

POLITICAL MEETING.

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the Electors of the Fort Augustus District will be held at the Monaghan Road Schoolhouse on TUESDAY EVENING, the 21st instant, at six o'clock, for the purpose of eliciting the opinion of the people on the extraordinary measures of the present Government.

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

MARCH 16, 1893.

Public Accounts.

We have not yet had time to scan carefully the report of the Provincial Auditor, which was tabled this forenoon. But the prima facie showing is a deficit of \$37,651.29. The receipts and expenditures are set down as follows:

Table with columns for Receipts, 1892, and Expenditure, 1892. Includes items like Subsidy from Dominion Govt., Public Lands, Provincial Secretary, etc.

The expenditures classed under the heading of "capital account" are the following:

Table with columns for CAPITAL ACCOUNT and amounts. Includes items like Public Buildings, Government House, Hospital for the Insane, etc.

Reduction of the Legislature. The bill submitted by Premier Peters last evening is remarkable for that which it does not contain, as well as that which it does contain.

It does not contain a provision for the mortgage vote. Instead of that there is the following:

It does not contain "the gerrymander."

It does not contain the disfranchisement clause.

If faith may be placed upon the Premier's protestations concerning "closed doors," it is not proposed to play the game of last year over again.

It does not contain the disfranchisement clause.

The Minister of Justice further observes that, should the Bill now under consideration be passed as a statute of Prince Edward Island, he may have an opportunity of considering the objections which have been presented thereto, as based on constitutional right and usage, but for the present he deems it sufficient to reserve this right, and he recommends that Your Excellency take no action upon the Bill in question, and that the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island be so notified.

The broad hint, conveyed in these words, that if another such bill should be sent to Ottawa, the Minister of Justice would deem it his duty to advise its disallowance, has perhaps not been lost upon our Premier!

But while the bill has been shorn of several of its most objectionable features, the original, fundamental, error remains. It is still proposed to raise a distinction between farmers and their sons, and to give the least intelligent property-holders an advantage as of two to one over

the most intelligent non-property holders. Under it, for instance, Mr. Joseph Hogan, of East Grafton Street, will have two, or perhaps four or five votes, to the one vote of Dr. Anderson. We do not believe that even Mr. Hogan will say that this is right. Under it, our clergymen, our teachers, our book-keepers and clerks, the most intelligent men of town and country, will be placed at a disadvantage as of one to two when they go to the polls. Under it one class of representatives is to be styled "Honorable Councillor" and the other "Assemblyman."

There is not in this Province any necessity whatever for these invidious distinctions between man and man. There are here no great conflicting interests. Premier Peters himself contended yesterday that "distinctions here exist only in the imagination." Then, why are distinctions created by his bill?

Apart from this fundamental wrong, there are in the bill other highly objectionable features. The un-British two-thirds clause remains, the returning officers at elections are to be the creatures of the Government and not impartial men the nominees of the impartial Judges, and there are minor faults to be pointed out by the Opposition while the bill is being passed.

Besides, there are grave omissions from the bill. The principle of property qualification is contained in it; and this is right. But there is to be no representation for the property of the unmarried women. A widow or spinster owning property is one of the most independent, if not one of the most enviable, of mortals. Moreover, her influence will, almost certainly, be exercised in favor of good measures and good men; for her perceptions are, as a rule, nice and her morals purer than those of men. The Leader of the Opposition suggested last year that it was wrong to tax her property and give her no representation. We hope that he will endeavor again to have this provision attached to the bill.

The Premier said yesterday that he was "perfectly willing" to receive suggestions. Altogether, he seems to have profited by the discipline to which he has been subjected since the passage of the bill of last year. Perhaps he will now consent to make the radical changes in his measure which the conditions and circumstances of the people of the Province demand. The reduction of the Legislature is, certainly, as he says, "a step in the right direction."

Carlyle has said that all misery proceeds from the violation of the Law of Fact. This true saying of the wise old Scotchman may now be pondered and applied by the people of this Province and their political leaders. We have, heretofore, persistently violated the Law of Fact in that, for an area and population smaller than that of many of the municipalities of Canada, and for the performance of public duties which pertain to a municipality, we have maintained a Legislature of two Houses, with all the accompanying paraphernalia. An Assembly of fifteen able and discreet men for business, representing respectively the several electoral districts into which the province is divided, would be sufficient to order all the little affairs connected with our courts and schools, our roads and bridges, our Stock Farm and Lunatic Asylum, and would be much more consistent with the Fact that this Province contains an area of but two thousand square miles, with a population of only one hundred and nine thousand. Every one of the other Provinces of Canada's is, admittedly, too much governed. But Prince Edward Island bears, comparatively, a far heavier legislative burden than any one of them. With two Legislative Houses, it has a representative for every 2,534 of its population. The great province of Ontario, with an area of 219,650 square miles, and a population of 2,112,989 inhabitants, has but one legislative chamber and one representative for 23,219 of its population. Quebec with 227,500 square miles and 1,488,586 people, has one representative for 15,506. Nova Scotia with 20,550 square miles and a population of 450,523, has one representative for 12,176. New Brunswick with 28,100 square miles and a population of 321,294, has one representative for 7,836. Manitoba, with 65,000 square miles and a population of 154,442, has a representative for 3,860. British Columbia with an area of 382,300 square miles and a population of 92,767 has one representative for 2,811. The only provinces in which the proportion of representation to population approximates at all closely to that of Prince Edward Island are Manitoba and British Columbia. But these provinces have yet to be filled with people, while Prince Edward Island is the most densely peopled Province in all Canada, and cannot, in the nature of things, hope for a very great or a very rapid increase of its inhabitants. Even if its representation in the Legislative Assembly were reduced to fifteen, the proportion of representatives to population would still be abnormally large. As compared with all the rest of the older provinces of Canada, there would still be here a violation of the Law of Fact; for we should have one representative for 7,266.

Now, suppose that the Legislature were reduced to fifteen, how would the account stand? After the revised statutes have been passed, all the work of the session may easily be done in a fortnight, and for this a \$100 for each member would be

ample indemnity. The cost of Legislation would then be about as follows:—

Table listing costs for various legislative services: Pay of Members, Additional to Speaker, Messengers, Stationary, etc., Salary of Clerk, Salary of Sergeant at Arms, Doorkeepers and Messengers, Reporters, Printing Reports and Journals, Miscellaneous and unforeseen.

Four thousand dollars, at most, as compared with \$12,000 or \$13,000 expended heretofore. We might in this way have enough to pay the interest on our present debt and to make a sinking fund with which to meet our debentures when they become due, besides making our legislature much more consistent with the Law of Fact, the violation of which, we are told by the philosopher, is the sole cause of misery. If we had but conformed to the Law of Fact when we entered the Confederation twenty years ago, we should have been better off than we are now to the extent of at least \$160,000 00, and we should not be in debt or in expectation of the tax gatherer.

Let us, then, have a Legislature as nearly as possible consistent with the Law of Fact. Let us not have a mongrel bill creating distinctions when there ought to be none—distinctions which do not exist in Ontario, or Manitoba, or New Brunswick, or any other province in which there is only one Legislature Chamber. But let us have a bill in which, while property shall have the advantage which rightly belongs to it, and be sufficiently protected, and while men of bad character and criminal habits shall be deprived of the right to vote, the electors of the Province and the representatives, alike, shall stand upon a common level.

The Legislature may be composed of more or less than fifteen. One of the most intelligent men in the community has suggested a Legislature of ten—three for each County and one for Charlottetown—a sufficiently large for this small Province. An esteemed correspondent of THE EXAMINER has contended that eighteen members would be sufficient. We are not wedded to either number. We content only that "the smaller the Legislature (in reason) the greater the efficiency and the less the expense."

Provincial Legislature. House of Assembly. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS.

WEDNESDAY, March 14. After the presentation of the Address to the Administrator of the Government in reply to the Speech from the Throne and receiving from His Honor a message concerning the fate of the Reserved Bill, Hon. Mr. Peters submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is advisable to introduce a Bill to reduce the cost of legislation by abolishing the Legislative Council of the Province and providing for one chamber to be called the Legislative Assembly, possessing the same powers and authorities now vested in the Legislative Council and House of Assembly.

Resolved, That immediately after the dissolution of the present House of Assembly the Legislative Council shall cease to exist.

Resolved, That for the purpose of electing representatives for the newly constituted House of Assembly, each county shall be divided into five electoral districts to be the same as now exists for the election of members for the House of Assembly, as altered by any Act passed by this or any other session of the House.

Resolved, That at the next general election, and all subsequent elections, there shall be elected for each of said electoral districts, two representatives, one of whom shall be elected by the votes of electors of such district who at the time of such election would be entitled to vote for a member to serve in the Legislative Council if that body then existed, and the other of whom shall be elected by the votes of electors who at the time of such election would be entitled to vote for a member to serve in the House of Assembly as at present constituted, if that House then existed.

Resolved, That the said Bill contain clauses as to the duration of the new House of Assembly, as to the qualification of the members thereof, and also clauses providing for the election of such members, and all other matters necessary for the practical carrying out of the above resolution.

He set forth the necessity for the Bill and defended its leading provisions, but said that he was perfectly willing to receive suggestions for its improvement.

Mr. Neil McLeod said that he was in favor of the reduction of the Legislature, though he was opposed to the distinctions to be raised by the proposed bill. He delivered a vigorous and able speech, a full report of which we hope to be able to publish.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson and Mr. Rogers followed.

The resolution was then submitted to a committee of the whole House and reported agreed to.

Mr. Peters then introduced the bill entitled "An Act respecting the Legislature," and it was read a first time.

THURSDAY, March 16. Hon. Mr. Peters laid upon the table the Public Accounts, and submitted bills amending the Act incorporating the Law Society; an Act to confirm the registration of certain deeds and writings; an Act to further amend the County Court Act, 1878; an Act to incorporate the Mount Stewart Dairying Co., which were disposed of in the usual way.

Hon. Mr. Peters moved the second reading of the bill respecting the Legislature, and briefly explained its provisions.

The Leader of the Opposition followed. He referred to the doing away of the pro-

To the Ladies! To our lady customers and others who have patronized us in the past for CHILDREN'S CLOTHING we respectfully intimate that we have received our first shipment in Children's Wear for Spring, consisting of dark patterns in Tweed Suits, suitable for spring wear. Our Summer Suits in light and dark shades will be along later. Kindly call and see the above goods. We have on hand a lot of odd Jackets and Pants that w will sell at a very low price.

HOUSE FURNISHING DEPARTMENT. We are now showing a large and choice stock of House Furnishings, consisting of new Carpets in Brussels, Wiltons, Velvets, Tapestries, with lovely borders to match. Also, a few superior Art Squares that are selling fast. The above are direct from the best makers, and include some of the very latest designs and colorings. Ladies and gentlemen are respectfully invited to inspect the above goods.

JAMES PATON & CO. Charlottetown, March 13, 1893.

FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. See E. R. BROW ABOUT THAT INSURANCE. OFFICE—Brown's Block, Charlottetown.

ROOM PAPER at HALF PRICE. All Our Last Year Patterns of Good Gilt. WINDOW BLINDS AND CURTAIN POLES. REMNANTS BELOW COST. New Stock—The Best in Town. BAZAAR COMPANY. Charlottetown, March 16, 1893.

SOME CUES FOR THE LADIES! Selected from Correspondence of Beer Bros' Buyer.

Epworth League Lecture Course 1892-93. A. A. BARTLETT, ESQ., Will Deliver His Lecture, "In and Around Paris," Illustrated with Stereoscopic Views, In the Basement of the Brick Methodist Church. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, AT 8 O'CLOCK, P. M. Admission, 15 cents. mch16-18, 18, 20, 21.

FARM ON LOT 60 For Sale or To Let. 70 ACRES OF GOOD FREEHOLD LAND at Melville, Lot 60, lately occupied by Allan G. McLeod, held under first-class Government Deed, clear of encumbrances. Burns on the premises. Dwelling House burnt last fall. Part of purchase money may remain on mortgage. Apply to F. W. L. MOORE, Solicitor, London House Corner, Charlottetown. mch16-17 law (thurs) & wky

BEER BROS. QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY Is the Queen of Fire Companies. DESBRISAY & STEWART, AGENTS FOR P. E. I. OFFICE—Next to Bank of Nova Scotia, Charlottetown. Low Rates. Prompt Settlements. 3m-jan4

St. Patrick's Day. 1825-1893. THE Benevolent Irish Society of Charlottetown will celebrate the Anniversary of Ireland's Patron Saint On Friday, March 17th, by a Procession from their Hall, Prince Street to St. Dunstan's Cathedral at 9 a. m., where High Mass will be celebrated. After Mass the procession will return and parade the principal streets. The celebration will close with a GRAND CONCERT in the Evening, in the Lyceum, under the direction of Prof. Earle, assisted by Prof. Vinnicombe's Orchestra. The Concert will consist chiefly of a grand selection of the best Irish Compositions, and an Oration by R. R. Fitzgerald, Esq., S. M. The following is the PROGRAMME.

1. Grand Overture—"Salute to Erin" Laraine Orchestra. 2. Address—Judge Fitzgerald. 3. Vocal Solo—"The Dear Little Shamrock" Mrs. Maurice Hickey. 4. Instrumental Duet—"Guns from Killarney" Mrs. P. Doyle and Miss May Carroll. 5. Vocal Solo—"Don't Forget Old Ireland" Mr. Frank Trainor. 6. Waltzes—"Sounds from Erin" Deane Orchestra. 7. Vocal Duet—"The Gypsy Countess" Mrs. E. H. Norton and Mr. Earle. 8. Vocal Solo—"The Poor Irish Minstrel" Miss Traisor. 9. Recitation—"Up with the Green and Gold" Mrs. K. McLean. 10. Song—"Look Ahoy" Miss Hettie Collings. 11. Irish Medley—"The Shamrock" A'Alta Orchestra. 12. Vocal Solo—"Am I Remembered in Erin" Mrs. James Byrne. 13. Solo and Quartet—"If the Waters could Speak" by request Mrs. Norton, Miss Webster, Messrs. Davis and Hermans. 14. Vocal Solo—"The Pretty Maid Milking Her Cow" Miss Josie Smith. 15. Song—"Give an Honest Irish Lad a Chance" by request Mr. Brent McInnis. 16. Vocal Solo—"The Meeting of the Waters" by request Mrs. Roome. 17. "Songs of Ireland" A'Alta Orchestra. Positively no encores. Doors open at 7.15. Entertainment to commence at 8 o'clock. Reserved Seats, 35 cents; unreserved, 25 cents. For sale at Reddin Bros. and Watson's Drug Stores. R. F. MADDIGAN, Secretary.

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SOME CUES FOR THE LADIES! Selected from Correspondence of Beer Bros' Buyer. Many of the new Dress Materials appear in half tones of decided colors, such as Cedar Brown, Heliotrop, Resid and Powder Blue. Tweeds are also in good demand, large and small checks taking the lead. They are being made up in the 1893 style, narrow at the waist and full at the hem, with velvet yokes and sleeves. A leading London dressmaker states that it is now almost certain that skirts will fit and define hips but flow out from the knees, and vary in width from five to six, seven and even eight yards round. The threatened introduction of crinolines seems about at an end. It is hardly possible in Charlottetown to realize the intensity of feeling aroused in England over this matter. M. Worth (Paris), at a recent interview, is credited with saying:—"I hope crinolines are not to be worn—but the enormous fullness in skirts may well demand some sort of support. How wide skirts are may perhaps be understood when I tell you we have just made a gown with 60 yards of silk in it." Sleeves threaten to be a very prominent feature. You may choose either the "balloon," an immense puff of velvet, the leg of mutton or the slashed waist. Shot Velvet Blouses are all the rage. Skirts are worn very short for walking, and generally with gaiters. I am looking after the interests of our lady customers, and you can promise them the correct thing will be forthcoming.

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