

collusion with a Mr. Hogson, of the same place, a druggist. To disguise the knavery, the two tradesmen, in their dealings, called the plaster 'daff' or 'alfin', and the confectioner's messenger went to the druggist's shop for the material thus designated. A raw apprentice, in the service of the druggist, unacquainted with the pass-word, went up stairs to his master, who was ill in bed, to ask for instructions, and was told to proceed to the cellar for 12 pounds of 'daff', in a corner of which he would find a cask containing the material. In the cellar he found two casks, one containing 'daff', the other arsenic, and the boy saved Neale with arsenic instead of Plaster of Paris. A retail dealer, named Hurdaker, bought a quantity of this abominable mixture, sold the lozenges in the market-place of Bradford, and the result was the fearful and wholesale poisoning we have mentioned. Glaring, rank dishonesty has been the cause of the calamity—the determination of Neale to undersell his honest competitors. Neale and Hodgson have been indicted for manslaughter. The English papers speak in the severest terms respecting the practice of adulterating food, and recommend that the Government will adopt measures, however extreme, for eradicating the evil.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., DECEMBER 13, 1858.

INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE.

REVIEW OF THE ACTS AND MEASURES OF THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

(Continued from our last No.)

We know that a delusion has been very industriously and dishonestly circulated, in order to counteract this measure of relief, respecting the financial affairs of the Colony. When we come to that head we shall show to demonstration their wickedness and falsehood; but here for a moment let us digress, to show the deep injustice that is done Sir Dominick Daly by charging him with misrepresenting the Island's resources. Our readers shall see, when we come to treat of them, how utterly base are such accusations. It may be, however, remarked, that all that the Home Government had to do with the matter was to be sure they ran no risk in giving a guarantee for the repayment of £100,000, should we borrow so much; but the sum this Government might borrow would depend on how much had been in the market. Nor would the question be affected by the state of our finances, as regards the wisdom of our laying out the money, because such a measure would sustain its own charges. But what can possess any man, be he Island Tory or absent Proprietor, to cause him to oppose this measure, would be, if we did not know their malice, past finding out; for if we had the guarantee, it would be useful in the hands of whatever administration it might fall into—it might be taken up or laid aside as opportunity might offer—it would be a god-send to any proprietor who wanted to sell, and a great benefit to the tenantry. Instead, however, of the circumstance being used for the benefit of the tenantry, it is employed to rally again a proprietary party in the Island, that agents may still flourish, whilst their employers and their tenants may still be oppressed and deluded. There certainly did exist till now an implied understanding that such measures should have their trial rather than an Escheat. There is, however, no engagement of that nature; and if there were, the Home Government, through Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, has been the first to violate it, and in every reasonable sense has set free the Government and Legislature of this Island to act as they may think expedient; notwithstanding which, many of the best friends of the people are still of opinion that the Land Purchase Bill offered fewer difficulties to the process of making tenants into freeholders than Escheat would supply, that being a measure of less universal application. However, upon the principle of half a loaf being better than no bread, it now behoves the friends of the people to resort to the latter as the only means, except the maintaining the right to the arrears of quit rents, now left.

We pass on now to a measure which is not very obtrusive on public notice, but which has a certain real value. We mean the exclusion from the Small Debt Courts of cases for recovery of rent. All landlords have the power to distrain or levy their rent by distress and sale of a tenant's effects found on the premises. This of course remains to them—it is the common law of the Empire; but their being prohibited, except in cases where there is nothing to distrain on, from carrying vexatious suits into Small Debt Courts, is a great boon to the tenant, and shows that the Liberal party are ever mindful of his interests; nor should it be forgotten, in connection with this subject, that till the One-ninth Bill passed, these suits would all have been brought for the recovery of rents at the rate of 1s. 6d. for every shilling worth of liability. A Bill was likewise passed, enacting that when land was taken by law for roads, the amount of rent payable thereon could no longer be claimed. And likewise another limiting the expenses of distraint, and giving a remedy where these are excessive, before two Justices of the Peace, in place of the tedious, doubtful and expensive one of an action in the Supreme Court.

It had long and justly been complained that the manner of summoning Jurors placed in the hands of a partisan Sheriff the power of packing a Jury for almost any purpose. This has been remedied by the liberal overtures of impartial justice, by an enactment the principal feature of which is, that the Jurors shall be named by the Sheriff at each assize for the business of the succeeding assize, so that the cases to be tried cannot well be known at the time of their nomination.

But, perhaps, the Free Education Act is a measure of which too much cannot be said. It is difficult in detail, and no doubt expedient, from time to time, will point out practical improvements. Circumstances, of which we shall have to treat, have caused great obstacles to carrying out this measure. At present, however, there is one which seems, at least for the time, insurmountable. We allude to the falling off, we trust only temporarily, of the Revenue. It is simply impossible to pay the expenses. The fiscal sum of £15,000 was absorbed last year in this business. Either we shall be obliged to relinquish, in a great part, the advantages derived from this measure, or it must be supported by new taxation. This alternative, as respects the people, cannot and will not be resorted to; but nothing would be more just than that the proprietors—who, hoodwinked by their agents, will not suffer the country to prosper by the Land Purchase Bill—should be taxed to supply in a great part the sum deficient in the Act of Education. It is exceedingly to be regretted that any set of men should be so utterly devoid of Christian charity as those who, on religious pretences, have produced great disturbance in the minds of many concerning this measure; but so it is. Being most desirous to avoid adding any thing to the popular agitation, although it has been unsparingly employed against the Liberal Government, we shall confine ourselves to facts, with the view of counteracting, as far as possible, all the falsehoods which have been sent abroad on this head, and diligently and wickedly circulated by the opposition press, more particularly by the Protector newspaper, a publication laying claim to the title of "the Sanctified Press."

Now it must be clearly understood that for years past the Holy Scriptures have been in use in all our schools, when their use was desired by the parents of the scholars. No interdiction was placed in it; nor was it opposed by any technical or practical impediment whatever. This plan of non-interference seemed to satisfy, and did satisfy the people; and each year's report of the School Visitor indicated that

the use of the Holy Scriptures was on the increase. The public returns on this head showed some extraordinary and anomalous facts, that whilst the Scriptures were neglected in some schools consisting solely of Protestants, there were Roman Catholic masters and pupils who made use of them; but this, above all things, was manifest, and was, to every true lover of his fellow man, a cheering and agreeable fact, that Protestants and Catholics, under this system, lived in unbroken harmony, so far at least concurring in one Scriptural doctrine, and so far interpreting alike the precepts of their common Saviour. Things were in this state till, in an evil hour, the late School Visitor, Mr. Stark, being called on, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Normal School, to describe what is called the Stowe System of Education, spoke of religious instruction as a thing inseparable from the daily teaching therein—overlooking, by design or negligence, or through ignorance, the fact that the schools from whence he derived his experience were only attended by Protestant scholars. Had he had sufficient honesty or sufficient intelligence to have looked to Ireland, where, as here, schools were instituted for the wants of a mixed Roman Catholic and Protestant population, he might have seen the matter in a different, and its true light. It appears that the Roman Catholic Bishop, hearing this, supposed that Mr. Stark's statement could not be, as it really was, wholly unauthorised, and was induced—which is ever to be regretted—to write a kind of protest to the Board of Education. That body, in reply, assured his Lordship that no departure from the system so long happily pursued would take place, which was alike an answer to the fears expressed and to some suggestions which they did not entertain. Nothing was done whatever in consequence of this correspondence, if the exchange of one letter could be so called—and it was treated by the designing and malicious as if it was a lengthy affair—except that it elicited from the Board of Education, sanctioned by the Liberal Government, a declaration that no alteration would be sanctioned in a system which, up to that time, had been in such harmonious practice. The Government and both Houses of Legislature viewed these things in the same light, notwithstanding the eager opposition of many parties in the House of Assembly, who had for years, when in power, sanctioned the same construction of the Education Bill; and the Houses expressed themselves in such accordance in answer to the extensively received petitions which, with numerous signatures, were laid before them. From that time to this, in spite of clamour, in spite of falsehood and misrepresentation, things have so remained—that is, in the state they have been in for the last twenty years, or ever since there was any public education—with the exception that some technical difficulties have been solved; and it is a remarkable fact, that during all this exaggerated quarrel, only one appeal or dispute was ever brought before the Board of Education; and that was by Roman Catholics against a Protestant Teacher, which was readily adjusted, by its being explained to the parties that the views of the Board, the Government and the Legislature, were guided by the desire of those bodies to leave such subjects to the local Trustees, as heretofore; provided that no one was forced to do anything contrary to his conscience. Now it will be clearly seen, from this statement, that neither the Protestant nor Catholic population desire to see the system, under which they have so long lived in brotherly love and charity, disturbed. False representations and bigoted appeals may be made to stir up intolerance and hatred, but it can never be said that they had their origin in the hearts of the people. In whom then did they originate, or by whom's instigation that they should be perpetuated? That they are contrary to the Divine precepts, needs no ordained clergyman to inculcate—we all know it. Those who are active in this wickedness must answer before a higher tribunal than any one we can institute, besides that powerful one of public opinion. But enough of this—be farber to designate the parties, or even to call their agents by their true names—to do so would require a stronger language than we intend to employ. We had rather assuage than irritate. Our object is not to excite, but to inform. Before, however, we quit the subject of Education, we cannot but remark on the open ingratitude to the existing Government of very many of the Teachers. Year after year they had reiterated a melancholy complaint of the inadequacy of their means of support. Who but the Liberal Government placed them in the more easy circumstances which they now enjoy? The return they have made, not indeed, without honorable exceptions, has been to employ the influence their better condition has given them against their best friends and considerate benefactors. The political character of the day has assumed a constant drawback to their usefulness.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ANOTHER INDIGNANT MEETING.

We are requested to publish, as well as the other journalists in this city, the proceedings of a meeting held at De Sable, similar in character to that silly gathering which took place at New Glasgow a few weeks ago, convened to express the great indignation of the people of that ilk against the Government for having dismissed a petty postmaster who had not decency and manliness enough to resign his appointment before he set himself up in opposition to those who conferred it on him. We may at once assure the indignant folk of De Sable that we have better use for our columns than to appropriate any portion of them to the insertion of the trash called resolutions which find a place in the last No. of their congenial *Islander*.

The hero or protege of the De Sable Meeting is no less a person than Colin Holm, Esq., to whose name the political parsons, at the last election, succeeded in attaching the coveted designation of M. P. P. It appears that this gentleman held the office of Postmaster at De Sable, and Clerk to the Court of Commissioners at the same place—not a very distinguished post for a member of Parliament—from both of which he has been dismissed—in consequence whereof he and all his admirers are in great wrath and tribulation: Of course, his dismissal from the Post Department has been the act of the Government, for which they are no doubt prepared to give a satisfactory explanation, if such a small thing should be required, at the proper time and in the proper place. The cause of his dismissal, we suspect—for we do not know it for certain—was his participation in the howl got up in Charlottetown in August last because the Government were forced to dismiss Mr. Owen after that gentleman thought proper to brave Executive power by keeping a subordinate in the public service, in defiance of Executive power. On that occasion Mr. Colin Holm either proposed or seconded one of the rabid and nonsensical resolutions by which some of the disappointed opposition in Charlottetown sought to provoke an outburst of popular feeling against the constituted authorities of the land for the performance of a most necessary duty. The design, as we all know, miserably failed, but it was not owing to the want of an effort on the part of Mr. Colin Holm—whether he strengthened his appearance on the platform of the Unholies by any display of eloquence, is a circumstance of which no reporter sayeth aught. We were very much surprised to learn that Mr. Holm was an officer of the Government—though a very humble one—at the time he took counsel with, and enrolled himself under the banners of its enemies. A greenhorn

in the bush—who had never an aspiration beyond the cow-house or the cobbler's stall—might be excused for making a fool of himself, and at the same time consulting his pocket, while he had vanity enough to think that he was making a show of his independence by attending political meetings, the object and effect of which he could not understand. But better things are expected from a gentleman who sets himself up for a member of Parliament. He is supposed to know that there are always two parties in the State: those who are with and those who are against the Government;—and moreover, the former may, with every propriety, hold office, while the latter cannot with any decency do so; or, if the Government know its duty, ought not to be permitted to do so. Mr. Holm, it appears, however, has got to learn his A B C in political knowledge; and if the progress which he makes during the next sitting of Parliament be proportionate to his past acquisitions, his happy constituents will have reason to be proud of him.

We have expressed our surprise that Mr. Holm, as an official, should kick up his heels against the Government of which he was so anxious to be a servant, and fret and whine, and get all his friends to fret and whine in concert with him, because he has been very properly turned about his business in disgrace; but we are still more surprised at the culpable forbearance of the Government in allowing him to remain a day in office after he made a fool of himself at the Donnybrook Fair Meeting on the 25th August last.

With respect to Mr. Holm's removal from the office of Clerk to the Small Debt Commissioners, the resolution which was offered as a salve to his wounded vanity in this instance, informs us that this momentous occurrence was "an act of petty tyranny, unjust, unreasonable and uncalled for, and savours too much of the 'iron rod administration' to be tolerated by an independent and intelligent people, without reprobation." We beg pardon for placing the last word of the above fierce sentence in italics; the expletives in the first part, respecting the injustice and unreasonableness of "petty tyranny," admirably illustrate the educational acquirements as well as the boasted intelligence of the indignant opponents of the Government at De Sable. As to the "independent" part of the thing, the hero of the meeting has finely shown his devotion to the "Lion of the Lion heart and eagle eye," when he felt that he could not afford to throw up an office worth forty shillings a year before he commenced trying to turn out those whom he knew had the power to keep him in. But we have a further proof of the intelligence of the De Sable people, or rather the few who assembled at the School-house on the 1st inst., in the fact, that they censure the Government for dismissing Mr. Holm from the office of Clerk to the Commissioners. Why, the Government had nothing whatever to do with it. It is not its province to appoint Clerks to the Small Debt Courts, and of course it is not in its power to dismiss them. We, therefore, recommend the indignant De Sable to direct their bluster against the Commissioners, whoever they be, for the act of "petty tyranny" which has so deeply mortified their particular friend, Mr. Holm.

We suppose we shall shortly hear of another "indignant meeting" at New Glasgow. When a Mr. Nisbett was dismissed from the Post Office there for his opposition to the Government, a person named George Smith was appointed to succeed him. The first thing we heard of this worthy was, that he presided at a meeting, assembled to sympathise with Mr. Nisbett, and to express indignation against the Government. Now, we are glad to learn that Mr. Smith has been sent about his business in his turn; and of course the New Glasgow people will perform the old farce over with a new cast of parts—the unfortunate Mr. George Smith to be the hero of the play.

Those ridiculous meetings in the country have all taken their rise from that which was held in Charlottetown in August last, and which proved to be such a melancholy failure to the Opposition. Their promoters have entirely forgotten the course pursued by the Tory Government in 1854, when they turned out of office every Liberal they could lay their hands on, not excepting the poor old Market Clerk, Gilligan, who never made himself obnoxious to any class of men in the community. The Liberals never thought of calling indignation meetings on that occasion. They considered that their opponents had a right to use the power with which they were invested, and they claim the exercise of the same right so long as their party remains in office. In fact, the practice of removing office holders who will take part in political contests, in opposition to the governing power, is not a novelty in any country or in any age. It has prevailed in Great Britain from time immemorial—in all the American Colonies, especially since the breaking up of the Family Compact Governments,—and in the United States, the constitution of which is so often held up to us as a model for our imitation, the practice of removing subordinate officials, when they are even suspected of entertaining no friendly feelings towards the party in power, is carried to the utmost extent. Perhaps the indignant Tories who complain so much about the removal of petty officials have never read the opinion on this very subject of one of the highest authorities in Toryism which the world has ever seen. In Boswell's Life of Johnson, vol 2, p. 354, the great lexicographer expresses his opinion in the following words as to the duty of Government to dismiss its opponents:—"Were I in power I would turn out every man who dared to oppose me. Government has the distribution of offices that it may be enabled to maintain its authority."

THE ISLANDER'S "SELL" RESPECTING PAY TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS.

The *Islander* has, in its issue of Friday last, fully established our charge of misrepresentation against it, with respect to the groundless story which it propagated a few weeks since, to the effect that the Members of the Executive Council now receive pay for their services as such. The Editor and his friends seem to have been at some trouble to make out a case against the Government on this head, but their researches have only gone to the extent of shewing that on one occasion two members of the Council, living at a great distance from Charlottetown, were allowed their travelling charges when they were summoned to attend a special meeting of the Council. The *Islander's* story, which we contradicted, was given in these words:—"The Executive Councillors now help themselves to pay at the public expense." Now, what meaning would any person, even the most stupid, attach to this sentence? Why, that all the members of the Executive Council, on all occasions of their attendance, were paid for their services. But the fact is simply this: Mr. Perry and Mr. Wightman were summoned to attend a meeting of the Council

for a special and very important purpose, at a season of the year when it was known that they were busy with their private avocations, and they were allowed the usual mileage fees to pay their expenses. Mr. Perry had 100 miles to come—Mr. Wightman, 30. Was it unreasonable that the Government should pay their travelling expenses on such an occasion—the whole amount of which only came to £10 17s. 4d.? If all the Council had been paid for their attendance—or even if Messrs. Wightman and Perry had had their travelling charges allowed every time they came to attend the Council, there might be some excuse for the noise which the *Islander* has made about this affair. Whether the Government was right in giving Messrs. Perry and Wightman their mileage fees on the occasion referred to, will be for the House of Assembly to say. The House grants, every session, a small sum for the contingent expenses of the Government, to be expended in any way the latter deems necessary; out of this sum the £10 17s. 4d. was paid; and we are not inclined to think that the members on either side of the House, after granting the sum, will descend to the *Islander's* level and make a row about it.

We forgot to notice in our last paper the accusation of our very unsuspecting friend the *Islander*, that in copying from the *Protector* of the 15th ult. a communication on "Emigration," over the signature of "C. K.," we were actuated by a desire "to promote animosity amongst the Catholics against the Protestants" of this Island. We assure our contemporary that we had no such object. But it is well to get the testimony of the *Islander* that the communication referred to was of such a nature as to excite animosity. It must have been, for that object, then, it was allowed a place in the columns of the *Protector*—a Christian journal professing peace and good will to all men—for although we may agree with the *Islander* that the writer of it is a "monomaniac," we can hardly think that the whole Committee of Editors of the *Protector* are hopeless monomaniacs likewise, bad as we believe them to be. The compliment to the *Protector* people is, however, naturally inferred from the *Islander's* remark, and we will leave the gentlemen to settle the matter between them.

THE WEATHER.

For the last three or four days has been of almost unprecedented severity. On Saturday night the harbor was frozen over sufficiently to enable parties to walk across, and yesterday and to-day it has become strong enough to bear teams safely. We witnessed to-day the somewhat unusual spectacle of the cutting a channel for the exit to more genial regions of a small fleet of a dozen vessels, laden with produce and bound to the States and the neighbouring Colonies. Notwithstanding the untoward aspect of the weather, we cannot but indulge the hope that the valuable property now afloat in our harbor may be speedily liberated from its icy fetters, and realize profitable returns to the enterprising exporters. The detention in this port, during the winter, of the outward-bound vessels and cargoes would be most seriously felt by the mercantile community, which has gone through the severe ordeal of last summer's depression. We regret to hear that several vessels are ice-bound at St. Peter's. The same may, we fear, be safely predicated of other ports in the Island; and such a state of affairs must necessarily entail great inconvenience and loss to parties engaged in the exportation of our staple articles.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

EXCHANGE ROOMS.

DECEMBER 13th, 3 p.m., 1858.

Steamer *Persia* arrived at New York yesterday. No tidings of steamer *Indian Empire*. The new side-wheel steamers to be put on the Galway line next summer. *Great Eastern* expected to be ready for trial-trip next July. Intelligence has reached Lloyds of the loss of eight Quebec homeward bound ships, including ships *Perless*, *Barbara* and *Rankin*, barques *Lady Campbell*, *Petrol* and *Claude*, and brig *Wilkinson*; little or no loss of life, except in case of the *Claude*. Lord Napier goes Minister to Berlin. Five miles shore end of the Atlantic Cable spliced. Consols closed 89 1/2.

ROBERT HYNDMAN & Co.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

DEAR SIR,—The Lord of "Hillsborough Castle," I am sorry to observe, feels much hurt about a little article in the *Royal Gazette* of the 4th ultimo, which, in the *Islander* of the 20th, he complains, that "nine-tenths thereof is a malicious fabrication." In humbly apologising hereto, I beg to state, for his further information, that on looking carefully over the said article, and comparing it with the sworn information made before me, I find that out of above 200 words in it three only are mistakes, namely:—"Conviction," "Hillsborough Castle," and "£500," which, when read as follows, will make all right:—"For 'conviction,' read committed; for 'Hillsborough Castle,' read a very old wooden house on the east of Allisary, formerly the residence of Mr. Angus McDonald, now living near Souris; and for '£500,' read £100, as no bail to a higher amount could have been procured by the parties. The Castellan will admit that I suppressed in the publication referred to the most barbarous and brutal part of the whole transaction, viz: that, after unfortunate Doonan had been shot, and apparently murdered, the blood flowing from his head, and his miserable clothing saturated therewith, he was dragged by the old chieftain and his son into an old out-house and locked up there, shivering with cold for the whole night, crying and piteously praying to be admitted to lie in another old house near at hand, in which were the remains of a fire, but which was cruelly refused to him.

Yours respectfully,  
F. KELLY, J. P.

Fort Augustus, December 7, 1858.

Thomas S. Ranney, writing from Rangoon, Burmah, December 15, 1856, says:—"It is becoming more popular, and in several instances I am assured that the cholera has been arrested and life preserved by its use. The late prevalence of cholera here has swept off about all the Pain Killer I had, and purchasers looking to me for a supply will be disappointed in my ability to supply them. Please send me an invoice of \$150 worth by the first opportunity."

CAPE TOWN, Africa, Jan. 28, 1856.  
Messrs. P. Davis & Son—Dear Sirs:—  
The Pain Killer, we are happy to say, is getting in good repute here, and its good qualities are being appreciated. Lately we have a great demand for the article, and confidently anticipate a large trade in the Pain Killer.

BORRODALEE, THOMPSON, HAL & CO.  
Sold by T. Desbrisay & Co., Wholesale Agents in Charlottetown, P. E. I., and by dealers everywhere.  
We would caution all who buy Pain Killer, to be careful and call for Perry Davis' Pain Killer, and to take none not put up in square bottles, with Perry Davis' Son's note of hand on one side of the bottle, and "Perry Davis' Vegetable Pain Killer" blown in the glass. All others are spurious.

TESTIMONIALS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.  
A pleasing travelling companion, and one that no person should be without is Perry Davis' Pain Killer. A sudden attack of diarrhoea, dysentery, or cholera morbus can be effectually and instantaneously relieved by it, it is equally effectual in curing scalds, burns, &c.

Halloway's Pills.—A word to females.—It should be understood that the operation of these famous Pills is not limited to the cure of those violent internal distempers for which they are successfully administered in this country and all others. They act also as an immediate corrective in the minor ailments incident to both sexes. We commend them most unreservedly as the very best family medicine in existence. It given to children suffering from colic, constipation, worms, or any disorder of the stomach or bowels, they invariably afford immediate relief. In fact, they ought to be considered everywhere, a domestic staple for sickness, whether of a slight or serious character, it cannot long retain its hold in any household where they are always at hand.