

From Scottish American Journal, June 5,

Political Activity—An Element of National Strength.

Among the criticisms of foreign affairs in which some American journals indulge, none is so absurd as that which relates to the "condition of Great Britain question."

There is seen to exist an unexampled activity in political teaching both in Parliament and out of it; the difficulty under which labour struggles, the operation of the poor-laws, the weight of taxation, the programme for Ireland—all are discussed with an earnestness which may have been surpassed in the days of the Anti-Corn Law League of Catholic Emancipation.

There is an amusing side to these utterances which is perhaps worth noting. The great glory claimed for this country is that it is a republic. In theory, though, far otherwise in fact, one man here is as good as another.

The British Lion is uneasy. The people there discover that they are not so prosperous as they might be, and are talking somewhat loudly. Zealous reformers are not satisfied; they want changes in many things. Labor is over-abundant and underpaid; it craves higher recompense and a wider range of effort.

RECIPROCIITY.

The returns asked for by Mr. Dorion, in the House of Commons, regarding Reciprocity, were brought down on the 25th inst. The first part consists of a long correspondence between the Prince Edward Island, Dominion and Imperial Governments, relative to the duty imposed by Prince Edward Island on American bread-stuffs and the admission free of Canadian bread-stuffs through American territory.

Pleasing Prospect.

A larger number of immigrants have taken up their abode in Ontario this summer than for many years previously during a similar period. The prospect is still good for the arrival of many others. It now seems certain that within a few years a vast accession will be made to the population of the Dominion.

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In New York, on Thursday night last, about 11 o'clock, a meteor of remarkable brilliancy shot across the horizon. Although the light was comparatively clear and bright, the meteor appeared not only unusually bright but also of an extraordinary size.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY!—A Special Telegram to the Morning Telegraph conveys the lamentable intelligence that on Tuesday night, 25th inst. the dwelling of Mr. Alexander, a short distance from Bathurst, was destroyed by fire—supposed to be accidental.

Very Latest Telegrams.

FROM OTTAWA.

Ottawa, June 4. Resolutions respecting Newfoundland were submitted to-day. Securities Newfoundland debt to be substituted with bonds of other Provinces prior to 1867. Newfoundland to have five per cent. per annum on difference between its debt and debt per head of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Resolutions respecting Prince Edward Island authorizing Government to make such arrangements as they may deem expedient for the admission of that Island, such arrangements to include provisions for acquisition, the dispatch of property-rights of original grantees of Crown Lands for the purpose of effecting communication (sic) of tenure in favour of tenants on fair and liberal terms, and to raise a loan for that purpose.

It is understood that Government have agreed to postpone the Banking Measure till next Session, on pretext that it would be unjust to Newfoundland to pass said law until it is represented in Parliament.

Hon. Mr. Rose, in reply to Dufresne, said the Government were considering expediency of making American silver legal tender at a certain figure under certain circumstances.

House in Committee to-day proceeded with discussion of Newfoundland resolution. Opposition take grounds that terms offered are too high, and that the Colony will be a bill of expense to the Dominion. No amendment has yet been moved.

London, June 7. The Liberal journals deplore the course adopted by the Conservative Peers in respect to the Irish Church Bills.

It is understood that Mr. Gladstone proposes, in case the House of Lords reject the Irish Church Bill, to prorogue the present Session of Parliament immediately and inaugurate a new Session. In order to ensure the passage of the Bill it is proposed to create a new batch of Peers, including the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Amberly, the oldest sons of most of the Liberal Peers and all the Scotch and Irish Peers now without seats in the House of Lords.

An immense public meeting of persons opposed to the Irish Church Bill has been held in London to-day. Nearly 12,000 persons were present. A protest against the Bill was adopted which will be sent to the House of Lords.

The Spanish Cortes have adopted the new Constitution. The announcement was received with general satisfaction but some popular excitement in Madrid ensued and several persons were shot by the troops. Marshal Serrano is proposed as Regent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE GREEN SCHOOLMASTER ABROAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

SIR:—The North Star of the 24th ult. shines with more than ordinary lustre, by reason of a communication from J. H. Fletcher. This individual, it appears, is at present travelling throughout the Neighboring Republic, and giving the readers of the Star vivid descriptions of what comes under his keen observation. This man must be in possession of powers by far more perceptible than those of ordinary mortals. In fact it is a fortunate thing for us Islanders that "J. H." is so mindful of us; for unless he had gone abroad, we would probably remain for ever in complete ignorance of the "grandeur" of the city of Boston, and would never obtain but the most illusive idea of the greatness of the land of "Brother Jonathan."

When the STAR's correspondent had awakened out of his ecstasy, he found that while witnessing the grand parade (in comparison of which all other earthly scenes must dwindle into insignificance) he was "standing on the elevated steps of the Boston Custom House."

The world at one time boasted of having possessed seven wonders; but a greater wonder than all these or any of them, is the Custom House in Boston. At least, it should judge in "H." estimates it as "Why, the Pyramids of Egypt, which celebrated travellers describe as the "most stupendous work of man," are cast into the shade in comparison with this modern edifice. He says that it "was in itself sufficient to admire for a day, and it is but one of the public buildings among thousands belonging to this State."

ANTI-HUMBUG.

June 1, 1869.

SUMMER TRAVEL.

MR. EDITOR; If the people of the United States and the Canada only knew what a delightful place of Summer resort Prince Edward Island was, they would shun expensive watering places and enjoy a trip, via the Railroad to Shediac and the fine Steamboats of the P. E. Island Steam Navigation Company to your beautiful Island, which is not only a "gem of the sea," but an earthly paradise in the summer season.

My object in writing these lines is to dispel a common error among Americans, that they are entertained and pleased. On the contrary, it is as convenient and pleasurable as most of the route of summer travel in the States; and more so than in the Canada.

I am, dear Sir, Yours truly, A TRAVELLER.

DINNER TO MR. THOMAS KIRWAN.—On Friday evening last about thirty gentlemen, the friends and well-wishers of Mr. Kirwan, sat down to an excellent dinner at Crabb's Hotel, given as an expression of their esteem and regard for Mr. Kirwan, who is about leaving Summerside.

The following volunteer toasts were then given and enthusiastically received and honored: The Ladies; the Farmers; the Mechanics; the Commercial interests of Summerside; the Mercantile Marine; our Host and Hostess; Absent Friends.

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Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1869.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents as a guaranty of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

THE NEWS.

We see by the English newspapers that a very singular discussion took place in the House of Lords. Its subject was the condition of Ireland. It was declared that life was not as safe in Ireland as it ought to be—that government failed in that country to accomplish the chief end for which it was instituted. The security of life should be the State's first care. The country where life was insecure, gives the strongest proof that it is a badly governed one.

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OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION.

It will, we think, be admitted that this Island is in a better condition financially than any other British Colony. We are much less deeply in debt than any of the Pacific Colonies. We have not the figures by us, but we are pretty sure that it will be found, on enquiry, that the public debt of the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, and even of British Columbia, very greatly exceeds that of this "tiny Colony."

THE COMING OFFER.

It will be seen from our telegraph columns that the Dominion Government are about to make the people of this Island an offer to induce them to enter the Confederation. It is well known that nine-tenths of the people of the Island are violently opposed to Confederation.

AGRICULTURAL.

The productions of the soil sustain the life of man, and as agriculture enables him to produce these, it will at once be admitted that this art possesses the quality of superiority. The constant cultivation of the land by an individual, though his education be defective, may tend to concentrate in him the sphere of thought and reflection, and it may also tend towards the development of integrity and uprightness.

Mr. Motley has arrived in England, and has been very well received. His tone is pacific, and it is not likely that Mr. Sumner's inconsiderate speech will result in anything very serious, after all.

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Cricket Club.

At a meeting held on Saturday the 5th inst., for the purpose of forming a Cricket Club, Dr. Fuller in the chair, it was agreed that the Club be known as the "Prince County Cricket Club."

The Grammar School.

The Summerside Grammar School is now without a Teacher. Mr. McRae, the late master, has resigned. Mr. McRae has been teacher of the above institution for the last four years, during which time we have had his acquaintance, and his character and conduct has proved itself in every way worthy of the profession he follows.

We have received a copy of the Report of the Commission of the Queen's Printer, and in eleven new gold crushers have been licensed.

Thirteen places have been mentioned in the Province, where gold discoveries were made last year. The following table shows the result of the gold mining and of the coal trade: In the 15 months, some 40,000 tons of quartz crushed, yielding 28,342 ounces of the precious metal, which, at \$18.65 per oz., shows a value of \$505,027—or about \$12.50 to the ton of quartz.

Of Coal, the total quantity raised and sold for the year ended Dec. 31, '68 was 453,617 tons—of which all except about 40,000 tons was "round." Of the total, 117,624 tons went into home consumption, 102,761 tons were exported to neighboring Colonies, and 233,178 tons shipped to other countries, principally the States. 2,689 men and boys were employed in the Coal Mines, and 60 engines of 3,382 horse power.

Intercolonial Railway being taken to stand 114 for and 28 against.

To Correspondents.—"A Layman" will appear next week. Too or three other communications on hand will also be inserted if we can find space.

We learn that the Schr. Alberton will run as the Packet between Charlottetown and Cascopecum. We hope the day is not far distant when the Western part of this County, especially the Merchants of Alberton, will receive the benefits of Steam communication. We believe it would pay the Island S. N. C. to allow their steamer to call at Alberton at the present time, at least once a fortnight.