

PUMPS AND WELLS.

Mr. WHELAN,
SIR.—You are no doubt aware that one of the evils of sin entailed on the progeny of father Adam is, that during the remainder of time some of said progeny shall be "hewers of wood, and drawers of water;" but, Sir, are you cognizant of any law, human or divine, that compels the "drawers of water" in this colony, especially in this town, to run the risk every morning or every evening of breaking their necks at our pumps, in addition to paying their share of the Pump tax! If you are, you will confer an immense amount of benefit on the community at large if you will be kind enough to publish it, so that we may get to the spring of this crying evil, and perhaps be able to get our Legislative wisdom, which is soon to be amalgamated or concentrated, for good or evil to the colony, to have said evil modified or eradicated.

When I ask the Collector of Taxes, what becomes of all the money assessed? The reply is, it is expended in paying a person to keep the Wells and Pumps in good and efficient order, and to sink fresh Wells where they are required. To the enquiry, has he any property at stake in the town? The answer is, yes, considerable. Is he a drunkard? No, he is one of the very latest fashioned tee-totalers, *alias* Sons of Temperance? Then I confess I am, as the Yankees would say, "rather in a fix" to think that a sober, sensible man, possessed of property that may be consumed by fire, perhaps he has a family too, some members of which must draw water, beside it appears he is paid for his labour, to think I say that such a man, who is bound in duty and in honour, to his family, to his property and to the public as his employers, who pay him well, should not only leave the Pumps frozen up for a whole day together, but allow such an accumulation of ice around each Pump, that it is, beside being difficult to hang a bucket on the Pump's nose free of ice, next to impossible to get sufficiently near to the spout to plant a bucket under it, and then to get it away more than half full without sliding half-a-dozen times from the Pump before getting hold of the bucket to move! is, according to my notion of things, beyond all common decency, to say nothing worse, and if he is not sufficiently paid for what he does, or has to do, let him complain, and either get more pay or throw up his commission, and somebody else get it, who can and will attend to it. Only think, Sir, what a condition this community would be in, after a frosty night, to have a fire break out, and instead of having easy access to the Pumps and them free to work, find them frozen up, and requiring a bucket or two of boiling water, or an iron rod to free them of ice, and then to require the exercise of half a dozen axes for a quarter of an hour, to obtain anything like a footing at them; all which time the fire is raging, when half a dozen buckets of water might put it out when first discovered, and the pump at the door. Does not your flesh creep on your bones, Sir, and your teeth chatter in your head, at the contemplation of a conflagration under such circumstances? If such is not your fate, it should be that of the person employed to attend to the Pumps and Wells, for two hours every frosty night, till his professed love for water to be the only and universal beverage, should show more reality than it does at present! In short, Sir, in no country that I have ever visited are the Pumps so exposed and kept in such rascally condition during winter as in this very town. I pay tax enough every year to bring the water into my very kitchen; yet, I have to bring all that is used in my family, frequently at the imminent danger of spilling myself at the Pump as well as the water; and the probability is, that if I wished to insure my life, and was tightly questioned as to the risk I daily run at the Pumps, and have to tell the truth, I should immediately have to pay a higher premium! and whose fault would this be? I presume not that of

RECHABITE.

Charlottetown, Feb. 17th, 1849.

AN EXAMPLE TO COLONIAL GOVERNORS.

We commend to the careful perusal of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of this Island the following Despatch from one of his predecessors in the Government, which has been printed in the Nova Scotia papers amongst a large collection of other public documents, recently laid before the Legislature of that Province. When will a Governor in this place understand his true position—utter his sentiments fearlessly, and despise the cant and nonsense about displacing "old and faithful public servants," and disturbing the ancient order of things, perpetually drivelling from the lips of officials, and echoed by their corrupt parasites and scribes?

"GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

"Halifax, April 20, 1848.

"MY LORD.—After my Despatches Nos. 23 and 29 were closed, the letter which I have now the honour to transmit, addressed by Mr. James W. Johnston to Your Lordship, was sent to me. This letter appearing to the members of my Council to require some observations, these have been embodied in the address by which it is accompanied.

"The mass of papers accumulated upon Your Lordship's hands by the industry of a party whose last hope in being able to obstruct the steady progress of public affairs here, is founded upon the possible interference of Your

Lordship, and the rejection at home of measures, which in their passage through the Legislature, they have been unable to destroy, will not I trust appear to Your Lordship as necessary results of the system you are desirous to establish.

"By and bye the just principles of Colonial Government will come to be more generally understood, and persons who fail to convince their own countrymen that injustice has been done to them, will scarcely regard it as worth their while to involve the Colonial Secretary in discussions, which, should he agree with the local authorities, are necessary, and if he does not, unless the question be one of much importance, sometimes throws upon him the onus of interposing the prerogative in an ungracious manner.

"I have deemed it but fair to withhold the expression of this opinion, from parties complaining, because, I was most anxious that every opportunity should be afforded to those who felt themselves aggrieved to submit their objections. I need not say the support which Your Lordship has at all times given me in the discharge of my official duties, emboldens me to ask, that Your Lordship will leave no doubt on the public mind in Nova Scotia, by a the mode in which the measures submitted by this mail are dealt with, that I am discharging the delicate duties consigned to me, in the full confidence of Her Majesty's Government.

"I have, &c. &c., &c.,

(Sd.) J. HARVEY."

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

On Tuesday last, the G. W. P. accompanied by the G. Chaplain, the G. Conductor, and the Acting G. S., left town, for the purpose of holding Meetings and establishing Divisions of the ORDER in Prince County.

On Wednesday evening, a Meeting was held at Port Hill, when the Rev. W. H. Cooper, A. B., was called to the chair, and the proceedings of the evening were commenced with Singing, reading the word of God, and Prayer. The G. W. P. then addressed the Meeting, and was followed by the Rev. Mr. Rand, the Rev. Mr. Cooper, Messrs. Pidwell and Davison, in eloquent, powerful, and effective speeches. After the Meeting was closed, a Requisition was signed and presented to the G. W. P., praying for a charter to open a Division in Port Hill, and which was granted. The Division was then opened in form, and after a number of persons had been initiated into the Order, the following Brethren were elected and installed as Officers for the Richmond Division, No. 6, for the present quarter, viz:—

The Rev. W. H. Cooper, W. P. William Gregg, W. A. Neil McLean, R. S. James Yeo, A. R. S.—George Locke, F. S. Humphrey Dymont, T. Henry Folland, C. William Haywood, A. C. Donald Montgomery, I. S. William Newcombe, O. S. George F. Cooper, P. W. P.

On the following day, Thursday, a Meeting was held in the Court House, at St. Eleanor's, when a Requisition was prepared, and a Division was duly opened, when a number were initiated, and the following Brethren were elected and duly installed the Officers of the St. Eleanor's Division No. 7, for the present quarter, viz:—

N. J. Brown, W. P. James Gourley, W. A. Robert Gourley, R. S., William Reid, A. R. S. George Jeffery, F. S. Patrick Brown, T. Theophilus Chappell, C. Mathias Jaques, A. C. William Hughes, I. S.—James W. Riely, O. S. Jonathan Weatherbe, P. W. P.

On Friday evening, a Meeting was held at Bedeque, when the proceedings were conducted in the usual manner. A Requisition for a Division was duly prepared, and the G. W. P. deputized the Rev. S. T. Rand to open one on Tuesday next.

The G. W. P. returned to town on Saturday evening, after having had a most delightful and successful excursion. The Order is so rapidly extending, that we believe Divisions will be opened in every Settlement of the Island, and that the principles of Temperance, and of Love, Purity, and Fidelity will be universally diffused.—Com.

EXCITING NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA.—The Washington Union, (official paper,) of the 21st instant, contains a letter from Lieut. Larkin, dated Monterey, Nov. 15th, received at the State Department, containing further confirmation of the previous despatches, public and private, and far outstripping all other news in its exciting character.—The gold is increasing in size and quality daily. Lumps are found weighing from one to two pounds. Several have been heard of weighing as high as sixteen and one twenty-five pounds! Many men who were poor in June last, are now worth \$30,000, by digging and trading with the Indians. A hundred dollars a day is the average amount realized daily from July to October. Half the diggers are sick with fevers, though not many deaths have occurred among them. The Indians readily give an ounce of gold for a common calico shirt!—others are selling for ten dollars each in specie. The gold region extends over a tract of three hundred miles, and it was not known that it did not extend a thousand.

A letter from Commodore Jones states that considerable anarchy prevails in the fleet, the officers having been attacked with fever. Many of the petty officers and men had deserted and gone in search of gold. He adds, the Indians are selling gold at fifty cents the ounce. Many merchant vessels are deserted by captain, cook, and seamen. Discharged soldiers had been offered fifty

dollars per month to go to Callao in the ship Isaac Walton but was refused. She was shipped by government sailors. All the naval vessels are short of hands. Gregon and the Sandwich Islands are pouring their populations into California. Provisions are scarce and high—board, \$4 a day—washing, \$3 a dozen. Merchants' clerks get from \$2000 to \$3000 a year.

Goods of every description were scarce and high in Upper California. At the Mines labour is from ten of fifteen dollars per day; board ten dollars per day, with the privilege of sleeping under a tree. A pair of blankets is worth 80 dollars; a pea-jacket 150 dollars. Tea is worth five dollars a pound, and every thing in like proportion.

Of five parcels of gold sent last week to a chemist in New York to be assayed, one was found to be pure, and the other four, valued at \$39,000, were found not to be worth eighty cents;—and the chemist expressed his opinion that one-fifth only of the dust gathered in the gold regions would be found to be of any value.

Lyon, Mass, has a population of less than 12,000, yet 3,000,000 pairs of boots and shoes were made there last year. Nearly 8,000 of its inhabitants of both sexes are engaged in the business. The value of the boots and shoes manufactured in Massachusetts, in 1847, was 17,000,000 dollars.

MARRIED.

At Indian River, on Tuesday, the 13th inst., by the Rev. James McDonald, P.P., Mr. Thomas Power, of Irish Town, New London, to Miss Mary Ann McCarroll of Free Town.

DIED.

Suddenly, on Sunday morning the 17th December, on board the brig "Douglas," a few days after her leaving this port, on his way to join his friends in England, Mr. James Jackson, for many years a resident of this town.

At Charlottetown, on Tuesday evening, of Hooping Cough, ELIZABETH JANE, only daughter of Mr. W. B. Wellner, aged 8 months.

PRICES CURRENT,

FEBRUARY 17, 1849.

PROVISIONS		Coal, Pictou, chald.	none
Flour, Am superfine	50s	slack do	13s a 19s
seconds		Wood per cord	9s a 10s
P E I per lb	2½d a 2¾d	SUNDRIS.	
Rye per barrel		Tea, Bohea per chest	1s a 1s6d
Corn Meal per barrel		per lb	2s
per lb	1½d	Congo per chest	2s 4d
Oatmeal per lb	1½d a 1¾d	per lb	3s 6d
Beef, small pieces lb	3d a 4½d	Coffee P Rico, cwt	84s
per quarter	2¾d a 4½d	per lb	1s
per barrel	42s a 50s	St Domingo, cwt	80s
Mutton per lb	3d a 5d	per lb	11d
Veal do	2½d a 4d	Sugar	per cwt 44s a 46s
Pork per barrel	50s a 60s	per lb	6d
per carcass	2¾d a 4d	Refined	do 9d
Butter, fresh, per lb	10d a 1s	Molasses, per gal.	1s 7d
tub, do	9d a 11d	Raisins, per box	15s
Cheese, P E Island lb	4d a 7d	Tobacco, Fig. P E I.	1s a 1s1d
American	9d a 10d	Cavendish, Am.	9d
Eggs per doz	10d 1s	Soap, per box	4½d
Potatoes per bushel	1s6d a 2s	Candles, mould P E I.	1s
Turnips	10d 1s 2	dip, P E I.	10d
Tallow	per lb 8d a 10d	mould, Am.	10d
Lard do	6d a 8d	dip Am.	9d
Pearl Barley do	2d	Brandy (Martel's) gal	12s6 a 14s
Ham do	5d	Wine, Port do	14s a 16s
Rice do	4d	Sherry do	12s
do per cwt	25s	Gin (Hollands) do	7s6d a 9s6
Turkeys each	2s6d a 4s	Rum, Demerara, high	proof, per gal 9s a 9s6d
Geese do	1s9d a 2s6	Jamaica, high	proof, per gal 8s 6d
Fowls do	9d a 1s 3	Boards, Pine 100 ft.	2s a 6s
Codfish per quintal	11s a 13s	Spruce do	2s 6d a 4s
Salmon each		Hemlockdo	2s5d a 3s
Herrings per barrel	20s a 28s	Shingles	5s a 10s
Mackerel do	22s a 30s	EXCHANGE.	
GRAIN.		On London 60 days	32½ pr. et
Oats per bushel	1s6d a 1s9	do 30 days	35 do
Barley do	2s 6ds 3s	On Halifax 60 days	20 do
Wheat do		Sovereigns	30s
Hay, per ton	35s a 45s	Doubleloons	96s
Coal Sydney, chald.	37s 6d	Dollars	6s a 6s3

£8. 0. 0.

ALL Persons indebted to J. WEATHERBE, Esq., of this place, in Sums of £8, and under, are hereby requested to call on me, at my office, prior to the first day of March next, and discharge the same, otherwise, I am instructed to issue a Summons on that day, for each Sum so due and unpaid.

JAMES CAMPBELL.

St. Eleanor's, Feb. 7th, 1849.

P.19.

To be let,

A large SHOP in a convenient and public part of the Town. Rent low. Enquire at the Office of this paper. December 18.

Mechanics' Institute.

NOTICE.—TICKETS of admission to the above Institution for the current Session, can be had of the Secretary, and at Mr. H. Stamper's Book-Store.

Tickets to admit Members.	0 5 0
do. " Lady and Gentleman,	0 7 6
do. " four persons,	0 10 0
Youth's Tickets,	0 3 0
Nightly Tickets,	0 1 6

A. DAVISON, Secretary.

January 15, 1849.