

THE DAILY EXAMINER.
JANUARY 21, 1889.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.
The Truth About It.

Agriculture in the Schools.

A WAST which dwelt upon at the convention of farmers held at Freetown, was the want of agricultural education. Several of the speakers strongly expressed the opinion that the elements of the science of agriculture ought to be taught in the public schools of this agricultural Province. It was held that the teaching afforded at the public expense should tend to interest and enlighten the rising generation concerning the soil and products of the farm rather than to send the most promising of our young men into the professions. There is, it must be admitted, a great deal of force in this contention. Our schools have done good work in preparing intelligent and enterprising young men to act well their parts in the world outside; they have not done so well in preparing our youths for the important work to be done at home. Farmers are now awake to this fact. They see that they are as men laboring in the dark when they know nothing of the constituents of the soil they till or the manures they apply, of the elements which enter into the crops they produce or the way to improve the breeding and condition of their herds and flocks; and they will ere long demand a change in the course of studies at our schools which will enable their sons to acquire the information they need.

Educational Notes.

Speaking of the examination controversy, the London Schoolmaster well says:

"Examinations in themselves are not only not injurious, but are absolutely necessary. A good teacher will not proceed beyond a certain point until he has ascertained, by judicious tests, that his scholars have mastered the work thus far. Frequent examinations are a necessary part of school work."

With this the strongest opponent of the competitive system will, if at least he is a practical teacher, heartily concur. The gist of the matter could hardly, in our opinion, be better put than by the Schoolmaster in the following sentences:

"The real point is whether the education of the child shall be the prime object of the teacher, and examinations one of the means adopted to give the child as good an education as he is capable of receiving; or whether success at an examination shall be the one end aimed at, and the true education of the child be sacrificed to secure that end."

"The beginning is half the whole," is a maxim as old as Herod. "Oppose the beginnings of evil," is another ancient condensation of the wisdom of many, which is approved by the experience of all ages. The great practical value of these and similar maxims arises out of the fact that "the child is the habit formed, but that not only the habits formed, but the notions and principles accepted in childhood, are pretty sure to be perpetuated in after life. The untruthful boy may, by virtue of some great change, become a truthful man, the tricky boy an honorable man, the idle boy an industrious man, and so forth, but the chances are very heavily against such transformations. Hence the words of the ancient philosopher, who, when asked by a friend what he should teach his boys, replied, "Teach them those things you would have them practice when they become men," are perennially wise.

In the course of his reply to the address of the School Board at Kingston, Principal Grant said:

"I may say that my wider experience has convinced me that educational centralization and rigidity are bad. The best feature in our system is the comparatively important places held by the school district and local board. I would advocate the gradual increase of the power of local boards, both of common and high schools. In order that changes in this direction may be effected with safety, people generally must take an active interest in the matter. And why should they not? Can anything else be to them of such interest as the education of their own children? Electing the fittest men as trustees, they should gratefully acknowledge their services when they discharge faithfully the duties of their high office. They should honor the teachers, make their tenure of office secure, pay them liberally and promote them fairly. Above all, they should remember that they cannot discharge themselves of all responsibility for their children's education by throwing it upon the teachers. The home ought to be the best school. Whenever this is rightly understood, the teachers' work will be effective and comparatively easy."

The main principle of the famous teacher of Wappingham School, (Rev. Edward Thring) was: "That every boy is good for something, and that education means to help him to find out what is good for him, and to make the very best of him, without making the capacity of one boy the standard of another. The principle sounds almost too obvious for statement. And yet, as the London Globe remarks—to put it into consistent practice would be to sweep away the very last relic of cram, to change test by examination out of all recognition, and to transform a public school from a place for polishing exceptionally clever boys into one for making the best of every boy individually, whatever might be the quantity or the quality of his brains."

Sir John Lubbock writes:

"Your great object should be to make yourselves more worthy and others more happy. How many might we not add to the brightness and happiness of our lives if we would only take a little more trouble; and yet, while people will often strive for mere money, they really do not seem as if they cared to be happy."

As Wordsworth says:

"The world is too much with us; late and soon, getting and spending we lay waste our powers."

Yes; but what world? The world is very much what we ourselves make it for ourselves. A higher authority than Wordsworth has prayed for us, not that we should be taken out of the world, but that we should be preserved from the evil. Art, and science, and literature, with religion, help to raise man, tend not to take us out of the world, but to preserve us from the evil."

Printed and sold for sale at Dees & Goff's.

Sir,—I understand my opponents are circulating that I was the means of having Mr. Duncan McRae appointed Sanitary Officer at a cost of \$350 a year to the taxpayers.

The following resolution speaks for itself: Moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Byrne that Capt. Duncan McRae be appointed Sanitary Officer for this city.

Moved as an amendment by Councillor Crabbie and seconded by Councillor McLearn, that Robert Vanderstine be appointed Sanitary Officer to perform the duties of said office and Janitor of Market Hall at a salary of three hundred and fifty dollars. Amendment lost on division.

Yeas—Crabbie, McLean, Small, Horne—4. Nays—Morris, Byrne, McRae, Davison, Douce, McCarron—6.

Kindly insert the above and oblige, Yours truly, S. W. CRABBE.

Ch'town, Jan. 21, 1889.

Ward Four.

Sir,—An "Elector of Ward 4" has asked, through your columns, why I oppose Mr. Davison in the pending civic election? I desire to answer this question fully, and, I hope, satisfactorily. The blame of my not having done so ere now rests with Mr. Davison and his friends, who, instead of shirking public meetings, should have called at least one, as usual, for the purpose of discussing civic politics.

My principal reason for opposing Mr. Davison, "who is so pronounced" respecting the enforcement of the Scott Act, is because I have been urged to do so by electors who are just as strongly in favor of the Act as is Mr. Davison, but who complain bitterly of his representation of Ward Four in other matters. Believing that I will do as much—knowing I cannot do less—I will have, I presume, full confidence in my willingness to serve them.

I may also refer particularly to other reasons I have for becoming a candidate, which I consider fully justify such action. A City Councillor who is largely responsible for the following losses to the city in one year, as shown by the City Accounts and Minutes of Council, does not, I think, deserve to be re-elected without opposition:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Items include: 1st.—The Reid case, caused by the neglect of the Councillors for Ward 4 in not having a cellar fenced in. Damages, \$600; costs, probably \$400 more; in all, at least, \$1,000 00. 2nd.—Voting for a Prosecutor to perform work which should be done, as contended by the late Rev. W. R. Fane, by the Police Department; outlay, 761 00. 3rd.—Voting for an extra official as Sanitary Officer, at a salary of, 350 00. 4th.—Voting for indemnity to ex-Marshall Flynn, 125 00. 5th.—Voting for the letting of the Market Tolls, causing a yearly loss of, 671 92. 6th.—Voting for an Assistant City Surveyor, 236 00. Total: \$3,143 92.

The above sum would be sufficient to lay platforms over the whole of Ward Four where required. It is three times the amount expended last year in laying platforms over the whole city. Wherever reckless expenditure was proposed, it has been noticed that Ward Four had no Councillor to vote or speak against it. Electors, if you do not wish this course to be continued, vote for me. I am not the nominee of any society or party in particular, and if elected I shall oppose such a reckless policy. W. N. ROGGS.

Jan. 21, 1889.

The Herring of the Gulf.

Sir,—You were kind enough to give me some space for the mackerel, and now I must ask you to repeat the dose in the same kind of kindness for herring.

The herring of our Gulf—yes, our Gulf, for we own all the land around it and all the land in it, and although it is not free from ice for nearly half the year, it is the largest, the best stocked, and the most valuable aquarium that has ever been on this planet. Its herring, as found in different localities, are of different kinds, and caught at different seasons of the year.

The great herring factory is supposed to be mostly vegetable feeders, and very prolific. They become full-sized within their first year. Their favorite spawning grounds appear to be even bottom, short sawweed and shoal water with shelter. Their spawn in a healthy state, sticks to whatever it touches, and remains there some days before it comes to life, when it disappears.

The greatest herring hatchery in the world is Pleasant Bay, in the Magdalen Islands. It is in form almost like a horse-shoe, and about nine miles each way. It has been most severely fished in the spawning season, now, I may say, for the greater part of the present century, and going on yet. But they are nothing at all in numbers now, to what they have been, and no wonder. Up to twenty or twenty-five years ago no one could believe in such enormous quantities of live herring being in one place at one time, unless by seeing them. The Yankee captain's story, as told 31 years ago, with several oaths, that they were so plenty that spring that they had actually meshed in his chain cable, not being able to get out of each other's way; and that his boat grounded one day, the boys got up to shove her off, and it proved to be herring in about six feet of water, instead of sand. I merely give this for what it is worth, because fish stories are always allowed considerable latitude.

But for facts. In Pleasant Bay, '62, one fine day near the middle of a fine May, when a host of fishermen, sea-gulls and seals had congregated to slay, or salt, or eat the herrin, which, all unconscious of such enemies being near, began to spawn and sport in their grandmother's great old nursery, when a young man in a boat, anxious to see fish, felt his boat tremble, put out an oar, which would not go down easily, unless plumb; and that man, who is alive yet, could never answer himself the question, which occupied most space under his boat at that time, herring or water, about seven feet deep?

But these heaving compact bodies of herring are only occasionally seen, even in the Magdalens, and then in a comparative-

ly small compass; although there have often been seven hundred and a thousand bbls. taken out of a seine, and not a long one either, in two and two and one-half fathoms of water.

In '72, there entered at the Custom House there, 464 schooners for herring, average fare, say 400 bbls. expected, but give them only 200 each, a very low catch, indeed; even then we have 32,800 bbls. caught that season alone.

The average number of vessels yearly for years used to be about 80, say 500 barrels each, which is equal to 40,000 barrels of herring each season. By these figures it may be easily conjectured what an enormous quantity of herring has been brought from these Islands, all killed in spawning time. Of late years, several vessels have gone further north for herring; some few to Anticosti, and more to the north shore on the Labrador side, where herring congregate to spawn. But there are none of these places which can compare with what the Magdalens were formerly.

The shore catch in the Magdalens never amounted to much, but the bait for cod taken away by fishing vessels consumed hundreds of barrels yearly.

The next great herring hatchery of the Gulf is some of the bays on the west coast of Newfoundland, such as George's, Cow, and Port a Port Bays, and some others of minor importance, in all of which herrings are far better and much larger herring than any others to be found in the Gulf. George's Bay is 40 miles wide at the mouth, 40 miles long and narrow at the bottom. One might almost fancy it was made to gather herring there, and then spill them through a deep channel into what is called Flat Bay, in order to spawn there. It is 11 miles long, 1 1/2 and 2 miles wide, with shallow water, good bottom and perfect shelter.

They don't work like their smaller relatives in the Magdalens; but spawn on a fine day in spots here and there, making the water a milky appearance whenever at work, and then fishermen, boats and nets move and set in these spots, and presto before the second net is set the first one is sunk with fish. Some time during the second day the herring are gone, nets, etc., are removed, and the bottom is paved with dead fish. What will some of our anti-seine men say to this? Shore catch here, say 4,000 bbls., schooner catch, 14,000 bbls. for season—spawning season at three—and the rest of this coast, say 13,000 bbls. This would be 27 or 30 years ago, and they are now almost extinct. There is no other fish, excepting cod, that are so generally scattered in the gulf as herring. They move shoreward to spawn as soon as the ice is gone along all its shores, and the further east the better herring. Up around Bay Verte, small and poor, around this island much better, the Magdalens better still, west of Newfoundland large and fat. The latter are identical with, and the parent of, so to speak, the big fat Labrador, Bonne Bay and Bay of Islands herring, only caught in different places and at different times of the season. These are the finest herring ever cooked. But where are they now? Almost fished out. There have been many windy and inkly advocates favoring protection for the lobster, oyster, trout, and even the smelt, but what are they all, for human food, compared with the herring of the Gulf? If it were possible to take better care of their spawning beds, else our children's children will blame us, and not without reason, for not saving more fish for them. This is but a short and rather clumsy sketch of our Gulf herring, but it may help to awaken a train of thought tending towards the preservation of such an important supply of human food.

ANDREW LESLIE. Souris East, Jan. 19, 1889.

Sir,—The failure of the fire bell to give a general alarm on the outbreak of a fire is beyond a doubt. Although the writer lives within two blocks of the new engine house, and enjoys unimpaired hearing, he heard not "a tinkle" of the bell on Saturday morning, and would have known nothing of the alarm but for the hurried footsteps of passers-by.

This failure of so important a factor in our fire department is, at this juncture, particularly unfortunate, as we are clamoring for lower fire insurance rates on account of the introduction of our water-works. What is the good of our water-supply if the firemen fail to hear the call to duty?

I trust our civic rulers will lose no time in supplying an efficient electric fire alarm. This, with a complete water supply system, cannot fail to command a liberal reduction in the fire premium rates of this town.

Yours, CITIZEN.

OTTAWA, JAN. 20.

From a corrected account of a recent interview between labor representatives and Sir John Macdonald, it seems that the premier made no declaration regarding manhood suffrage one way or the other; but simply asked the deputation, smilingly, how they would like woman suffrage. The proposed amendments to the Act will not extend the franchise.

THE CONTRACT AWARDED.

OTTAWA, JAN. 20.

Ahearn & Soper, electricians, of this city, have received the contract for the construction of a line connecting the Mackay-Bennett cable at Cassia, with the Canadian Pacific system at St. John. The connection will be completed next August.

STEEL RAIL TRUST.

LONDON, JAN. 20.

It is stated that all English steel makers have agreed to form a trust and that the French, German and Belgium makers have consented to join the ring. It is expected the movement, if successful, will cause an advance in prices of 20 to 25 per cent.

THE BILL ALLOWED.

OTTAWA, JAN. 20.

It is understood that the Jesuits' Estates Bill of Quebec has been allowed by the Federal Government, it being considered a measure wholly within the powers of the Local Legislature.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

TORONTO, JAN. 21.—10 a. m.

Strong winds and gales from east and south; increasing cloudiness; milder, with snow, turning to rain.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

AFFAIRS IN SAMOA.

A PITCHED BATTLE.

Several Persons Killed.

MANY PRISONERS TAKEN.

SAN FRANCISCO, JAN. 20. The steamer Alameda arrived on Saturday from Apia, Samoa. A correspondent writing from Apia, Samoa, Jan. 5, says: "A most serious state of affairs exists in Samoa. On the night of December 18, sailors from the German men-of-war Adler, Olsa and Aber attacked Mataafa's soldiers under the direction of the German consul and Capt. Friz. The senior German naval officer in port. Some twenty-two German soldiers were killed and thirty-two wounded. Since then the German warships burned American houses and flags, tore down United States flags, seized American citizens in the neutral waters of Apia harbor, and took them prisoners on board the German men-of-war. A boat's crew from a German vessel, in command of an officer, shot at the captain and lieutenant of an English man-of-war."

WASHINGTON, JAN. 20. A copy of the above despatch from San Francisco was shown Secretary Bayard. He said the disturbance was undoubtedly the same as was briefly described by Consul Blacklock in a cable message of the 9th inst. The Consul's account was not so sensational as the one just received, but contained later information, as it told that the Americans seized had been released immediately afterward. The Department is in constant communication with Samoa. The latest information is to the effect that affairs are quiet, and that no serious trouble has occurred since the 6th inst.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., JAN. 20. At 4 p. m. the U. S. man-of-war Vandalia left Mare Island navy yard bound for the Samoan Islands.

Two Big Steamers.

RELFEST, IRELAND, JAN. 20. The new White Star steamer Teutonic was launched this morning from Queen's Island yard. The companion ship, Majestic, of the same style and size, is still on the stocks, but will be launched and completed, it is expected, in time for the coming summer. The length of these ships is 582 feet, which make them the longest vessels afloat; the breadth 57 feet 6 inches, depth 50 feet 4 inches, with a gross tonnage of nearly 10,000 tons. Additional rigidity and strength greatly increase the security of the ships in the event of collision. These vessels are intended to carry 300 saloon passengers, who will all dine at one time. There will also be accommodation for 150 second cabin passengers and about 750 steerage.

Halifax News.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 20. The Nova Scotia Steel Works have applications for \$80,000 worth of stock, for the \$25,000 offered to the public.

The gold leads in Ravdon district have been traced over the Arloise Hill to Ellershouse, and prospectors are taking up a large amount of areas on the Ellershouse estate.

The extraordinary spell of mild weather continued until last night, when there was the first snow of the season. To-day the thermometer was down to five degrees below zero.

The Foresters and the Church.

MONTREAL, JAN. 20. Sometime in December A. W. Blokin, Grand Rager of the Illinois Catholic Order of Foresters, arrived here, and has since been organizing lodges in the city. Quite a sensation was caused to-day when Father Dowd, of St. Patrick's Church, acting upon orders from the administrator of the diocese, absolutely forbid the faithful joining the organization.

The Franchise.

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B. S. DAVIES & CO.

PER CENT. 25 PER CENT.

Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefers & all Ready-made Clothing.

Our prices, without the benefit of discount, are guaranteed to be about 33 per cent. below competitors.

This 25 per cent. is given to clear out the Goods in this department, as we intend to give our whole attention to Custom Tailoring and Men's Furnishings.

Mr. Keith is at the head of our Tailoring Department, and we guarantee perfect satisfaction.

B. S. DAVIES & CO., CAMERON BLOCK.

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Y. M. C. A. PROGRAMME

FIRST GRAND CONCERT

Tuesday Evening, 22nd Inst.

Mr. Earle, Director, Conductor and Accompanist.

Inst.—St. Peter's Boys' Band. Solo and Chorus—"From Anna Bolena." Inst. Piano Quartette—"Grand Galop de Concert." The Misses Hall, D. B. Gray and Mr. Earle. Contralto Solo—"Murmuring Voice of the Deep." Mrs. M. Harris. Duet for Two Sopranos—"Trust Her Not." (Longfellow's) Mrs. S. C. Moore and Miss Earle. Vocal Solo—"God Bye, Susan Jane." Master Charles Horace Earle. Piano Solo—Selections from "Gemma." Mr. Earle. Violin Solo—"Mr. Vinnicombe." Vocal Solo—"Ye Pretty Bird." Miss Earle. Inst. Duet—"Grand Fantasia on Mikado." Miss A. Gray and Mr. Earle. Vocal Solo—"Wondering." Mrs. S. C. Moore. Inst. Duet for Organ and Piano—"Adagio in G Major." Messrs. Blanchard and Earle. Song—"Tom Bowling." D. B. Gray. Piano Quartette—"Polka Rondo" (arranged for two Pianos). The Misses Palour, DesBrisay, Carey and Mr. Earle. Solo and Chorus—"Now Trump." Sr. Henry Bishop.

Jamaica Excursion

STEAMSHIP "ALPHA," S. O. Crowell, Commander.

PROVIDED a sufficient number of Passengers offer, EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued by the above Steamer for the Round Voyage from HALIFAX TO KINGSTON, JAMAICA, AND BACK, for Seventy-Five Dollars.

Passengers can remain over in Jamaica one voyage if they desire.

Sailing Date, February 15th, 1889. Saloon amidships. All information on application to W. W. CLARKE, Charlottetown, Or to PICKFORD & BLACK, Halifax.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PARTIES WISHING RUBBER STAMPS of any kind can save from 25 to 50 per cent. by applying or sending their orders to the FREDERICKS PUBLISHING CO.

ENGRAVING.

Parties requiring cuts of their buildings or any kind of Trade Cuts, can be furnished with them for about one-half of the usual price. Send for samples of work and prices. FREDERICKS PUBLISHING CO., 45 Esplanade Building, Charlottetown, Halifax.

To the Electors of Ward 5.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Having been nominated by a large and influential meeting of the Electors of Ward Five, I shall offer myself as a candidate for Councillor at the forthcoming election. As I may not be able to see you all personally before election day, I take this means of respectfully soliciting your support. Should you do me the honor to elect me, I shall use my influence to cut down all unnecessary expenditures, and to promote the best interests of the Ward and of the City. Yours faithfully, PHILIP LARGE.

To the Electors of Ward 5.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, Having been nominated as a candidate to contest the Ward, I hereby offer myself, and ask you for your support. Should you do me the honor to elect me, I shall use my influence to cut down all unnecessary expenditures, and to promote the best interests of the Ward and of the City. Yours faithfully, PHILIP LARGE.

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To the Electors of Ward 1.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Having been nominated at a large meeting of the Electors of your Ward, I now propose to contest the Ward at the forthcoming Election. Should you deem it advisable to elect me, it will be my most earnest desire to see that Ward receive a reasonable portion of the City's money, and to have all matters pertaining to the finances of the City conducted on an economical basis as possible. Yours most respectfully, JAMES EDEN.

To the Electors of Ward 3.

GENTLEMEN.—The City Accounts for the past year show a large deficit. I have endeavored to ask a continuance of the confidence reposed in me for the past six years. Believing that the revenue should meet the expenditures in each year, I have endeavored, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, to carry that principle into effect, and I think I may claim that I have been fairly successful. Should you again see fit to return me as your representative, I will use my influence to carry out the same policy in the future as in the past. Soliciting your support, I remain, Yours respectfully, SIMON W. CRABBE.

NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of "THE EXAMINER" PUBLISHING COMPANY will be held at the Office of THE EXAMINER newspaper, on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd of January, inst., at the hour of Eight o'clock in the evening. W. A. F. SCOTT, Secretary.