

objection to the School in question being open to the inspection of the School Visitor.

Mr. McLennan was not aware that any sectarian School was taught at St. Eleanor's.

Hon. Mr. Howlan—A School similar to the one at Georgetown and Charlottetown was taught at St. Eleanor's.

Hon. Mr. Henderson was not more favorable to one sectarian school than another, he was opposed to all such on principle and that was the ground of objections.

Mr. G. Sinclair—Strange indeed that no opposition to similar schools was heard of till now. He hoped hon. members were satisfied with the explanation given.

Mr. Brecken—In reply to the allusion of Prince of Wales College, he might remark that he had been told books were used in a school, not far distant, of a disloyal and anti-British tendency such as should not be tolerated in any British Colony; St. Ann's School was just as much entitled to a grant as the other schools named of a like character, and His Lordship the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown deserved the thanks of the whole community for filling that school and emptying the streets of the children of the poor.

Mr. Rieley—If books of that dangerous character were taught at the school to which the hon. member (Mr. Brecken) alluded, the fault was with the Visitor, who should report on such books.

Mr. Jenkins commended the disinterested and self-sacrificing zeal for the poor, by which those Ladies, both Protestant and Catholic, who taught the schools in question, was actuated, their sole object being to impart instruction to the poor of the place.

Hon. Mr. Howlan asked the hon. member (Mr. Brecken) what school did he mean.

Mr. Brecken—The School taught in the old Roman Catholic Chapel. His allusion was in reply to the hon. member Mr. Rieley.

Hon. Mr. Howlan read from the Visitors' Report the books used in the School named, and failed to find any such books as were alluded to on the list. The hon. member for the City should not have made use of an assertion of that nature, against one who, for the past 20 years, was favorably known as a teacher. It was ungenerous to brand that teacher, or his school, with disloyalty—an assertion without proof.

Mr. Brecken would not vouch for the correctness of the report, but he was told of it, and only referred to it in reply to the statements made by a hon. member touching books in Prince of Wales College.

Hon. Mr. Henderson—Giving grants for years did not make it right. In Scotland, the Visitor of Schools reported on similar schools. He would second the Resolution of the hon. member Mr. P. Sinclair.

Hon. Mr. Davies—He would also support that Resolution; and he was astonished to find that the hon. member, Mr. Henderson, had, for four years as a member of the late Government, sanctioned grants which he now condemned.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition—If it would be found that tests were inculcated in any of the Schools in question, the grant could in future be withdrawn. He would not report on such matters.

The children of all denominations who were taught at the school in Georgetown.

Mr. Bell thought the Resolution invidious and would move in amendment that men of poor hon. member, Mr. P. Sinclair, have or less, resolve to withdraw it.

THE QUESTION WAS PUT ON THE AMENDMENT, and negatived as follows, viz:—

CALVES. Yeas—Hons. Coles, Howlan, Kelly, Wisconsin Messrs. Bell, Jenkins, Brecken, Arsenaux. Let the bill pass.

Yeas—Hons. Honsley, Laird, Calbeck, beaker Davies, Henderson, McAlay, Hayland, either v Messrs. P. Sinclair, G. Sinclair, Prowse, quanti Ramsay, McLennan, Green, Howat, Kieckham, Cameron, McCormack, Rieley, —18.

The Resolution was accordingly adopted.

The Law Reform bill relating to pleadings and practice in the Supreme Court, was read a third time and passed, and also this was the bill to amend the Education Act.

Hon. Colonial Secretary presented reports of various Small Debt Courts through the Island.

The Act to incorporate the Charlottetown Hotel Company was read a second time and agreed to.

Mr. McNeill directed the attention of the House to the disturbed state of the Islands on Lenox Island, and moved that T. art, Esq., Indian Commissioner, be at the Bar of the House on the subject of the land commission plainly.

The Indians had been in unacceptance of that Island for a century and had built a made other improvements.

It was their decided opinion that the territory of their and they of the

spirit of candor, and with that freedom from party bias so essential in deliberating on a measure having for its object the general relief and benefit of all classes of the community. That a financial crisis of more than ordinary depression would follow the withdrawal from the Colony of the large amounts yet due, and soon to be made payable for the purchase of the Cunard Estate, appeared to him inevitable. The subject was one of more than ordinary importance, requiring the serious consideration of the House.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that he was not aware that any proprietary lands were at present offered for sale. The Government had not informed that House of any negotiations pending relative to the purchase of any Estate or Estates. The case was different with the late Government last session, for when the extension of the Land Purchase Act was introduced, the purchase of the Cunard Estate was offered to that administration. The extended provisions of the Land Purchase Act left a large margin for the present Government—sufficient to purchase the Sullivan Estate should it be offered for sale. He could not, therefore, see the desirability of a loan on the principles contemplated in the Bill. Borrowing money in a foreign market, which could be procured from citizens of the State, was not a sound policy, and was contrary to every principle of political economy, unless it could be shown that it would be procured abroad at a cheaper rate than at home. If the Confederated Provinces of British North America, with all their resources and revenues pledged, backed too by the Imperial guarantee, could not obtain a loan for the building of the Inter-colonial Railway at a less rate of interest than 4 per cent., without such guarantee the money could hardly be got at 6 per cent., how, he would ask, could this small and isolated Colony expect to get a loan on more favorable conditions? He then alluded to the expenses that would be incurred in negotiating for a loan in England. The services of an agent would be required, which would cost an additional sum. In regard to the commercial aspect of the question, the Government should not attempt a remedy for any temporary depression resulting from over-trading. The balance of trade might one day be against a country, and the next the reverse. The Land Purchase Act, he said, contained all the machinery necessary for the further Purchase of any remaining Estates that might be offered for sale. He could, therefore, see no reason for supporting the Bill under consideration.

Hons. McAlay, Duncan, Henderson, and Messrs. Brecken, Prowse, McLennan and Green also severally addressed the Committee in opposition to the Bill; contending that the further Purchase of Proprietary lands should be effected under the provisions of the Land Purchase Bill as formerly; that the obtaining of a foreign loan would involve the country deeply in debt, and though it might afford temporary relief to trade, the ultimate results would prove disastrous to the best interests of the Colony; that a loan, if procured, should be specially reserved for, and appropriated to, the purchase of lands only, and not used to relieve any monetary difficulty arising from commercial panics; that it was impolitic and unsound in principle to borrow from a foreign market when the necessary funds could be procured from the country without cashing Warrants at Discount. The same principle, if judiciously applied, would eventually succeed in effecting the purchase of any remaining Estates that might from time to time be offered to the Government. That the cause of the present depression of trade and scarcity of the circulating medium was not attributable to the purchase of the Cunard Estate, but to the fact that a larger quantity of goods were imported last year than was warranted by the circumstances of the Colony, and also to the fact that ships were sent to market, which were still lying in the English docks unsold. Hence the want of exchange to meet the bills of the merchants.

Hon. Leader of the Government defended the principle of the loan bill before the Committee, and said that he had hoped both sides of the House would have concurred in the necessity of adopting means whereby not only to effect the further purchase of lands, but also to relieve the embarrassed state of the Colony commercially. The principle of the bill though formerly opposed and petitioned against by the Conservative party generally, was now almost universally admitted to be not only sound, but also loudly called for. In proof of which he referred to the petition of many of the Merchants and others of Charlottetown, now on the table of this House, relative to the embarrassed state of the country. However desirable it was to purchase proprietary estate, with the view of freeing the tenantry of the colony from the rent paying system, care should be taken that such purchases should not cripple trade and cause other classes of the community to suffer in consequence. The loan contemplated by the bill would enable the Government to negotiate for and purchase lands without paralyzing the general trade of the country. It was evident that the payment of the instalments due on the Cunard Estate, was the cause of the banks refusing to discount. The payment of which would absorb the greater portion of the Gold and Silver in their vaults. Under the provisions of the loan bill the Cunard Estate would have been purchased and paid for, without experiencing any such depression in the ordinary trade of the country, as resulted from the said purchase in the absence of such a measure. Doubtless prove a boon.

At the close of a long debate on the question, on motion of the Hon. Attorney General that the bill be read a second time, Mr. Prowse moved an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day three months, which amendment was negatived on the following division, viz:

Yeas—Hons. Haviland, McAlay, Henderson, Duncan, Messrs. Brecken, Prowse, McLennan, Green and Ramsay—9.

Nays—Hons. Attorney General, Col. Secretary, Howlan, Kelly, Laird, Davies, Calbeck, Messrs. McCormack, Kieckham, Cameron, Jenkins, P. Sinclair, G. Sinclair, Arsenaux, McNeill, Bell, Howat—17.

The bill was accordingly committed to a Committee of the whole House, Mr. Bell in the chair, reported progress. House adjourned.

A. McNEILL, Reporter.

that if a similar or even a smaller purchase than that was again attempted, without such provisions as the bill contemplated, it would cripple all the banks in the Island, and entirely withdraw the circulating medium of the Colony from its ordinary and legitimate avenues. The banks having to provide exchange for heavy remittances required for the payment of the Cunard Estate, were crippled in their operations, and consequently curtailed, if not altogether refused discount on the very best security in the place. That had it not been for these heavy drains for the payments of lands, the quantity of goods imported last year would not have remained unsold, nor would that scarcity of money complained of be so general. When ships and other productions of the country were sold abroad, exchange in gold was obtained and thereby the banks were relieved. Similar results would not follow the sale of lands. Loans of a similar nature had been obtained by other British Provinces, from the Mother Country; and as money was more plentiful, and consequently would be obtained cheaper there, than in small communities, it was a sound and wise policy to obtain a loan, for the requirements of the Colony, from abroad. That until the whole tenantry secured the fee simple of their farms, agrarian grievances would exist, retarding the prosperity of the country; it was therefore desirable to adopt measures by which the whole question might be finally set at rest.

Intelligence has been received here that the bark Rover, Capt. Hunt, which was last reported at Swatow, Feb. 12, was wrecked on the Chinese Sea, and that all the crew who escaped from the shipwreck except one were murdered when they landed by the natives.—Consols 92 1-4, 5-20's 72 1-2.

Prisoners Flood, Duffy and Cady are now on trial before the Special Commission. Liverpool, 16th May, evening.

Breadstuffs market easier. Corn declined 6d. Sales of Mixed Western at 41s. 6d. per quarter. Wheat quotations unchanged.—Barley and Oats stand at previous quotations.

Berlin, May 16, evening.

The North German Gazette, the organ of Bismarck, says the final execution of the Treaty signed at London, and the evacuation of the fortress of Luxembourg by Prussia will be difficult within the month prescribed by the London Conference, and that Prussia will need more time.

The regular weekly returns from the Bank of England shows that the Bullion in that institution has increased £174,000 sterling.—The money market opens quiet and steady.—Consols for Money are quiet at 92 1-4; Five Twenties 72 1-2.

New York, May 15.

Great financial excitement is reported at New Orleans growing out of the closing of the Sub-Treasury and the first National Bank. Large defalcations are resorted. There is a run upon the other Banks; the money market is stringent and the City National Bank has suspended.

Mobile, May 15.

Quite a serious riot occurred here last night, caused by some remarks made to the negroes by Judge Kelly, of Pa. Two persons were killed, and several wounded.

Miscellaneous.

THE AUSTRIAN PRESS.

The publicist controversy has embittered the dispute as to the attitude of Austria in a struggle of France against Prussia about Luxembourg. As yet the question has not become an urgent one and Austria is not obliged to decide whether she will go with Prussia or France. At present Austria not only can remain neutral, but she has probably no opportunity of playing another part, even if she wished. That, however, if war should break out between France and Prussia neutrality would be impossible for us, if it were not such a neutrality as we observed during the Crimean war, and which we had to pay for a frightful cost, no one denies, except those who will not learn by historical experience.

As yet Austria has not immediately decided as to whose ally she will be, but if the decisive moment ever come Austria must not follow any French allurement, but must be dispassionate and self-denying enough to accept an alliance with Prussia if it be offered.

We have forgotten none of the things with which Austria has reproached Prussia. The troops of the two States went together against Denmark, and then Prussia wanted all the fruits of victory for herself. That was injustice! Prussia provoked the war, and then she reproached Austria with having provoked it. Prussia under Bismarck tried to get up an auxiliary legion of revolutionary refugees and prisoners from Hungary. That was undignified. Prussia, on entering Bohemia, issued the celebrated proclamation to the glorious Bohemian nation. That was infamous. We have not the slightest indulgence for all these political crimes, and still it appears to us that if a conflict should arise Austria has no choice. She cannot ally herself with France against Prussia, who will come into the field united with the German States.

If we refer to the possibility of an Austrian-Prussian alliance, it is because we have some idea that the day of recognition for Germany approaches, and that Austria may find the opportunity in this to form a fresh tie with Germany. We advocate an alliance and a treaty which would stipulate services and counterservices, one from which all idea of humiliation would be excluded. In fact, when our alliance is sought, it will be for us to demand the price of the same.—Die Neue Presse—Vienna.

THE PRUSSIAN PRESS.

In considering the Luxembourg question, people are accustomed to regard it only as an object of dispute between Germany and France. Even the English Foreign Secretary, Lord Stanley, made the remark that Germany was perfectly well able to defend herself, and that it could scarcely be said that England was bound to trouble herself about this affair.

With reference to this one-sided view, it is necessary to mention that the fortress of Luxembourg was for the purpose not only of serving as a protection to the German Confederation, but also as a guarantee of the neutrality of Belgium.

The dissolution of the former Constitution of the German Confederation has made no difference in this position of Luxembourg. In the first place, there is no difference with respect to the German States, because the German Confederation has never given up this relation; on the contrary, every State of the dissolved ancient German Confederation, the Southern States not excepted, has an acquired right over the unaltered existence of the fortress of Luxembourg, in substance and in form.

This right Austria has also. And even all the guaranteeing powers of the Belgian neutrality, who showed themselves so zealous on the erection of the Belgian throne, and which would certainly not have hesitated to declare that if Luxembourg became a French fort, another basis for the protection of Belgium neutrality must be found—all this have the right to be.

Latest by Telegraph!

London, May 15, evening.

Conflicting accounts have been received here as to the result of the military operations in the Island of Cuba. Several engagements have taken place, and both parties claim successes. The latest despatches received from A. asserts that the Turkish army, under the command of Omar Pasha has been defeated in a general battle.

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Very Latest!

New York, May 15.

Cyrus W. Field has received the following: London, May 17th.

On the 5th inst., it was reported that on the 4th inst., at 6 30 p.m., a large iceberg landed off the harbor of Heart's Content, Newfoundland, one and a half miles northwest of the northern point and 200 yards east of the 1866 Cable in about 15 fathoms of water.

No damage with the present wind.

On the 8th inst., it was reported that the iceberg had disappeared, but in passing over the Cable of 1866 it seems that some damage must have been done, for the signals through that wire became imperfect and have now ceased. The Cable of 1865, however, is unimpaired, and there is no reason to doubt that the injury to the Cable of 1866 will be repaired without delay.

London, May 19.

The Luxembourg question may now be regarded as finally settled, for the Emperor Napoleon and King William of Prussia have signed the treaty known as the Treaty of London, which was recently found guilty, have been denied.

The City of London has voted £500 towards the erection of a statue to George Peabody, the great Philanthropist.

London, May 20th.

Queen Victoria to-day laid the corner stone of the Hall of Arts, in the presence of a vast assemblage of the ceremonies were magnificent and impressive, and the enthusiasm of the populace very great.

Dublin, May 20th.

The Fenian prisoner McCafferty, convicted of high treason, was to-day sentenced to be hanged on the 12th of June.

London, May 20th—even.

The latest and most trustworthy accounts received here of the recent fighting in the Island of Crete, appear to confirm the report that Orna Pasha has been defeated by the Cretans.

Alexandria, Egypt, May 20.

The Sultan has granted the title of King to the Viceroy of Egypt.

London, May 20th—even.

Consols 93 for money; U. S. 5-20's 72 1-2. New York, 21.

Break in Cable has been ascertained to be three miles from Heart's Content. Gold (N. Y.) 137 1/2.

London, May 20—midnight.

In the House of Commons to-night an amendment to the Reform Bill, granting female suffrage was received by 132 majority. A division also took place on an amendment proposing copyhold franchise, in which the Derby Government was defeated.

New York, 21.

The Herald has the following:—Chantilly Race Course, May 19.

The French Derby occurred to-day. Thirteen horses ran, and the race was won by Patrician. The Royal visitors in the French capital were represented on the road, and at the grand stand by the King and Queen of the Belgians, and it may be said that the whole fashionable world of Paris turned out for the occasion.

New York, May 16.

The morning papers say—We are specially informed that England designs to seize Cuba in the event of any difficulty with Spain, and endeavor to retain the island as a base in the Gulf of Mexico. Gold 137 1/2.

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, MAY 23 1867.

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

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

The old saying, "that one half of the world does not know how the other half lives," is an eminently true one. The mode of existence of many more than one half of those whom we every day meet in the street is a mystery to nine tenths of us. How little do we know of the inner domestic life even of our most intimate friends and acquaintances. The prying eyes and unceasing tongues of scandal mongers sometimes discover and reveal a state of things in the households of many with whom we considered ourselves familiarly acquainted that fills us with amazement. Virtues and vices existed, and habits indulged in, that we had no conception of. But if this saying is true of those who live within a stone's throw of us, how much more true is it of those who are separated from us by more than half the world's diameter. How little do we even the most intelligent among us know of the manner in which the teeming millions of India contrive to exist? The population of India is computed to amount to about 186,000,000. This immense mass of human beings depends chiefly for subsistence on a single crop—the rice crop. The peninsula which contains this vast population is of very great extent, and comprises within its limits every variety of soil and considerable diversity of climate. The means of intercommunication were, previous to the introduction of railways, of the most primitive kind, so that the plentiful harvest of one district did not at all compensate for the bad crop of districts that were not very remote. Agricultural prosperity in India altogether depends on the regular return and due continuance of the periodical rains. In a country where the husbandman can reap three harvests, famine, one would suppose, would be an impossibility. India is thus bountifully favored by nature.

There are in that country two rice crops and one of pulse in each year. The first rice crop is harvested in September, the second in December, and the pulse crop is gathered in the Spring. The first and last of these harvests are, however, precarious. The main dependence of the people is on the middle or December harvest. Though nature is so generous to the Indian agriculturist, yet there is no country under the sun in which famines are more frequent or more terrible in their effects than in India. Not to mention the many minor visitations of this kind that are of almost annual occurrence, there are great famines of 1769-70 carried off upwards of 6,000,000 of human beings—more than one and a half times the entire population of the new "Dominion!"

The mind of a humane man recoils from dwelling upon the unutterable sufferings endured by a people, 6,000,000 of whom perished in one year for want of food. The accounts of the late famine of 1866, which from time to time reached us through the newspapers, were sickening to read, yet the number that then died of actual starvation, at a moderate computation, did not exceed half a million. The population of the famine-stricken district is reckoned at about 27,000,000. The state of that country must have been miserable beyond description, in which, added to the average death rate, one out of every fifty of its inhabitants died of starvation.

The immediate cause of this terrible visitation was the sudden stoppage of the rains in August, which, to have ensured a good crop, should have continued two months longer. The rice crop, which in the first stages of its growth, requires a great deal of moisture, was soon scorched to powder by the powerful heat of a tropical sun. The rice crop failing, the poor Bengalis had no other resource. The principal, indeed almost the sole, food of the common people is rice.

The late famine in India resembles in many of its features the dreadful famine brought on by the potato disease in Ireland. In both countries the people's sole dependence was on one crop, and in both was the land divided into a number of small farms, the holders of which were almost immediately reduced to a state of destitution by the total failure of that one crop. The mode of living of the native of India is very graphically described by a writer in the North British Review of March:—

"Beef he never touches, and only one cow."

The cost of living to a people of such simple habits is very small indeed, but still the necessaries of life, however few and cheap they may be, must be procured. And such necessaries are very cheap indeed in India. An ordinary times rice is one halfpenny per pound. A laborer can earn three pence a day. Four pounds of rice is a good daily allowance for a small family, say of father and other and three children. A workman of the higher class of mechanics earns from six pence to one shilling a day. The average earnings of small shopkeepers is about the same. The reader will be able from these data to form some idea of the sufferings of all these classes when the price of rice rose to one penny three farthings per pound. If four on this Island rose from two pence halfpenny to 8d. per pound, the sufferings of its inhabitants would be dreadful to contemplate, yet wheat bread is not to us what rice is to the inhabitants of India. What rice is to the natives of India, and the abundant crops of other districts, that although there would be a great scarcity of food in the places suffering from drought, yet it would scarcely amount to famine. It, however, soon began to appear that unless something were done for the people many of them would perish for lack of food. Immense quantities of food were sent to the famine stricken district, and many people left it to seek for employment in the more favored parts of the country. There is no poor law in India, yet in no country do the people live so much on one another. The tie of kindred is much stronger among the natives of India than among us, and the beggar's curse is more dreaded by the Hindu than the malediction of any of the more affluent of his countrymen. Public opinion deals very leniently with the sharper, the forger, and even the perjurer, but it reserves its severest censure for the man who sends the beggar empty handed from his door. A respectable Hindu would consider himself disgraced if his most remote kinsman were found begging. But the ordinary resources of the indigent completely failed them in the dreadful year of 1866. Though the rich Hindus spent immense sums to relieve the destitute, and though the English inhabitants gave with more true their wonted liberality, still the number of sufferers was daily increasing. The government of India, not an instant too soon, lent its powerful assistance to mitigate the sufferings of the perishing multitudes. But the utmost efforts of public and private charity were but a miserably inadequate substitute for the bountiful gifts of Heaven.

LEGISLATIVE.

We give in extenso the Legislative Summary up to the 11th inst. On the 13th the House was in committee on Public Accounts. A condensed view of that Report we give from Mr. McNeill's Summary:—

Said Report shows that the revenue received during the Financial year, ended 31st January, 1867, amounted to £295,442 17s. 1d. The expenditure, £154,345 14s. 8d.—showing an excess of expenditure over the Revenue of £58,902 17s. 7d., which, added to the balance against the Colony in the previous year, amounts to £135,542 17s. 8d. In that amount is included £282,341 paid by the Government for 220,469 acres of land purchased during the past year, from the sales of which there is included in the Revenue £10,742 19s. 7d. The above balance against the Colony also includes all Treasury Notes, Warrants and Debentures issued up to that date.

The Revenue of the past year shows an increase of £27,401 13s. 2d. over the previous year. The total receipts for and on account of Public and Crown Lands, during the past year, amounted to £16,148 10s. 6d. The expenses during the same period, including loss of Land Tax and interest, amounted to £5,862 5s. 3d.—showing a surplus of £10,286 5s. 3d. over and above expenses.

By this we see that the debt of the Island, after deducting £82,344—the purchase money of the Cunard Estate—is £53,198. A very considerable sum, but not more than the Colony can carry easily.

The Small Debt Court Bill was read again and debated upon but the amendment of the Leader of the Opposition was negatived. The matter of Grant to St. Ann's School was again brought up in the House. The result of the debate on this grant shows that the Legislature will not endow any sectarian institution. The Stat must either endow all sectarian Schools, or endow none, for one religious denomination is as good a right to a grant as another.

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