

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

DECEMBER 26, 1890.

Winter Communication.

We ventured the hope some days ago that the Leader of the Opposition and his visiting friends would be enabled to form a tolerably definite and correct opinion concerning the disadvantages under which we labor for want of regular and continuous communication between P. E. Island and the Mainland. This hope has been fulfilled. If their health be not impaired as a result of their adventures and their exposure to cold, everyone here will rejoice that they, Messrs. Laurier, Fisher and Choquette, have realized for once, the common every-winter experience of those who live here. They know now what it is to cross in the Stanley; they know now what it is to have to go from Charlottetown to Georgetown and then from Georgetown to Charlotte-town, and then from Charlottetown to Cape Traverse, in the endeavor to meet an engagement on the other side; and they know now what it is to cross the strait by way of the capes. And knowing, they will be able to tell Parliament and the country all about it.

A Suggestion.

OTHER topics having been forced upon our attention, THE EXAMINER was obliged to withhold until to-day a suggestion drawn from the letter of the Rev. James Carruthers published on the 18th inst. Accounting for the remarkable decrease of drunkenness, while "license" was yet in force, in the three years just before the Scott Act became the law of Charlottetown, Mr. Carruthers said:

"In St. Dunstan's was one of the ablest temperance men ever seen in Charlottetown, I mean Father McMillan. In St. Peter's was Rev. Mr. Hodgson, than whom none labored so earnestly and successfully. Hundreds signed the pledge, and the result of that movement was felt as never before or since. That, Sir, not your license system, was the cause of the figures jumping down from 737 to 370. In saying this I am not alone, and lest I should be accused of quoting from some fanatical temperance man, I will again give you the Stipendiary's official report. He says concerning the decrease, 'The increased power of punishment given me by the Dominion statutes, and the beneficial influence of the temperance movement, mainly contribute to this.' That, Sir, is my explanation, and comes from a source which you, and every right-thinking man, must admit is free from temperance fanaticism."

Mr. Carruthers' explanation is, undoubtedly, the right one.

Now, the suggestion of THE EXAMINER is that the same kind of a "temperance movement" be begun,—say, at the beginning of the new year,—and that Mr. Carruthers be its leader. Let Mr. Carruthers buckle on his armor as did the late Rev. George W. Hodgson. We feel sure that he will be heartily and ably supported by the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church. Father McElmeel is already doing, in a quiet, unostentatious way, a very good and permanent work for temperance among the youth of St. Dunstan's congregation. The Rev. Fred. E. J. Lloyd has placed his services "absolutely at the disposal of the temperance workers of Charlottetown." Every other clergyman, of every other denomination in Charlottetown, may be counted upon to join Mr. Carruthers in a movement similar to that which was so eminently successful in those license years. If a "temperance movement" were successful then, a temperance movement ought, according to the reasoning of the Rev. Mr. Carruthers, to be much more successful now; for Mr. Carruthers would, as the leader of the movement, stand upon the vantage ground gained by means of the operation of the Scott Act in all these subsequent years.

If we might presume to indicate a plan of campaign, THE EXAMINER would suggest that a beginning for the movement may easily be found. Enquiry at the Stipendiary Magistrate's office will establish the fact that by far the largest proportion of Scott Act witnesses are young men. These young men were boys when the Scott Act went into operation. Consequently they have learned to drink and to swear (dare we say falsely) since the Scott Act went into operation. Mr. Carruthers has acquired a reputation for ability to influence young men. A movement towards the reclamation of the young Scott Act witnesses would be one in which he could lead with success—one in which his efforts would, without doubt, be blessed. After the young men have been reclaimed, their services might be enlisted in the crusade and the battle fought out on other lines.

The returns of the shipments of Nova Scotia coal to the St. Lawrence shows the pleasing increase of 25 per cent. over the business of previous years—a total increase of 121,796 tons over last year's sales. These figures do not represent the coal sent by Pictou and Cape Breton mines elsewhere by rail or water. Taking the whole year, it has been the most prosperous in the coal mining history of the province. Regardless of the fact that for several weeks the mines at Springhill were closed by strikes, the output for the year reached the highest point in its history. Ten years ago the total output of coal from the Nova Scotia mines was about one million tons; this year it will be double that quantity. Last year it was 1,756,106 tons and in 1878 it was 693,511 tons. These are encouraging facts in our national progression.

K. D. C. is Guaranteed.

Lip Loyalty.

As the Hon. D. Ferguson points out in the course of his excellent letter to THE EXAMINER, the Leader of the Opposition tacitly admits that there will, under Unrestricted Reciprocity with the United States, be a tariff discrimination against Great Britain amounting to about twenty-two millions of dollars a year. The discrimination will, in the event of Unrestricted Reciprocity, certainly be much greater than Mr. Laurier admits that it will be. Mr. Laurier declares that he will not resort to direct taxation. Consequently, he must make up the shortage of revenue by the application of higher duties upon such articles as are imported from Great Britain and other foreign countries. This shortage will, he says, on the authority of Sir Richard Cartwright, amount to not more than eight or nine millions of dollars a year. That is to say, the shortage will be little more than the amount that is now collected on account of goods imported from the States. But will not Unrestricted Reciprocity tend to increase imports from the United States, and, *pari passu*, to decrease imports from Great Britain and other countries? If not, it will be of no value whatever to the United States! That it will divert trade from Great Britain and other countries to the States is absolutely certain. The higher the tariff of duties imposed by Canada, the stronger will be the tendency to trade more with the States and less with Great Britain and the rest of the world. Mr. Laurier will not, he says, impose direct taxation. If not, he must obtain the money that will be required to make good the loss on account of unrestricted reciprocity with the States by the imposition of additional duties upon goods from Great Britain. Is it any wonder, then, that he feels constrained to protest his loyalty to Great Britain.

"The lady doth protest too much, methinks." If the Opposition Party did not feel that their latest policy would operate to the great injury of the trade of the Mother Country they would not be impelled to make such loud and frequent expressions of their loyalty. Only *professed* free traders would take an active part in the promotion of the most gigantic scheme of protection of which the world has ever heard; only *lip loyalists* would take part with those who are striving for an opportunity to deal a staggering blow at the trade of the old land.

Police Court.

SENT UP FOR BURGLARY—ROBERTS IN TROUBLE ALONG—CARELESS USE OF FIRE-ARMS—A BATCH OF CHRISTMAS DRUNKS.

A colored lad named Thomas Byers was this morning arraigned on a charge of burglariously entering the grocery store of Mr. Percy Crawford, corner of Pownall and Euston Streets, on the night of the 24th inst. The witnesses examined were Mr. Crawford, Mr. John Johnson and Mrs. Crosby. Mr. Johnson, who lives in the rear of the store, said that about midnight on Wednesday he heard a noise as of glass breaking in the neighborhood of the shop window, and proceeded to investigate. He went outside and saw that one of the glass panes in the door of Mr. Crawford's shop had been broken, and that there was someone inside to come out, and a few minutes later Byers jumped out through the hole in the glass of the door and ran off. Johnson tracked him to the residence of Mrs. George Crosby on Lower Spring Park Road, where he was captured by the police. As soon as Byers got inside the store it appears he took off his coat and laid it on the floor, and in his hurry to get out he left it behind him. In the pockets of the coat were a pair of mitts and a briar root-pipe, which Byers admitted belonged to him.

Mr. Crawford testified to closing his store for the night about eleven o'clock, and some time later being informed by Mr. Johnson that it had been broken into. He did not miss anything from the store, as Mr. Johnson's early appearance on the scene had evidently frightened Byers off before he had time to make away with anything.

Mrs. Crosby said Byers came into her house some time after twelve o'clock on the night of his arrest, and that Mr. Johnson came in after him with a hatchet in his hand. She also testified to his subsequent arrest. Byers said he had nothing to say to the charge, and His Honor sent him up for trial at the next session of the Supreme Court.

Albert Roberts was convicted of a second violation of the Canada Temperance Act and fined \$100 or two months imprisonment.

A young lad named Ambrose Atkins, arraigned for discharging firearms within the city limits, said he didn't mean to do any harm—that he merely fired in the air over a fellow's head to scare him off. His mother said the revolver was her property, that she kept it to keep people away from her premises as "she had no man." His Honor said he did not think that in a city having such an efficient police force as Charlottetown it was necessary for Mrs. Atkins to keep such a weapon about her premises, and intimated that he would take charge of it for her. His Honor then lectured the lad and ordered that he be discharged. Mrs. Atkins thanked the magistrate for his kindness and left the court with her boy in tow.

Six drunks were also disposed of. One was fined \$30 or 30 days imprisonment with hard labor; two \$3 or 14 days, and three others \$2 or 8 days.

MONTREAL SCHOOLS.—The 5,447 pupils attending the Montreal schools of the Protestant commissioners last year paid in fees the sum of \$45,350. This is at the rate of \$8.40 per pupil per annum. Montreal is a long way from having free schools.

REMEMBER TO-night at Kensington Hall, 6.30 is the hour and 20 is the price.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Some of the Facts.

SIR,—In common with some others to whom I have spoken of it, I was sorry to see a second letter addressed to you, amplifying the first, and signed "James Carruthers." The underlying tone of either does not enhance one's opinion of the skill of the writer as the leader of a cause.

Mr. Carruthers expresses surprise that you are guided by policy and prudence. I do not feel surprise at his surprise, for the Scott Act party, of which he is the mouth-piece, appear to be guided by neither prudence nor policy. "I am Sir Oracle, you know; and let no Anti-Scottian open his mouth, for I refuse to accept what he thinks." Perhaps it would be more beneficial to the advocate's cause to exhibit more prudence and policy and less pretension.

Divested of all bombast, the question to be voted by the citizens on the 8th proximo is simply, "Shall the Scott Act be laid aside and some better means be adopted for advancing the cause of temperance?" Mr. Carruthers, with a vehemence that has a good deal of grotesque profanity in it, says in effect that the Scott Act is an eternal principle and solemn obligation between God and man (!) and must be discharged without fear of man! What does this paroxysm mean? Is it mere rant? or is he really frightened at somebody?

However unpleasant and ungratifying it may be to say so, there is too large a proportion of clergymen and women in the ultra-total abstinence party. Neither of these "respectable" classes can by any possibility know what the world is made of outside their nurseries and meeting-houses. To neither class would we, under any circumstances, look for incisive logic. The lovely sympathies of the one, and the narrow and somewhat blameworthy training of the other, mislead them. "Some men drink," is their line of argument: therefore, all men drink, and have to be restrained by the Scott Act, and nothing but the Scott Act; *q. e. d.* This is Carrutharian logic, but not logician's.

Before going further I must notice an ungracious dig that the militant Mahdi gives you below the belt. "We all know the position," he says, "that you took at the recent election, and we know the reward." Insinuation (to say the least of it) is ungenerous, and weakens the side that uses it.

The rev. gentleman says, in effect, that he will not take any man's word for anything unless it supports its own views. Naturally. But does he not see that he thereby forms his opinions on imperfect information? He says the Scott Act has lessened intemperance,—that is to say, as far as he knows. Would it surprise him to learn that the administration of that Act is directly responsible for having fastened on this country the abhorrent crime of private drunkenness? It has gangrened what was merely a pimple on the body politic into a corroding ulcer. So long as men live in a climate of north latitude, so long will they take stimulants on their journeys, the tears and prayers of their wives and pastors to the contrary notwithstanding. Before the Scott Act was imposed, this filip to digestion was taken openly and moderately at hotels, where any excess would have brought disgrace and would have been promptly put down. It happens that I, myself, am not particularly avid of exhilarants, and know as little of the interior of barrooms as Mr. Carruthers himself does, but as a matter of deep public interest, I have sought information from reliable sources, and can boldly bring forward the charge that the Scott Act has fastened on our people a debasing habit of private tipping that far, very far, outweighs any good effects that prohibition has produced in rescuing notorious drunkards from the gutter. Mr. Carruthers may travel in railway trains and steamboats on his missions of benevolence, and never see any drinking. But ask the train and steamboat hands how many flasks of poisonous alcohol are in passengers' pockets and valises? Whisky bottles are now as common travelling equipment as hair brushes. Every traveller, except Mr. Carruthers, knows this. Of course the fact does not come under his eyes, for his white necktie prevents passengers from pulling out their pocket-pistols and presenting them at his head; but these concealed weapons are all the same hidden away in almost every second man's baggage. The fact is lamentable, alarming and incontrovertible, and cannot be too loudly repeated, that the operation of the Scott Act is fastening on our people the damning habit of private drinking. As Mr. Carruthers "prefers facts," this is a humiliating fact with which he is possibly unacquainted.

It is most deplorable, but only too apparent, that the party who are clamoring so violently for the retention of the Scott Act look on the other half of their fellow-citizens as enemies. Is this just? Virtue does not dwell altogether on the Scott Act side. In the ranks of the constitutional opponents of the Act are certainly quite as many men of social standing and high personal character as are to be found among the supporters. By what right do the Scott Act partisans, as mouthed by Mr. Carruthers, assume that these good citizens are less in favor of temperance than they are themselves? Must no one be allowed to differ from the Scott Actors as to the best means of advancing the desirable cause? No man with a stake in the city but must feel the evils of intemperance in our midst, and must be anxious to find the best and most practical way of removing it. That best way—as shown by ten years' experience of its working—is not the Scott Act. Nor does such a letter as that of the rev. pastor, who carries the campaign banner, strengthen the impression that it is the best. On the contrary its tone is strangely at variance with that of an epistle of another Christian pastor, one Paul of Tarsus, who is reputed to have said, according to the new translation of a letter of his to a Church in Asia, "Let all bitterness and wrath, and anger, and clamour and railing be put away from you." This is the same person, I believe, who wrote to a friend "be no longer a water-drinker, but take a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities." But of course, if the legislation framed by poor old Senator Scott is "an eternal principle, and solemn obligation between God and man," no more need be said.

CITY.

Weather Bulletin.

TORONTO, Dec. 25.—10 a. m. Fair and cold to day, followed to-morrow by strong winds or gales from the eastward, with snow or rain.

FUR GOODS

We attribute the success of our Fur Department to

QUALITY, PRICE and VARIETY.

and now the end of the year has arrived with sales doubled, stock low, and everyone satisfied.

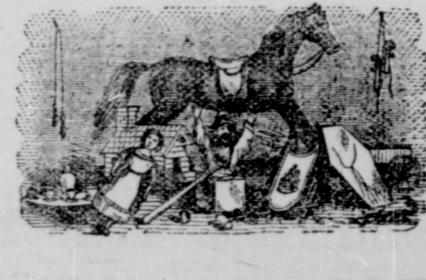
AS A SOUVENIR

of our unprecedented success, we purpose NEXT SATURDAY commencing a sale of Odds and Ends still remaining, at prices so low as to cause an

IMMEDIATE CLEARANCE.

Boas, Capes, Collars, Muffs, Caps, Fur-Lined Cloaks, etc.

BEER BROS.



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What a Tremendous Spread of Xmas Goods, selected from the Best Makers in the World!

WE CAN SUPPLY YOU with Cups and Saucers, Rose Jars, Biscuit Boxes, Cheese Dishes, Batter Dishes, Albums, imported direct from Germany; Vases, Toilet Sets, Inkstands, from Bohemia; Tumblers, Wine Glasses, Purses, Toys, from France; Leather Goods, Books and Cards from Great Britain; Plush Goods, Mirrors, Games and good Toys from the United States; and last, but not least, Presbyterian and Methodist Hymn Books, School Books and Stationery from "this Canada of Ours." JUST OPENED—A Magnificent Stock of New Goods. BARGAINS this week and next.

Largest Stock!

Lowest Prices!

Prettiest Goods!

See our 15 cent Cup and Saucer. Get a pair of the prettiest VASES in town only 15 cents per pair. Now, come right along to the BAZAAR STORE and get your Presents for your friends, and you may rest assured that what you have bought will please both you and the persons to whom you give it.

BAZAAR COMPANY.

Charlottetown, December 19, 1890.

BARGAINS!

Chairs, Tables, Lounges, Sofas, Sideboards, Cheffioniers, Bookcases, Picture Framing, etc.

Looking Glasses and Mirrors, Parlor Sets, very good, cheaper than ever offered. Chamber Sets! Chamber Sets!

Everything in Household Furniture. Call and inspect. Cheapest!

JOHN NEWSON,

SOUTH SIDE OF QUEEN SQUARE,

Charlottetown, Dec. 23, 1890

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NEW YEARS!

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At Cost.

SELECT YOUR

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS

AT ONCE.

THEO. L. CHAPPELLE,

Diamond Bookstore and Bazar,

Charlottetown, Dec. 26, 1890—31

Stray Bulls.

THERE have been on my premises, since November, 1890, two small Bulls, evidently strayed from their owners. If not called for before the 7th of January, they will be sold by Auction.

A. W. BRUCE, Red Point.

Copy of Nories Navigation.

Copy Ship Masters' Assistant, in good order.

On sale at JOHN COOMBS' PRINTING OFFICE, Queen Street. li pd—dec 26

WINTER CROSSING!

THE WINTER ROUTE between Cape Traverse and Cape Tormentine is now open. Passengers and Luggage at the regular rates. Passengers will find this route very much the cheapest. Passengers accommodated in the very best manner.

CAPT. GEORGE IRVING, dec26—3m eod wky

TUESDAY, December 30th.

Christmas Concert

—BY—

EPWORTH LEAGUE

—AND—

SUNDAY SCHOOL

—OF—

Methodist Brick Church.

An attractive Programme has been prepared. Full particulars later. dec20—s t f

Y. M. C. A.

Annual Meeting.

THE GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the Young Men's Christian Association will be held in the Hall of the Association, Queen Square, Charlottetown,

On Monday, 29th December, AT 7.30 O'CLOCK, P. M.,

for the purpose of receiving the Report for the past year, electing an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, and the transaction of other important business.

CHARLES PALMER, President.

R. M. BARRATT, Secretary.

dec20—dy

From Boston to Souris.

S. S. COILA

WILL receive Freight at Boston on SATURDAY, 27th inst., sailing for Souris direct, ice and weather permitting.

D. FARQUHARSON & SON.

Ch'town, Dec. 24, 1890—dy

WANTS, LOST, FOUND &c

WANTED TO PURCHASE—A Single Driving Sleigh or light Double Sleigh. Must be in good order. Apply to G. H. TAYLOR. dec26

WANTED.—A good servant for general household work. High wages to a suitable person. Mrs. Wm. WEAKE, Brighton. dec25

WANTED TO EXCHANGE.—A light Jaunting Sleigh for a Driving Box Sleigh. Apply to G. H. TAYLOR. dec26