

Sales Agents of the Daily Examiner.

THE DAILY EXAMINER is for sale every day on the trains east and west, and at the following places:— H. A. HARVEY, Charlottetown. A. D. HASZARD, " T. O'CONNELL, " T. L. CHAPPELLE, " S. T. NELMES, " P. N. FATE, cor. Pownall and Easton streets. G. A. AITKEN, Georgetown. D. SUTHERLAND, Souris East. A. McAULAY, Head St. Peter's Bay. D. EGAN, Mount Stewart. H. BEER, Southport. G. O. O'NEILL, Halfway House. MORTON S. HUGHES, County Line Station. EDMUND CAMPBELL, Prince County Book-store, Summerside. W. D. McNEILL, Aliberton. JOHN J. ARSNEAUX, Tignish.

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

FEBRUARY 27, 1879.

Public Opinion and the Government.

WE submit to the consideration of members of the Provincial Legislature the following expressions of public opinion given by the electors at public meetings held in the localities named:—

BELLE CREEK—QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Resolved, That this meeting, disapproving of the general policy of the Government, do hereby request our Representatives to resign their seats."

MILTON—QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Resolved (almost unanimously), That in the opinion of this meeting the present Administration has not come up to the expectations of their constituents, and they are hereby requested to call a meeting of Parliament at once, to reconsider and amend their past Acts."

ARGYLE SHORE—QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Resolved, That this meeting set an example to all other meetings in other sections of the Island, by petitioning His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the present House of Assembly, and send back our Representatives to the people at the polls, there to give an account of their mis-doings, while in power."

LITTLE YORK—QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Resolved, That this meeting set an example to other settlements, by petitioning His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the present House of Assembly, and send back our mis-Representatives to the people at the polls—there to give an account of their stewardship."

SPRINGTOWN—QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the members of the Government have violated their principles and policy as enunciated by them whilst in Opposition, thereby forfeiting the confidence of the people."

KENSINGTON—PRINCE COUNTY. "Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Government have forfeited the respect and confidence of the country, and should resign."

TRYON—PRINCE COUNTY. "Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the interests of the country demand an immediate dissolution of the House of Assembly, and that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor should dissolve the same."

CENTREVILLE—PRINCE COUNTY. "Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the best interests of the country demand the immediate dismissal of the Land Assessors, and also the repeal of the Act, or otherwise it be submitted to the people at the polls without delay, and that the Government have forfeited the confidence of the people."

FREETOWN—PRINCE COUNTY. "Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Government have forfeited the confidence of the country and should resign."

ST. ELEANORS—PRINCE COUNTY. "Resolved, That our representatives be instructed to withdraw their support from the present Administration, or otherwise resign their seats, and that the Lieutenant Governor be petitioned to dissolve the General Assembly, at once, in order that the people of this Province may have an opportunity of selecting more competent men to represent them in the Legislature."

TYNE VALLEY—PRINCE COUNTY. "Resolved, That the Lieutenant Governor be petitioned to dissolve the House of Assembly, in order that we may be enabled to elect men who will advocate the repeal of the Assessment Act, as well as such other measures of reform as may be necessary."

MURRAY HARBOR—QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Resolved, That this meeting express their want of confidence in the present Government, and deem it their duty to appoint a committee to draw up a petition, have it duly signed and forwarded to His Honor the Lieut. Governor, requesting him to dissolve the present House of Assembly, and send back our Representatives to the people at the polls, there to give an account of their mismanagement and bungling Stewardship while in power."

These and many more deliberate, strong and almost unanimous expressions of opinion were, it is almost needless to say, given in Districts where the Government received its chief support; and the clear duty of the people's representatives is to vote want of confidence in the Government which their constituents have condemned.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Earle intends repeating his concert, with change of programme, on Easter Monday. Numerous applications having been sent in to Mr. Earle since the last concert, and in consequence of so many not being able to obtain sittings, St. Paul's school room being overcrowded, he has been induced to repeat the concert. We say no more, as we know that the room will be packed. People now know how to appreciate music properly rendered, and that is the reason they appreciate Mr. Earle's efforts to elevate the tone of good music in our midst.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Opening Ceremonies—The Lieutenant-Governor's Speech—The Government Defeated on the First Resolution.

FEB. 27.

At three o'clock to-day the Lieutenant-Governor came down to the Legislative Council Chamber, and opened the third session of this Legislature with the following SPEECH:

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

I am glad to have been able to call you together at an earlier period than usual for the discharge of your Legislative duties.

The arrival of His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne in November last, to enter upon his duties as Governor General, was hailed with acclamation by the people of the Dominion, while the manifestations of welcome, which everywhere greet His Excellency and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, afford pleasing evidences of the loyalty and attachment of all classes of the people to Our Most Gracious Sovereign.

The Government of the United States having paid to the Imperial Government the amount awarded under the Fishery Articles of the Treaty of Washington, which has since been handed over to the respective Governments of the Dominion and Newfoundland, my Government, believing in the right of the Award as the value of our Fisheries bears to that of the other Maritime Provinces, have taken an early opportunity of pressing this claim upon the General Government. Papers upon this subject will be laid before you.

The steadily decreasing revenues of the Province, and the difficulty of keeping its expenditure within its receipts, demand the strictest economy in the administration of the Public Service. Already such important retrenchments as could be carried into effect without Statutory authority have been adopted, and measures providing for the reduction of salaries payable by the Province, and of other controllable expenses, will be laid before you.

A Bill will be submitted to you, altering the constitution of the Legislature, and providing one Legislative Chamber for the Province, in lieu of the existing Legislative Council and House of Assembly. To this important constitutional change, I invite your earnest attention.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The Public Accounts for the past year, together with the Estimates for the present, will be laid before you. The latter have been framed with the strict regard to economy, demanded by our present resources.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: A measure, having for its object the abolition of imprisonment for debt, will be submitted for your approval.

I am glad to inform you that the purchase from the proprietors of a number of estates has been completed during the last year. Nearly all the leased lands of the Province have now become vested in the Commissioner of Public Lands, and are being resold to the occupiers at liberal prices. I have directed the report of the Commissioner to be laid before you.

The results of the working of the Public Schools' Act, 1877, are very satisfactory, and exhibit a gratifying increase in the number of the schools in operation, and of the children attending them. The new and improved schoolhouses, built in different parts of the Island, attest the sincerity of the interest taken by the people in the cause of Education, while the large and commodious buildings, erected by the School Boards of Charlottetown and Summerside, will supply a want long felt by the inhabitants of those towns. You will be asked to consider a proposition for an amalgamation of the Normal School and the Prince of Wales College, which, while maintaining the efficiency of these institutions, will largely reduce their annual cost. The Report of the Superintendent of Education for the past year will be submitted to you.

The small-pox unexpectedly appeared in Aliberton last Autumn, attacking one of the crew of a trading vessel which entered that port. On its discovery, the Local Board of Health adopted stringent measures to prevent the disease spreading, which unfortunately have proved ineffectual. The patients are now isolated in temporary hospitals provided at the public expense, and are under the charge of a medical gentleman especially appointed for the purpose. Boards of Health have been constituted and Superintendents of Vaccination appointed in the principal villages of Prince County. It is hoped that the precautions taken will stay the further dissemination of the disease.

In now leaving you to the discharge of your duties I earnestly trust that your deliberations will, under Divine Providence, conduce to the prosperity of the people of this Province.

The Guard of Honor was made up of Major Morris' Battery of Artillery and the Infantry companies of Captains Longworth and McRae—under the command of the latter. Notwithstanding the rain, the "Guard" presented a fine, soldierly appearance as they passed through the streets. They were accompanied by Galbraith's Band. The salute was fired by Major Pollard's Battery of Artillery. The attendance of ladies and gentlemen in the Council Chamber was large. Owing to the family affliction recently sustained by the Leader of the Government, he was not present; and a number of members of both Houses were absent on account of the roads.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The House having returned to their Chamber,—

HON. MR. SULLIVAN asked that several new members, waiting without the Bar, be admitted and sworn in.

HON. MR. STEWART, on behalf of the Government, declined to comply with the

request, on the ground that compliance with it was not in accordance with the practice of the House. He also asked that, as a mark of sympathy to the Leader of the Government,—who is under a deep affliction,—no business should be transacted.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN pointed out a precedent from the Journal of the House for 1872, and said that no man could regret more deeply than he the heavy bereavement under which the Hon. Leader of the Government labored, and he was willing that the House should immediately adjourn on the new members taking their oaths—which, he considered, could not properly be called business at all.

HON. MR. DeBlois, Hon. Mr. Prowse, Mr. Campbell and others adopted the same view.

HON. MR. YSO supported the position taken by Mr. Stewart, and the Government refused to allow the new members to be sworn in.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN then moved a resolution to the effect that the writs of election returned to the Government be laid upon the table and the new members be sworn in.

HON. MR. STEWART submitted an amendment, which was seconded by the Hon. Mr. Farquharson.

The Hon. Mr. Stewart's amendment was defeated on the following division:—

FOR THE AMENDMENT:

Stewart, Yeo, Farquharson, Calhoun, McMillan, Robertson, Richards, Lea—8.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:

Sullivan, J. E. McDonald, J. A. McDonald, McKay, Campbell, Lefurgey, Prowse, Gordon, DeBlois—10.

The Writs were then laid upon the table, and the new members present were sworn in, and the House adjourned until 3 o'clock to-morrow.

The Trade Returns.

AN INTERESTING BUDGET RELATIVE TO THE DECLINE IN TRADE.

The Trade returns of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1878, have an interest peculiarly their own. They are the last evidences of the results of Reform rule in Canada—the legacy of statistics bequeathed by the late Government to their successors and to the country. In summing up the general results of the year's operations the Commissioner of Customs says as follows:—

"The result of the year's transactions, as it respects revenue, is so far satisfactory that the customs duties collected were slightly in advance of the preceding year, but in comparison with the years 1872 to 1875 inclusive, the decline is very marked. This may be largely accounted for by the continuous shrinkage in market values of the large classes of imports subject under the present tariff to ad valorem duties. There has, without doubt, been a falling off in the quantities imported, but that alone would not be sufficient to account for the whole revenue deficiencies. The largest revenue realized from customs was in 1875, viz., \$15,361,382. This result is attributable chiefly to the fact that the increase of 2½ per cent. on non-enumerated goods, which came into operation in May, 1874, had its effect upon the whole home consumption of the fiscal year 1875 before the general depression in trade had reached its full development. This shrinkage in values has largely occupied the attention of financiers and others in the United States, and probably the opinion of the editor of the New York "Public," as expressed in a recent issue, may be accepted at least as approximately correct when he says, "The shrinkage in the average gold value of commodities, exclusive of all stocks or bonds and of all real estate from January 1st, 1873, to November 1st, 1878, appears to have been about 34.1 per cent." It is scarcely possible to conceive of any further shrinkage, and the opinion appears to gain currency that the fearful commercial depression has at length reached bottom on this continent. Before giving in detail the statistics contained in the report, we may refer to the facts concerning certain leading articles of trade and commerce. In the case of sulphuric acid, the import had quadrupled in 1877 in consequence of the manufacture of dynamite and giant powder in Canada, but in 1878 there has been a decadence of import, which shows that one of the materials of public industry was not so much needed in the country." In the articles of cigars there has been a large increase in the imports from the United States, but there has been a steady decline in values. This decrease in value is also noticeable in the imports from Germany, and the Commissioner asserts that the addition of the ad valorem and the reduction of the specific duty on the article of cigars in 1877 has had the tendency to lessen the average valuation from all countries. In the article of petroleum there has been an excess of importation in 1878 over 1877 attributable to the reduction of duty and the shrinkage of prices in the United States. In green tea there has been a decrease of nearly three million pounds in 1878 as compared with 1876, and the price declined from 30½ cents in 1876 to 23½ cents in 1878. In black tea there has been a decrease of 631,253 pounds in 1878 over 1876 and a shrinkage in price from 27 cents to 24 cents per pound. In sugar over No. 13 there was an increase in consumption of 1878 of 18,000,000 pounds over 1876, and of 8,000,000 over 1877. The lower grades, from 9 to 13, show a decrease of 9,000,000 lbs. in 1878 as compared with 1876. The lower grades have mostly ceased to be used, having been reduced from over 14,000,000 in 1876 to a little over 1,000,000 in 1878. The high-

er refined grades have come into almost universal use, thus showing us that here is an industry ready made to our hands of which we only need to take hold properly and under proper safeguards, in order to reap a rich business reward.

The tables supplied in the blue book give the usual very interesting information concerning the trade of Canada with other nations. Here are some of the principal items:—The aggregate trade of the Dominion in 1873 was \$27,224,516; in 1878 it was \$179,523,244, showing a decrease of \$46,701,372. If we look at this result by countries, we arrive at the following results: In 1873 our aggregate trade with Great Britain was \$107,266,624, in 1878 it was \$83,672,719, showing a decrease of \$23,593,905. In 1873 our aggregate trade with the United States was \$89,808,204; in 1878 it was \$73,876,637, showing a decrease of \$15,931,567. In 1873 our aggregate trade with the West Indies, British, Spanish and French, was much greater than in 1878.

Another feature of the trade returns is the change in the aspect of our export trade with Great Britain and the United States. In 1873 we exported to England goods to the value of \$38,743,848; in 1878 we exported to the value of \$45,941,539, or an increase of \$7,197,691. On the other hand, in 1873 we exported to the United States, goods to the value of \$40,072,526, and in 1878 we exported only to the value of \$25,244,898 or a decrease of \$14,827,628. It is evident that some causes have been at work adversely to our exporting interests in what has been called "our natural market," when such results have been arrived at within so short a time. If we turn to the imports for consumption, we find an equally suggestive set of figures. In 1873 we imported from Great Britain goods to the value of \$68,522,776; in 1878 our imports had run down to \$37,431,180 or a decrease of \$31,091,596. On the other hand, our imports from the United States during each year since 1873 have shown a decided tendency to increase, the increase in 1874 having been nearly \$7,000,000; in 1875 about \$3,000,000; in 1876 a decrease of a million; in 1877 an increase of about \$4,000,000, and in 1878 an increase of about one million. A comparison of items of import from Great Britain and the United States will show how at least the protected country seems able to compete in prices if not also in quality. It plainly appears that in the items of sulphuric acid, butter, cigars, cheese, lard, green tea, furniture, cottons, jeans, denims and drillings, clothing, cotton warp, glassware, axes, edge tools, hoes, rakes and forks, scythes and snaths, spades and shovels, locks, spikes, nails, stoves and general hardware, leather, boots and shoes, harness, manufactures of leather, machinery and other industries, there has been a steady increase in favor of the United States as compared with England in the Canadian market. The relative bearing of the customs tariff upon each Province is as follows:—In 1878, Ontario, 12.05 per cent.; Quebec, 14.13 per cent.; Nova Scotia, 14.30 per cent.; New Brunswick, 16.57 per cent.; Manitoba, 19.90 per cent.; Prince Edward Island, 18.09 per cent.; British Columbia, 18.96 per cent.; and the total per centage of duty on the total value of imports, dutiable and free, for the Dominion is 13.14. In 1873 it was 10.17; in 1868 it was 12.00. Thus from 1868 to 1873 the per centage of customs duties had been reduced by nearly 2 per cent., and from 1873 to 1878 it has been increased 3.54 per cent. There has been a slight decrease in the cost of collecting the entire revenue during 1878, the figures being 05.58 per cent. as compared with that of 1877.

Scenes and Incidents of the Summerside Fire.

A man by the name of George Isaac fell through the roof of Mr. Angus Gillis' house, and had his left leg broke below the knee. Dr. Shreve, being on the spot, speedily attended to the injured limb. Several gentlemen who, during the progress of the fire, stood on the ice dipping up water, have been laid up from the severe exposure. Mr. Caleb Schurman, while bravely at work on the roof of Mr. Duggan's house, accidentally slipped and rolled to the ground. Fortunately, a snow-bank, into which he fell, saved him from what might have been a fatal accident. Several women distinguished themselves for their heroic conduct when the town was threatened with destruction. "Five dollars to remove that mowing-machine," said an agent who had his machines in the warehouse of Wright Bros., to a crowd of men when the fire was raging at its highest. Four able-bodied men laid hold of that machine quickly, and gently landed it on the other side of the street. They got their money and were happy. During the night of Friday a number of sneak thieves vigorously prosecuted their profession. The store of Mr. Angus McSween was broken into and several webs of cloth and five overcoats were stolen therefrom. Mr. Hunt's warehouse, where Reid Bros. goods were stored, was also broken into and different articles stolen. We noticed in the crowd yesterday, Mr. Dugald Hunt, all the way from Tignish, working away like a trojan. His efforts were highly appreciated. Wright Bros. have moved to the vacant store in McLeod's building on Water Street, where they will continue to carry on their business. John McKenzie has taken the store between R. T. Holman's and D. Rogers, Water Street, where he will be glad to see his old customers.—Journal.

FOR SALE.

THE HOUSE and Premises occupied by the Subscriber, at the head of Queen Street. For further particulars apply to the owner on the Premises, or to ALEXANDER BROWN, Esq.

DONALD MCKENZIE. Ch'town, Feb. 3, 1879—2aw

GENTS' AMERICAN RUBBER BOOTS, LADIES' Rubber Shoes & Boots, CHEAP,

GEORGE E. FULL'S. Feb. 27, 1879—3i

CARD OF THANKS.

THE Subscriber begs to return his grateful thanks to the officers and men of the Fire Brigade, and also to his fellow-citizens, for their prompt and effectual assistance in subduing the fire which took place on his premises last evening. WILLIAM DODD, Queen Street, Feb. 27, 1879—1i

TROTTER RACES.

RACES to take place on the West River ice, on SATURDAY, the 1st February, for TWO BOX SLEIGHS; 1st Race open to all. Entrance \$5.00. 2nd Race, for farmers' horses, barring Fred McLean's mare "Fairy." Entrance, \$5.00. Race, mile heats, three in five. FRANK POLLARD, North River, Feb. 26, 1879—3in

THE CONCERT OF THE SEASON!

WILL BE GIVEN IN THE Y. M. C. A. HALL, —ON— Thursday, the 27th February,

In Aid of the Funds of Zion Church.

The best Musical talent in the city has been engaged for this entertainment, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy of public patronage. Concert to commence at 8 o'clock. Doors open at 7.30. Tickets 20 cents. Reserved seats 30 cents. D. M. FRASER, Musical Director. Feb. 24, 1879.

UNDERTAKING, &C.

JAMES M. BUTCHER is now prepared to give close personal attention to all funerals that may be entrusted to him. COFFINS, CASKETS, &C., of various sizes, styles and quality, always on hand, ready-made. "PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES." Ch'town, February, 24, 1879.

Union Bank of P. E. Island.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Stockholders of this Bank will be held at their Banking House, Charlottetown, on Wednesday, 5th proximo, at 12 o'clock, noon, to elect Directors for the ensuing year, and transact such other business as may be laid before the meeting. Proxies for voting must be left with the Cashier at least one day previous to said meeting. GEORGE MACLEOD, Cashier. Ch'town, Feb. 20th, 1879—

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that prosecution will be immediately commenced against all persons who are known to be in the possession of DOGS and who have not registered them and paid their Dog Tax for the current year, in conformity to the provisions of a by-law of this city, passed 4th December, A. D. 1878. A. F. TOMLINS, Clerk of the City Court. Feb. 11.

MAIL NOTICE.

MAILS to be forwarded via Cape Traverse will be closed at this Office daily—Sundays excepted—at 8 o'clock p. m. The mail for Great Britain, by Canadian Packet sailing from Halifax on Saturdays, will be closed here on Wednesdays at 8 o'clock, p. m. The mail for Great Britain via New York will be closed on Thursdays at 8 o'clock, p. m. Mails for all places West of Charlottetown receiving Mails by Railway Train or Postal Car, will be closed daily at 7 o'clock, a. m. Mails for Georgetown and Souris East, also for all places on the route to those points, will be closed daily at 2 o'clock, p. m. Post Office open from 8, a. m., till 8, p. m. A. A. MACDONALD, Postmaster. Post Office, Charlottetown, } 20th Feb., 1879.

BANK OF P. E. ISLAND.

THE Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank will be held at their Banking House, in Charlottetown, on Tuesday, the 4th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of electing Directors for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may be laid before them. Proxies for voting must be left with the Cashier at least on day previous to the meeting. J. R. BRECKEN, Cashier. Ch'town, Feb. 19, 1879—rg p till meeting

BUY THE DAILY EXAMINER, for the latest news—local and telegraphic!