

LOCAL BRIEFS

THE Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition for 1900 will open Sept. 12th and will continue until the 20th. Manager Wood's position is made permanent at an increased salary of \$1,200 a year.

FOUR pairs of chickens were purchased for the Queen Hotel yesterday, which together weighed over 50 lbs. One of the number turned the scales at seven pounds. The chickens were of the Plymouth Rock variety, hatched in June last and reared and fattened by Mr. Fred Turner of Marshfield.

SIR LOUIS DAVIES, Minister of Marine accompanied by his family, came over from Charlottetown yesterday. The Minister went north to Kingston, Kent Co., where he and the Minister of Railways addressed a political meeting last night. Mr. Davies being conveyed from Moncton to Kent Junction by a special train made up of an engine, private car and van. Sir Louis' family proceeded to Ottawa in the General Manager's private car, attached to the C. P. R.—Moncton Times.

THE complimentary banquet tendered to Hon. W. S. Fielding by the Liberals of Pictou, at New Glasgow next Tuesday night, promises to be a very successful affair. Covers will be laid for 150 guests in the Masonic hall, which has been engaged for the function. In addition to the Finance Minister two other members of the cabinet—Hon. A. G. Blair and Sir Louis H. Davies will attend the banquet and deliver addresses.—Halifax Chronicle.

THE Halifax Chronicle of Nov. 24th says:—The Furness liner Halifax City, Capt. Phillips, sailed at daylight for London with a large and varied assortment of Canadian products. In addition to 15,000 barrels of apples she has 6,000 boxes cheese from Nova Scotia and P. E. Island and a considerable quantity of canned goods. She also takes four carloads of canned salmon which have been transported across the continent from New Westminster.

MESSRS. MILLER BROS., have on Exhibition at their Show Rooms the "Symphony" manufactured by the Wilcox & White Co., Meriden, Conn. The Symphony is similar to a cabinet organ in appearance. On the Symphony one having no practical knowledge of music can play the most difficult operatic and classic compositions, as well as a waltz ballad or hymn by simply operating the pedals and the stops. Those who do understand music instantly appreciate the truly wonderful qualities of the instrument, and find a keen and ever increasing delight in it: for while producing the notes mechanically, the tempo and expression are left wholly to the will of the operator, and the variety attainable is practically endless. The key board can be operated independently as an ordinary organ, or in connection with the music roll, but its use is entirely optional. After a little practice a novice can render the overture from "William Tell" for instance, as few skilled pianists or organists could after weeks of study. The music can be made soft as a whisper, or with full orchestral effects.

THE mail train arrived in the city at a quarter to twelve last night.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has issued a proclamation in reference to the death of Vice President Hobart paying a warm tribute to the high character and worth and directing that in sorrowing testimony of the loss that has fallen upon the country, the day of his funeral, (today) the executive offices of United States shall be closed and all posts and stations of the army and navy shall display the United States flag at half mast and that the representatives of the Republic in foreign countries shall pay appropriate tribute to the illustrious dead for a period of 30 days. In conjunction with the above proclamation the flag at the United States Consulate is at half mast and the coat of arms will be draped for 30 days. Yesterday U. S. Consul Vail requested the Consular agents at Summerside, Souris, Georgetown and Alberton to place their flag at half mast and also drape the national arms.

THE Island shippers complain of the scarcity of vessels. The advance in coastwise freights has proved a great boon to owners of schooners. The Maritime Merchant says:—Between Halifax and Shelburne there are forty-five new vessels in course of construction, some of which are nearly finished and shortly to be launched. Such an amount of activity in the shipyards along the western shore must be greatly conducive to the prosperity of the people of those parts; for the aggregate value of those schooners must be something like \$225,000, a portion of which, distributed in wages among the ship-builders, will eventually find its way into the pockets of the merchants and cause a great movement in goods of all sorts. A large number of Lunenburg schooners have been sold recently to St. Pierre parties, which has had considerable to do with the demand for the new ones which are now under construction.

THE Maritime Merchant of Nov 23rd says: A very good suggestion is made that as the new system of wireless telegraphy having been proved practically and commercially a success, that it should be introduced into this province for communicating with Prince Edward Island. If we are to depend upon the statements which emanate from that province that telegraph service as conducted by the Anglo-American Co., is giving anything but satisfaction. The charges for ordinary messages are very high, practically double what we have to pay in the other provinces. It is said that an ordinary message from the Island to New York which would cost us fifty cents, if sent from here, is worth a dollar when sent or received on the island. It would be a good move to have a government telegraph station at some prominent point in P. E. Island to connect by the new system with the mainland. This is particularly necessary in view of the uncertainty of steamship communication during the winter season. The system is not expensive and should be a matter for the early attention of the authorities.

THE Presbytery of P. E. I. met at Alberton, on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at 7 o'clock in the evening. Members present: Messrs. A. D. McDonald, Moderator protem; A. Gunn, R. I. Whidden, W. H. Smith, J. M. Fisher, Ministers, and Hon. B. Rogers, Elder. Presbytery proceeded to the induction of Mr. H. G. Gratz. Public worship was conducted by W. H. Smith, who preached from John 16:12. Mr. McDonald narrated the steps taken toward obtaining a minister, put the usual question and by prayer inducted Mr. Gratz to the pastoral charge of the congregation. The newly inducted minister was addressed by Mr. Gunn and the people by Mr. Whidden. Mr. Gratz received a warm welcome from the members of Presbytery and the congregation and begins his work under very favorable conditions. Mr. Fisher reported that on the 21st inst. he had moderated in a call at Cavendish, which issued in favor of Mr. M. H. McIntosh, was signed by 124 communicants, 86 adherents and accompanied by the guarantee of \$700 stipend with free use of manse and glebe. Mr. MacLeod commissioner from the congregation was heard—the call sustained as a regular Gospel call and accepted by Mr. McIntosh. Arrangements were made for Mr. McIntosh's induction at Stanley, on December 5th at one o'clock as follows: Mr. Mill to preside and induct; Mr. Layton to preach; Mr. Sterling to address the minister, and Mr. Fisher the people.—W. H. SMITH, Clerk Protem.

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