

Abolition of the Legislative Council

To the proposal to abolish the useless Legislative Council we heartily agree; but to the proposal of the Government to give Legislative Council electors—in lieu of this useless institution—a "plural vote" in the election of members of the Assembly, we emphatically dissent.

We think it most unreasonable to be asked to give something for nothing; and this is just what will be done if Legislative Council electors are given an additional vote for members of the Assembly in return for their worthless right to elect members of an unnecessary, effete, and useless Legislative Council.

Besides, we think it unnecessary and unwise to make any distinction between voters for members of the Assembly. It is unnecessary, because non-property holders might just as well be disfranchised altogether as have their votes and influence completely neutralized by giving property holders two votes to their one. It is unwise, because the creation of greater distinctions than already exist among the various classes of the community, would tend towards still wider dissensions and still more hurtful jealousies than human nature and the Local Premier have implanted already in this little Province of ours. We ought to be one people; and our legislation should tend to make and keep us one people. To give a sensible poor man one vote and a rich noodle two votes, is the most invidious and unreasonable distinction it is possible to make; and as there are just about as many rich noodles in the community as there are poor noodles, we cannot see why such a distinction as the Government proposes should be made.

At any rate it is not expedient to add to the complications of our electoral machinery. If the "truly Liberal" Government are determined to disfranchise young men and all whose fortune it is to be poor, let them do it openly and above board.

Mr. Speaker's "Casting Vote."

MR. SPEAKER had, yesterday, a rare opportunity. The vote on the third reading of the Bill authorizing the levy of the hated tax resulted in a "tie." It became "Mr. Speaker's" duty to cast his vote; and when "Mr. Speaker" announced that he would take "time to consider" before doing so, the friends of the country took heart. Mr. Speaker is known to be a man possessed of a good memory and a vivid imagination. It was hoped that he would remember the surprise and mortification of the people when legalized spies first passed through their settlements to make unjust and unequal valuations of their property; it was hoped that he would have a clear recollection of protest—coming from the East and from the West—from every village and from every hamlet—from an exasperated and unanimous people—when an unnecessary tax was imposed upon them; it was hoped that his egotistic imagination would conjure up Mr. Henry Beer as the observed of ninety thousand observers—nineteenths of whom he knows, in their hearts, would thank him for relieving them from the odious tax, were it only for a year,—and it was, therefore, hoped that he would cast his vote against the obnoxious Bill. But such hopes were vain. Contrary to expectation, contrary to the known will of the people, contrary to Parliamentary practice, Mr. Speaker maintained the Taxing Compact, and voted in favor of the Bill. Mr. Speaker's excuses were as vain as they were unnecessary. The fact is, that if his desire to protect the people had been half as strong as his vindictive malice against Mr. W. C. DesBrisay, he would have performed an essential service to the country.

How Doctor's do Differ!

"As in the case of these scanty harvests so eloquently depicted by his leader, the scanty harvests should be supplanted by compelling the people of the Maritime Provinces to pay double or treble prices for the flour they consume."—Mr. Cartwright on Tupper's reply to the Budget.

"Sir John McDonald says a retaliatory policy is the only means of bringing about Reciprocity—a policy which would be the means of raising the cost of living in this Province from twenty-five to a hundred per cent."—"A Consumer" in the Patriot.

"Tell it to the 'marines' that a 'Policy of Reciprocity' means raising the cost of living from twenty-five to a hundred per cent!"—A FARMER.

"Our Commercial System will always be more or less controlled by the policy of the United States, as our immediate neighborhood may compel us sometimes, for our own protection, to adopt measures not in accordance with what may be termed correct commercial principles."—Hon. Mr. McKenzie.

We direct the attention of the pump contractor to the defective state of the pump at Blatch's corner, Great George Street. The water from it is reported to be very impure and totally unfit for use.

SALARIES.

THE fulsome and egotistical style assumed by some of the Government in detailing the various duties of those entrusted with the discharge of the public service, has brought into requisition the latent energies of no less a distinguished statesman than the senior member for Badeque. With that disinterested patriotism which should ever distinguish a representative of the people, he has descended from the cushioned seats above to the official abodes below, for the purpose of learning from the officials themselves—gentlemen of known probity and unselfishness—the nature of the varied, responsible, and arduous duties which they are required to fill. We are reluctantly forced to pay a little attention to statements to obtain which was, no doubt, the result of some exertion on the part of the gentleman alluded to, from the fact that his information was gathered from interested parties, who would find no difficulty in misleading one not practically acquainted with the nature of the duties which were made to represent so large an amount of work.

Those who, by practical experience, are acquainted with the routine, labor, and proper classification of the work necessarily performed in some of the public offices, are, we certainly imagine, more competent to decide than mere outsiders as to the various amounts to which they are entitled from the relative positions they occupy as public servants. The duties for which some gentlemen are paid \$1,200, are not more laborious nor require more mental ability, than some who are generously paid \$500. And yet we find no elaborate statement made in the interest of this class, no appeals to the generosity of the peoples representatives for an increase of pay to any of these unfortunates; whilst the most thoroughly varnished details are brought into requisition to justify the expenditure of public money for the especial benefit of a few officials who now also, by an undue proportion of public funds. We are necessitated from personal regard to many of our public officials to make no invidious comparison, although justice requires us to vindicate rights too long infringed and neglected. The passage of the Civil Service Bill, by the late Government, is no justification of a system founded on gross partiality. The necessity for a change is becoming daily apparent, as the country has demanded economy. The necessities of our fixed income require that our representatives accede to the demand. The expenditure of the capital of the country, now received through the Land Office to pay our current expenses, will only last a few years. If we do not economize now, what will be the result when this supply is exhausted? Certainly nothing less than a tremendous increase of taxation, large enough to crush the energies of the poor man, struggling with a cold and unfeeling world. Now is the time to meet this difficulty. The heads of departments ought to receive a sum equivalent to our means; and the pay of the clerks placed upon an equitable basis. A difference of \$200 in the salaries of the clerks would more than compensate for any difference required in mental or other labor. We think \$800 is quite enough for the most highly favored, whilst some in the receipt of that amount have not as much labor to perform, or ability to perform it, if they had, than those who are the recipients of Government partiality to the tune of \$500. The discussion of this question has already disclosed facts not very palatable. Had not the Government tried to cover up the unjustifiable discrepancy in the pay of officials we might have stumbled on the reduced argument.

We have seen the gradual rise in salaries keep pace in some cases with gradually diminishing work. One office has since Confederation surrendered to the Dominion the privilege of keeping Impost, Excise, Postal and other cash accounts, which has so reduced the work as to require an increase of salary to the overworked incumbent. Another department, now worked at an expense of \$4,300, and where we are prepared to admit the real work is all done by an efficient clerk, was formerly under another name worked for \$324. The work has certainly not increased in proportion to the cost of the department. The useless appendage of an Engineer of foreign importation (another essential qualification of efficiency) should be dispensed with, notwithstanding the continued efforts made to justify his appointment on the score of economy in the public service. We do not find this officer, luckily for his reputation, connected with the Asylum business, where we imagine, from recent developments, even an engineer might be practically useful. In the Land Office, where order is said to be restored out of chaos, the same unaccountable difference in salaries exist. The salaries of subordinates range from \$500 to \$800, and we are inclined to think that the lowest-paid official in this Department performs work second to none of the other subordinates, in the amount of mental accuracy requisite for its execution. The able assistant receives \$800—a sum, in comparison with others, not out of the way. Another gentleman, however, of the favored class to which the illustrious Norman belongs, viz., Indexer, has had his reasoning powers considerably developed by the extreme generosity of a grateful Government, to the tune of another \$800. Such practical recollections of early associations are extremely satisfactory, showing, as it does, that the generous impulses of the heart are not always obscured by the rough ordeal through which human nature passes in a cold and heartless world. This gentleman, for aught we know, may be the "pains-taking" individual the Commissioner of Public Works says he is. Indeed, we have not one word to utter personally against any of the Government officials; nor do we wish to say anything that would have a tendency to wound the feelings of the most susceptible, further than is called for by our duty to the public in answer to the reckless statements made in our Legislature, to sustain a system of gross partiality, as exemplified in the pay received by our Government officials. The Registry Office also bears witness to

the facts adduced relative to pay. We deem it unnecessary to mention anything further about events which have already been graphically sketched. The necessity of retrenchment in our expenditure, combined with a sense of justice to our officials, demands a thorough revision of the amounts now paid, which reform will ultimately be introduced under an impartial and judicious administration.—Com.

Proposed Railway Purchase.

MR. MACKENZIE has given notice of the following resolution:—

That the Government be authorized to enter into an arrangement during the recess with the Grand Trunk Railway Company for acquiring control of the River du Loup branch of the said Company's line by lease, purchase or otherwise, in order to obtain complete control of the Intercolonial Railway traffic to the city of Quebec, any such arrangement to be subject to ratification by Parliament at the next session.

A Suggestion.

We respectfully suggest that, instead of giving a Legislative Council elector two votes, the Government give one vote to the Legislative Council elector and one to his wife. It might be understood that the latter vote should be given in memory of the "old ladies." The adoption of this suggestion would, we think, be according to the "eternal fitness of things."

The Flour Duty Proposed by a Ministerialist.

THE duty on flour, moved for by one of the Great Free Trade Party (!)—a good supporter of Mr. McKenzie—and voted down by Messrs. Pope, Masson and other supporters of the Conservative Party, has so terrified "A Consumer" who writes for the Patriot, that we confidently expect his unqualified support of Mr. Pope in the next election. "A Consumer," however, loses sight of the fact that Great Britain governs the flour market of all America. This is, we suppose, how it happens that flour can be purchased as cheaply in the Protected States as in Free Trade Canada. It is evident that the Patriot's correspondent is a "heavy consumer"; but, perhaps, there is no real cause for his trepidation.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions or statements of correspondents.

City Councillors.

To the Editor of the Examiner:—SIR,—It seems that some members of the City Council deem the business of the City unworthy of their time. Last night a motion for an adjournment was moved at twenty minutes to ten. The representative from Ward Two (Councillor Byrne) opposed the motion, on the ground that more than one-half of the business of the evening remained unfinished. The motion was put and lost. Thereupon, Councillors Morris, Quirk, Davy and Hooper retired to their homes. Citizens of Charlottetown, will you continue to send men to the Council Board who thus do the work of the Corporation?—CITIZEN. April 13, 1878.

SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

DEAR SIR,—With the opening of navigation for the season of 1878 we hoped to be in a position to offer our numerous ship-owning friends such remunerative freights as would induce them to order vessels under their management to Montreal for cargoes for grain, deals, phosphates, etc.; but owing to the unsettled state of affairs in the East it is at present impossible to form a correct opinion of the probable business from the St. Lawrence, or the rates of freight likely to be obtained later on in the season.

The freights we have to offer ship owners are, we fear, far below their ideas; but nevertheless the rates we quote compare favorably with those offered from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the United States.

The supply of Pictou coal to the Grand Trunk Railway at Montreal has been contracted for at such a low figure that ship-owners must not look for as high a rate of freight as paid in 1877. The Gas Company have also contracted for their supplies at a still lower figure than the Grand Trunk; so that from Sydney, C. B., and outports coal freights will be correspondingly low.

A few small vessels have been chartered to load grain for Cork f. o. U. K. at £6 6s. per quarter; but the demand for tonnage is not in excess of offers.

We quote from Montreal grain orders 6s. 6d., direct 6s., deals 70s. to 75s. per std. direct ports. Phosphate ballast 12s. 6d. to 15s. per ton. Full cargo phosphate direct port Continent 25s. to 30s. per ton. Coal from Sydney, C. B., \$1.00; outports, \$1.25; Pictou, \$1.25.

From Quebec we can place one or two small vessels to load hardwood for Havre, Antwerp or Amsterdam, at 35s. per load, with 5s. additional if ordered to Dunkirk, on signing bills of lading. Other ports proportionate rates.

Yours truly, ANDERSON, MCKENZIE & Co.

By telegraph to L. C. OWEN:—Barque Claribel, Sinclair, Master, from Dundalk, arrived at Canso on the 13th inst., 16 days passage. Barque Isabel, Lane, Master, from Liverpool, arrived at Canso on the 13th inst., 20 days passage. Barque Willie McLaren, McLaren, Master, from Baltimore, arrived at Tralee, Ireland, on the 5th inst., after a passage of 20 days. Barque Wm. Owen, Brown, Master, from Sharpness, arrived at Fort Monroe on the 13th inst.

OUTFITTING WAREHOUSE.

C. ROBERTSON, CUSTOM TAILOR, 50 QUEEN STREET.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!

Under Captain Finalyson's Skillful Command, the "Northern Light," well spoken of by bummers, has landed us 12 Cases Men's Wear, THE LATEST OUT. WORSTED COATINGS—SUPERIOR FINISH! Spring Tweed—Newest Designs!

LATEST STYLES,

IN SHIRTS (white & colored), Men's Hard and Soft Felt and Fur HATS, CAPS, &c.

C. ROBERTSON.

Ch'town, April 6—3m

MANILLA.

RESERVE your Spring Order, and get our Low Quotations—LOWER THAN EVER BEFORE.

CARVELL BRO'S, AGENTS.

Ch'town, March 23—sw pat s jour 21

FOR CHARTER,

A SCHOONER of about 80 Tons. Apply to WM. MCGILL, April 13—dy pat 21

AUCTION!

WE will sell at AUCTION, in front of our Salesroom, on

Thursday, 18th April, inst., AT 11 O'CLOCK, A. M.,

100 Bbls. Superior Extra FLOUR, 200 " Extra 100 " Superfine

50 HALF-CHESTS TEA! To Close Consignment.

CARVELL BROS., Auctioneers.

Ch'town, April 13—pat t sale

ODD-FELLOWS'

Natal Day Celebration! 1878.



AN ENTERTAINMENT

WILL BE GIVEN IN THE

Market Hall

Friday, the 26th April, inst.,

—CONSISTING OF— Instrumental Music, Vocal Solos, Character Songs, Readings, &c., by the best talent in the City.

The Charlottetown Orchestral Club has consented to give selections on the occasion.

Prof. Earle will take charge of the Musical Department.

Oddfellows' Entertainments in the past have been acknowledged, alike by the press and the public, to have taken a front rank in amateur performances; and the Committee will spare no pains to make this the best of the season.

H. JAS. PALMER, J. WELL McLEOD, Chairman, Sec'y Com. April 12, 78—pat 3 taw at t ent

JUST RECEIVED,

Another Supply of the Celebrated WALTHAM WATCHES,

Warranted as usual, at J. F. MCKAY'S, North Side Queen Square, Ch'town, April 12—dy pat 3aw for 4w

ON SALE,

At the Charlottetown Steam Bakery, LOW FOR CASH, 525 Barrels Navy Biscuit, 150 " Medium, 200 " No. 1 Pilot (thick). JOHN QUIRK, Charlottetown Steam Bakery, Prince Street, April 11—ne & pat 1m

CATTLE SHOW

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, At Twelve o'clock.

THE Commissioners of the Stock Farm will offer the following Prizes for Fat Cattle on TUESDAY, April 16th, at 12 o'clock, noon:—

- Best animal on Exhibition, \$10.00
Best Fat Ox, 9.00
2nd best do., 7.00
Best Fat Steer, not over 3 years old, 6.00
2nd best do., 4.00
Best Fat Cow, 8.00
2nd best do., 6.00
Best Pair Sheep, Ewes or Wethers, 5.00
2nd best do., 2.00

An entrance fee of 50 cents will be charged for each of the cattle, and 50 cents for each pair of sheep. Entries to be made with the Secretary on or before Tuesday, the 16th April, at 11 o'clock.

SALE OF AYRSHIRE BULL.

The Services of the Ayrshire Bull will be sold at Auction immediately after the Cattle Show. SIMON W. CRABBE, Secretary to Stock Farm Com'rs, April 6—3aw

THE Daily Examiner

LATEST NEWS

Town and Country.

Advertisements sent in before 10 o'clock will, if required, be inserted so as to be laid before our readers in Summerside, Souris, Georgetown and other outlying towns the same evening.

W. L. COTTON, Manager, April 1, 1878.—daily pat 3m semi-w 2m BUY THE DAILY EXAMINER, for the latest news—local and telegraphic.