

WESTMORLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Spring 2022, one of the better ones we have seen in a while. People have adjusted to the panic of Covid19, and we are finally seeing the signs of returning to normalcy with everyone out and doing business as usual. I am happy to report that the Westmorland Historical Society will be opening our doors on June 11th and hosting an in-person AGM meeting for the first time in two years on June 12th. The AGM will be held at the Lady Smith Manor in Dorchester. Dinner will be provided. You can find more details on the AGM on our Facebook page and website.

At the Keillor house opening on June 11th, you will be able to experience fun activities. The new Masonic Lodge Sussex No.4 exhibit will be open, and visitors can learn about its local historic significance. For entertainment Jacques Poirier will be piping at the outdoor event and the Craig family will be entertaining inside. There will also be a tent

serving punch, tea and coffee on the lawn.

In this latest newsletter, Gene Goodrich has provided us with a very detailed account of one of Dorchester's forgotten luminaries, Henry Robert Emerson. Here is a just clip of his credentials and his accomplishments: "He was not only a lawyer, but also a premier of the province, a federal cabinet minister, and, for a brief period at least, something of a hero in Moncton as well as Dorchester. Moreover—of special interest today—he was one of New Brunswick's early advocates of women's rights." Gene's article is just a fascinating story of one of Dorchester's overlooked greats.

Donald has also provided a very interesting article on the Masonic Lodge Sussex No.4 of Dorchester's donations as many of the Freemasonry objects donated have rarely been seen

by the public, especially the lodge's historic scrolls.

Events:

We plan on having most of our events this year. Donald has put together another interesting fun-filled year of activities that will include most of our traditional happenings, like the Keillor House tea and garden tour, dinner with the Keillor's, the haunted house tour and the Victorian Christmas dinners, as well as several more, so please make sure you are following our webpage and Facebook page for the event dates. In addition, we will be hosting another online auction on October 1st. These auctions have become very popular so there will be repeat online auction events, and hopefully we can host them twice a year in future. In addition, the Society will be hosting a booth at the Lady Smith Manor at its

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KEILLOR HOUSE MUSEUM —SPECIAL EVENTS

For updates on this year's Special Events, please check our website and/or FaceBook on a regular basis

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IN LIEU OF A MUSEUM MANAGER'S REPORT

Owing to the aftermath of Covid, things have been a little quiet at the museums since the last issue of the Newsletter, and there isn't much to report that isn't already covered in the President's Message. As a substitute, I thought WHS members might be interested in the following piece, originally written for the Southeastern Branch of the New Brunswick Genealogical Society. As President of that branch I write a short article for the "News & Notes" newsletters.

Two things that I am interested in collided recently. One of them came to dominate my time late last year as museum curator. The Westmorland Historical Society received a very special donation, the background of which I have been looking into in order to understand its importance. The Masonic Lodge Sussex No.4 of Dorchester graciously donated a substantial number of Freemasonry objects that are very rarely seen by the public. They include furniture, books, voting boxes, ceremonial wands, charts, scrolls of past Grand Masters, photographs and teaching scrolls, to name just a few. The scrolls, or lists, of Grand Masters of the lodge go back to the very beginning of Sussex Lodge in 1839. One of the very impressive pieces is a large framed listing that is eight feet tall! It is fascinating to just stand there and read the names, but then, when you start looking at their occupations, even more interesting things come to mind. There are farmers, lawyers, prison guards, accountants, doctors, merchants, inn keepers, blacksmiths, ship carpenters, engineers, clergymen, and even a photographer, a pharmacist, a bank manager, an electrician and a house joiner (that we know as an architect). You see, the masons believe that all members are equal, no matter what their station in life, so anyone can be the Grand Master of the Lodge. (I am sure that is way over simplified.) One of the things that strikes me as odd is that after 1880, the year Dorchester Penitentiary opened, the number of occupations on the list related to the prison grew exponentially.

The teaching scrolls are of particular interest, as they contain a tremendous number of symbols but very little text. Symbolism, it seems, is everything. One large wall scroll displays all the symbols necessary to learn all about the first three degrees of Freemasonry: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. Things like the square and compass, together with the plumb and level, appear alongside the ruler and the hammer, various styles of columns, a trowel, a scythe, an anchor, the sun and moon, a heart and dagger, a beehive and even the 47th Problem of Euclid—also known as the Pythagorean Theorem. I recognise all of the symbols and images as I have seen them many times in everyday life for decades. What I didn't realize was their connection to Freemasonry.

The second thing that fascinated me is the symbolism that appears on gravestones. I know, it can be seen as morbid curiosity, but I have been entranced by graveyards and cemeteries for a long time. At times I have seen something fascinating in a cemetery as I am driving by and just need to stop to take a second look. My kids can attest to the strange behaviour of their father as he walks through graveyards muttering about the meaning of the carvings on the stones of complete strangers. I freely admit it: I am strange. But I see every marking and symbol on these stones as telling a story without saying a word.

Recently, as I said, these two worlds collided. My wife, Heather, and I went to visit the grave of her seventh-time-great-grandfather, Richard Wilson, near Sackville. I had never visited that cemetery before (don't get me started on the possible meanings implied by all the stones being placed at a 45-degree angle to the property lines!) and I was amazed at what we found there: a beautiful old Methodist burying grounds with some fallen stones and a few broken ones, the writing rapidly fading simply due to age. We found Richard's stone near the back corner. It is becoming harder to read than when Heather last visited it. The reason we visited was so that I could see the Freemasonry symbol, the square and compass, on a stone of this age. (Richard Wilson died in 1810.) It was beautiful in its fading glory. I decided to take a picture so I could potentially connect the items in the museum with this ancient use of an eternal symbol. It was when we got home and I decided to have another look at the digital picture on a bigger screen than my cell phone, that we discovered something quite remark-



annual Christmas Market on November 12th and 13th.

Museum activities and grants:

There were no museum activities to report on since our last letter, but the good news is that this has allowed our museum manager to work on many grants. Donald was able to secure the following grants to date: \$18,827 from the department of Canadian Heritage; \$20,000 from the Community Museums Historical Societies Assistance Program and \$3000 from the Museum Collection Inventory Program.

Graydon Milton Trust:

Our Trust has been doing well, even with all the market fluctuations as a result of the recent interest rate hikes and inflation issues. We received over \$12,000 in dividend earnings in 2022, as of March. The Board voted in March to reinvest these earnings back into the trust. This reinvestment will help ensure the trust's long-term financial sustainability.

Properties

The properties have had a lot of work done on them during 2022. We have more work to do this summer, such as mason work on the front of the Bell Inn where a large crack has formed in the front of the building. We need new caulking around the windows of the Keillor house, and the ceiling upstairs will need to be replaced due to water damage. The wood flooring in the Keillor house was also redone at a cost of \$1200.00. It was very well done so hopefully we will get many more years out of it. Our new property manager, Nathalie Bouchard, will be coordinating all the repairs over the summer.

Acknowledgments:

I would like to thank Donald Alward, our Manager/Curator for all the work on the grants this year and Alice and Miriam Andrews for assisting with the event plans. Their work is what keeps us alive and well. We will have some new nominees to announce for our directors at the June AGM. We are always excited to get new quality members. We had a lot of unfortunate attrition over the last year and this society only works if we can maintain our executive team, and of course our wonderful and dedicated list of volunteers.

In closing, I would just like to say that we are back and it's exciting to reengage with all our members once again. Please come out and see us. You will be welcomed with much joy. I hope I will get to see you all very soon.

Bonnie Swift, President

able. It took a bit of manipulation of the image but we can now clearly see that the square and compass is not the only symbol on that stone. Faintly carved in as well are the plumb, the level, the ruler, the dagger and the anchor! I am not 100% certain yet, but from what I have learned so far, it seems that Richard was not only a Freemason, but that he was quite high up in terms of the different degrees possible.

I guess there is a point to all of this. We have learned more about Richard Wilson from these symbols on his headstone than anyone in the family ever passed down through the family history. Perhaps it might be worth a second look at the gravestones of your ancestors too.

Yours in History,
Donald Alward

HENRY ROBERT EMMERSON: A FORGOTTEN DORCHESTER LUMINARY

MOST PEOPLE WHO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT DORCHESTER HISTORY are familiar with a cluster of men who made their mark on both shiretown and county: the Hickman, Palmer and Chapman hoteliers, shipbuilders, and merchants; Edward Baron Chandler, lawyer, railway promoter, premier of the province, Lt. Governor, and Father of Confederation; Sir Albert J. Smith, lawyer, politician, and vociferous opponent of Confederation later knighted for his services to the Dominion; Sir Pierre Amand-Landry, first Acadian lawyer, first Acadian MLA, first Acadian MP, first Acadian supreme court judge, and first Acadian Chief Justice; John Keillor, farmer, magistrate, and builder of Keillor House; contractor Francis John Teed whose contributions to the local architectural heritage include St. Thomas Church in St. Joseph, the new Methodist (later United) and Baptist Churches in Dorchester, the Owens Art Gallery, Centennial Hall, and the train station in Sackville; and a number of others whose stories Helen Petchey has told. But there is one individual who is curiously absent from the list, although he was not only a lawyer and one of Dorchester's leading citizens, but also a premier of the province, a federal cabinet minister, and, for a brief period at least, something of a hero in Moncton as well as Dorchester. Moreover—of special interest today—he was one of New Brunswick's early advocates of women's rights, perhaps even a proto-feminist. He was also a mover of other progressive measures such as abolishing the appointed senate (called the Legislative Council) in New Brunswick, and building bridges that wouldn't wash away with the first freshet. Finally, he was forced out of his cabinet post by a sex scandal, although it didn't completely end his political career. If that doesn't make him an interesting addition to the Dorchester pantheon, I don't know what would.

He was Henry Robert Emmerson, born 1853 in Maugerville the son of a Baptist minister who soon afterwards moved to Moncton. From this information alone we might assume that the family circumstances were humble, but that would not be completely accurate. Henry's paternal grandfather came from England and got into the lumber business in Miramichi in a big way. He was burnt out in the Great Fire of 1825, but still had enough shekels in his pockets to give his son, the Reverend Robert, a good education and, perhaps more importantly, a legacy with which to attract a bride of some means. Henry's mother was a daughter of Joseph Read, brother-in-law and partner of Amos 'King' Seaman, the Minudie grindstone baron, with offices in Boston as well as Minudie. So, if Henry Robert was not exactly born into the lap of luxury, the spoon in his baby mouth had a decidedly silver tinge.

No details of his childhood years have come down to us, but it is evident that he was a bright and ambitious lad, and that the family had the wherewithal to set him on the road to success. After primary school, he went to what we would call high school and junior college at St. Joseph's College in Memramcook, which in its early days—it was founded in 1864—was bilingual. From there he went to Amherst Academy, Mount Allison Academy (the high school, not the university), Boston English High School, and Horton Collegiate Academy. He then attended lectures in liberal arts for two years at Acadia College but did not take a degree. Instead, in 1871, he went to a commercial college in Boston, where his grandparents had a home, followed by a stint as a clerk and bookkeeper in the Boston office of the Read grindstone enterprise. However, by this time his real interest was in the law, particularly as a means of rising in the world. So he moved to Dorchester to study and apprentice under Albert J. Smith. After losing his battle against Confederation, Smith had won a seat in the new Canadian House of Commons, but as a private member in opposition to John A. MacDonald's Conservative government, he still had time to practice law in Dorchester. The year of Emmerson's arrival in Dorchester, 1874, was, however, also the year of the famous Pacific Scandal that forced the government's resignation and when a new one was formed under Liberal Alexander MacKenzie, Smith, who had long been known as a Liberal, was made Minister of Marine and Fisheries. This meant that he no



longer had time for his law practice in Dorchester, so he left it in the hands of his partner, Albert J. Hickman, son of prominent merchant Joseph Hickman and nephew of shipbuilder William Hickman. Thus, it was Albert J. Hickman, rather than Albert J. Smith, who first tutored young Henry Emmerson in the mysteries of the law, but Hickman was as keenly interested in politics as Smith, just as devoted to liberal and progressive causes, and no doubt this rubbed off on Emmerson, who soon became an enthusiastic supporter of the Liberal Party. To further his career, he decided that a degree in law would be helpful, something that most practicing lawyers at that time, including Albert J. Smith and E. B. Chandler, didn't have. So, after two years apprenticing with Hickman, he went to Boston University Law School and graduated in 1877 with an LLB. While there he won first prize in an essay contest with a piece entitled "The Legal Status of Married Women." I have not been able to read it, but I am pretty sure that it contained most, if not all, of the ideas on women's rights that he would later champion as a politician.

After graduating from Boston University Law School, Emmerson was admitted to the New Brunswick bar and became a partner of Albert J. Hickman until the latter's tragically early death from consumption in 1879. He took on another partner, Burton S. Read, who, to judge from the name (and here I am just guessing), may have been a cousin. When Read retired in 1882 he practiced alone until 1886 when he was joined by William B. Chandler, a grandson of Edward Barron, and William Hazen Chapman, who lived at "Swisscote," the Chandler-built home he purchased from his shipbuilding relative, Robert Andrew Chapman. Chapman retired soon thereafter and Emmerson continued to partner with Chandler until 1893 when the latter was appointed county judge for Westmorland and Kent. From then on he practiced alone. It was a very profitable practice from the beginning, especially when he became managing executor of the very considerable estates of Albert J. Smith (d. 1883) and Thomas Keillor (d. 1887). Another indication of his prominence as a lawyer is the fact that he assisted Attorney General Andrew Blair (with whom he was by this time associated in government) in the prosecution of the sensational 'Buck' and Jim case which led to Dorchester's third hanging in 1892, covered in the February 2019 issue of this Newsletter.

Like most successful lawyers of the day (such as Smith and E.B. Chandler), he soon got into real estate, business, and industrial enterprise. Some of his "extracurricular" interests included (together with W.F. George of Sackville) a woolen mill at Port Elgin, the partisan Liberal *Moncton Daily Transcript*, and the Record Foundry in Moncton. In the last named case his interest was personal as well as financial: In 1878, the year he was admitted to the bar, he married Emily Record, a daughter of C.B. Record, the founder and owner of the very successful enterprise. He soon afterwards became a director of the company. He also became solicitor for the Merchant Bank of Halifax, Dorchester, and Moncton and was for a time the agent for the bank at Dorchester. Among his other marks of distinction were: President of the New Brunswick Petroleum Company, President of the Acadia Coal & Coke Company, and director of the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company. Needless to say, all this brought in considerable wealth, enabling him to build one of Dorchester's finer homes, which still stands in very good condition on Station Road. On a personal note, I may add that I and my family owned and lived in this house from 1970-1975, although I didn't at that time know very much about the man who had built it.



The next step up for a successful lawyer and businessman was to enter politics, and this started early in Emmerson's career. Although he had not trained under Sir Albert J. Smith, he was very close to him in political ideology, and probably personally as well. Thus, he would have shared the general Liberal shock and bitterness when Smith was defeated in the federal election of 1882 by Conservative Josiah Wood of Sackville and died the following year—of a broken heart, it was said. Emmerson contributed to the attempt to revive Liberal fortunes by becoming part owner of the *Moncton Daily Transcript*, newly founded to counter the influence of the Conservative organ, *The Moncton Morning Times*, which had played a major role in

Smith's defeat. Soon afterwards, Wilfrid Laurier, then leader of the Liberal opposition in Ottawa, sent John T. Hawke, the firebrand editor of *The Toronto Globe* and *The Ottawa Free Press*, down to Moncton to acquire the *Transcript*—which was relatively moderate in tone—and use it to carry the fight to the Conservatives. Emmerson not only sold him *The Transcript* in 1887 but became his fast friend, associating himself with the political causes that Hawke was soon loudly proclaiming: the abolition of the provincial Legislative Council (an appointed Senate under a different name), abolition of the office of Lt. Governor, and an elected national Senate. Hawke immediately started attacking and insulting *The Times*, calling it “The Morning Boodler, with its crass ignorance and characteristic dishonesty.” He also offended the largely Conservative business establishment while on a speaking tour deploring the appalling working conditions and wrongful exploitation of children at the Moncton Cotton Mill. In the June 2020 issue of the *Newsletter* Judith Rygiel explored this theme as it related to the tragic death of poor little Agnes Melanson in 1893.

In short, Hawke became the stiffening breeze in the Liberals' still-slack sails, and it probably surprised no one when he easily persuaded his friend, Henry Emmerson, to run against Josiah Wood in the 1887 federal election. However, the stiffening breeze still wasn't in quite the right direction, or maybe the other side was better at tacking against it. In any case, Wood won by a narrow margin and Emmerson filed an appeal in the elections court alleging over 500 acts of vote buying by Wood's campaign and accusing Wood himself of corrupt practices. Vote buying was common at this time, as were outraged appeals against it, but the two sides had promised to run clean campaigns, and the Liberals were apparently convinced that their opponents were playing dirty pool. The election court was presided over by J.J. Fraser, a puisne judge of the New Brunswick Supreme Court who would later preside over the trials of Buck and Jim. He was also a known Conservative. By the election rules, appeals had to be heard within six months of filing or they were dismissed. The appeal was filed on April 9, so it would expire on October 9. Fraser set November 8 as the date of the hearing, assuring Emmerson's legal team that this was just fine because the federal Parliament was then in session, and while it was, it would not count as part of the six months. On October 22 Wood's lawyer, Pierre Amand Landry, a staunch Conservative who had swayed the Acadian vote away from the Liberals in both the 1882 and 1887 elections, filed a claim that the time limit *had* in fact been exceeded and that Emmerson's appeal was therefore null and void. The case then went before the full bench of the Supreme Court and it decided unanimously in Wood's favour. Fraser reversed his earlier ruling, saying that he had simply been wrong about Parliamentary sessions not counting as part of the six month limit, and excused himself by declaring modestly that even judges can make mistakes.

Of course the Liberals, and especially Hawke, were outraged, believing, probably rightly, that politics, not innocent judicial error, were at play. He then launched a vituperative attack on Fraser in *The Transcript*, calling him a “judicial Pooh-Bah” after a character in Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera *The Mikado*, which was very popular and well-known at the time. Pooh-Bah holds many high offices under the Mikado (fictitious title of the Emperor of Japan) and prostitutes his authority as Lord High Executioner to reverse a decision he had made as Lord High Chancellor. The clear implication was that Fraser had taken a bribe to kill Emmerson's petition. When Fraser retaliated with a citation for contempt of court, Hawke doubled down and accused him of being frequently drunk on the bench. Not surprisingly, the court found Hawke guilty and summoned him to appear in Fredericton for sentencing. Hawke replied that if the court wanted him it would have to arrest him, which it duly did. The arresting officer was Sheriff Joseph McQueen, Emmerson's Dorchester neighbour and both his and Hawke's political buddy. Using some technicality of the law, the two contrived to repeat the arrest openly and ostentatiously in every county between Dorchester and Fredericton and had a fine old time on the way up to the ‘Celestial City’, as Fredericton was sarcastically called in Saint John. Hawke was fined \$200 and sentenced to two months in prison, which he gladly served since by this time newspapers throughout the country were protesting what they called “judicial persecution.” There

was even a fierce debate in the House of Commons about it and Hawke suddenly became a hero and martyr for freedom of the press. This galvanized the Liberals in New Brunswick and a fair amount of Hawke's glory rubbed off on Emmerson. His political career was now launched, although it didn't start at the federal level as he had hoped, and at first it was rather checkered. In 1888 he won a provincial by-election in Albert County, which his opponent protested, forcing another in 1889, which Emmerson won. He took his seat in the provincial legislature just in time to enter a debate on women's suffrage, which had been a growing issue for some time, and to which we will return below. He lost his seat in the provincial election of 1890 but, nothing daunted, ran in the federal election of 1891, again in Albert. Again he lost, but by this time he had attracted the attention of New Brunswick Premier and Attorney General Andrew Blair who, while not a liberal on every issue, as we will see, had nonetheless put together a coalition that was emerging as the provincial Liberal party, and running under that name. One of Blair's liberal Liberal causes was the abolition of the Legislative Council, which, as we learned above, Hawke, and by extension Emmerson, vigorously supported. So, along with several other abolition advocates, he appointed Emmerson to the Council on the understanding that they would vote to abolish it—which was duly done, although it did not come into effect until 1893. As a mark of special favour, Emmerson was made President of the Council for the brief intervening period. Much more importantly, he was also appointed Chief Commissioner of Public Works. As such he was much more competitive in provincial elections and soon afterwards won a seat in the legislature, this time as one of the four members for Westmorland. (Two of the others were his Dorchester neighbour, Daniel Hanington, and Joseph L. Black of Sackville.)

Emmerson remained in the provincial government until 1890, even becoming Premier for his last three years. His accomplishments were quite substantial and I will review some of them here, leaving the most interesting to last.

As Chief Commissioner of Public Works he was responsible for provincial highways and bridges. Then as now, New Brunswick highways were generally bad (even for horse-drawn vehicles) but the bridges were worse. Mostly built of wood and built cheaply (they almost had to be, as there are so many rivers and streams in the province) they were constantly falling down, washing out, or needing repairs. (There was a reason it was against the law to trot your horses over them.) Emmerson, with Blair's support, authorized the construction of numerous steel bridges with proper footings. Of course they cost a lot more, and of course there was much criticism from the opposition for increasing the public debt, with the usual charges of corruption and favoritism in awarding the contracts. There was probably something in the charges, but government in those days was a lot more open about dispensing patronage, and the public much less outraged over it, than is the case today. Corrupt or not, his bridge-building programme was the way of the future and, to the regret of Romantics, the beginning of the end for New Brunswick's covered bridges.

As Premier (1897-1900) he strenuously promoted the province's economic development. One way was the improvement of agriculture. He did everything he could to support dairy farming, which was flourishing as never before, especially in the area around Sussex. He wanted to expand agriculture by encouraging the settlement of vacant crown lands by progressive farmers. To this end he instituted a programme to attract immigrants from Denmark and paid for it out of his own pocket. In 1898 he got a bill passed promoting the growing of wheat, but like those of the Danish immigration scheme, the results on the ground were limited. There was more success in encouraging tourists and sportsmen to visit the province and the same could be said of his legislation to promote the development of natural gas and petroleum. Here, of course, his connection with the New Brunswick Petroleum Company would have been helpful.

The most flamboyant way Emmerson displayed his progressive and liberal colours—which were not necessarily or exclusively those of the Liberal party—was by his whole-hearted and uncompromising support for women's suffrage. I can't claim

that he said anything new on the subject, or that he was the only one saying it in New Brunswick at the time, but his convictions were formed early in the movement's history—at least as early as 1877, the year he wrote his essay on the legal condition of married women at Boston University Law School—and he stuck to them even though they were in the minority and contrary to those of Premier Blair, in whose government he served.

As part of a general liberalization of institutions in the second half of the nineteenth century, electoral reform had entered the political air of New Brunswick in the 1870s and by 1889, the year of Emmerson's first term, the provincial legislature was finally able to enact what was in effect universal manhood suffrage, without the property or income qualification that had hitherto kept most of the working class from the polls. (A form of property qualification *was* kept, but it did not exclude males over 21 who were British subjects and earned at least \$400 a year; its purpose was to allow men with the requisite property to vote in more than one county) By this time also, there were about a dozen members out of a total of 38 who supported some form of womanhood suffrage, and petitions from a number of counties, including Westmorland, had been signed—by men in even greater numbers than women—demanding the same reform. One of the members who supported them was A.A. Stockton of Saint John, a Conservative and the leader of the Opposition. The debate he introduced did not divide along party lines, as neither he nor Blair invoked party discipline—which was far less rigid than it is today—on this issue. After congratulating the Premier on the manhood suffrage bill, Stockton moved an amendment granting the franchise to widows and spinsters with the traditional property qualification. He was actually in favour of extending it to all adult women but realized this would be going too far too fast to have any hope of passing. His argument was quite clever: since the manhood suffrage bill allowed property over a certain amount to qualify its owner to vote (although lack of sufficient property no longer excluded him), there was no logical reason why it shouldn't include propertied widows and spinsters. (Against married women there was the argument that their property was under the control of their husbands, in effect as a corporation with him as C.E.O.)

Emmerson, who had been given the honour of replying to the Speech from the Throne as his maiden address to the House, and had taken the opportunity to state his position in general terms, gladly seconded Stockton's amendment. But he said that he would go further and extend the franchise to married women as well. He did not feel that because a woman was married she didn't have the sense to cast an intelligent vote, but he supported the amendment on the principle that if you can't get everything you want, take what you can get. He then launched into a long discourse—one of his longest on the subject, which would come up several more times in the House—stating many of the arguments for women's suffrage that were current and would be repeated over and over in the coming decades. Long familiar with the arguments of opponents, he denied that giving married women the vote would lead to domestic discord and destroy everything that makes the home precious, or that it would lower the tone and level of politics. Many married people of different religious beliefs get along just fine, he said, and the presence of women at polling booths would have an elevating effect. For those who cited biblical authority to justify the subordinate role of women, he quoted from the Bible (selected passages, I'm afraid) to show that God made men and women equal and gave them equal authority over the things of the earth. Queen Victoria had proved herself a worthy sovereign, and who would say she should have no right to vote? As for women's intelligence, he pointed to the success of lady students at UNB (recently admitted for the first time) who last year averaged better marks than their male counterparts, and denounced the canard that they were only there to find husbands. He also pointed out the absurdity that the manhood suffrage bill granted the vote to men who may not know the multiplication tables, but denied it to women no matter how learned they may be. As for Stockton's amendment to the manhood suffrage bill to extend the franchise to widows and spinsters with the right property qualifications, there was no argument against it as a first step in the right direction. Taxation without representation was tyranny, as everyone agreed, and it was tyranny to deny the vote to these (and by implication all)

women. Finally, to those who said there was little demand for women's suffrage, even among women, he pointed to the petitions in New Brunswick and to the steady progress of the movement in both Britain and the United States. In 1879 the British House of Commons, he said, had voted it down by a majority of 114; a few years later the majority was reduced to 16. Wyoming had enacted it in 1869 (the first state to do so) and just recently its governor had spoken of its great success amidst general satisfaction. There was no doubt about it: "as sure as we had manhood suffrage tonight [i.e. with the passage of the bill] we would in a few years be conferring the boon on women."

A number of members spoke for and against Stockton's amendment, some of them quite eloquently, as when one of them said, "the advanced positions of all moral reforms at the present day are largely due to the influence of women." The most important opponent was Premier Blair, who, we remember, had appointed Emerson as a member of his cabinet. He, too, outlined arguments that he and other opponents would repeat over and over again in the years to follow. He very much doubted that there was the public pressure for women's suffrage that proponents claimed. If and when it mounted, he would be willing to consider the matter. In the meantime it was important not to get ahead of public opinion, especially on important constitutional issues like this one. In any case, women's suffrage was unnecessary. In this civilized day and age, men were imbued with the spirit of chivalry and wanted only to protect and provide for their womenfolk. There was no innate war between the sexes, and he challenged proponents to name one measure affecting women's interest that male legislators (and they were all male in those days) hadn't or wouldn't implement at their request. (Some of the proponents did so.) He didn't doubt Woman's capacities to fill many positions of trust and honour but he believed that God had designed her for different duties, duties of a higher and nobler sphere than that of man, namely those of motherhood and the home, where she reigns supreme. "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," he affirmed. Because he held Woman in the highest admiration and respect he would deeply regret seeing her dragged from the high position she enjoys through the chivalry of men down into the mire and muck of politics. (Here he was thinking of the drunken violence all too frequently associated with political rallies and polling stations.) Those who thought politics would be improved by degrading women were "fantastical sentimentalists." "Put her in a cage like a canary," interjected Stockton sarcastically. "I would sooner see her in a cage than in a polling booth, and a cage is the proper place for a canary," declared Blair in an unfortunate rejoinder.

At this point Emerson lit into his own leader, saying that although he clothed them in potent language, Blair's arguments were feeble, and that, while he admired his rhetorical skills, he regretted his attitude. Advocates of womanhood suffrage were not fantastical sentimentalists but fighters in the vanguard of progress who were bound to win because their cause was just. He took the premier to task for calling advocates "fantastical sentimentalists" while at the same time giving "the greatest exhibition of Rip van Winkeldom ever seen on the floors of this house." Had Blair, too, slept during the last forty years while the woman's suffrage movement had been gaining ground everywhere in the civilized world? The days of chivalry and Rip van Winkeldom were over, and the premier should realize that. Moreover, he, Emerson, did not want to put women in the position of suppliants, however chivalric the lords of creation may be. "While we treat them with respect, we do not as a rule, under existing laws, treat them much better than we do our mastiffs. Women should be in a position to demand their rights rather than beg for them." While he was at it, he also dismissed the chivalric argument that women shouldn't vote because they don't have to go to war. Neither do clergymen or conscientious objectors like Quakers and Mennonites, yet they have the vote. The withholding of the franchise from all adult women, he concluded, was "a relic of barbaric prejudice and should be speedily removed." After more argument, some of it quite heated, between supporters and opponents, and a promise from Blair that the question could come up in future sessions of the House, the amendment was put to a vote and lost 11-26.

It was five years before the issue came up again. In 1894, following a number of petitions signed by some 12,000 people demanding universal female suffrage, towards the end of the session Stockton moved a resolution that “it is advisable to confer upon women the right to vote for members of this house.” He couched it in general terms so as to attract the votes of those members who still wanted it limited to unmarried women with the right property or income qualification (which teachers would meet), while raising the possibility of amending it to make it clear that it included married women. This time his seconder was not Emmerson but fellow Westmorland representative Amasa Killam who did not favour including married women at present but was very enthusiastic about women’s influence in politics, particularly through the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, an association “very dear to him.” Speaking in favour of the resolution, several members made some of the same points Emmerson had in 1889 in terms that would satisfy even a hardened feminist today. In the words of the summary of the debates published by the legislature, one of them said “it was absurd that the brainy women of the country should be debarred from the franchise which was extended to the ‘lowest truck’ in the town. It was most absurd to say that women should be confined to the duties of home, while the men loafed around their offices downtown with their feet on the shelf and smoked bad cigars. The statesman who opposed woman suffrage would soon feel the chariot wheels of progress roll over his neck.”

After listening to the interchange between supporters and opponents—who also brought up no new arguments—Emmerson admitted to feeling a bit hurt over not having been consulted on the resolution “in view of the fact that I had done in my feeble way all that I could to bring this question prominently before the country” and criticized Stockton for introducing it late in the session, giving opponents an opening to postpone it once again. More seriously, he regretted that the resolution, after having been introduced in response to petitions from “that great body” the W.C.T.U, did not fully reflect those petitions. “The petitioners asked that the women of the province be placed on an exact equality with men in regard to the franchise, but the resolution did not propose to so place them...I am prepared to go to the fullest extent in reference to this matter. I have not changed my opinion one iota except to feel more strongly convinced that the womanhood of the country should exercise to the fullest like privileges with the men of the country. I am not in favour of giving the franchise to women because our gracious sovereign happens to be a woman, but...because they are the queens of our homes; because they are our co-workers; because they are possessed of the same intellects as ourselves, and because they have the same responsibility—aye, greater responsibility—than ourselves. As a member of this house I would have welcomed such a resolution, and while the present resolution does not go as far as I would have liked it to go, yet I will support [it]...” His views, he said, were pretty fully set forth in the 1889 debate and “I still adhere to them. I will go further and say that I see a greater necessity than I did then for the enfranchisement of women.” Again, long debate followed, which, although very interesting, would lead us too far afield to follow here. Finally, someone moved to postpone further discussion to the next session of the legislature and it was carried 21-14.

The issue duly came up again in 1895, with similar results, but not before Emmerson, after moving a resolution for the full enfranchisement of women on the same basis as that of men, had added another arrow to his rhetorical quiver by appealing to two fundamental principles of democracy that no one would have dared to deny. His formulation was as uncompromising as it was refreshingly succinct: “Taxation without representation is tyranny. Political power inheres in the people. Surely women are included in both of these maxims. To deny these principles is to justify despotism.”

In 1896 the House took a breather on the suffrage issue, although Emmerson was able to advance the cause of women in the public sphere by introducing a successful bill to increase the number of women on school boards from one to two. Interestingly enough, it was Blair who introduced the legislation of 1893 permitting one woman to serve. Before that there were none. In 1897 Stockton had another go at enfranchising unmarried women with the right property qualification. Again it was put on the shelf but supporters were heartened by a new development. In 1896 Blair resigned as premier to run in the federal election with Wilfrid Laurier and his Liberals, and when they achieved victory he was rewarded with the important cabinet post of Min-

ister of Railways and Canals. (At that time it was much more prestigious being a federal cabinet minister than the premier of a province, at least a Maritime one.) He passed on the premiership to his former law partner, James Mitchell, who soon afterwards died of cancer. Mitchell's logical successor was the Provincial Secretary, Lemuel John Tweedie, like Mitchell and Blair an opponent of extending the full franchise to women, but also more sympathetic to the Conservatives in Ottawa than other members of the New Brunswick Liberal government felt comfortable with. As a result, in October 1897 Emmerson was chosen as premier and party leader. When the legislative session of 1899 was bombarded with a dozen petitions, mainly from the Saint John area and circulated by the W.C. T.U as well as a new and more radical/progressive organization called the Women's Enfranchisement Association, Emmerson was ready with a bill to extend the full franchise to women, this time with no waffle words about property or income qualifications, or marital status. It was the position he had held since his days at Boston University Law School, if not before. Women were to have the vote on exactly the same terms as men. When the vote came on the bill, only those members who were for the full franchise, not those who were only for the limited one, could in conscience vote 'yeah'. Another factor working against its passage was Stockton's defeat in the election of 1898—to which we will return briefly in a moment—and his replacement as Conservative Party leader by J.D. Hazen, a vociferous opponent of women's suffrage (he once declared, "behind all legislation is physical force, and in the end the man must rule") with a personal grudge against Emmerson, whom he accused of dishonesty in the handling of contracts as Chief Commissioner of Public Works. (A commission of inquiry exonerated Emmerson and Hazen was forced to eat his words.) In the debate on the bill Hazen eagerly pointed to the relatively small number of names on the petitions—and indeed the defeats of previous years seem to have taken a lot of steam out of the movement—thereby winning over a number of waiverers. It was defeated 34-7, the worst score of any of the attempts so far to legislate some form of womanhood suffrage in New Brunswick. This really knocked the wind out of the suffragists' sails, and women had to wait until 1919 before they were allowed to vote in provincial elections. Their right to run for a seat in the legislature came even later, in 1934.

The defeat of his suffrage bill probably left a bitter taste in Emmerson's mouth, especially after the Women's Enfranchisement Association voted down a motion to thank him personally for his efforts. Even though he had won an overwhelming victory in the snap election he called in 1898 to confirm his mandate as premier and party leader (the one that defeated his political opponent but also fellow woman suffragist, Stockton), he had had enough of provincial politics. When he failed to get an appointment to the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, he decided to try again for the House of Commons. In this he was encouraged by Blair, who, apparently having buried whatever resentments he may have harboured over Emmerson's stand on women's suffrage, promised to leave the patronage he wielded as Minister of Railways and Canals in his hands. This was in the days when government patronage to its friends was still almost as open as it was pervasive, and the Minister of Railways had a lot of it to give in Westmorland County, especially in Moncton where, thanks to the co-operative efforts of E.B. Chandler and Albert J. Smith, the Inter Colonial Railway shops, the region's largest employer, were located. Emmerson resigned as premier and won the seat for Westmorland in the federal election of 1900, only to find that Blair had changed his mind about delegating his patronage powers, something that led to a rift between the two that Prime Minister Laurier was at times hard put to paper over. It only ended when Blair had a falling out with Laurier over the Prime Minister's decision to build another trans-continental railway, the Grand Trunk, to complement the C.P.R. Blair thought this diminished his baby, the I.C.R., and resigned in protest. Maritime members then put great pressure on Laurier to appoint Emmerson as his replacement as Minister of Railways and Canals. Laurier fully appreciated Emmerson's political and administrative talents as well as his lack of opposition to the Grand Trunk, but he hesitated for some months because he saw in him a potential political liability: In spite of being the son of a Baptist minister, in spite of being a director of the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company, a leading force in the growing prohibition movement, in spite of his long association with, and great respect for, the Women's Christian Temper-

ance Union, Henry Robert Emmerson had a drinking problem. He was not alone in this—alcoholism was rampant in those days—nor was he the only politician thus afflicted. Sir John A. MacDonald, for example, was a notorious binge drinker, yet it didn't seem to hurt his political career. Few details have come down to us about Emmerson's drinking habits, but they must have been more egregious than those of the normal politician of the day to have come to the notice of Laurier. Finally putting his doubts aside, the Prime Minister offered Emmerson the ministry in 1904 with the stricture that he would resign without protest if Laurier thought it advisable or in the public interest.

Once in his ministerial office, which gave him all but complete control of the I.C.R., Emmerson proceeded to make a fine job of it, bringing many benefits to Moncton and Westmorland County. A good administrator with an eye to efficiency, he fostered the amalgamation of many unprofitable branch lines with the I.C.R., introduced a more efficient accounting system, and restricted the number of free passes that were eating into profits. As a good progressive, he was much concerned with the welfare and working conditions of railway employees and sponsored legislation establishing a provident fund to generate pensions for retirees or those unable to perform their duties owing to illness or accident. He was always very popular with his constituents, especially in Moncton, because he resisted efforts to privatize the I.C.R., which had an operating deficit due largely to its low freight rates. He believed that a government-operated railway was one of the promises made to the Maritimes at Confederation, and that it should remain government operated, even if it had to do so at a loss. Privatization would have meant significant job losses, and the I.C.R. was the region's largest employer.

But, as important as this stance was to his constituents, he reached the height of his popularity in the aftermath of a spectacular fire on February 24, 1906 that destroyed about half of the buildings and many of the cars and other equipment at the I.C.R. shops in Moncton. So spectacular was it (it started in the paint shop full of highly inflammable materials) that, in spite of the loss of only one life (Abram Jones went into one of the burning buildings to retrieve his chewing tobacco and was trapped), the news of it made it into the *New York Times*. Naturally, the people of Moncton were appalled over the prospect of massive job losses, and even



more so by the rumours—which started flying around immediately—that the shops would be moved to Halifax or Rivière-de-Loup. They were much comforted when Emmerson, who was in Ottawa when he got the news from J.T. Hawke, immediately got into his ministerial (railway) car and steamed off for Moncton, preceded by a telegram that read in part: “We must not despair. The employees and citizens can rest assured that no effort will be spared on my part to have work resumed with all possible speed in all interests. The Intercolonial will yet triumph. Temporary shops immediate necessary, to be followed by more complete and convenient works.” He had already talked to Laurier and gotten his approval. On the front page of his *Transcript*, in huge bold letters, Hawke quoted Emmerson as saying that only over his dead body would a single wheel be moved from Moncton. Within minutes of his arrival in Moncton he was inspecting the ruins with railway officials, Mayor Steeves, J.T. Hawke, aldermen, and other worthies. The same afternoon he addressed a crowded public meeting to assure the citizens that cleanup work would begin immediately and newer and far better facilities would soon follow. Heartfelt applause was heard throughout his speech, but he really brought down the house when he assured his audience that he would never serve in a government that proposed to privatize the I.C.R. and that the people of Canada would soon see that it was one of the best investments the country ever made. After a long standing ovation, the meeting passed a resolution expressing its ap-

preciation of Emmerson's visit and its confidence in his promises. It was followed by "three cheers and a tiger" for the minister.

Emmerson was as good as his word. Backed by the Laurier government, he was able to lay the cornerstone for the new facilities before the year was out and by 1908 the shops had been rebuilt better and grander than ever before. Locals saw it as one of the greatest events in Moncton's history, and with good reason. By the 1950s, as the C.N.R shops, they employed 25% of the city's working population, and those who knew anything about the matter gave much of the credit to Henry Robert Emmerson. In his well known anecdotal history, *The Monctonians*, John Edward Belliveau wrote in 1981 "there isn't much doubt that Moncton remained the railroad centre and became the city it became because of Emmerson and Hawke." When the shops were demolished in 1990 Emmerson's cornerstone was saved and set up as a memorial to the I.C.R. near the entrance of Emmerson Business and Technology Park on Millenium Boulevard, which was built on the site in 1998 and named after the minister. Fittingly, Henry Robert's grandson, Charles, and other descendents took part in the dedication ceremony. The monument appears on the Historic Places Canada website, which also commemorates Emmerson, saying "his success in keeping the shops in Moncton would change the city forever."

This was the highlight of Emmerson's political career, but he would soon have a great fall owing to two tragedies in his personal life. The first was his alcoholism, which was apparently of long standing but not so severe as to impair his effectiveness in office. The second was his delight in, and very strong need for, female company, which became increasingly evident after his wife's death in 1901. Neither of these weaknesses would necessarily have brought him down as long as they could be kept from public view, but in 1906, the year of his greatest triumph, some things happened in Moncton that led to just that. A Methodist minister, H.E. Thomas, led the most successful crusade against liquor in the city's history. By way of background I have to explain that since the Canada Temperance Act of 1878 that allowed local jurisdictions to prohibit the sale of liquor, Westmorland County, which included Moncton, was technically 'dry'. But the law, widely despised, was honoured mainly in the breach, especially in Moncton where, an old newspaper man quoted by Belliveau remembered, "every other building on Main Street was a refreshment or entertainment joint. On Duke Street there were eight buildings which housed seven bars and the police station." After Thomas came to town the liquor trade was driven underground for a number of years and Moncton became about the only place in the Maritimes where a sustained effort was made to enforce the Act. The main enforcer was Police Chief George Rideout, a staunch Conservative and a prohibition zealot who made a public display of dumping seized liquor into the sewer. According to Belliveau, he had a particular vendetta against Emmerson "for reasons which have never come to light," but I imagine it was because the latter was both a very prominent Baptist and a known drinker. More importantly, he was a Liberal. As Belliveau tells it, when Emmerson came down to his Westmorland constituency on departmental business he would stay overnight in Moncton and "during the course of the evening slip into certain known houses where spirituous liquors were available." Rideout and Bruce McDougall, the owner-editor of a local scandal rag called *Free Speech*, kept an eye out for him, and on more than one occasion had the pleasure of seeing him escorted to the police station. This got back to Laurier who, furious and afraid of political damage, forced Emmerson to sign a pledge that he would "never again taste wine, beer, or any other mixed or intoxicating liquor," and also to sign an undated letter of resignation to be used at the Prime Minister's discretion.

This reprieve saw Emmerson through his *annus mirabilis* of 1906 but early the following year, just about twelve months after the great fire, Rideout's snooping machine uncovered another misdemeanour that would make 1907 the minister's *annus horribilis*. When Rideout got the welcome word that Emmerson was spending the night in his private car on a Moncton siding, and that a married woman had been seen to enter the car and was believed to be spending time alone with him, he sent a constable

to investigate. The constable entered the car at 2 a.m., found the minister with the wife of a railway employee and arrested him, apparently on a charge of impropriety with another man's wife. What the exact charge was, we cannot now know, as the incident was not reported in the daily papers, only in Bruce McDougall's *Free Speech*, which seems no longer to be extant. Bellevue, my only source for the incident, says only that "it has never been possible to determine" what the charge was, but that McDougall "made the most of it." My surmise is that, without going into too many details, he fed the rumour mill so that, while the story was not official news, it circulated widely, particularly among Conservatives. But as long as it and the tales of surreptitious bar hopping did not come into the political arena, Emmerson was safe. Unfortunately for him, on February 19, 1907 they did just that in the course of an angry debate in the House of Commons that otherwise had nothing to do with Emmerson.

The use of commissions of inquiry to assassinate the character of political opponents had long since developed into one of the parliamentary fine arts when Laurier's Liberals decided to use an investigation into fraudulent insurance practices to queer some of their Conservative opponents who happened to be in the insurance business. One of their targets was George Fowler, MP for Kings County, whose alleged misdeeds were reported in the *Saint John Sun*, a Liberal newspaper in which Emmerson had a financial interest and which was always very sympathetic to him. Responding to attacks made on him in the House, Fowler, who was clearly *au fait* with the rumours circulating about Emmerson, declared during the course of the debate, "I shall allow no man to make an attack on me or my character without responding. I shall discuss the character of honourable members opposite, whether they be ministers or private members, and their connection with women, wine, and graft." He named no names but the smell of scandal was in the air and Henri Bourassa, a nominal Liberal on the verge of a falling out with Laurier, and a deeply moral and religious man, introduced a resolution calling for a full investigation into Fowler's remarks. He also mentioned, without naming him, a rumour that one of the ministers of the Crown had been put out of hotels with "women of ill repute." Apparently still trying to protect the as yet publically unnamed minister, Laurier used his majority in the House to vote the resolution down. Thinking the matter was now closed, the *Sun* had the bad judgment to insult Fowler and dare him to name names, remarking "he has neither the courage to advance nor the decency to retreat. Unless some further action is taken the conclusion is inevitable: that there is...no basis to Mr. Fowler's bluff."

But more than one party could sling mud out of a newspaper. Fowler was part owner of the staunchly Conservative Fredericton *Daily Gleaner* whose editor lost no time in bringing the "women, wine, and graft" scuttlebutt out in the open, and this time naming names. In a front page article headed in bold letters MR. FOWLER HAS THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RUN, he reported on Bourassa's resolution and its "rumours of which the whole country has been talking of **The Most Degrading Conduct** on the part of certain Ministers of the Crown." In a separate editorial he attacked the *Saint John Sun*, "which is the personal organ of Mr. Emmerson," for its indecency in challenging Fowler to either put up or shut up regarding his remarks about "women, wine, and graft." Then came the bombshell words: "This is the kind of treatment which Mr. Emmerson himself would accord to a gentleman who has through his kindness of heart spared the Minister of Railways of Canada from the humiliation of appearing publicly before the country as an intolerable reprobate. Mr. Bourassa with, a knowledge of the facts, drew the attention of the Premier yesterday afternoon to the public rumor that a Minister of the Crown, one of the members of his cabinet, had been put out of hotels and public places of entertainment with women of ill repute. This minister was Mr. Emmerson himself, and one of the places from which he was ejected with two women of ill repute with whom he had been keeping company not long since was the Saint Lawrence Hall, Montreal. And there are others. It was not lack of courage that influenced Mr. Fowler not to proceed further and prefer charges in Parliament, which he could easily prove. It was a charitableness of heart which influenced him, only to be met, however, after Mr. Emmerson thought he was "out of the woods" by bold defiance and indecency of attitude in his St. John organ..."

This was the straw, or rather the overloaded wagon, that broke the camel's back. Although only a few newspapers reproduced the *Gleaner* editorial—interestingly enough, the *Times* was not one of them—many read it or heard of it, and tongues wagged throughout the land. So there was nothing else for it: On April 1 Emmerson submitted his resignation and Laurier accepted it, no doubt with a mixture of regret and relief. In his statement to Parliament Emmerson admitted that he had weaknesses like other men, but categorically denied that he had ever had dealings with women of ill repute, and said he was resigning to save the government from embarrassment and to defend his character. He launched a suit of defamatory libel against the *Gleaner* but it did not bode well when it came before Pierre-Amand Landry, recently appointed judge on the Supreme Court. Landry was the lawyer who defended Josiah Wood when Emmerson appealed the 1887 election and he was a staunch Conservative. He was impartial enough not to dismiss the case out of hand as the defence requested, but allowed it to stand over until the following term. However, before it could come up again he made a statement that, in his opinion, it was “in the public interest” that charges such as the *Gleaner* had made should be published whether true or false, providing the writer or publisher believed them to be true when published. Perhaps to save himself the embarrassment of losing his libel suit, Emmerson told the press that Landry's statement made a conviction of libel virtually impossible, worse that it “removed all consideration of the truth or falsity of the allegation,” and that it was therefore useless to continue the suit.

Emmerson's career as a Crown minister was over, but not his career as a politician. The voters of Moncton and Westmorland County remembered what he had done for them and were far more forgiving of the transgressions of a lonely widower than cut and thrust politicians or partisan newspaper editors waging a vendetta. They sent him back to Ottawa in every election until his death, where he continued to use his widely acknowledged talents as an engaging speaker and powerful debater to good effect. According to the article on him in the authoritative *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, he “capably represented the interests of the Maritimes in general and New Brunswick in particular,” and he never lost his interest in the I.C.R. He continued to press for the amalgamation of branch lines into its network and for its extension to the Great Lakes. It had been his baby and he still took care of it as best he could. Popular with his constituents to the end, when he died in 1914 an estimated 10,000 people lined the streets of Moncton for his funeral. The President of Acadia University, to which he had donated money for the Emmerson Memorial Library, delivered the sermon, taking as his text the line from *Hamlet*, “He was a man, take him for all in all, I shall not look upon his like again.” Nor was the respect limited to his partisans and beneficiaries. In announcing his passing, not one of the New Brunswick newspapers—not even the *Gleaner*—mentioned his resignation from the cabinet, or the reasons for it. Of course people continued to talk about them—they always do in such cases—but they also remembered the other, and far more important, side of our Dorchester luminary. One of the “Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens” included in a multi-volume history of Nova Scotia that I stumbled across online, published in 1916, perhaps said it best: “Few men during the generation that is passed occupied a more conspicuous place in the public eye than the late Hon. Henry Robert Emmerson, lawyer and statesman, whose earthly career has been ended by the fate that awaits all mankind, but whose influence still pervades the lives of men, the good which he did having been too far-reaching to be measured in metes and bounds [in other words in titillating particulars, without seeing the whole].” Perhaps our present public discourse on fallen idols could benefit from this kind of charity.

Gene Goodrich



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