THE DAILY EXAMINER.

DECEMBER 22, 1880.

The Situation.

BY the tactics of its leaders, by the laborious efforts of its Press, by signs many and significant, it is evident that the Grit Party is bent upon opposing, to the utmost of its power, the passage of the Pacific Railway contract. There will be organized obstruction in Parliament; and, circulating in the country, petitions carefully prepared, in caucus, at the capital. There will be public meetings, exhibitions of political legerdemaine and much misrepresentation and special pleading. Everything that can be done will be done to unsettle the minds of the people and produce "an agitation."

Now, for the sake of the argument, let us suppose that these efforts of the opponents of the Government will be successful. In what position will this country then stand with regard to the Canada Pacific Railway?

The answer is evident. The responsibility of building and operating the great railway will be thrown back upon the Government and people of Canada, and we shall again be on the brink of what *The Bystander* called "a yawning abyss of corruption and jobbery." The only alternate is the repudiation by the Government of the agreement made with British Columbia; and that involves stagnation in the Northwest, and the utter loss of that which, to a nation as well as to an individual, is of more value than either land or gold, or both together, viz: character.

Now, why should the country be forced back to its former equivocal position with regard to the Canada Pacific Railway, or compelled to take the ruinous alternative we have mentioned?

The party in opposition admit that it is desirable that the Railway should be built by a Company.

But, they say, the terms of the contract are favorable to the Company. Can it be supposed that a few capitalists would risk their ample fortunes, and take upon themselves expenses, responsibilities, losses and hazards, from which a nation shrank, on any other than "favorable terms?" The terms of the Contract are, of necessity, favorable to the Company

But the question for the public to consider is this: Are they so favorable that they involve a greater cost and greater difficulties to the Dominion than the building and maintenance of the Railway, as a Government work, would involve?

Now, we have already shown that—estimate the value of the land at any figure you like—put it down at one dollar an acre or five dollars an acre,—the amount the Company is to receive is, beyond a doubt, far less than the amount fixed under any scheme that has been formulated and laid before Parliament

But, the Party in Opposition assert that the Contract gives the Company "a huge monopoly." A monopoly—of what? Not of the sale of the lands, for the Government retain every other block of land along the whole line; and are thus in a position to compete with the contractors for the sale of the lands, and *to regulate the prices at which they will be sold*. Dr. Tupper, in his late speech said:—

"Under the Contract we are *free to give away* every acre that remains in our possession should the public interest warrant it."

This is conclusive. The Company cannot possibly sell their lands at a higher figure than the Government choose to permit them to sell.

Nor are the Company possessed of a monopoly of the railway traffic, though being the largest and wealthiest corporation in the country, they will—any company would—necessarily largely control it. There is not a line in the Contract giving a monopoly of railways to the contractors; and, as Dr. Tupper said,—"Parliament has power to-day, and will have power next year, after they have ratified the contract, to empower any persons whatever to construct lines in any part of the Northwest." Clearly there is, under the contract, no monopoly of railway traffic.

Then, where's the monopoly?

The Party in Opposition object to an exemption from taxation of the lands and roadway owned by the contractors. Did it ever strike the Party in Opposition that if the Government were to build the railway, the roadway, etc., would necessarily be free from taxation? As to the lands granted to the Company, the moment they are sold by the Company they are subject to taxation for Municipal, Provincial, or other purposes. And, before they are sold by the Company, before they are occupied by settlers, while they are yet wilderness, it would be simply monstrous to tax the contractors on account of them.

It is assumed by the party in Opposition that the contractors must necessarily become landlords and perpetuate in Canada the leasehold system which is now agitating the people of the Mother Country. What grounds are there for this assumption? The contractors are bankers, speculators, men of money, who have gone into this great enterprise in the hope of making money. They are not the stuff landlords are made of. Nor is it likely that their circumstances will admit of their locking up 25,000,000 of dollars in wilderness lands. The requirements of their contract will involve the expenditure of millions of money every year, for the next ten years; and they must be rich, indeed, if they are prepared to furnish these millions out of their present resources. The probability—nay, the certainty—is that they intend to follow the example of the great companies who have peopled the Prairie States of the neighboring Republic—that they intend to direct a great tide of immigration to the lands,—to sell homesteads to immigrants at the rate of a dollar or two an acre, and thus, at once, provide the means of building the railway and of maintaining it in future years. With the past experience of landlords in this Island before them, with the present perils of landlords in Ireland in their minds eye, it is not likely that the contractors are ambitious to plant the exotic leasehold in America, and in such times as these set up to be landlords. Besides, in twenty years, their lands in the Northwest will be subject to taxation; and it is, therefore, reasonable to suppose that they will try to get rid of them before the expiration of that time.

Now, is there in objections, either singly or in the aggregate, sufficient grounds to justify the people of Canada in general, and of Prince Edward Island in particular, from withholding their assent to the ratification of a contract which is acknowledged by all to be based upon sound principles, and which, if ratified, will relieve the taxpayers of the cost, and the Government of the responsibility of building and operating a railway extending across the Continent.

This is "The Situation" to be considered.

The Accident.

ONE of the most melancholy events of the year, to this community, is the accident of Tuesday, and the killing of Mr. Trainor. Perhaps the saddest part of it is the reflection that this would not have occurred had the building been built as it should have been. In this light it affords a terrible warning against cheap slop work, and enforces a lesson we have been all too slow in learning, viz: the advisability of having an Official or Board of Inspectors to see that stores and warehouses are so built that they will not fall to pieces.

We congratulate those who so narrowly escaped; and warmly sympathize with the bereaved relatives of the man who was killed. Nor must we forget to mention the heroism displayed by Messrs. Newton Large, E. F. Purdy, John Lewis, Paul Lea, Thomas Wakeland, and others (if there be any) who assisted in the rescue of those who escaped and in the removal of the *debris*.

The Fallen Building.

INQUEST ON THE BODY OF THE DECEASED—VERDICT AND RIDER.

CORONER FRANK D. BEER, M. D., yesterday evening, in the Stipendiary Magistrate's Courtroom, held an inquest on the body of the deceased Patrick Trainor, who was killed by the falling of the front of Messrs. Wright & McNutt's brick building, Kent Street. The jury were: Alexander McKinnon, foreman; Lemuel Philips, Paul McPhail, Edward Davy, James Egan, James McLeod and Capt. Power. The following testimony was taken:—

LEMUEL WRIGHT, after describing what he saw of the accident, testified: I know nothing about buildings. I did everything I could to make this a strong building. There is a large space in the front on Prince street. The cross-piece (or girder) above this (i. e. above the windows), ran into the brick about three feet. Now, I think that there should have been two pieces of timber supporting this girder from the base. Mr. Charles McGregor erected the building by contract. There was no inspection of the building. It was commenced in April. The brickwork was commenced in May and finished in July. On the first story above the shop was about 220 barrels of flour, and in addition to that 40 half-chests tea. Nothing else of any great weight. In the third story there were 1,200 or 1,300 bushels of oats. There were about 1,000 bushels of oats on another part of that story that did not fall. There was a man came in last autumn and told me I ought to move my bottles for the wall would fall in. I thought he was simple, then.

To a Juryman—Mr. McNutt remarked a few days ago that the plastering was cracking. When we were putting in the flour Mr. McNutt hesitated. For my part I thought the building perfectly safe, and would hold ever more than we had in it.

FRANCIS MCNUTT (sworn.)—I was in the shop near the front window. The first thing I saw was the plastering falling from the centre of the shop ceiling. Patrick Trainor, the deceased, Patrick Trainor, (nephew of the deceased) and James Gillan, were in the store. I got out through the window. I then saw the old man Trainor lying near the door-step. After the plaster fell I heard a roar caused by the building giving away. I cannot say whether it was the first or second floor gave away first. It was instantaneous. I had nothing to do in erecting the building. I think Mr. Wright's estimate of weight in the building is correct. I had a little doubt of the propriety of putting so much weight above. We never were warned of danger in putting weight above. I had no other suspicion than the weight of anything being wrong with the building.

To a Juryman.—I thought it was a suitable building for all the weight we were putting in it.

ELIJAH PURDY (sworn)—I was on Prince street, fifty yards from the building, when I heard the glass falling. I had not got to it when the front of the building fell out. As soon as the bricks stopped falling, I heard the voices (one or two) of the men calling. I saw Mr. McNutt inside, and said: "Are you fast?" He said, "Help me out," and I did so. I saw two men lying near the door-step, with their legs caught between the step and the joist. I set to work with a crow bar, and as the deceased, Mr. Trainor, was nearest to me, I got him out first. I asked him was he much hurt? He said, "Not much." He laid down suddenly and I remarked that he was dying. When the bricks which were attached to the roof fell, I was working with my head near him. Brick might have hit him that I did not see. I worked away until I got the other out. I suppose that want of strength to carry any excessive weight caused the accident. I thought the columns which carried the girder above the front were not sufficient to support it. I made this remark to some men one day when the building was in course of erection. The answer I got was: "There are plenty of men like you, who know more about other people's buildings than they do about their own." If the building broke first inside it would naturally force the girder out.

PAUL LEA, (sworn)—I know nothing of the accident. Mr. Lewis and I have been at work on the building, and we have not got far enough to tell the real cause of the falling. I am satisfied the centre of the building gave away first. To all appearance it was the beam gave away. I think the supports must have given away before the beam broke. From the supports remaining, I judge they were not sufficient.

JOHN LEWIS, (sworn) Corroborated Mr. Lea's evidence. I do not consider the supports which were under the beams on the second floor sufficient.

JOHN FRASER (sworn.)—I was at the scene of the accident. When I got there the old man was lying on his side working backwards and forwards to get himself clear. The young man who was caught said "O look at them bricks falling." I looked up and just had time to jump back when three bricks fell and struck the old man on the back between the shoulders. He fell forward and never spoke more. The bricks which struck him fell about 35 or 40 feet.

JAMES BROWN, (sworn).—I have seen the new store of Messrs. Wright & McNatt since the accident to-day, and from the present appearance of the wreck I think the building gave way first in the centre. I frequently saw the building during its construction, and considered it too light for a warehouse and insufficiently braced. I made the remark to several persons at the time, and also one day spoke to Mr. Wright in his shop about it. I consider the whole building should be bolted together in order to make it safe for a warehouse. Further examination would enable me to state more fully my opinions.

CHARLES MCGREGOR (sworn)—I was working in my own shop, opposite the fallen building. I heard the crash. I saw the front falling and ran over. I saw an elderly man wedged in between the sill and the door step. I received an injury to my leg and went home. I constructed the building. I made the plans and specifications for Mr. Wright for a warehouse. I tendered on it, got the job and erected the building. I am satisfied that the main beam, over the door and window, was the cause of the trouble. The beam, if left as I put it in, according to specification, would be sufficient. It showed in the shop and I cut it down, at Mr. Wright's request, thus weakening it. The rest of the building was according to the plans and specification, and competent, too.

CORONER—How can you reconcile the weakness of the beam with the statement of Mr. McNutt, that the building gave away at the centre?

WITNESS—I cannot understand that. I told Mr. Wright to distribute the weight. I cannot account for the front going out unless the barrels started and rolled.

RICHARD DUFFY, mason, (sworn)—I worked on this building, the brick work was first-class. I never heard any complaint. I have 16 years experience. The beams were fastened very well, as well as is usually done. The bonding was as good as is generally used for its purpose.

ISAAC JENKINS, mason, (sworn)—I think the fastings were sufficient for that building, and are as good as is usually put in buildings of that size. The accident did not occur from any weakness in the walls by the fastenings.

CHARLES HEARTZ, mason, (sworn)—I think the walls of the building were too light for a warehouse. The two upper storeys were only nine inches, and had not sufficient fastenings that I could see. I think the building was overloaded. I think the columns at the front of the shop must have gone first.

The jury retired, and after a short deliberation, returned the following verdict:—

"That upon the 21st day of December, the deceased, Patrick Trainor, came to his death by the falling of a wall of the house or store occupied by Wright & McNutt, on Kent street.

The evidence adduced before the jury was to the effect that the building was unwittingly, overloaded, and that the material used in its construction was insufficient. The jury would strongly urge on the proper authorities the necessity of taking cognizance of all buildings being erected on public thoroughfares, as there appears to be a tendency at the present time to erect buildings without regard to safety—their chief merit being their cheapness."

Weather Bulletin.

Probabilities for the next 24 hours for the Maritime Provinces.

TORONTO, Dec. 22—10 a. m.

Fresh northeasteriy to northwesterly winds, fair weather, stationary or lower temperature.

CONCERT!

—IN—

ST. JAMES' HALL,

—ON—

Wednesday, 29th December.

PART FIRST.

1. ..... Quintette Club
2. Song (Scottish) ..... Mr. A. McKinnon
3. Duet (Piano) .....Miss Morrison and Prof. Earle
4. Song—"Scotland Yet" .....Mr. Caven
5. Reading .....Miss Barr
6. Song.....Mr. Montgomery
7. Duet (Piano and Violin) .....Miss B. Maclennan and Mr. W. C. Harris
8. Song.....Miss Palmer
9. Song—"Come and met me, Darling," Mr. Williams
10. Reading.....Mr. Arthur Peters

PART SECOND.

1. ..... Quintette Club
2. Song—"Man the Life Boat," ..... Mr. A. Lord
3. (Piano Solo)—"Fantaise sur Faust," Miss Bertha Gray
4. Song .....Miss Bourke
5. Song—"Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," .....Mr. Reid
6. Reading .....Miss Lea
7. Song—"Ballad from Brides of Venice," Mr. Williams
8. Duet (Piano)..Miss Dunn and Prof. Earle
9. Song.....Mr. Montgomery
10. Song—"Hundred Pipers" ....Mr. Caven

God Save the Queen by Quintette Club.

Doors open at 7.30. Concert to commence at 8 o'clock.

Tickets to be had at the stores of W. R. Watson, Dr. Dodd, C. D. Rankin, J. MacEachern, W. D. Stewart, W. & A. Brown & Co., and at Apothecaries' Hall.

Dec. 22, 1880—3i w tu w

CLEARANCE SALE OF GENERAL DRY GOODS!

—AT—

TREMAINE & METCALF'S,

83 QUEEN STREET.

November 18, 1880.

OPENING

—OF THE—

Citizens' Skating Rink!

THE CITIZENS' SKATING RINK will be opened on

MONDAY, the 27th instant,

ICE PERMITTING.

The Band will be in attendance from eight till ten o'clock, p. m.

Tickets for sale at the Apothecaries Hall at the following prices:—

Gentlemen's,	$5 00
Ladies'	3 50
Promenade,	1 00
Afternoon Skating (Boys),	2 50
" " (Girls),	2 00
Single Tickets all times.	25
Single Tickets to Promenade,	10

The services of Galbraith's Band have been secured for the season.

G. W. WAKEFORD,
Ch'town, Dec. 22, '80. Secretary.

GEO. E. FULL

Now offers the Balance of his Large Stock of

BOOTS AND SHOES

—AT A—

Reduction of 10 and 25 Per Cent!

FOR CASH ONLY.

Ladies' Button Grain worth $1 50, for $1 10
" Laced " " 1 30, for 1 10
" " " " 1 25, for 1 00
" Button Kid, Prunella, and Fine Kid Shoes and Slippers 25 p. c. off—fine.
Men's Strong Laced worth $1 00, for 80 cts.
" Prunella " " 1 60, for 75 cts.
Misses' and Children's Laced and Button, 20 per cent. reduction.
Misses' and Children's Tie Shoes and Slippers, 25 per cent. reduction.
Men's Elastic Side and Laced Boots, 15 per cent. reduction.
Men's Long Boots, 10 per cent. reduction.
Boys' " " 10 " "

Bargains in job lots to wholesale cash buyers.

Dec. 22, 1880—1m 3aw

Correct You Are.

IF you want a CHEAP SOLID SILVER-CASED WALTHAM WATCH, go to G. G. JURY.

IF you want a SOLID GOLD CHAIN or NECKLET, go to G. G. JURY.

IF you want a nice COLORED GOLD or PLATED SET of JEWELRY, go to G. G. JURY.

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IF you want a handsome American Eight-Day or Thirty-hour CLOCK, go to

G. G. JURY,

North Side Queen Square, Opp. Post Office.

Dec. 22, '80—1m 2aw wf

HYDROLEINE!

(HYDRATED OIL),

For the Treatment of

Consumption, Winter Cough,

Affections of the Chest, and Wasting Diseases.

THE Debility of Adults, and for Delicate Children, invariably producing immediate increase in flesh and weight.

Each Bottle in nutritive value exceeds ten times the same bulk of Cod Liver Oil.

Manufactured by The Hydroleine Company, London, Eng.

Agents for Prince Edward Island,—

THE APOTHECARIES' HALL COMPANY,

DESBRISAY'S CORNER, QUEEN SQUARE.

Dec. 22, '80—2aw, her 1m

Wants, Lost, Found, &c.

STOLEN OR STRAYED—A Spaniel PUP about six months old; color brown and white. Any person giving information that will lead to his recovery will be rewarded by DENNIS O'M. REDDIN, jr. [de 20 3i

TO LET. for Dancing Assemblies, Public Meetings, etc., Allin's Hall. Apply to W. KENNEDY, at "The Confectionery." [de 16 6i eod

TO LET—A House, with several rooms, on Kent street. Terms moderate.—E. PALMER, jr. [de 14 3i eod

TO LET—Shop and Dwelling House on Great George Street. For particulars apply to E. MCDOUGALL. [de 14 tf

WANTED—By a competent person, employment for the winter to make up books and accounts. Apply at this office. [de 1

BOARDERS—Three or four Boarders can be accommodated with first class board and apartments at very reasonable rates, in a pleasant and one of the most convenient localities in the city. Apply at this office. [no 6 tf

TO LET—A House containing 8 rooms, with stable, coach house, and a large garden attached, fronting on Rochford Square. Possession given immediately. Apply to J. T. CROCKETT, at the Fish Market. [no 2

Charlottetownn, November 18, 1880.