

The Daily Examiner
JANUARY 19, 1885.

The Civic Election.

In a few days nominations for the Mayoralty and five Councillors will take place. The candidates are in the field, but with two exceptions have not made known the policy they intend to pursue. M. P. Hogan, Esq., who seeks the suffrages of the electors of Ward Two, and T. A. McLean, Esq., candidate for Ward Five, are the only gentlemen who have published their views on civic affairs. The other aspirants refrain from so doing. It is, therefore, difficult to tell what are their views, or whether or not they have any, on civic questions. One would naturally suppose it is a matter of indifference to them or the electors what policy they pursue, so long as they obtain the requisite number of votes for their election. That the immense debt of the city should be diminished; that the fire department should be efficiently maintained; that our schools should be provided for; and that our streets and sidewalks should be maintained, are perhaps trivial questions in their estimation; while the mode of assessment to be adopted this year is perhaps a question to be talked of after election. Such is not the case. These are vital questions, and the sooner the candidates make known their views on them the better for all concerned. They should have been published ere this, in order that citizens might have proper time to judge who are the men best qualified to manage the city's affairs.

We hope our leading citizens will show more energy at the coming election than they have shown in the past. They should endeavor to elect to the Council, men of public spirit, who are able and willing to transact the city's business. The city is annually drifting towards financial ruin. Its debt has increased from \$77,490.24 in 1877, to \$1,012,833.65 in 1884, its streets are out of repair, and its officials are starved. Therefore it is now more than ever essentially necessary that we should have at the Council board, men of undoubted financial ability, men who would, by levying a just and equitable assessment, by careful management, and by clear-headed financing, help to reduce the immense debt of the city, besides governing it satisfactorily. During the past few years, we believe little or no attempt has been made to reduce the city's debt. On the contrary, men have been sent to the Board who have levied insufficient assessment, exceeded their estimates of expenditure, mixed and muddled the finances, and thus proved themselves powerless to keep the city from drifting towards irretrievable indebtedness. Such men should have no part in the city's government. None but clear-headed men of business should be countenanced by the electors of the city of Charlottetown.

The Ward meetings held last week do not impress us with the belief that the personnel of the City Council will this year be much improved. Candidates at these meetings instead of defining their policy invariably indulge in petty quarrels. They also appear more anxious to find fault with the past Council than devise means of improvement in the future. While this spirit pervades in the civic political atmosphere no reform can be effected, and the affairs of the city must continue in the same discouraging state as they have been in the past.

The ensuing term will be one in which Councillors will require to exercise more than ordinary ability. The important question of waterworks will have to be dealt with; the streets and platforms will have to receive extraordinary repairs, and the sum of sixteen thousand dollars will probably have to be raised for the School Board before the close of 1885. To deal successfully with these matters alone, shrewd men of business are required at the Council Board. If therefore behooves those of our citizens most interested to immediately select from among themselves, capable, trustworthy and energetic men who are able and willing to handle these questions and transact other branches of the city's business with satisfaction to citizens generally.

We hope to see at the meeting to-night a large representation of our business men, to hear feasible schemes of civic reform discussed, the best schemes agreed upon, and the best men to carry them out, selected at the nomination on Wednesday next.

Sir Charles Tupper has ordered 10,000 copies of Dr. J. B. Hulbert's instructive pamphlet "The Food Zones of Canada." By a process of solid reasoning, based on unquestioned facts and scientific principles, Dr. Hulbert has shown that on the analogy on the eastern continent, in which the great grain producing countries are mainly above the parallel degree, Providence has bestowed the best part of North America on us Canadians. There is nothing of vault or exaggeration in Dr. Hulbert's pages. He simply gives statistics, or states scientific truths in clear, intelligible language, and on this foundation he builds an incontrovertible argument in favor of Canada. The distribution of such information among thousands of intelligent people in Great Britain and on the continent cannot fail to be attended with good results, by convincing Europeans of the real importance of Canada, and directing emigration to our shores.

WATER AND WATER SUPPLIES.

A PAPER READ BY JAMES MACDONALD, ESQ., F.R.S.E., BEFORE THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION, ON FRIDAY EVENING, THE 10TH JAN., 1885.

(Published by request of the Society.)

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN.—My object in reading a paper before you this evening on "Water and Water Supplies" is, that I might bring to your notice certain facts having a bearing on the sanitary condition of our city, and to afford an opportunity to discuss a subject of vital importance to all; with a hope, too, that the discussion may awaken a more general interest in the matter, which may lead to action and tangible results. I found it necessary to omit reference to many topics which might be noticed in connection with the subject, owing to the limited time at my disposal. In my anxiety to compress, I have only been able to indicate facts that demanded lengthy details. I fear also that many passages may appear fragmentary and disconnected in my attempt to embrace a variety of salient points in order to their being more fully unfolded during the discussion. The questions of the Water Supply of cities and the sanitation of cities have such intimate relations that the one cannot intelligently be discussed without continual reference being made to the other.

I propose in the first place to treat briefly of the origin of wells and rivers generally, of the wells of this city as a source of supply—particularly as drinking water—and their sources of pollution. Secondly, I shall speak of the other schemes proposed, and, lastly, I shall hazard some suggestions to which, Gentlemen, I respectfully solicit your candid and impartial consideration.

[Mr. MacDonald then described at length the origin of springs and rivers, also of ground water, and remarked that when the latter had a low level, the locality, other things being equal, was a healthy one, and vice versa.]

In this city, the soil overlying the level of the ground water is a sandy loam, the product of the disintegration of the red sandstone, and it was originally, probably unimpregnated for purposes of filtration. The ground water being at a depth of from twenty to thirty feet from the surface, indicating a condition very favorable to health. There was a time when this ground water was as pure and wholesome as the living springs to be met with in all parts of the Island, gushing out at the foot of every hill; and it would have remained so up to the present day, had proper precautions been taken to preserve it. But unfortunately no precautionary methods have been taken, and the errors of the past cannot now be remedied. Now let us look for a moment and see how, through man's agency, nature's laws have been disregarded, and her processes interfered with—how this water has been, and is still being, polluted. On a level with this ground water, is a number of wells, utilized for years as common sewers, the contents of which find their way directly into wells, from which a portion of the inhabitants still derive their supply of drinking water. Nor is this their only source of contamination. We have also the filthy cesspools from the innumerable cesspools and privy vaults, by which the surface-soil is honeycombed from pig-pens, cattle-sheds and slaughter-houses, kitchen waste and house slops and indigestible garbage thrown without stint in back yards and alleys, which, the more they are diluted, the more readily are they imbibed by the soil, pass through to the ground water.

How important then is the part played by soil on drinking water! How jealously should its surface be guarded against all sources of contamination! From the causes already set forth how can the water in these wells be otherwise than polluted? With no drainage, or what is worse, with a system of drainage that but intensifies the evil; for to incarcerate filth and moisture in such drains, as have been from time to time constructed, in which poisonous gases are generated, is much more dangerous to the health of the population than if such filth were left exposed in open gutters. I notice that during last summer "the powers that be" tore up many of these poison-breeding sinks and returned to the less objectionable open drains. I cannot say whether the change was attributable to a scarcity of henlock or to a better knowledge of the principles of Hygiene. However that may be, the change is unquestionably for the better from a sanitary standpoint. But this is a digression. To return once more to those polluted wells (as they certainly are) there are those who emphatically maintain that many of them are pure and wholesome, and that all of them may be rendered so with very little cost. That "there is as good water under our feet as can be found in any part of the world." That was said not long ago by a member of the Board of Health for this city. The opinion is, perhaps, not less ridiculous than that contained in Answer No. 5 to Question No. 2, on page 81 of the Appendix to Mr. Murdoch's "Report on the Water Supply for the City of Charlottetown." It reads as follows:—"Should there be a more or less direct connection between the wells (namely, wells used as privies and wells used for drinking purposes) through the crevices of the rock, or otherwise, there would unquestionably be very dangerous contamination from the polluted outflow of the supposed sink or privy; a fact, however, which I should think would at once make itself known in any particular locality in which it might occur." This authority means to say that in case of such contamination taking place, the pollution would be at once patent to the ordinary consumer, and therefore avoidable. Now hear the statement of Dr. Wm. H. Ford, President of the Board of Health, Philadelphia—a statement concurred in by all recognized sanitarians of the day—on this very point. He says:—"Unfortunately, ozonemetic liquids, especially after they have secked through a few feet of porous soil, do not impair the palatability of water, and this polluted liquid is consumed from year to year without a suspicion of its character, until the cesspool and well receive infected sewage, and then an outbreak of epidemic disease compels attention to the polluted water. No doubt the member of the Board of Health already referred to, thought he knew enough on such matters and was governed by "common sense," which most men consider an all-sufficient guide, but which lamentably fails unless assisted by scientific knowledge. Dr. Netting Radcliff must have had the men who appeal to "common sense" in his mind's eye when he

said,—"to relegate sanitary matters to common notions of cleanliness and to common sense is to relegate them to general ignorance and to general slovenliness." To show how fallible is common sense in deciding the question of water purity, let me again quote Dr. Ford:—"Water which is unobjectionable to the sense of sight, taste, and smell, may nevertheless contain the morbid agents of propagating this disease (meantime typhoid fever.) And again, "Water exposed to the danger of contamination by sewage or other forms of filth, should be regarded with the gravest suspicion, as neither chemical analysis nor microscopic examination has been able to detect the subtle poison to which the fever is attributed." Our soil, as has been observed, is an admirable filter, but it is a great error to suppose that its capabilities in that respect are unlimited, and that its powers cannot be overtaxed, paralyzed, crippled, and rendered utterly unable to perform this function. While the process of soil pollution to depths varying from twenty to thirty feet is slow, it is nevertheless sure. It is well-known that the artificial mounds for the filtration of river and pond water become fouled, as to necessitate their frequent renewal. In like manner, our soil while acting as a filter, allows the liquid portions to pass through, while it retains all the obnoxious organic matters in its pores, and these organic matters sink deeper and deeper in proportion as the superincumbent layers of earth become diminished in their power to oxidize and transform into simpler and less hurtful elements, the ever constant supply of diluted filth imbibed. It is unnecessary to dwell longer on this topic, seeing that our soil must be saturated with filth, owing to the vicious system of our scavenging, and the sources of pollution already referred to. Under such conditions how can the water be otherwise, than highly polluted? Again, all soils are porous, and contain air in more or less active circulation. This "ground air" travelling through a soil surcharged with decomposing animal and vegetable matter, is also a medium of contamination of our wells. Water, as is well known, readily absorbs gases. Nor is this the only evil. It is in constant communication with our houses, and in its passage through such a soil, it creeps "like a thief in the night," stealthily and noiselessly along, sometimes a from remote distances, carrying on its wings the germs of disease and death. When the air inside of houses is warmer than the external air, an upward current will be established, through the foundations. Heated houses, therefore, "ventilate themselves," not only through the walls, but also through the ground upon which they stand. The causes to which the movement of the ground air is attributable are the difference of temperature between the surface and the deeper strata, the force of wind, barometric pressure, displacement by rainfall and movement of ground water, and the inherent power of diffusion which gaseous bodies possess. Instances are on record of the fatal poisoning of persons by the entrance of coal gas through the foundation floors. Prof. Pattenkoff says:—"I know where persons were poisoned and killed by gas which had to travel twenty feet under the street, and then through the foundations, cellar vaults, and flooring of the ground rooms." In another case the gas always found its way into the best heated room, and produced an illness of the inmates which was at first thought to be typhoid fever. Other sanitarians reported cases nearly similar. In 1864, out of 940 public wells in Berlin, 39 were contaminated by admixture with coal gas through the medium of the ground air. In 1785 the disinterment of bodies in the old Cemetery of the Innocents in Paris was directed on account of the sickness of the neighborhood; "so impure was the air in the adjoining cellars that candles were quickly extinguished by it,"—circumstances all confirmatory of the influence of the ground air upon health. It will be seen then how promptly should all forms of filth be removed from the surface soil, not only for the prevention of water pollution, but to maintain the purity of the ground air as well. With respect to the practices of some cities in the disposal of filth, I cannot refrain from quoting a graphic passage from the able pen of Dr. Simon, the celebrated sanitarian; and, although it is somewhat lengthy, I will give the extract in full. He says: "There are houses, there are groups of houses, there are whole villages, there are considerable sections of towns, there are even entire and small towns, where general slovenliness in everything which relates to the removal of refuse matter; slovenliness which in very many cases amounts to utter bestiality of neglect, is the local habit; where, within or just outside each house, or in spaces common to many houses, lies for an indefinite time, undergoing fetid decomposition, more or less of the putrefiable refuse which house-life, and some sort of trade-life, produce; excrement of man and brute, and garbage of all sorts, and ponded slop-waters; sometimes lying bare on the common surface; sometimes unintentionally stored out of sight and recollection in drains or sewers which cannot carry them away; sometimes held in receptacles specially provided to favor accumulation, as privy-pits and other cess-pools for excrement, receiving kitchen refuse and other filth. And with this state of things, be it on a large or on a small scale, two chief sorts of danger to life arise: one, that volatile effluvia from the refuse pollute the surrounding air and everything which it contains; the other, that the liquid parts of the refuse pass by seepage or leakage into the surrounding soil, to mingle there, of course, in whatever water the soil yields, and in certain cases thus to occasion the deadliest pollution of wells and springs. To a really immense extent, to an extent, indeed, which persons unpractised in sanitary inspection could scarcely find themselves able to imagine. Dangers of these two sorts are prevailing throughout the length and breadth of this country, not only in their slighter degrees, but in degrees which are gross and scandalous, and very often, I repeat, truly bestial. And I state all this in unequivocal language, because I feel that, if the new sanitary organization of the country is to fulfil its purpose, the administrations, local and central, must begin by fully recognizing the real state of the case, and with consciousness that in many instances they will have to introduce for the first time, as into savage life, the rudiments of sanitary civilization."

The population of many cities, whose habits are but too faithfully portrayed in the extract just read, may not for a time

see any cause to excite alarm. It is only when an epidemic comes to test it like a touchstone that the consequences of long antecedent neglect is fully realized. Sanitary reform should therefore be carried out at such times as the ordinary observer sees not the least need of it. In many parts of our own city there is ample room for improvement in this respect. People indeed may say that there is at present comparative immunity from many forms of disease which prevailed extensively some years ago, but they should look to other causes for the change, rather than to any improvement in our sanitary environments. They may, indeed, quote a low rate of mortality from statistics as an excuse for delay, but granting that these statistics have a sufficient data as far as they extend, it by no means follows that a report of the average death-rate for a period of six or ten years would show a record as favorable as the one lately submitted by the Health and Statistical officer for this city. In 1873-4 typhoid fever prevailed here to an alarming extent. Since then, the cases have greatly decreased, but who can deny that so soon as the conditions are present which favored the development of the disease during those years, it may not again appear in all its virulence,—like causes under similar circumstances will produce like effects. Should an epidemic such as cholera be imported here, it would no doubt find an abundance of suitable, nutritive material as food for its germs and their rapid propagation.

[The remaining portion of Mr. MacDonald's paper will appear in to-morrow's issue.]

Teachers' Institute.

The annual meeting of the Charlottetown Teachers' Institute was held on Friday evening, in the Prince Street School. The report of the Secretary, Mr. Gaul, showed that the financial condition of the Institute is very satisfactory.

Professor Mellich, the President for the past year, who occupied the Chair, strongly urged on members the necessity of their taking a lively interest in the proceedings during the winter. He held that the good effected, both directly and indirectly, by a series of meetings of teachers, can scarcely be too highly estimated. First, there is the real benefit derived by the individual teacher from the additions to his store of information. The range of his knowledge of the professional and cognate subjects brought under consideration at such meetings is vastly widened, while his power to generalize and to grasp the principles which underlie facts and methods become greatly increased. In this way he is taught to think for himself more closely, coherently and definitely. For the teacher who ceases to be a learner must indeed be a very fossil or must be irredeemably given over to self-conceit. These gains to the teacher's mental outfit, stand him in good stead in the discharge of the high duties of his calling. He has the greater skill and success in his work; for he is enabled more vividly and forcibly to present and illustrate before his pupils the truth and principles relating to the subjects in which he imparts instruction. Again, the professional spirit and good feeling promoted by meeting together cannot but be productive of excellent reflex results. Teachers are not mere machines, nor can they be made such without largely crippling their efficiency and causing serious detriment to the public interest. Besides, friendly intercourse and interchange of opinion on subjects bearing on their work, between fellow laborers in the same field of honorable toil, beget cheerfulness, courage and enthusiasm, all most essential to success in dealing with the young.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:— President—T. A. LePage. Vice-Presidents—Miss Eliza Lawson, Miss Alice Fennessy. Secretary—Treasurer—J. M. Duncan. Executive Committee—Dr. J. T. Leeming, J. D. Seaman, Miss E. Barr, Miss M. Lawson, L. Miller, R. E. Gaul, J. T. Mellich. Corresponding Secretary—Miss Ellen Lawson.

After remarks by Dr. Leeming, and Messrs Montgomery, Miller and Seaman in reference to the affairs of the Institute, the meeting was closed.

We are disposing of the balance of our Fur Caps at cost.—W. A. BROWN & CO. jun 19-2i

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, No. 2

THE second Orchestral Concert of the season will be held in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, on Tuesday, the 3rd of February next. The programme will appear in this paper in due time.

Admission, 35 cents. Season ticket holders' extra single tickets, 25 cents each. G. A. SHARP, Secretary. Ch'town, Jan. 19, 1885—21, 23, 26, 28, 30

To the Electors of Ward No. 5:

GENTLEMEN.—Having been nominated by a large and intelligent meeting of voters in your Ward, I have decided to accept the nomination, and would kindly request all who desire the advancement of the city's interest to give me their support at the coming election. If you do me the honor to elect me, I will endeavor to represent your views and carry out your wishes as far as lies in my power. My personal views on the water and other questions of reform are well known to you. Hoping you will judge these questions on their merits with candor, and cast aside all local prejudices and the sectional views advanced by my opponents, and stand up for the interests of the city as a whole. By so doing the good results will be felt by every man who has to earn his bread honestly, for prosperity follows industry and enterprise in all countries.

Yours truly, T. A. McLEAN. Ch'town, Jan. 19, 1884—pa

Ward Four Electo's:

GENTLEMEN.—At the urgent request of a large number of the electors of Ward 4, I have consented to contest the Ward at the incoming Civic Election, as a candidate for common councilman, and most respectfully solicit the support of the electors. I am, Gentlemen, Your obedient servant, WM. LADNER. Ch'town, Jan. 19, 1885 3i pd

LOBSTERS - 1885. IN STOCK:

- 3 Tons Pure Manilla MARLINE,
5 Tons Pure Manilla ROPE,
2 Tons Mixed do do,
5 Tons Sisal ROPE,
200 Kegs Steel Trap NAILS, 11-4 inch,
100 do Iron do do do,
200 Boxes Clench do do do.

Our Rope and Marline is made by the best manufacturer in Canada. Prices as low as first-class goods can be sold at Charlottetown.

NORTON BROS., City Hardware Store. Ch'town, Jan. 19, 1885 3i wkly2i

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE AND LIFE.

Assets, 1st Jan., 1884 - \$34,791,746.80
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Risks taken in the city and country. Rates Moderate.

LEONARD MORRIS, R. R. FITZGERALD, Agent, Summerside. Ch'town, Jan. 5, 1885—1mo

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HEAD OFFICE—Montreal. HALIFAX BRANCH—J. Scott Mitchell, Agent.

Risks Taken on Most Favorable Terms.

AGENT FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: F. W. ARNAUD, Merchants Bank of Halifax. Ch'town, Jan 19 5

Charlottetown Cemetery Co's TENDERS.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the City Clerk's office up to noon of Wednesday, the 21st inst., for the removal of building at end of Water and Queen Streets to its former position on Queen's Wharf. By order, A. H. MACPHERSON, City Clerk. Ch'town, Jan. 17, 1885—3i

CARD.

To the Electors of Ward 2: GENTLEMEN.—Having been solicited by citizens to offer as a candidate at the forthcoming municipal election for the City, I have decided to place myself at the disposal of the electors of Ward 2. Should you elect me I shall endeavour to assist the interests of the City impartially. Let me assure you that I am in favor of introducing a system of waterworks into the City of Charlottetown, by a company, on such basis and conditions as will not only satisfy the present needs, but by a source of revenue hereafter. Such conditions obtained to be submitted for your approval before final action on my part. I must also inform the electors that I would endeavor to bring about a readjustment of taxation more equitable than the present mode, and also introduce a levy on other sources of revenue, with regard to economy in all matters of detail. The question as to the mode of levying tax I propose, let me assure you, shall not deviate from the principle of real estate, such principle as I insisted in establishing. But, in addition to the levy on real estate, I am convinced that a personal property tax will be the only equitable method in reaching all classes. However the prosperity of the city is retarded by the excessive rate exacted, which is owing to the inability to recover the income tax introduced with the real estate levy. Therefore, as citizens, we are each and all depending on one another. Consequently, each and all have a right to contribute in proportion to their ability, otherwise they obstruct the progress of the City, and do themselves indirect injury.

But, in conclusion, feel assured it shall be my duty at all times to sanction such measures only as will tender equal rights to all. Having no personal desire to sit at the Council for honor or abuse, only the interest of the City, and in the humble capacity of your servant, Electors, when the day arrives, exercise your right, pro or con, and I shall be your friend still. M. P. HOGAN. Ch'town, Jan. 15, 1885—3i

NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of THE EXAMINER PUBLISHING COMPANY will be held at the office of THE EXAMINER newspaper, on WEDNESDAY, the 25th of January, inst., at the hour of eight o'clock, in the evening. N. A. MITCHELL, Secretary. Ch'town, Jan. 15, 1885—wkly

Public Meeting of Citizens.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Citizens will be held in the Market Hall on Monday, 19th instant, at 7.30 p. m. The accounts of the City for the past year will then be submitted to the electors. By order of His Worship the Mayor, A. H. MACPHERSON, City Clerk. Ch'town, Jan. 17, 1885—2i

Stores, Offices, Public Hall, TO LET! TO LET!

—IN THE— New Cameron Block!

ONE large Store, 26x65, ceiling 14 feet, plate glass front with well-lighted basement, stone vault, hoisting gear, &c., and all other modern improvements. —ALSO— Two sets offices on second floor, second to none in the Lower Provinces for style and finish. —ALSO— One large room on third floor, 31x65, ceiling 12 feet, with well-lighted broad staircases leading thereto; suitable for public hall, club rooms, &c. Ready for occupation on or about 1st February next. Apply to HORACE HASZARD. Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1885—2w eod

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE WEEKLY EXAMINER, the best paper published on the island.

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c.

FOUND—On Lower Queen Street, yesterday, a large Door-Key. Owner can have same on applying at this office. jun 16

TO LET.—The "Duncan House," corner Prince and Water streets, containing 16 rooms, lately occupied by Dr. Hobkirk R. McMillan. jan 12 eod wklyt

TO LET.—The premises at present occupied by Horace Haszard, Esq., at the foot of Queen's street. Possession given on the 1st day of January next, A. D. 1885. For further particulars apply to R. R. Fitzgerald. nov 26

TO LET—A Cottage on Pleasant Street, containing eight rooms, with stable and coachhouse attached. Apply to J. E. Killy. nov 17 oaw