THE EXAMINER

IS PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY, FORENOON,

BY THE

Examiner Printing & Publishing Co.

OFFICE:

Corner Queen and King Streets.

TERMS—Per Annum, $1.62, if paid within the year—$1.82, postage paid; $2 if not paid within the year.

CLUB RATES.

The Examiner will be forwarded to Clubs at the following rates per year—payment strictly in advance:—

5 copies	one address, - - -	$ 7.00
10 "	" "	12.00
15 "	" "	17.00
20 "	" "	20.00

Clubs may be made up at any time, but not for a shorter period than one year.

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for subscriptions, 1st December, in each year; for standing advertisements etc., 1st June, and 1st December, in each year; for transient advertisements—when ordered out.

ALL LETTERS sent by mail should be addressed "Examiner Printing and Publishing Company," Lock Drawer, 72, POST OFFICE, Charlottetown.

The Examiner.

Ch'town, February 2, 1874.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.

We need make no apology for again recurring to this very important subject. Apart from the interest which the question must at any time excite, it is, just now attracting special attention from the prominent position which it must soon occupy in our local politics. We desire to discuss the question on its own merits. Our object in writing is, not to support nor attack any political party for its own sake, but to endeavor to do what we can towards assisting our readers to take a reasonable and impartial view of the matter.

We have strongly expressed our opinion as to the positive necessity for some change being made in our present system; and we may as well say, at the outset, that we should welcome almost any change as being for the better. Various plans have in other countries been tried to reconcile the two principles of the State being neutral in religion, and yet in no way hurting the rights of conscience. It may be well to bear in mind that questions of this sort are generally settled by a compromise. A majority cannot always continue to force its views upon a determined minority however small; and they, on the other hand, may have to forego some of what they wish for, and be content with something short of what they may consider absolutely the best.

To speak generally, there are two systems of education which endeavor to acknowledge the just rights of religion. First there is the plan which is being tried in England, apparently with a good deal of success. Its main features are—that the Government decides upon a standard of efficiency for schools and masters; and provides a staff of competent Inspectors to see that this standard is reached in any school applying for Government aid. Where schools exist which have the requisite qualifications, and impart efficient instruction, a Government grant is given proportionate to the work done—the amount of work accomplished being ascertained by the Inspectors. The fact of religious instruction being given in a school, does not disqualify it for receiving public money and the distribution is perfectly impartial, no denomination being excluded, and none having any advantage over another. In fact, the State recognizes no denominational differences, treats all its subjects alike, and pays for work wherever it is done. Only where there is no accommodation, or insufficient, does the State step in, and build schools of its own. Whether these shall be wholly secular, or shall in any degree recognize religion, depends upon the School Board of the particular locality—an elective body.

The other plan, which is in force in Ontario and Quebec, divides the people into Catholic and Protestant, and provides a double set of Trustees, permitting a certain number of inhabitants in any district to establish a Catholic or a Protestant school, as the case may be. They elect their own trustees; but in everything concerning the secular education given, are subject to the general school law and regulations. These schools receive a *pro rata* grant from the Treasury; and their supporters are exempt from paying any other school rate, so long as they pay an equivalent rate or subscription to their own schools.

Of these two systems, the former appears to us to have many advantages, both positive and negative. Under it, no denomination has any advantage whatever over another, but all are on equal ground; and the State is saved the invidious task of portioning off its members into two classes. The other plan would, no doubt, give aid to Roman Catholic religious schools, (and so far would be a great improvement on our present law, which gives to none); but none others could obtain any advantage from it. Practically, to illustrate the matter, let us consider the working of both in Charlottetown. Here we have six denominational schools, (we name them in the order in which they have been established):—The Colonial Church Society's (the Bog School), the Convent, St. Joseph's, St. Patrick's, the Wesleyan Academy, and St. Peter's Boys School. Some time ago, an effort was, we believe, made to establish a Presbyterian school; and, no doubt, this will one day be accomplished. Now, under the English law, each of these schools would be recognized just as it is, and receive a fair share of Government assistance. Under the Ontario law, the Roman Catholic schools alone could be organized and receive Government aid. So, under the English law, such Settlements as Rustico, Tignish, Belfast, Murray Harbor, could have, respectively, Roman Catholic or Presbyterian schools. In short, wherever a good school was established it would be aided, and all would be treated alike. Certain provisions would have to be made to protect the rights of those unable to provide schools of their own; but this is easily done by allowing parents, who might desire to do so, to withdraw their children at the hour when religious instruction was being given.

With a population divided as is ours, it is most desirable to avoid anything that may have the least appearance of partiality; and the rights of the smallest minority should be guaranteed as completely, and guarded as jealously as those of the largest majority. And in the discussion of the question, it is well to bear in mind that there are thousands who will gladly welcome a reasonable settlement of the question; but who would be at once aroused to a determined opposition were they to suspect an attempt at dictation from any quarter whatever.

The question as to the degree of control that the Government should exercise over those schools to the support of which it contributes, is an important and delicate one. We are not fond of Government interference; but certainly we think that where Government money is granted, the Government must have such rights of inspection as will assure it that the money is rightly applied. As to the examination of teachers, a license from any recognized board of examiners or training institution, might surely be accepted without insisting upon an examination before a local board; especially as in the right of inspection the Government would have the surest means of testing the efficiency of the teacher, as, after all, the best way to examine a teacher is to examine his scholars. We were much struck with the very practical remarks made on this subject, a short time ago, by the Rev. G. M. Grant at Halifax,—which have been published in the Examiner.

The text books to be used is another important matter. The reasons for which we insist upon the need of religious schools are equally valid for all text books being, where it is possible, such as are sanctioned by the religious authorities of the denomination to which the school belongs. We only say about this at present, that probably it would be better to decide upon each case, according to circumstances, than to lay down an unbending rule which, in many cases, might work very badly.

We have endeavored to discuss this question solely on its own merits, and with that moderation that it specially requires. In the conflict which, it is easy to see, is approaching, we trust it will not be forgotten that there are deep religious convictions on both sides; and that angry and violent words, always unbecoming are most painfully so when this subject is under consideration.

THE RECENT DISMISSALS.

If there were one principle which the Canadian Government hitherto held to it was that, under no circumstances should Government officials be removed as each new Administration was formed. The evil effects resulting from the frequent removal of officials are clearly apparent in the neighboring Republic. In the United States, neither ability nor honesty are indispensable to the aspirant for office. The bitterness of political partizanship overrides every other consideration. Immediately after each Presidential Election, there is a complete "turn out" throughout the whole country—from the Secretary of State to the "help" who sweeps out the village post office And the consequences of this have been so apparent that hitherto the Dominion statesmen preferred to diminish their patronage by allowing efficient officers to remain, even although they had been appointed by their opponents. This course has been continued until the present year; and in every Province except Prince Edward Island.

The last Canadian mail brought down notice of the dismissal of nearly every public officer whom the late Administration had appointed. Those who knew Mr. Laird—who have had some experience of his vindictive hatred towards those who dared to oppose him—knew full well that there was little to hope from his forbearance; but they did think this Island should not have been singled out for the introduction of the most objectionable feature in United States politics. Those who thought so were mistaken. They had little idea of the length Mr. Laird was prepared to go.

At first it was announced that an exception would be made only so far as those were concerned who had been appointed after the introduction of Mr. McKenzie's motion of want of confidence. In the other Provinces even this was not done. But it was understood that Mr. Laird had stipulated for so much as part of the price of his treachery. Events have shown that he is more grasping and vindictive than even those who thought they knew him best gave him credit for. The dismissal of officials was not confined to those who were appointed within the last few weeks of Sir John's Administration. But everyone who is obnoxious to Mr. Laird—irrespective of the date of his appointment, and notwithstanding his efficiency—has been summarily dismissed.

The Hon. Joseph Pope received his appointment as Manager of the Savings Bank and Auditor immediately after last Dominion Day. No one questions his ability or fitness for his office. Nor have his public services been forgotten. When the country was in the hands of an irresponsible Government, and Mr. E. Palmer was moving heaven and earth to crush the former proprietor of this paper—the Hon. E. Whelan—and procure his conviction for perjury—then it was that the Hon. Joseph Pope stood in the forefront of the battle for the people's rights and won for us what we now enjoy. Although we know how Mr. Laird hates him, still it was not thought that the policy of the Dominion Government would be changed and the efficiency of the public service endangered to gratify feelings which Mr. Laird, in his present position, should be heartily ashamed to exhibit. But it is otherwise; and the Dominion Government has dismissed a public office whose only fault is that he is the father of the Hon. J. C. Pope.

Mr. Laird does not stop here. Vain and empty-headed men often become dazed when placed in positions of importance for which they are pre-eminently unqualified; and Mr. Laird is no exception to other vain and empty-headed men. In the pride of his new position, he is determined that every one shall feel the lash of his resentment who can be brought within its reach. The chief clerk in the Savings Bank, Mr. W. C. DesBrisay, is one of the most efficient officers in the public service. He received his appointment in July last. From that time he has worked unremittingly, night and day, to bring up the arrears of the office, necessarily arising from the change in the Department. For seven years previously, Mr. DesBrisay had been Assistant Clerk of the Executive Council; and we have heard members of successive Governments publicly bear willing testimony to his ability and efficiency. We understand that he has never voted at an election, nor intermeddled in politics in any way whatever. But he had friends who did. He was distantly related to a gentleman whom Mr. Laird disliked. That was quite sufficient. Like a bloodhound, Mr. Laird was upon the scent and would be satisfied with nothing less than official extinction, so far as he was able to compass it. No considerations which would weigh with other men, less blinded by resentment than he is, tempted him to waver for one moment in that bitter, undying vindictiveness with which he has so unhappily inaugurated his official career.

We understand that he boasts that, although he all but failed in the removal of Mr. DesBrisay, yet that he remained two days in Ottawa longer than he could well spare to carry out this purpose. It is a grand victory; and the hungry swarm of office-seekers who press around him now, cheer him on; for they all have expectations—from some would-be 'lock-er-up' to the ornate individual who 'ratted' from his party, and publicly praised Mr. Laird in the Market Hall, in the vain hope of the County Judgeship, which, notwithstanding all his unctious, though vapid, eloquence, he is *not* going to receive.

We were led to believe that, under Confederation, there would be less political bitterness; that our statesmen, avoiding the American system of turning every official out of office, would consider the efficiency of the public service rather than the necessities of their political followers. It has been reserved for Mr. Laird to dispel the illusion, and most thoroughly has he done so.

It may be said that we attribute to Mr. Laird more influence in the Cabinet than he possesses. The truth is that the affairs of the "dwellers by the sea"—of us, poor Islanders—are so utterly beneath the dignity of Mr. McKenzie or M. M Dorion and Lettellier De St. Just, that we have been handed over to Mr. Laird to do what he likes with us. He possesses influence, it is true; but it is only so far as the dismissal and appointment of petty officials is concerned, and is wholly disproportionate to his position in the Cabinet. So little do they trouble their heads about us that, we understand, the Department of State will not take the trouble even barely to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Robert Hodgson's despatches.

With regard to the appointments which have been made, we have just this to say: that with the exception of Mr. Robins—who will carefully perform his official duties—they are just what might have been expected. The internal revenue has been placed under the control of Mr. John Andrew McDonald; and when we remember that for ability, integrity and commercial standing, he is head and shoulders over every other man in Mr. Laird's party, we are constrained to admit that they have no better man for the office. The brilliant individunl who lost $25,000 of debentures has not been forgotten. It is said that an office is to be specially created for him on his return to the Island in the spring, as his friends anxiously fear that the duties of any existing office would prove too great a strain upon what they are pleased to call his "mental capacity."

One thing does surprise us, and that is this: that remembering who was Sergeant-at-Arms, when the gold spectacles and suits of clothes were obtained, during the memorable session of 1872, and knowing—as Mr Laird does know—the full particulars of the disgraceful scandal connected with procuring the timber for the new Post Office and Law Courts—remembering all this, it is a matter of no ordinary wonder that no office has yet been found for Mr. Albert H. Yates.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

The Parliament of Great Britain is dissolved. According to late dispatches Premier Gladstone has issued an address to his constituents at Greewich, asking for a re election, and announcing that the Queen has been pleased to dissolve the present Parliament immediately, and to summon a new one to meet on the fifth of March, 1874. In his address Mr. Gladstone gives, as his reason for the measure, that since the defeat of Government upon the Irish Higher Education question, by concurrent efforts of the Leader of the Opposition and the Catholic Prelacy in Ireland, Government has not been possessed of sufficient strength to carry out great Legislative measures. Its experience during the recess of Parliament has not indicated that any improvement in its position was probable, the chief of the Opposition having refused to accept office on defeat of the Government; and the Cabinet feeling that they have not the support which every Ministry ought to enjoy, an appeal to the people is the proper remedy for such a state of things. The advantage of a dissolution at the present time is that the Estimates are so far advanced that Government is able to promise a surplus of £500,000 sterling, with which it intends to abolish the income tax, to relieve local and taxation. Among matters likely to come before Parliament and the readjustment of the education act, improvement of local Government and of land, game, and liquor laws. The address promises large measures of relief from duties on articles entering into general consumption; and expresses a hope for speedy assimilation of the County with the Borough franchise.

The utmost interest is manifested throughout the kingdom over the elections, and much activity is displayed in preparations for them.

STEAM ON WEST RIVER.

A glance at Baker's map of Prince Edward Island, is sufficient to suggest the idea of a steamer for West River. The river is lined on each side by the homesteads of rich farmers; and away to the rear of its source stretch several of the most thriving and most thickly populated settlements in the Island. From Charlottetown, it is in a direct—or only slightly diverging—line with Bonshaw, Strath Gartney, Glenfinglas, Hampton, Victoria, Crapaud, Tryon, Searltown and Central Bedeque. If a suitable steamer were placed upon the river, there can be no doubt but she would carry a large proportion of the surplus produce of these settlements to the commercial centre of this Island, and every farmer on its banks would be glad to avail himself of the facilities she would offer to get his crops to market. Besides, the passenger traffic on the river would (if a steamer were 'put on') be very considerable. In the large numbers who every winter come to and go from Charlottetown, on the West River ice, we have a very fair illustration of the numbers who would come and go in summer by steamer. It is a well established fact that steamboats and railways create a traffic for themselves. Prince Edward Island may—if her people are only 'up to the times'—in a few years be a fashionable watering place; and many persons will, doubtless, be attracted by the beautiful scenery, to take trips up and down West River—if they have only a steamer to carry them quickly, at a moderate fare. The pic-nics, too, and the pleasure parties of the Charlottetonians, would add materially to the revenue of a steamer. With all these incentives to enterprise, the wonder is that a steamer has not long since been placed on the West River. The subject has, we know, engaged the attention of several gentlemen of means; but hitherto the people most interested have not agitated for a steamer; no subsidy has been offered by the Government, and therefore they did not consider the inducements sufficiently great. But, now that the subject is being agitated by the people themselves, and petitions to the Legislature for a subsidy are being circulated, we have little doubt but these gentlemen will seriously take the matter in hand and provide a steamer. A suitable boat would, we think, have to be built specially for the purpose; for it is doubtful if one could be purchased abroad. She would need to be light of draft, so that she could go to Bonshaw Bridge at half tide; and yet she should be sufficiently large to adequately accommodate the public; sufficiently swift and powerful to make her trips quickly and regularly. A flat-bottomed paddle wheel boat, about ninety feet keel, seventeen feet beam, and furnished with a forty horse power engine, would, we have been informed by a practical man who has thought over the matter, be just such a boat as is required. She would, when loaded, draw only about three feet of water; so that she could touch almost anywhere on either side of the river; she would be swifter than any of the small steamers which in summer ply on our harbor and about our coasts, so that she could make her trips quickly and regularly; and she would carry a large amount of freight, and accommodate a large number of passengers. She might touch at Rocky Point, at McEwen's wharf, at McEachern's wharf, at McPhail's wharf, at McPhee's wharf and at Bonshaw Bridge, and as trade increased, there are many other points on both sides of the river, where she might call when going from and returning to Charlottetown.

We throw out these suggestions in the hope that they may lead to a deeper study of the subject than we have been able to give it; and, in the end, to steam communication on West River.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

Sad news—to the civilized world—comes from Africa. It is reported that Dr. Livingstone is dead. His death, it is said, took place in June last. He had been travelling over a partly submerged country. After wading through water for four days, he was taken ill and—died. Such is the brief, sad story. In some quarters its truth is questioned; and many of his friends hope that the great explorer is still alive. Even should their hopes be realized, a short review of the early career of this indefatigable man will not be out of place—will not be useless to our readers, for it is full of practical life-lessons.

The ancestors of Dr. Livingstone were poor, honest Highlanders At the age of ten, Livingstone was sent to work as a "piecer" in a cotton factory near Glasgow. With part of his first week's wages he bought a Latin grammar, and immediately began to learn the Latin language. He pursued the study for several years at a night school; and would often sit up, learning his lessons, till twelve or later, and be at his work in the factory every morning at six. In this way he plodded through Virgil and Horace. He also read all books (except novels) which came in his way. He even carried on his reading amid the roar of the machinery in the mill while at work, placing the book upon his spinning-jenny and catching sentence after sentence as he passed. In this way, young Livingstone acquired much useful knowledge. As he grew older, the desire to be a missionary to the heathen seized upon him; and with this object in view, he set himself to obtain a medical education, so that he might the better be qualified for the enterprize. He accordingly economized his earnings, and saved enough money to support himself during winter, while attending the medical and Greek classes. In summer he returned to his work as a cotton-spinner. Thus the poor lad entirely supported himself throughout his college career. "Looking back now," he says in a sketch of his life, which he afterwards wrote, "at that life of toil, I cannot but feel thankful that it formed such a material part in my early education." At length, he finished his medical curriculum, and was admitted a licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons. It is said that he at first thought of going to China, but the war, at that time raging in the Celestial Empire, prevented him from carrying the idea into practice. Having offered his services to the London Missionary Society, he was, under its auspicies, sent out to Africa. He says the only pang he had in going to Africa, at the charge of the Society, was, "because it was not quite agreeable to one accustomed to work his way, to become, in a manner, dependent upon others." After his arrival at the scene of his missionary labors, he set to work with great vigor. He could not brook the idea of only entering upon the labors of his predecessors. He laid out, in his own mind, a large sphere of work independently of all others; and prepared himself to properly discharge his duties by manual labor in building and other handicraft. He also taught school. While laboring among the Behuanas, he dug canals, built houses, cultivated fields, raised cattle, and taught the natives What he afterwards did in Africa; how he travelled about, making discoveries; how he returned to his native country, and published an account of his missionary travels; how he went back to his work in Africa, and became celebrated for his discoveries and writings; how he was for a long time lost to the civilized world; and how a correspondent of the New York *Herald* found him out;—a review of these would take more space then we can now afford.

THE SPEAKERS' RESIGNATION.

Can a Speaker of the House of Assembly resign his seat during a recess of Parliament? No! Is the answer of two of the ablest Lawyers in this Island. Their reasons are perspicuously set forth in the following "Legal Opinion."—Read it:—

CHARLOTTETOWN,
17th September, 1873.

Hon. T. Heath Haviland,
Colonial Secretary.

Sir:

We beg to acknowledge your letter of yesterday's date, wherein you state that you are instructed by His Honor the Administrator to request our legal opinion as to the power of the Speaker of the House of Assembly, under the Laws of this Island, to resign his seat as member of the said House during the recess, by notification to His Honor, in the manner contained in the document enclosed in your letter.

The notification in question is signed by the Hon. Mr. Perry, and it is to the effect that he tenders to the Administrator the resignation of his seat as member of the House of Assembly for the first Electoral District of Prince County. His signature is authenticated by a Notarial Certificate.

Unless power to resign in the manner set out in Mr. Perry's papers is given by the Island Statute 19th Vic., Cap 21, we take it that no such power exists in the Colony, for it is laid down as a settled principle of Parliamentary Law that a member, after he is duly chosen, cannot relinquish his seat. (May's Parliamentary Prac., p. 596, Cox's Institute, p. 127).

Assuming these to be settled principles of law as to the resignation of members generally, the enquiry necessary to the answering of your letter is: In what manner and to what extent have these principles been altered by our Statute?

By the 76th Sec. of the Island Statute, 19 Vic., Cap 21, it is provided that "any member of the House of Assembly may resign "his seat therein, on giving information of "such resignation to the Speaker by letter "under his hand, the signature to which "shall be duly certified and authenticated "by a Notary Public."

Had the provisions of that section stopped here, it is evident that no mode is provided by it for the resignation of the Speaker. The expression "Members of the House of Assembly," in this section, is a term evidently excluding the Speaker; for the power of resignation is conferred on a designated person, viz: "any Member" of the House, on giving information of such resignation to another and different person, viz: the "Speaker."—Hence, it seems to us that by this Section, the "Member of the House" upon whom the power of resignation is expressly contra-distinguished from the "Speaker," who by the same section is constituted a functionary to receive information of the resignation of members for the purposes of the Act.

The subsequent clause of this section does not at all confer power of resignation upon any other than persons embraced by the term "Members"; in the first part of the section it merely makes provision for giving the information of resignation of a member to the Lieutenant Governor or the Administrator, during the absence from the Island, or on the occasion of the death of the Speaker.

We therefore think that this section of the Act clearly and expressly distinguishes between a "Member" of the House and the "Speaker," and provides for the resignation of the former but not for the latter.

If it be contended that this section should be construed equitably and liberally so as to confer on the Speaker, as a member of the House, the power of resigning, a difficulty arises from no *mode* of resigning being provided—for the provision made for giving information of resignation to any other than the Speaker is, (1,) during the absence of the Speaker from the Island, or (2,) on the occasion of the death of the Speaker, neither of which events occur here.

This 79th Section affects a privilege of the House as to ordering the issuing of Writs to fill up vacancies occurring during recess, and is therefore, we think, not to be extended by construction. Besides, it is a rule of interpretation that "if the words "of the Statute do not reach to an incon- "venience rarely happening, they shall not "be extended to it by an equitable con- "struction," Dwarris 627. The inability of a Speaker to resign during recess, if an inconvenience, is certainly one of rare occurrence, for we are informed the present is the first attempt by any Speaker in this Colony to resign during the recess of Parliament.

We may mention that, in Nova Scotia where the Legislature intended the Speaker should be able to resigning the Parliament of that Colony, after provided for she resignation of "any member of the house," made express provision by the same Act, for the resignation of the Speaker. (N. S. revised Statutes, p. 16.)

We are inclined to the opinion that the power of resignation during recess was, by our Legislature intentionally withheld from the Speaker, and reference to the 78th Section of the same Act, confirms this view.

This Section provides that whenever any vacancy shall happen in the House of Assembly, "it shall be the duty of the Speaker to notify the Lieutenant Governor thereof." This Section further provides that any two members may notify the Lieutenant Governor of such vacancy.

1. In case of the death of the Speaker; or
2. In case of his absence from the Island; or
3. When such vacancy shall occur before a Speaker shall have been chosen by a new House, after a General Election.

But no provision is made for notifying the Lieutenant Governor, *in case the Speaker should have resigned*. Hence if such liberal construction is given to the Statute as will permit the Speaker to resign during the recess, and vacancies thereafter and before the meeting of Parliament, occur in the House, either by the death of members or by their accepting offices, no provision is found in our Statute for notifying the Lieutenant Governor of such vacancies.

It is laid down that for all species of vacancies except those provided for by Act of Parliament, no Writ can issue during the recess, (*Christian's Notes* B. C.) see also May on Parliament, p. 57, The inconveniencies that would result from inability to fill vacancies in the House, before the meeting of Parliament, are obvious and afford a reason why the Legislature should withold the power of resignation from the Speaker, while conferring it on members.

It is a well known maxim of law, that "an argument drawn from inconvenience is forceable in Law," in construing an Act of Parliament.

It is difficult to believe, if the Legislature intended to confer the power of resignation during recess on the Speaker, that no provision would be made to meet the inconvenience, which would otherwise result from a vacancy in the Speakership. A vacancy rendered possible by that very Statute and at a time when Parliament had under consideration the very task of making provisions for notifying the Lieutenant Governor in case the Speaker should be absent or dead.

From the best consideration we have been able to give this subject, since receipt of your letter, we have arrived at the conclusion that the resignation of the Speaker during recess of Parliament, in the manner set out in Mr. Perry's notification, is not authorized by our Island Statute.

We have the honor to be,
Your Obedient Servants,
Signed, M. McLeod,
Edward J. Hodgson.

Charlottetown,
September, 17th, 1873.

Hon. T. Heath Haviland,
Colonial Secretary.

Sir.—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of to-day's date, requesting my legal opinion, as to the power of the Speaker of the House of Assembly of this Island, to resign his seat as a member of that body, during the recess of Parliament, by notification to the Administrator of the Government, in the manner adopted by Hon. Mr. Perry.

I have perused the opinion of Messrs. McLeod and Hodgson, to whom you referred the matter during my absence from town, and I concur therein.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
W. W. Sullivan,
Solicitor General.

We may be permitted to explain, that Messrs. McLeod and Hodgson were asked to give their opinion on the point, because Mr. Brecken was not Attorney General at the time it was required, and Mr. Sullivan was out of town. We understand that the question was referred to Mr. Brecken as a Queen's Counsel; but he declined to advise because the validity of his own resignation, as a member of the House of Assembly, depended up Mr. Perry's inability to resign his seat; for Mr. Brecken notified his resignation to Mr. Perry, as Speaker, after the latter had favored the Administrator with his "bogus resignation."

MR. YOUNG'S LECTURE.

Mr. John Young, Mining Engineer, delivered a lecture in the Athenæum, Charlottetown, on Tuesday evening last—subject, "The Mineral Resources of Prince Edward Island." The chair was filled by Robert May, Esq., who made a few introductory remarks concerning the great importance of the subject.

The lecturer opened his address by saying that it was his first appearance in public, and he trusted the audience would excuse any consequent imperfections on his part. His attention having been directed to P. E. Island by a gentleman in Canada. He visited it about three months ago; and having read Professor Dawson's report, proceeded to Mr. George Tweedy's estate at Gallas Point. He did not find the coal indications mentioned in the report; but he found indications of iron, specimens of which he had laid before the Government. According to Mr. Young, they were of extraordinary richness,—containing from fifty to eighty per cent of iron. Mr. Young disclaimed all pretensions to being a geologist. He depended upon the surface indications with which experience had him familiar. He gave several instances, where scientific geologists had in various parts of the world, been contradicted and proved wrong by practical miners. He also drew attention to localities, where, according to his views, coal was to be found, viz., along the south coast between Wood Islands and Cape Bear, on the Murray River, and about New London, where he was confident coal could be found at a depth not exceeding two hundred or three hundred feet. He also stated that copper and limestone, of excellent quality, particularly the latter, were to be found in the same tract of country; and strongly urged the necessity of the people of this Island making an effort to develope the resources of the country. He maintained his conviction that the greater part of the Island was a vast mineral deposit. Well knowing that deference to Dr. Dawson's opinions, and the opposition which everything new was sure to elicit, would raise considerable doubt as to his statements, he declared himself ready, with very little help, to produce, within three months, such specimens of iron, coal, and limestone as must convince the most sceptical.

After the lecturer had concluded, some discussion arose between him and one or two students of geology This led to nothing definite. A resolution was moved by Mr. Fletcher, to the effect that it was 'the duty of the Government to vote a sum (say a few hundred dollars) to the lecturer to aid him in proving his assertions.' This resolution was carried without a dissenting voice. Mr. McKinnon then moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was endorsed by the unanimous voice of the meeting.

POLITICAL.

The nomination of Candidates to represent this Island in the Dominion Parliament, took place on Thursday last as follows:—

QUEEN'S COUNTY:

David Laird,	Government,
Peter Sinclair,	"

KING'S COUNTY:

Daniel Davies,	Government,
Dr. McIntyre,	"
A. C. McDonald,	Opposition,

PRINCE COUNTY:

James Yeo,	Government,
S. F. Perry,	"
John Ramsay,	Opposition,
Finlay McNeill,	Independent.

The Hon. J. C. Pope has issued the following card:—

To the Electors of Prince County.

Gentlemen:

I have resolved not to offer myself at the coming Election, as a candidate for a seat in the Commons of Canada. I have learned, from what I consider a trustworthy source, that His Lordship, the Catholic Bishop of this Island, has represented to prominent members of his church, that Mr. McKenzie, the Leader of the Government of the Dominion has recently informed him that the non-settlement of the School Question in this Island, is altogether attributable to the delegates who, in May last, negotiated at Ottawa, the terms upon which this Island would enter the Dominion; and also that His Lordship had informed them that he had received from Mr. McKenzie an assurance that his Government will promptly deal with this most important question.

You are aware that a Pastoral has been read in the Catholic Churches throughout this Island, authoritatively dictating to all Catholics, the course which, at the present time, the Church requires them to pursue.

I have reason to believe that His Lordship has given his support to Messrs. Laird and Sinclair, for Queen's County; to Messrs. James Yeo and Perry, for Prince County; to Messrs. Davies and McIntyre, for King's County; all in the interest of the Government of McKenzie.

An early and satisfactory settlement of the School Question I most earnestly desire; and I am happy to think that His Lordship has confidence in the disposition and ability of Mr. Laird and his colleagues to solve this most difficult problem of our time, alike to the satisfaction of his Lordship and a majority of the people of this Island.

At the last General Election I was returned by a large majority. I then received the support of hundreds of Catholic Electors, who, I believe, voted for me in direct opposition to the expressed wishes of His Lordship the Bishop,—I have no reason to suppose that such Catholic Electors have not as much confidence in me now, as they had then; but I should be sorry to ask any of them to exercise, in my favor, their political right as electors, when, by so doing, they would subject themselves to Episcopal censure.

In retiring for the present from active political life, I beg to tender to you the expression of my gratitude for the warm support which, on so many occasions, I have received from you.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
JAMES C. POPE.

Ravenwood, 27th Jan., 1874.

Mr. Dorion sees danger at hand. He is about to seek shelter from the rising storm in the quiet haven of the Chief Justiceship, left vacant by the retirement of Chief Justice Duval. Mr. Dorion has been a consistent Rouge all his days. It must be an immense surprise to himself and his friends to find himself in a position to vault in the highest legal office in Quebec He is a good lawyer, and we trust he will make a good judge. It is significant that he should so quickly retire from the high post he attained in the Cabinet. Sir John might have retired many years ago to a lucrative judicial position; but he had work to do for his country which he could do only in Parliament. The country will not forget Sir John's self-sacrifice while admiring Mr. Dorion's prudence.—*Hx. Colonist.*

A telegraph despatch from St. John's announces that the Bennet Administration in Newfoundland has resigned, and that Carter has been called to form a Government. Some hope may be entertained that this change of Government will likely cause a revulsion of feeling or a change of policy regarding Confederation; but we do not think so. The question of Confederation was, by consent of both sides, sunk during the last election, and the contest was largely local in its issues. The new Government will be no more likely to negotiate Confederation for some time than the old Government, and it is unlikely that the public is prepared for it.

About seventy thousand tons of grain have been stored by the Government in Bengal in order to avert the threatened famine. Even though the famine is checked, there will be many districts of India in much distress on account of the high prices of grain.

There are seventy bald-headed men in Congress.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

PARK'S COTTON WARP!
WHITE, BLUE, RED, ORANGE AND GREEN.
No's 5's to 10's.

Warranted to be FULL LENGTH and weight, STRONGER AND BETTER in every respect than any other English or American warp.

Beware of Imitations. None is genuine without our name on the labels. For sale by all dealers.

Wm. PARKS & SON,
New Brunswick Cotton Mills, St John N. B.

"ANCHOR LINE."

FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, AND LONDON.

Steamers of the Line are appointed to Sail as follows:
From **Glasgow, 14th and 28th March.**
" **Liverpool, 18th March, 1st April.**
" **London, 28th March, for**
Halifax, N. S. and St. John, N. B.

Carrying GOODS at THROUGH RATES to Charlottetown and Summerside, P. E. I., at the usual rates.

Merchants wishing to avail themselves of this desirable means of conveyance for Spring Importations should instruct their Agents to engage Freight room in good season, so as to ensure the early delivery of Goods here.

For further information, apply, in GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, and LONDON, to HENDERSON BROTHERS, or here to
FENTON T. NEWBERY, Agent.
Ch'town, Jan. 26, 1874.—3w.

'MAID OF THE MIST.'

I am instructed by the owners to sell by AUCTION, on MONDAY, February 2nd 1874, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Ferry Wharf, Charlottetown, the Steamer "MAID OF THE MIST," as she now lies near the said Ferry Wharf.

This steamer is built of Canada Oak, is in perfect working order, and has a first-class Dominion Certificate.

She will be sold without reserve, on liberal terms with all her equipments namely: BOAT BUCKETS, LIFE PRESERVERS, BEDS, BEDDING, &c., ready for immediate service.

Also, 1 small Boiler, fit for an Eight Horse-Power Engine.

A. McNEILL, Auctioneer.
Jan. 19, 1874, till sale.

Charlottetown, 8th January, 1874.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the "Charlottetown Cemetary Company" will be held in the Athenæum, at Charlottetown, on TUESDAY, the 3rd day of February next, at the hour of 7 o'clock, P. M., for the election of Directors, and for the transaction of general business.

By order, John LePage, *Secretary.*
Charlottetown, Jan. 19, 1873.—10t.

FROM LONDON

TO CHARLOTTETOWN,
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
DIRECT
THE WELL KNOWN CLIPPER BARQUE
"LELIA ALICE."

Coppered and Classed A.1. in English Lloyd's, 308 tons Register,
Daniel Carew, Commander.
will sail from London, on or about the
5th April, 1874.

This vessel will carry through Freight to
PICTOU & SUMMERSIDE,
and has good accommodation for passengers.

The above vessel has proved herself to be the fastest vessel in the trade, and has always delivered her cargoes in good order.

Parties wishing to have their goods delivered here early in the season, will do well to forward their Orders in time, so as not to detain the vessel.

For Freight or passage apply in London to Messrs. John Pitcairn & Sons, 69 Cornhill; and in Liverpool to Messrs. Pitcairn Brothers, Brockley Buildings, 51 South John Street, or here to the owners,
PEAKE BROS. & Co.
Charlottetown, Jan. 19, 1874.—2m

PUBLIC NOTICE.

Townships 58, 59, 60, 62, 63 & 64.

The Commissioner of Public Lands will attend at the following places, on the days hereinafter named, to receive payments from Tenants, Purchasers and occupiers of Government Lands, on the above named Townships, viz:

On Wednesday, the 14th January, inst., at Mr. John Kennedy's, Wood Islands Road.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the 15th, 16th and 17th inst., till noon, at Cartney McClure's, Esq., Murray Harbor Mills

On Monday and Tuesday, the 19th and 20th inst., at P. Gaul's, Montague Bridge.

All persons in arrears on account of the Government Lands, not settled up or otherwise arranged for before the end of the present month, will be proceeded against without further notice.

EMANUEL McEACHEN,
Commissioner.
Crown Land Office,
7th January, 1874. 2in

In consequence of the present state of the Roads, I am obliged to postpone meeting the Tenants as above, until the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth, and tenth days of February next. I will then meet them at the above places.

EMANUEL McEACHEN,
Commissioner.
Jan 19, 1874. till 1st of Feb.

FOR SALE!

Valuable Freehold Property, at Alberton.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Friday the Twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon at the Sheriff's office, in Summerside, under and by virtue of a power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the second day of January in the year of our Lord on thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, and made between Willian Reid Sheen of the one part, and Samuel Haslam of the other part, all that tract piece and parcel of land situate in Alberton, in Prince County, in Prince Edward Island, bounded as follows that is to say: commencing at a stake in the south-west corner of land owned by Edward Wallace; thence running south sixty-five feet; thence east two chains and fifty-eight links; thence north sixty-six feet; thence west to point of commencement, containing one quarter of an acre a little more or less, together with all the buildings situated thereon.

SAMUEL HASLAM.
By WILLIAM HASLAM, his Att'y.
Jan. 7th 1874 sj till sale

AUCTION.

To be SOLD by Public Auction, on FRIDAY, the Twenty-seventh day of February next, 1874, at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, at the Court House, in Georgetown, under and by virtue of a power of sale, contained in an indenture of mortgage, bearing date the Ninth day of June in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and made between Angus McDonald, of Georgetown, in King's County, in Prince Edward Island, Master Mariner, and Janet McDonald, his wife, of the one part, and James Bourk of Georgetown, aforesaid, Merchant, of the other part, ALL the Freehold estate and interest of the said Angus McDonald, in and to all that tract, piece, or parcel of land, being one-fourth (¼) part of Town Lot Number nine, (9) second range, letter F, in Georgetown, aforesaid, described as follows: commencing at the north-east corner of said Town Lot, Number nine, (9) second range, letter F, running south along Kent Street thirty [30] feet, thence west eighty-four [84] feet, or until it meets the eastern boundary of Lot Number ten [10], thence north to Gordon Street, thence east along the south side of Gordon Street to the place of commencement, together with the buildings thereon.

For terms and particulars of conditions of sale apply to Hon. W. W. Sullivan, Charlottetown, or to
JAMES BOURK.
Georgetown, Jan. 21st, 1874. [Jan 26 1m]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Public Meeting.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the inhabitants of Lot 50, will be held at Vernon River Bridge, on Wednesday, the 11th of February next, at the hour of 2 o'clock, in the afternoon for the purpose of discussing the Land Question, as it effects the Tenants on said Lot. The local wants of the District will also be discussed

Hon. Mr. Laird, as well as the Local Representatives of the District, are respectfully invited to attend.

By order of the Committee,
EDWARD GRANT,
NORMAN McLEOD,
THOMAS FURNESS.
Lot 50, Feb. 2, 1874.—1 in.

Sale of Public Lands.

The Commissioner of Public Lands will, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th FEBRUARY next, at the hour of 11 o'clock, in the forenoon, set up and sell at Public Auction on the spot, all the remaining unsold Town Lots at Cascumpec Point, Township No. 5, being between 60 and 70 in number, and containing from one to three acres each, together with Savage Island, in Cascumpec Bay.

Conditions of Sale—For the Lots on Cascumpec Point, a deposit of 20 per cent. and balance in three equal annual instalments, with five per cent. interest; and for Savage Island, a deposit of 20 per cent. and the balance in ten equal instalments, with five per cent. interest.

Also, at the same time and place, will be sold the opening out of the streets of the intended village of Cascumpec Point, as will be pointed out and described by the said Commissioner at the time of sale.

EMANUEL McEACHEN.
Crown Land Office,
Ch'town, Feb 2, 1874. till feb 18

To the Electors of King's County.

Gentlemen:—

The Dominion Parliament having been dissolved, and writs issued for a General Election, you are again called upon to elect Members to represent you in the House of Commons at Ottawa.

I am again a candidate for your suffrages, and hope you will honor me with a renewal of your confidence.

I also take this opportunity to thank you for the generous support you gave me at the last Election, and assure you that, if elected as one of your representatives, I will endeavor, to the best of my humble ability, to assist in promoting such legislation as may be beneficial to my native country.

I am gentlemen,
Yours respectfully,
A. C. McDONALD.
Montague, Jan. 15, 1874.—a p h l in

To Whom it May Concern.

I hereby certify that Mr. George Foster has satisfied the amount due me on the Bill of Sale given by him in my favor, during the month of February, 1873.

ARTEMAS LORD.
Ch'town, Jan. 24, 1874. [jan26]

Charlottetown Woollen Factory Co

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the above Company, will be held in the Athenæum, on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock, p. m., for the election of Directors and the transaction of other business.

All Shareholders should either be present or be represented by proxy, as the business of the Company is about being brought to a close.

ALBERT SIMPSON.
Sec'y. & Trea.
Ch'town, Jan. 26. 3in

NOTICE.

All PERSONS indebted to the Examiner, either for Subscriptions or Advertisments, are requested to make IMMEDIATE PAYMENT to the undersigned, who alone is authorized to receive and grant receipts for the same. All sums due the Examiner previous to the 1st June, 1873, must be paid on or before the 15th FEBRUARY, next, otherwise legal proceedings will be taken for their collection.

Remittances by mail promptly acknowledged.

By order,
W. L. COTTON,
Jan. 19th, 1874. Manager

100 AGENTS WANTED—Male and Female, for the "Transmission of Life," and the "Physical Life of Woman," both by Dr. Napheys. Agent's profits, $150 to $250 a month. Testimonials from most eminent Divines, Physicians and Editors in America. Immense sales everywhere.

Send for Terms and Circulars to C. W. MITCHELL, St. John, N. B
Jan. 12, 1873.—5i

MANILLA.

SPRING ORDERS 1874.

We again bring to the notice of importers, the manufactures of the

Canada Cordage Company

as being the Cheapest and Best that can be imported. Large orders were filled by us last season which have given purchasers entire satisfaction, and we now solicit orders for Spring, 1874, for all sizes Manilla, 6 thread to ship's hawsers. Also, tarred hemp, ratline, and all other kinds of Cordage.

A small lot of each size always in Stock.

CARVELL BROS., Agents.
Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1874. 4in

FIRE AND MARINE
INSURANCE.

IMPERIAL
Fire Insurance Company
OF LONDON.
Subscribed and Invested Capital £1,965,000 Sterling.

MONTREAL
Marine Assurance Company.
Capital and Cash Assets over $1,000,000

The above OFFICES being of UNDOUBTED STANDING, guarantee perfect security and prompt payment of losses.

FENTON T. NEWBERY,
Agent for Prince Edward Island
Ch'town, Jan. 20, 1873. 1y

LIVERPOOL TO GEORGETOWN,

DIRECT.—The Brigt. *IDALIA*, Graham, Master, will sail from Brunswick Dock Liverpool, on or about 28th March, for this port.

For Freight or Passage apply to David Cameron, Sons & Co., or to
D. Gordon.
Georgetown, Jan. 19, 1874.—sr

RAISINS.

200 BOXES, fresh and good,
AT
"ITALIAN WAREHOUSE"
Dec. 29, 1873.—1m

Famous Brands!

IN Old Newfoundland and other ports; Superior Brown, Golden and Pale Sherries; Maderia (southside); Burgundy; Champagnes; Clarets; Brandies; Whiskeys, &c.

The purest and best ever imported.

AT
"ITALIAN WAREHOUSE."
Dec. 29, 1873.—1m

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