THE DAILY EXAMINER.

JANUARY 14, 1884.

The Difficulty about the Clerk of the Crown.

AMONG the letters published in THE EXAMINER to-day is one addressed, for publication, to the editor of the *Patriot*. The letter speaks for itself. Mr. Hodgson has for many years been the favorite subject of the *Patriot's* intolerate hate and diabolical rhetoric. His unscrupulous villifiers allow no opportunity to pass unimproved of maligning him to the country and of placing him in a false position before the Court in which he practices his profession. An independent layman could not possibly be injured by having his name connected with the editorials of THE EXAMINER; but because Mr. Hodgson is a lawyer, and to do so is calculated to engender the ill-will towards him of the Judges whose favorable decisions he seeks, he is assailed as the writer of the articles on the difficulty which has arisen between the Local Government and the Court relative to the office of Clerk of the Crown. Mr. Hodgson states the simple truth when he states that he had nothing whatever to do with those articles; and we believe that it is equally true that he has abstained till now from taking any part in the matter, because of the special circumstance to which he refers in his letter. The public will, we are sure, appreciate the position Mr. Hodgson has taken, in view of his father's dying wish on the one hand, and the decision of the Judges before whom he pleads, on the other. No person with a grain of delicacy could have taken any other position; yet it suggests to the venomous imagination of the editor of the *Patriot* only the ugly image of the viper covering with its saliva "the file it cannot gnaw!"

City Accounts.

THE following summary statement of City Accounts has been kindly furnished us by the City Clerk:

RECEIPTS FOR YEAR 1883.

Ordinary Revenue	$11,016.65
Real Estate sold	295.25
Bank of P. E. I. dividend,	8.55
Debentures issued	15,000.00
Assessment, 1881	3.31
" 1882	3,070.54
" 1883	24,579.04
Total Receipts	$53,974.34

PAYMENTS.

Ordinary Expenses	24,534.17
Unpaid Accounts, 1882	1,306.37
New Hose Reel	230.00
Unforseen Check, 1882	80
Union Bank Overdraft	15,908.71
School Trustees	9,000.00
	50,980.05
Cash at Credit in Bank,	$ 2,994 29

Indebtedness of the City for 1882 and 1883, is as follows:—

Indebtedness, 1882	$111,349.18
" 1883	110,132.50
Debt reduced	$ 1,207.88
Assets of City, 1883	$117,307.56
" 1882	115,086 90
Increasing Assets	$ 2,220.66
Total gain for the year	$ 3,428.54

"Life and Times of Sir John A. Macdonald."

ONE of the most observant, outspoken, and at the same time interesting books, that has been recently added to the literature of Canada is, "The Life and Times of Sir John A. Macdonald," by J. E. Collins, just issued by the Rose Publishing Company of Toronto, pp. 642, sixth thousand.

The author is evidently conversant with a wide range of literature, has a delicate wit, possesses the dangerous gift of a keen irony, and, when necessary, can use scathing invective. Although apparently done from personal friendship, it seems at variance with the fitness of things that this biography should be dedicated to Goldwin Smith, and we regret to find in it much that savors of the teachings of that Bystander. It is, an accurate and lively record of that cis-Atlantic period of the Victorian reign in which the British Dominion in Canada became consolidated, that the book is both valuable and pleasant. Fortunateiy the good taste of the author has prevented him from commencing this biography more than six centuries before the subject of it was born, for the worth of a mythical descent from Brian Boroo, Donald of Islay, or even from Adam, is now estimated at its proper value of nothing. A Canadian's history begins with the settlement of himself or people in Canada. Consequently, in 1820 a bright boy of five years, son of Mr. Hugh Macdonald, debarked in Canada from a ship from Glasgow, his birthplace. He was a noticeable little fellow with "a very intelligent and pleasing face, strange, fuzzy-looking hair that curled in a dark mass, and a striking nose," the same, we infer, that he has now. This little boy, grown into a thriving young lawyer, fought his way up manfully to the year 1848, the date Mr. Collins assigns for the death of fine old high-flavored Toryism, and the birth of Liberal-Conservatism. All antecedent to that date we may look on as ancient history. Since then up to the present time—and long may he wave—the moving power has admittedly been John Alexander Macdonald. The author does not bespatter his hero with mere panegyric, but gives a faithful account of the defeats and victories in which he figures. And truth to tell Canadian politics is a continued battlepiece. Around the majestic central figure the limner has therefore grouped speaking portraitures of the lesser actors, sketched with a subtile appreciation and a facile pencil. Sir Charles Tupper, "whose characteristic is force," all the members of the first Dominion Cabinet, and several political men who have put in a later appearance are neatly photographed. George Brown, to whom *de mortuis* etc, scarcely applies, is painted as he lived, the archtype of a demagogue who revelled in public tumult as the petrel does in a storm. Hon. Alex. McKenzie, who whitewashed the deceased owner of the *Globe* in a biography that does little credit to his literary ability, has a tribute paid to his never doubted honesty of pu pose, but it is truly added, even while admitting that his influence on Canada has been for good, "cast-iron theories always hedged him in, and set bounds to his every impulse and plan; at last they grew so narrow as to become his coffin." Contrary to Sir John's widely known geniality, Mr. McKenzie further labored under the disadvantage of a repellent manner which he could no more control than if it had been dyspepsia. Mr. Blake is described as a "singularly icy statesman," incapable of a low intrigue, which the writer of this review frankly believes—but it is shrewdly added "Mr. Blake's great speeches, unfortunately, but too often resemble railway trains running in opposite directions, eventually meeting in disastrous collision.

In addition to the record of political progress, a chapter, not the least interesting, is devoted to Canadian Thought and Literature, in which reference is made to one, and only one, of our Island *literati*, Mr. Hunter Duvar, in a manner that must be gratifying to that gentleman and not unacceptable to the Province. An appendix of over one hundred pages puts on record some of Sir John's ablest speeches, Earl Durham's views, with other matter, and the work is rendered complete by a good index. Able writers are many; compilers of good indices are few. One of the best portraits of Sir John that we have seen serves as a frontispiece.

Gently putting aside the authors Goldwinian leanings, in which few, or rather none, of the great party led by Sir John Macdonald can either believe or sympathise, we look on the work as a credit to the literature of Canada, and a handy volume of reference to all shades and grades of Canadian politicians.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I have this morning sent, to the editor of the *Patriot*, a letter, of which the inclosed is a copy. I shall be glad if you will insert it in THE EXAMINER.

Yours truly,
EDWARD J. HODGSON.

To the Editor of the Patriot:

SIR,—It was not until this morning that I saw the *Patriot* of the 11th inst.

It would be affectation on my part were I not to admit that I am the lawyer alluded to in the latter part of your article on "The office of the Clerk of the Crown." The coarse and abusive language used, and the intense maliguity, should forbid me to doubt that any one is intended except myself.

And yet, in the controversy relative to Mr. Irving's appointment, I have not meddled; nor do I intend to take any part in it.

I have, what seems to me, good reasons for the adoption of this course. These reasons I have never yet mentioned, but I propose to do so now.

A few hours before my father's death, and when he knew he was dying, (thinking of others rather than himself to the very last) he sent for one of the Judges of the Supreme Court and strongly recommended (as strongly as his failing strength permitted) Mr. James D. Irving to the favorable consideration of the Judges, when considering the appointment of a Prothonotary in his place.

I have reason to believe that this recommendation was laid before the Judges. I have no doubt whatever that it received due consideration, but they did not see their way to act upon it.

I never blamed them for one moment for not acting otherwise. How could I? The responsibility of the appointment rested with them and I do not doubt that they acted according to the best of their judgment.

The moment exception was taken to Mr. Irving's appointment as Clerk of the Crown, I determined not to interfere in the matter in anyway. What I feared, was that I might be considered as attaching an undue weight to my father's dying wish. I did not do so, but I did not even wish to *appear* to do so.

And so, from the month of July to the present time, I have written nothing, suggested nothing, inspired nothing. Neither directly nor indirectly have I interfered at all.

Upon one point—as to Mr. Irving's competency—I have a strong conviction. My father's opinion upon this point is *to me* conclusive. For fifty-three years he had been in office. For twelve of these years Mr. Irving had been associated with him. If Mr. Irving is "incompetent," my father must have known it. Can I be expected to believe that, with his dying breath, he would recommend an incompetent person for a responsible position the duties of which he knew so well? With others, his opinion may not have appeared entitled to much weight. With me it is far otherwise; and I must be pardoned for believing that that opinion, given at such a time and under such circumstances, is conclusive.

I have often heard my father say that he knew no one better fitted to succeed him in both his offices than Mr. Irving. "He is," he remarked to me upon one occasion, "much more competent than any layman I know of, and quite as competent as many lawyers."

This opinion, I am satisfied, would be endorsed by a majority of the Bar, and by the public at large.

On Wednesday morning as I was going into Court, I heard that this matter was to be again brought forward by the Judges, I at once returned to my office. I did not wish even to be present when the matter was under discussion. I did not return to the Court until late in the afternoon, and then I was an unwilling and grieved spectator of what took place.

You state that I have "wormed about the members of the Local Legislature, begging their consent to pass a little bill to change the law." I fear I cannot even give you credit for believing this statement when you wrote it. I have not spoken to a single member of the legislature with reference to this matter, and no one would deplore more than I, any change of the law, the inevitable effect of which would be to make the offices of Clerk of the Crown and Prothonotary political offices, the incumbents of which would be forced to resign with each retiring Government.

Yours, &c.,
EDWARD J. HODGSON.

Hillsborough House, Jan. 14, 1884.

Subscription Versus a Grant.

SIR,—I understand I am looked on as opposed to the Exhibition. I am not; but I was often reminded in my boyhood that there are two ways of doing a thing—a right way and a wrong way; and, in the present case, the wrong way was to ask the corporation for a grant, and the right was to make a subscription first, as is now being done.

If there is any balance in the City Treasury at the end of the year, the streets will want it. A man once said, and worse he put it in print: "When the planks in Toronto are worn out, they are sent down to Quebec, and when worn out in Quebec, they are sent down to C. T." From the perishable nature of the material used there is too much room for the sneer. But if there is no balance, can the corporation levy a tax for the purpose; I very much doubt it. I doubt of the Act of Incorporation gives them any right or authority to do so. But this is a question for a lawyer's opinion. But admit that they can, when will they get it? The R. G., Nov. 5, now lies before me. In it there are 188 pieces of real estate advertized in default for assessment; and if a tax is laid on to raise the wind for the exhibition it would not be all paid in, in a year from to-day. But suppose they can levy a tax for the purpose, is it fair or just so to do. In the section of the street where the writer lives, there are fourteen freeholders taxpayers, only four of the fourteen will ever receive any benefit from the exhibition, perhaps not more than three; and likely this is the proportion through the city. Now is it fair or just to tax five-seventh of the people for the benefit of the other two sevenths? This is a question that answers itself.

I strongly surmise the subscription now making will be very large, and that it will be quite a stimulus to the Province and also to the Dominion. I am sure the gentlemen who requested the Mayor to call the meeting, with scores, perhaps hundreds of others will come down handsomely, and I am sure the noble minded, public spirited Secretary, will be in the front. Yes, Sir, I may adopt the words of Lord Dufferin regarding the Americans and the Fishery Award, "I am sure he will pay up like a gentleman." As my suggestion regarding a subscription is being acted on, I make bold to make another.

The old Insane Asylum, and the ground on which it stands is unoccupied and vacant. Now, whatever the Island Government may give or grant, let them give this; let it be donated in perpetuity for the purpose of Dominion or Provincial Exhibitions. There are, perhaps, eight or nine acres of land. The building if it can't be made useful—the material can; and if suitable buildings are put up there will be no need to trouble the Governor for a piece of his farm, whatever there may be for the loan of the Drill Shed. Wishing success and prosperity to all, I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,
A CITIZEN.

A Suggeston.

SIR,—As we have at present two public clocks, viz., one upon the Court House, on Queen Square, and St. Dunstan's Cathedral clock not more than a stone's throw from it, would it not be well, since the standard time has been adopted by both the Post Office and Railway Department, that both the local and standard time should be given.

In order to do so the Court House clock, being an illuminated one and most central, could give the local time, while the new standard time would be told by the clock on St. Dunstan's Cathedral.

This change would confer a great benefit upon many, and simplify matters which at present are perplexing.

Yours truly,
TRAVELLER.

Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1884.

Our Advertisers.

Artemas Lord, Agent of Department of Marine and Fisheries, notifies all interested that tenders will be received at his office up to the 28th inst., for the erection of a breakwater at the seaward side of Indian Point Lighthouse, Summerside harbor.

A. H. McPherson announces that a public meeting of citizens will be held in the Market Hall to-morrow evening at half-past seven, when the City Accounts for the past year will be presented.

A. McNeill is offering tea, apples, herring, codfish, cottons, etc., at very low prices at his auction room, Queen street.

Horace Haszard offers to let a room on the South Side of Queen Square, lately occupied as a private billiard room.

Wm. Dodd advertises an auction sale of Gas Stock at his salesroom, Friday, at 12 o'clock:

BIRTH.

At Charlottetown, Jan. 13th, the wife of T. A. McLean, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

At the R. C. Church, Acadia Mines, Londonderry, on the 8th inst., by the Rev. Father Hamilton, brother of the bride, assisted by Fathers Donnelly, of Amherst, and Cummain, of Truro, Edward Walsh, Manager of Acadia Mines Store, to Julia, daughter of W. J. Hamilton, Esq., of Amherst, N. S.

TO THE TRADE!

ON Consignment and for sale very low, at my Auction Room, Queen Street.

TEA—59 Half Chests Prime.
APPLES—150 barrels No. 1 Choice.
HERRING—50 barrels No. 1.
CODFISH—15 Quintals.
GREY COTTONS—7 bales all prices.
WRAPPING PAPER, Paper Bags, etc., very cheap. TERMS CASH.

A. McNEILL,
Auctioneer.

Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1884.—tf wkly2i.

TO LET.

THE room on South Side Queen Square, lately occupied as a private billiard room. Apply to

HORACE HASZARD.

Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1884.

1884. JANUARY. 1884.

Annual Clearance Sale At

J. B. MACDONALD'S.

I AM now having my Annual Clearance Sale, and will CLEAR OUT Wool Goods in

Scarfs, Clouds, Wool Squares,
Heavy Winter Cloths, Winter Dress Stuffs,
Ladies' Fur Caps and Muffs,
Ladies' Fur Tippets,
Ladies' Felt and Fur Hats,
Men's Fur and Cloth Caps,
Men's and Boys' Ulsters, Overcoats and Reefing Jackets,
Also Remnants in Cloths, Remnants in Dress Stuffs, Remnants in Prints, and Remnants in Canton Flannels.

These goods must be cleared out and Bargains Extraordinary will be given.

J. B. MACDONALD'S,
Queen Street.

Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1884.—2aw wkly.

SEWING MACHINES,

CHEAPEST AND BEST

IN PRICE $5.00 TO $100.00.

IN PRICE $5 00 TO $100.00

AT

MILLER BROTHERS,

QUEEN STREET.

The following are some of the kinds in stock, viz.,

Raymond, White, Wanzer, Royal, American Singer, William Singer, Wheeler & Wilson, Gem, Household, Osborne, Champion, Weed.

A large supply of extras and parts kept constantly on hand. Sewing Machines, all kinds, fully warranted.

A first class repair shop in connection where the repairing of all Sewing Machines is promptly attended to.

MILLER BROTHERS also keep on hand a

LARGE STOCK OF ORGANS,

which they are selling at extremely low prices. ORGANS in price, from $60 upwards.

Accordeons, Concertinas, Violins and other small musical instruments at Bottom Prices.

MILLER BROTHERS,

Dealers in Pianos, Organs, and Sewing Machines.

Charlottetown, Jan. 12, 1884.—

GREAT ATTRACTIONS

Just Received, a Large Assortment of

JEWELRY,

CONSISTING OF

Gold and Silver Waltham and Geneva Watches,
Colored, Gold and Plated Sets,
Ladies' Chains and Lockets,

GENTS' GOLD, GOLD-PLATED, SILVER AND NICKEL LOOKETS AND CHAINS,

Silver-Plated Ware, Eight-Day and Thirty-Hour Clocks (American styles), Spectacles and Eyeglasses.

☞ Call and be convinced that my Stock is the Cheapest and Best in Charlottetown.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, etc., cleaned and repaired. All work warranted.

G. G. JURY,
North Side Queen Square, Opposite Post Office.

Charlottetown, Dec. 18, 1883.—saw me fe wkly 1m

THE CHARLOTTETOWN

FLOUR, FEED AND PROVISION, STORE,

South Side Queen Square, near Queen Street,

HAVE to announce that they have on hand the following goods, which they are prepared to sell at reasonable prices and in quantities to suit purchasers:

Flour (Superior Extra, Strong Bakers' and Patent)

OATMEAL, CORNMEAL, BRAN, SHORTS, OATS,

CRUSHED FEED, either Oats and Barley or Oats, Barley and Corn. APPLES, which will be sold by the barrel or by the pound, at rates very little over barrel prices.

Ch'town, Dec. 18, 1883.

GAS STOCK.

TO be sold by Auction on FRIDAY next, 18th inst, at my Sale Room, at 12 o'clock.

20 shares 1st Preference Stock.
20 shares 2nd Preference Stock.
20 shares Common Stock.

WILLIAM DODD,
Auctioneer.

Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1884.—

Public Meeting of Citizens.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Citizens will be held in the

MARKET HALL,

—ON—

TUESDAY, 15th inst.

AT 7 30 O'CLOCK, P. M.,

when the Accounts of the City for the past year will be submitted.

By order of His Worship the Mayor.

A. H. MacPHERSON,
City Clerk.

Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1884.—2i.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Undersigned and endorsed. "Tenders for Indian Point Lighthouse Breakwater" will be received up to the 28th inst., for the erection and completion of a Breakwater 180 feet long on the seaward side of Indian Point Lighthouse, Summerside harbor, according to a plan and specification to be seen at the office of the Agent of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, Post Office Building, Charlottetown.

Persons tendering are notified that Tenders will not be considered unless made on the Printed Forms supplied.

Such Tender must be accompanied by an *accepted* Bank cheque, made payable to His Honor the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, equal to five per cent of the amount tendered, which will be forfeited should the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon so to do, or fail to complete the work contracted for. If the Tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any Tender.

ARTEMUS LORD,
Agent Dept. Marine and Fisheries.

Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1884.—2in.

Y. M. C. A.

LECTURE COURSE.

THE Fifth Lecture of the Winter Course, before the Young Men's Christian Association, will be delivered by

HON. D. FERGUSON, M. P. P.,

—IN THE—

Y. M. C. A. HALL,

—ON—

Thursday Evng, January 17th,

SUBJECT—"AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION."

Chair to be taken at eight o'clock. Admission ten cents.

HENRY SMITH,
Secretary.

Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1884.—jat.

St. Peter's Penny Readings.

First of the Series.

ST. PETER'S SCHOOLROOM.

Tuesday, Jan., 22nd.

ADMISSION, 10 CENTS.

Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1884.—m w&f.

LECTURE!

J. H. FLETCHER, ESQ,

WILL DELIVER HIS

NEW AND POPULAR LECTURE

—ON—

"UNCROWNED HEROISM,"

in the Basement of the Zion Church,

—ON—

Monday, 14th inst.,

AT EIGHT O'CLOCK, P. M.

Doors open at 7 30 o'clock. Admission, 10 cents.

Charlottetown, Jan. 10, 1884.—tl date.

P. E. ISLAND RAILWAY.

THE SPECIAL TRAIN, running in connection with the steamer "Northern Light," has been withdrawn.

Passengers for the "Northern Light" will require to go by the Regular Train, leaving here at 2 30 o'clock, p m.

JAMES COLEMAN,
Superintendent.

Railway Office, Ch'town, Jan. 11, 1883.—2i.

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c.

WANTED.—A servant to do general house work for a family of three. Apply at this Office. [2i

LOST.—On Saturday evening, a Gold Watch Chain Ornament (book shape). The finder will be rewarded by leaving it at this office. [jan14.

BOARDERS.—Mrs. Robert Rodd, has removed to the house of Mr. C. Hearts, Euston Street, where she can accommodate number of Boarders, on reasonable terms. [oct3