Empire, is still under consideration. The delegation who recently waited on the government, representing the Associated Boards of Trade of Prince Edward Island, the Great War Veterans Association, the Rotary Club, the agricultural interests of the province, and the trustees of the monument fund, have suggested that the government provide the finances through the issue of debentures spread over a period of ten years. This idea, we understand, is meeting with general approval. Indeed it has been so favorably received that a prominent gentleman in Charlottetown has offered to take up the whole issue at five and a half per cent.

As stated in previous issues the proposed cost of the monument is \$30,000. Of this amount \$5,000 is already in hand being the commissions on Victory Bonds, set apart specially for this purpose. It is proposed that the provincial government provide one half of the total cost, or \$15,000, as representative of all the people of the province, and the City of Charlottetown and Royalty contribute the balance of \$10,000.

Prince Edward Island is the only province in Canada that has not erected or provided for the erection of a provincial monument in its capital city and it is hoped that this cannot much longer be said to our discredit. There is not a section of the province that

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. S. Louson collection

SOLACE

When I am bowed with grief, let me not say;
"Lord, I am cheered in mine adversity"
To know that countless thousands in this world
Today are bowed with burdens heavier
Than those allotted unto me."
Let not
The selfish thought, that hearts of others ache
With pangs more poignant than mine own, be made
A balm to soothe me to contentedness.
No, rather let me say, "Thought, I am thral!"
To sorrow, it is comfort unto me
To know that countless others at this hour
Are glad of heart, I thank Thee
Eclipses not the noontide of their joy."
O brother, though my heart be desolate
Lonely and dreary let my solace be
To know that in thy house
Warmth and love,
Dancing and feasting and the sound of mirth;
Yea, brother, let my worthier comfort be
To know thy path is bright
Through mine is dark.

—Walter Malone in "Scribner's Magazine"

has not contributed of its manhood to the great victory and the only way in which honor and gratitude can be shown to these is by a monument for the whole province that shall be worthy of the great sacrifice and the great victory. Such a monument would be out of place anywhere but in the capital of the province.

We trust that as this proposal has been so favorably endorsed by the mercantile, the agricultural, the military and the fraternal organizations, the government will see its way clear to lend its aid to a project that is of primary importance to the fair name of Prince Edward Island and a realisable tribute to our beloved dead.

After all this is not a matter of mere dollars and cents, it is a matter of gratitude to those who risked all and to those who gave all and a matter of historic value to future generations.

"We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders' Fields."

Are they to lie forgotten and un-
honed by those whose homes and
civilization have been saved by
their sacrifice?

More Imposing Church

(Continued From Page 1)

a larger one. Etienne Lessard donated part of his land and the construction was commenced on a site on the public square on a site in front of the place occupied by the Basilica destroyed yesterday in March 1663. Father Vigal blesed the corner stone which was then laid by Louis d'Allehoust, governor general of New France.

To quote from a historian: "Anne" From the commencement St. Anne blessed the work and showed how pleasing to her were the efforts of the good people, Louis Guimond, one of them, suffering from an infirmity which prevented him from working with his neighbors in building the church, took three small stones and to show his good will, placed them in the foundation and was rewarded for his devotion by the instant cure, to the admiration and consolation of all.

The same historian adds that this structure "already consecrated by a miracle" was never completed. It was found that the waters of the rising tide and the ice in the spring would destroy its foundations. It was then decided to build another church closer to the hill. Under the direction of Father Thomas Morel, the second sanctuary of wood and then of stone, was completed, being built on land again given by Etienne Lessard. It was opened for divine service in 1662. There was placed in the new church the "miraculous image" of St. Anne a small gilded wooden statue and which was brought from France in 1661 and venerated the following year in the new chapel. This statue was amongst the historical souvenirs preserved in the Treasury of the Society and was saved from the fire.

The Stone Church

The third sanctuary, known as the stone church, filled the period from 1676 to 1876, having been twice rebuilt, in 1694 and in 1787. It was found necessary in 1878 to demolish the venerable temple, the falling into ruin and out of the falling in was erected the memorial church which stands today and in which may be seen the ornaments of the old structure. When in 1759 a detachment of Wolfe's troops, under command of Alexander Montgomery, swept over the country, the only building left standing in the village was the church of St. Anne.

The foundations of the church destroyed in the fire yesterday were laid in 1872 and the church was blessed and opened for worship on October 7th 1876. Five years afterwards, in 1882, it was found necessary to enlarge the edifice by the construction of two ambulatories, skirting the main body of the church and containing the chapels. Again in 1886 it was found necessary to add to the capacity of the church with an addition of forty feet, surmounted by two towers and a colossal statue of St. Anne. This brought the dimensions of the church to 200 feet in length with a width of 100 feet, including the ambulatories and chapels. The seating capacity was 1200 with standing accommodation for an equal number. On May 5th 1887 Leo XIII raised the sanctuary of Beaurpre to the rank of Basilica minor and as such it was solemnly consecrated by His Eminence Cardinal Taschereau in the presence of ten bishops, numerous clergy and an immense concourse of faithful people.

Since 1878 the sanctuary has been in charge of the Redemptorist Fathers and under their direction the enlargements and embellishments were carried out. It is difficult to place any monetary valuation upon a religious edifice.



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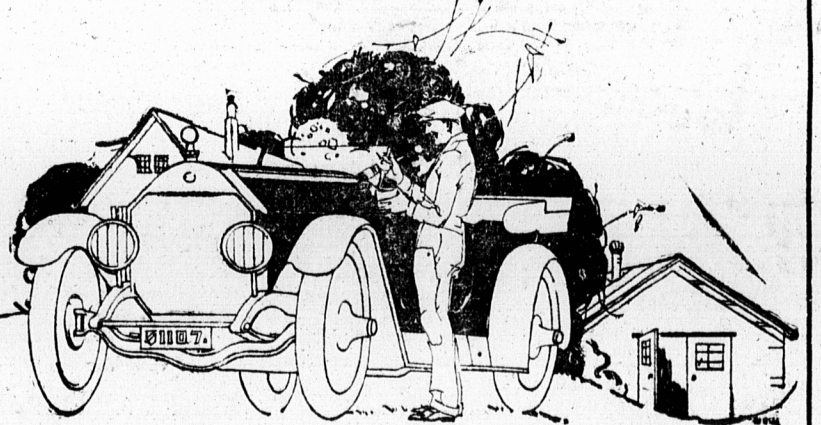
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of St. Anne, the first in Canada, dating from 1661. A collection of box dates from 1663 and the historian relates: "When it was used for the first time, that is on the day of the dedication of the second church, July 26th, 1663, it was returned with 12.65 francs, which was then considered a good collection, as at that time wages aggregated. The oldest of these is the historical statue

(Continued on Page 6.)

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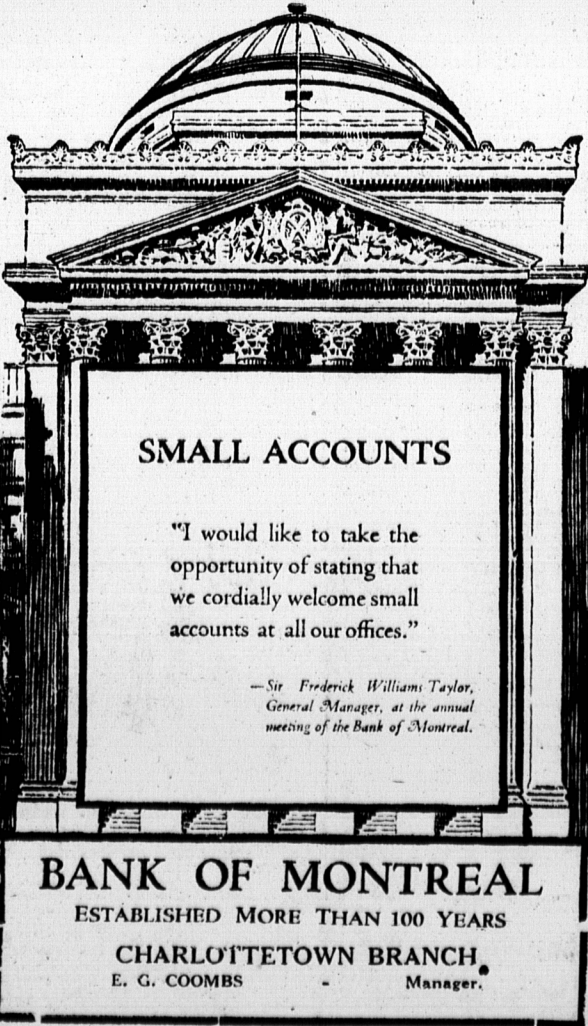
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—Sir Frederick William Taylor, General Manager, at the annual meeting of the Bank of Montreal.

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