

THE DAILY EXAMINER. OCTOBER 24, 1887.

The Scott Act Election.

The election for the repeal of the Scott Act—so far as this city is concerned—takes place in Charlottetown on Thursday the 24th day of November next.

James Curtis, Esq., Sheriff of Queen's County, has been appointed Returning Officer.

The campaign now opens, and the citizens of Charlottetown are asked to say whether or not they desire the present state of affairs to continue. THE EXAMINER, during the short time that will elapse between now and the day of voting, will endeavor to discuss the question at issue in its practical bearing, in a calm and dispassionate manner, and its columns will be open to any reasonable correspondence on the subject. Correspondents, however, must bear this important point in mind: that their communications must be short and to the point, and entirely free from personalities.

Feeding and Boasting.

THERE is one feature in Gritism worthy of recognition, and in the perpetuation of which the party appear unanimous. The majority of their shows begin with either a picnic or dinner. True to their instincts, the conference now in session at Quebec was not formally opened until Mr. Mercier had fed the audience. The subsequent proceedings may not be food of absorbing interest, but the luncheon so generously spread may make friends for the donor. The sessions being secret, an inquisitive public will be left to guess the programme submitted by the "Reformers." It is probable that they will, like the Tooley Street tailors, consider themselves "the people," but such pastimes, although pleasing to the delegates, will not at all affect the well-being of the community.

For some time past the Grit party in general have been posing as political saints, assuming that "the people will believe anything." They regard themselves as the only authorized agents for the importation of political virtue, and have decided to hold the article for a rise in the market.

If we look a little closely at the facts, however, we find that these Liberals have not a clear title to their claim. They have the convenient faculty of forgetfulness, and studiously keep in obscurity their past disgraceful career, which, when recalled, blights them in the estimation of the people of Canada. The cold, unflinching records of history show that the Grit party has been steeped to the eyes in corruption of every kind; the recital of their many misdeeds would occupy too much of our space. But while indulging in the veriest hypocritical cant, we shall allow them to go ahead on their own line. They know what they can do best; and since it is boasting, why let them boast to their heart's content. This is a free country, and if they can persuade the people to think as much of them as they seem to think of themselves, all right. Ours is a government of the people, and no one can deny that the people are king. THE EXAMINER believes in the people—that is, the rank and file. They know more than the Grit leaders think they do, and are not easily wheedled. The Opposition, being without a policy, have no principles to fight for; or, if they have, they conceal them very successfully. What the country needs, and must have, if it is to be prosperous and happy, is an administration that represents the whole Dominion from Prince Edward Island to Vancouver. The Grit party have never done that. It was not born to do it. It is essentially a sectional party, and never has been anything else. It never proposes a platform which is satisfactory to the entire faction or to the country. It is suspicious of itself. Its business at the present moment is to decry the country and make the people dissatisfied, if by such an unpatriotic course they can obtain the reins of power.

The people are not blind to the condition of affairs, and are watching the various tactics of the Grit combination, which, if not edifying, are certainly amusing. With a pronounced policy—the same for every Province in the Confederation—the Liberal Conservatives are at present the only party that can truly represent the whole country. The electors see that, and continue to say so at the polls every time an opportunity offers.

The Scott Act.

THE REV. GEORGE STEEL, in another column, delivers a brief discourse from the text, "THE EXAMINER and the Scott Act." The rev. gentleman, in effect, contends (1) that THE EXAMINER's present opposition to the Act is unfortunate because in previous contests it argued in favor thereof; (2) that temperance men are on one side in the present contest, and THE EXAMINER on the other; (3) that the ministers and their churches, and THE EXAMINER are arrayed against each other; (4) that THE EXAMINER is now hand in hand with drunkards and rum-sellers; (5) that the action of THE EXAMINER creates the impression that it has gone over for a consideration to the advocacy of intemperance; (6) that THE EXAMINER, inasmuch as it has pronounced against the existing state of affairs under the Scott Act has been converted from good to bad.

With reference to the first contention...

we have only to say that THE EXAMINER supported the Scott Act in the previous contests because we were led to believe that under it the liquor business would soon become a thing of the past; that the baneful curse of intemperance would be wiped out; and that the standard of morality would be elevated. That the Act has done none of these things is apparent to even the most casual observer. That the number of places where liquor can be obtained have greatly increased, and are continually increasing since the Act became law, is also well known; that as a natural consequence of this bad state of affairs the number of people—men women and children—seen staggering about our streets is something terrible to contemplate; and that the standard of morality has not been raised, but lowered is evidenced by the amount of "peculiar" testimony given at Scott Act trials in the Stipendiary Magistrate's Court. For these and kindred reasons THE EXAMINER has spoken as it has in reference to the Scott Act.

The second and third contentions are, with all due deference, not strictly in accordance with the facts. The temperance men and the ministers of the Gospel are not all on the side of the Scott Act. On the contrary, we have heard many warm advocates of temperance—men who do not import their supplies from Halifax, Montreal and other places, as some of the advocates of the Scott Act do—lament the deplorable state of affairs which exists under the Act.

The charge contained in contention four, that THE EXAMINER is hand in hand with drunkards and rum-sellers, we repel with scorn. THE EXAMINER has never said one word in favor of either the one or the other; but is in favor of true temperance, first, last and all the time. Some men, who are really sincere, and many who are not, assert that the Scott Act has promoted temperance. After giving the Act a fair trial and support, the conclusion has forced itself upon us that it is an egregious failure as a temperance measure. For arriving at this conclusion—based, as it is, on the practical, not the theoretical working of the Act—and for calling for an improvement we are stigmatised as going hand in hand with drunkards and rum-sellers!

In contentions five and six THE EXAMINER is charged with having, for a consideration, gone over to the advocacy of intemperance, and thereby being converted from good to bad. These charges, particularly the insinuation contained therein, are even more preposterous than the previous ones. We need not say that they are untrue. The rev. gentleman must surely have been in a jocular mood when he considered the story was poured into his ear, and in the same mood when he forwarded the information to us. We cannot think, knowing him as we do, that he really believes the cowardly and contemptible assertion to be true. The only consideration we have for writing as we have in regard to the Scott Act is consideration for the welfare of the community.

Now, a few words in conclusion. THE EXAMINER has always been and still is a firm advocate of temperance. Our voice has always been raised in support of measures which we considered conducive to the public weal, and always will be. We have, in former years, given the Scott Act our warmest support; but inasmuch as experience has shown that it has not had any perceptible effect upon the liquor business, we have written in the unbiased manner which the rev. gentleman complains of.

The Late Storm.

FROM all parts of the country we learn that the south-easter of Friday night last was, by far, the heaviest storm of the season. In the eastern part of the Island the gale was unusually severe, though we have not heard of any shipwrecks yet. On the land fences and stacks were turned over, and one man, Ronald McPhee, of Souris Line Road, had the frame of a new dwelling house which was partly boarded in, blown down, some of the pieces being carried by the wind over a hundred yards before touching the ground. The Souris break-water stood the test admirably. Fortunately, the extensive repairs which it had been undergoing since early in the season, were completed a week or two ago. Only for this there is no doubt but a large part of this important public work would have been carried away by the late storm. It was a grand sight, we are informed, to see the waves dashing against its side, then raising high in the air and breaking into huge clouds of spray that resembled the smoke from the firing of heavy artillery. It has withstood the late storm and remains unimpaired. We understand, however, that something requires to be done to protect the outer portion of the work. The Department, it is said, intend to build crib-work along the seaside of the outer section. Until this be done, the work cannot be considered secure against the violence of storms, such as the one which visited us on Friday night.

The secret of the opposition to Postmaster-General McLellan is published. It is "to bleed the old devil and hound him out of Canadian public life." Although this plan of campaign is peculiar to Gritism we incline to the belief that the fair-minded electors of Colchester have very little sympathy with the immoral and impure "bleeding" process, and will manifest their disapproval at the polls and roll up a grand majority for the Liberal Conservative candidates.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Scott Act and "The Examiner" Unfortunate.

SIR,—There are several things that are unfortunate with regard to THE EXAMINER and the coming Scott Act election.

It is unfortunate that this election will find THE EXAMINER half-hearted, fighting against what it earnestly and intelligently contended for in the previous Scott Act elections. If it is right now it is unfortunate that its voice and influence were on the wrong side so long.

It is unfortunate that temperance men are on one side in this contest and THE EXAMINER on the other.

It is unfortunate that the churches, headed by their ministers, are in direct opposition to THE EXAMINER on a question of such important and far-reaching moral interest. This is unfortunate, as the people will conclude that either their ministers or else THE EXAMINER is wrong.

It is unfortunate that THE EXAMINER, whose advocacy of temperance and temperance measures in the past has been constant, stands now on the same platform, hand in hand with liquor sellers and drunkards.

It is unfortunate that the defeat of the Scott Act, which THE EXAMINER now seeks to secure, has the hearty and open approval of every wholesale and retail liquor seller, and of every drunkard on the Island. This is most unfortunate, because as these men have not come over to the advocacy and practice of temperance principles, such conduct creates the impression that THE EXAMINER has gone over for a consideration to the advocacy of intemperance.

It is unfortunate that THE EXAMINER is on the same side as a number of city officials who have been faithfully lectured again and again by THE EXAMINER on their remissness in arresting drunkenness, and consequently of encouraging intemperance; and as the conversion of these officials to teetotalism has not yet been made public, it is very unfortunate that the impression should be daily gaining ground that it is THE EXAMINER that has been converted, and that the conversion has not been from bad to good but from good to bad. The above are a few of the things that have struck others as well as myself as being very unfortunate.

Respectfully yours, GEORGE STEEL.

Pownal, Oct. 22, 1887.

The Scott Act Trials.

SIR,—I have read the report of the proceedings of Scott Act trials in the police court as published in the Guardian. One would expect that the editor of that paper would possess the honesty when giving reports to give full and authentic ones.

There were no less than three cases tried that day that no mention whatever is made of or the evidence given in them. The reason of this is that they were dismissed, and that the evidence was of such a nature that every reasonable man who heard it was thoroughly disgusted at the conduct of the prosecution. The Guardian therefore did not consider it in the interests of the order to give publicity to the disgraceful proceedings, hence the evidence was suppressed by the reverend gentleman who presides over the Guardian and prides himself on the honesty of his reports.

But his account of the cases reported are equally unreliable. In many instances he has entirely omitted the evidence of certain witnesses. In another case he left out a part of the evidence of Mr. Terrence McAtee—a man who is out of jail for a very short time every few months—who on his oath swore positively that Henderson, the prosecutor, had engaged him to obtain names of persons who frequented taverns to be used as witnesses, and that for the first batch given in he had received fifty cents. Henderson, although in court, never denied this, hence it stands uncontradicted. I am prepared to admit that Henderson denied McAtee's statement the public should believe him, but although he had the opportunity of doing so he refused. This is conclusive to show that the evidence of the jail bird was true, and the fact remains that he was employed by Henderson, and as a result innocent citizens were subpoenaed as witnesses to give testimony in matters of which they absolutely knew nothing. Last Friday was also Scott Act day at Court, but the proceedings on that day were equally disgraceful with the former Tuesday, and therefore the Guardian has not even alluded to it, let alone published the evidence given.

Yours, CITIZEN.

Snow.

SIR,—The Guardian tells us that snow fell in Summerside on the 13th inst. We are not informed by it as to how much snow fell there on that day, nor are we told whether the snow remains there yet or not. Snow fell on the 13th in the capital of Prince County, the world is told by the Guardian. Only this, and nothing more. No wonder that a great many persons on the other side of the Atlantic have very erroneous ideas about the climate of Canada. They read in newspapers about the snow, and they see in sketches of Canadian winter scenes pictures of men and women wrapped up in fur and warm wool, as if our climate were a match for that of Siberia, or of Iceland in the far north. Our winter climate is severe enough sometimes, we all know, but it is not as cold and inhospitable as many Europeans are led to believe. Neither does the winter begin on the "13th" of October. If a few flakes of snow did fall on the date named, there have been lots of sunny days and fine weather since, of which, it is hoped, the Guardian will make due note.

Peculiar tactics.

SIR,—The wisdom of the Guardian in publishing the names and evidence given in connection with the Scott Act prosecutions is very questionable. Yet if it is persisted in, no favoritism should be shown—all should be served alike.

In the last issue of that paper a very brief synopsis of last week's cases is given, the names of one party at least who was summoned for violation of the O. T. Act is not mentioned. The Editor of the Guardian will require to act more fairly, or the people will decide that his zeal in the cause is tempered too much with prudence.

Peake Bros. & Co.

300 Tons Register, classed A1 at Lloyd's, ALCO, BRIGANTINE.

ZARA.

250 Tons Register, now lying at Peake's No. 1 wharf, are open for charter to load Potatoes, Oats, and other produce of the Is and for United States Ports or West Indies.

HORSES---HORSES

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—25 Horses, weighing 1150 to 1400 lbs.; age 5 to 9 years. Apply to W. S. MCKIE, Charlottetown, Oct. 21, 1887—ex & pat 41.

FURNITURE, STOVES, &c., &c.

BY Auction, at my Salesroom, TUESDAY, 24th Inst., at 2 o'clock.

The Charlottetown Board of Trade.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Board will be held at the Board Room, in Macdonald's Building, on MONDAY, the 21st inst., at half past seven o'clock in the evening.

S. MACDONALD,

Fashionable Hair Dressing & Shaving Saloon, Two Doors above Apothecaries Hall, 84 QUEEN STREET.

AUCTION.

I WILL sell at Auction, on the premises I have in possession, on FRIDAY, the 28th day of October, at 2 o'clock, p. m.—

In Brief, And to the Point.

Dyspepsia is dreadful. Disordered liver is misery. Indigestion is a foe to good nature.

The human digestive apparatus is one of the most complicated and wonderful things in existence. It is easily put out of order.

Greasy food, tough food, sloppy food, bad cookery, mental worry, late hours, irregular habits, and many other things which ought not to be, have made the American people a nation of dyspeptics.

But Green's August Flower has done a wonderful work in reforming this sad business and making the American people so healthy that they can enjoy their meals and be happy. Remember: No happiness without health. But Green's August Flower brings health and happiness to the dyspeptic. Ask your druggist for a bottle. Seventy-five cents.

APPLES.

BY Auction, WEDNESDAY, October 26th, at 11 o'clock.

10 Barrels Choice No. 1 Gravensteins, offered to the trade in lots of five barrels and upwards, at Auction Prices.

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IN STORE: 10 Barrels Choice, No. 1 Gravensteins, offered to the trade in lots of five barrels and upwards, at Auction Prices.

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BY Auction, at my Salesroom, WEDNESDAY, 26th inst., at 11 o'clock, a. m.—

75 BARRELS APPLES, in choice Gravensteins and other varie ties.

FOR CHARTER.

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FIRE INSURANCE.

ESTABLISHED, 1821.

SCOTTISH UNION AND NATIONAL INSURANCE CO. Y.

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.

CAPITAL, \$30,000,000

The strongest Fire Insurance Company in the world. Risks taken at Lowest Rates.

A. S. URQUHART, Agent for P. E. Island.

Also, Agent for the Lancashire, Commercial Union, and British America.

Ch'town, P. E. I., Oct. 22, 1887—2 wks cod

LONDON HOUSE CLOTH SALE.

HAVING closed up our Tailoring Department, we shall sell our Splendid stock of

Beavers, Pilots, Naps, Worsteds,

Scotch Tweeds, English Tweeds,

Canadian Tweeds,

At from Twenty per cent. to Thirty-three and One-third per cent., Discount for CASH.

HARRIS & STEWART

SUCCESSORS TO

CEO. DAVIES & CO.

Ch'town, Oct. 21, 1887.—wky

Another Arrival of New Goods.

BY LAST STEAMER TO HALIFAX,

Perkins & Sterns

Have added more NEW GOODS to their already large stock of this Season's Importations.

Another Lot of New Cloths,

Another Lot of New Silks,

Another Lot of New Dress Goods,

Another Lot of New Trimmings.

Additions to all Departments and Everything Marked VERY CHEAP.

Perkins & Sterns

Oct. 14—dy & wky

THE LARGEST EXHIBITION

—OF—

Cheap Dry Goods and Clothing

IN THE CITY.

We Take First Prize for Cheapest and Best Goods.

OUR STOCK IS NOW COMPLETE.

See our Wonderful Bargains in DRESS GOODS, S. COLORED CLOTHS, WOOLEN GOODS, FUR GOODS, CLOTHS OF ALL KINDS, IN EVERYTHING,

—AT—

JAMES PATON & CO'S,

Successors to W. A. WEEKS & CO.,

MARKET SQUARE.

Ch'town, Oct. 4, 1887.—dy & wky