

The First Shot.

It often happens that, on the eve of a great struggle, the first shot is fired unintentionally. When the leader of the Opposition asked that the newly elected members—representing the important Districts of Belfast and Cardigan—should be admitted and sworn, and placed in the position the people elected them to occupy—he could never have imagined that it would be necessary to compel the Government to comply. He thought, of course,—as everyone else thought,—that the Government would not hesitate to admit the people's representatives to their rights and privileges as members of Parliament at the earliest possible moment. But it was not so. Though three of the newly elected members were waiting for admission outside the bar, the Government proposed to turn them away until the following day—because, forsooth, the leader of the Government was, unfortunately, absent.

We greatly regret that the sad circumstance which necessitated the absence of the Leader of the Government, should have been urged as a reason for this affront to Belfast and Cardigan. That it was so must be a cause of excessive pain to Mr. Davies—sustaining, as he is, a loss which every parent feels with the most poignant grief. We deeply sympathise with the honorable gentleman. We are quite sure that every man in the House of Assembly sympathises with him. But everyone must see that the admission of the new members could no more be construed to show a want of sympathy for the honorable gentleman than could the formal ceremony of opening the Legislature.

The Commissioner of Public Works did not gracefully yield to the very proper request of the Leader of the Opposition. He did not appear to advantage as Leader of the House. He may be *au fait* with abstruse questions of State; but he certainly does not succeed as a leader of men. And the shot which, by his awkwardness, he compelled the Opposition to fire was a most damaging one. Even before the lately-elected members were admitted, and while several members of the Opposition were still on their way to the Capital, the Government was badly defeated. The prompt and unhesitating action of the Hon. Mr. DeBlois, Gordon, Prowse, Lefurgy and Campbell, will, we are sure, be appreciated by the electors.

The Lieutenant-Governor's Speech.

LAST year the Local Government gloried in the abolition of "the leprosy of deficits," and scouted, as nonsensical, the economical reforms advocated by the Opposition. With the remembrance of their solemn declarations to this effect still fresh in the minds of the people, the Lieutenant-Governor's speech of Thursday, the 27th of February, 1879, will give rise to some curious speculations upon the vanity of human glory and Governmental declarations. There is now nothing about the "leprosy" of deficits. But there is a suspicious silence; and we greatly fear that when the Public Accounts of the past year are submitted, it will be found that there is a very considerable disproportion—the balance being on the wrong side—between revenue and expenditure. This fear is increased by the Governmental wail over the "steadily decreasing revenues of the Province, and the difficulty of keeping the expenditure within its receipts."

This difficulty is to be met, in part, by the abolition of one branch of the Legislature! The policy of the Opposition—the action the Opposition Press has for years been advocating!! Then, we are also promised measures providing for the reduction of salaries payable by the Province. If the promise was to reduce the number of officials as well as the salaries of officials it would be more in accord with the policy of the Opposition. But still the promise shows that the Opposition has very materially influenced the Government—in view of an approaching election. The Government also propose an amalgamation of the Normal School and the Prince of Wales College—another economical change advocated by the Opposition.

We submit, however, that it is hardly fair to so coolly appropriate the Opposition policy. The Opposition has worked hard to bring about the economical changes indicated in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech; and it does not seem altogether right that the men who have revealed in good things—obtained by means of the Assessment Act—should now appropriate the modest apparel of reform which belongs to their opponents, and pose as the economists of the Province.

The market to-day was very small. Price same as on Tuesday.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

A Heavy Crush—Ministerial Announcements.

FEB. 28, 1879.

When the doors opened at 3.45 p. m., there was a "crush" of spectators that at one time it seemed as though the crowd would have been forced upon the floor of the House. HON. MR. DAVIES expressed his thanks for the kindness and courtesy with which he was treated yesterday; and announced the Ministerial changes made since last session.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN gave notice of a motion of want of confidence in the Government.

MR. CALHOUN moved that a Committee be appointed to prepare a Draft Address in reply to the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN moved, in amendment, that the House do now adjourn.

HON. MR. DAVIES deprecated the motion in amendment as an insult to the Lieutenant-Governor—the representative of the Queen, and said it was unprecedented.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN pointed out that if business were proceeded with while a motion of want of confidence was pending, time and public money would be unnecessarily lost. He scouted the idea that the course pursued by the Opposition was insulting to the Lieutenant Governor, and showed that a similar course was pursued by the Hon. D. Davies and his supporters in 1872.

Prince Edward Island Railway.

(From the Official Report.)

LENGTH OF LINE.	Miles.
Tignish to Royalty Junction.....	113½
Royalty Junction to Mt. Stewart..	20
Mount Stewart to Georgetown....	21
	154½
EXTENSIONS.	
Royalty Junction to Ch'town.....	5
Mount Stewart to Souris.....	39
	44
	198½

According to the Report of Mr. C. J. Brydges, General Superintendent of Government Railways, the following results have been obtained:—

The capital account at the close of the year amounted to \$3,409,919.70, being an increase of \$6,551.86 over the total of last year, caused by the payment for the Breadalbane Station—an expenditure incurred prior to the opening of the railway. The working expenses were \$221,599.49. This amount includes \$27,464.45 for renewal of rails and fencing.

The receipts during the year have been \$135,899.60. An increase over the amount of last year of 5,234.68.

The passenger receipts show an increase of \$4,653.04, with an increase of 17,950 in the number carried. The decrease in the working expenses has been \$6,995.76.

The loss in working the line has been \$85,699.89, showing a decrease of \$12,230.44 over last year, which amounted to \$97,930.33. Four and a half miles of steel rails have been laid during the year, making in all 9½ miles so laid. 19,572 sleepers have been put in the track. The total cost of maintenance has been \$62,928.42, a decrease of \$9,564.82 over last year.

The traffic has increased 9.7 per cent., and the cost of maintenance has decreased 13 per cent.

Repairs have been made to Summerside wharf.

The total length of siding laid during the year has been 0.85 miles, making a total length over the whole line of 10.14 miles.

The sum of \$10,617.48 has been expended generally on fences and snow-fences.

The necessary repairs have been made to stations and the accessory buildings, bridges and ballasting, and the line generally maintained.

The casualties were five in number.

Mr. McKechnie says: "The want of storage accommodation in Charlottetown is being felt more severely every year, and militates against our business. Produce dealers having to pay cartage at Charlottetown in addition to freight, are not able to give so high a price at way stations as they otherwise would, thus causing farmers to haul their produce to town rather than accept the low price offered." And he recommends "that a warehouse be constructed with a capacity of 150,000 bushels, which would enable us to discharge all cars promptly, virtually adding to their carrying power. A storage charge upon all grain going into said warehouse (to which shippers would not object) would, I have not the least doubt, pay a fair rate on the cost of the building."

Mr. McKechnie urges "the necessity of erecting during the current year, station buildings with agents apartments at Bedford and Baldwin's, and agents residences at Alberton, Hunter River, North Wiltshire, Georgetown, Cardigan and St. Peter's."

Mr. McKechnie also recommends "that Harmony Station be closed, and reduced to the rank of a flag station; and that Bear River be made a regular station, and the station building from Harmony removed thereto."

Mr. Brydges, in his Report, says that, "At the end of the present year, 1,500 tons of steel rails will have been laid in the track between Charlottetown and Summerside. The light iron rails on the very sharp curves are wearing rapidly. It is doubtful if 500 tons a year will henceforth properly maintain the railway. It would be very desirable if the sharpest curves were taken out, which would shorten the distance, and greatly improve the running of the trains."

THE AMAZON WAR.—Near Douglas, Hants, one woman who had a grudge against another of her acquaintance, started with a knife in her hand to administer justice. Her neighbor, seeing her coming, armed herself with a billet of wood. The husband of the latter woman, willing to see fair play, gave his wife's opponent another billet of wood, and the war waged fiercely until the sun went down upon both women in their wrath; and it took all the sticking plaster in Douglas to patch up the feud.—*Windsor (N. S.) Mail.*

The Small-Pox at Alberton.

SMALL POX continues to be fatal at Alberton. Dr. Brine, the physician in attendance at that place, telegraphs that another case has terminated fatally—Mrs. McLellan having died on Tuesday night. This is the fourth death since the infectious disease entered the village. Dr. Brine reports that the "other patients are doing well." The *Pioneer* of the 20th has an article headed "The Scare," describing the ridiculous alarm that has seized the neighboring settlements on account of the small-pox in Alberton. It says:—

"While we urge on all to use reasonable and judicious precaution, we are at a loss to account for the wild and extravagant stories that are being circulated in the adjoining settlements, and of course still more improbable exaggerations at a greater distance. These tales of death and destruction are no doubt started by persons fond of a jest, in order to witness the panic of fear into which they can throw their more timid neighbors. Jests of this nature, however much they may amuse the perpetrators, have a most damaging effect on the financial interests of this village. As already stated, the infection (as far as can be ascertained) is confined to three or at most four houses, and one of these a good mile distant. A person may therefore come into this place at present and transact his business in any store or shop with as much safety as he could a year ago. This is the writer's conviction, and it is borne out by the physicians and Board of Health. People at a distance, however, look on this village as we do on the small pox hospital containing two or three persons lying low with the infection,—they suppose if one comes within its bounds, he is pretty sure of taking the disease with him. The fact that the people of this village are as susceptible of the contagion as any other, and that they are from day to day going about their business as on former occasions, while only about a dozen has so far caught the infection, is perhaps the best proof of how enormously exaggerated are the statements current in out-lying districts, as well as the alarming dread founded on such reports.—Even this paper now in the hands of the reader is considered by some to be a very engine of disease and death, and in consequence numbers have requested us to discontinue sending to their address for the present. Several Postmasters have returned the package of papers unopened, some flung them aside, while one more zealous than the rest committed the package to the flames, and no doubt washed his clothes, and considered himself unclean till the evening after the daring exploit. While recommending every reasonable precaution, we consider the above acts childish, as long as the office of the paper and also the Post Office in the village are as clear of small-pox as the homes of those who exercise such wild surveillance. The above state of things is more remarkable when it is considered that from two to three thousand copies are spread through out the Island each week of two newspapers published in Montreal, a city in which small-pox is now doing active work—a city which is indeed scarcely ever clear of the disease. It is also worthy of notice that diptheria has been double as fatal in districts of the Island where it prevails, yet comparatively little noise has been made about it. With a physician in the place, whose special business is to report to the Board of Health and to the Government, every new case of the disease in its most incipient stage, and while the Board of Health would promptly nail up our office doors and windows, on the intimation being made that any of the inmates exhibited symptoms of the infection—we cannot feel very grateful to our neighbors of the press who have been the means of raising the country in mad furore by their untruthful reports and exaggerated representations, and have thus been the means of destroying our business, at least for the present."

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements or opinions of our correspondents.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR—In commemoration of the death of Frank Carvell I beg that you will insert the enclosed paraphrase upon a well known hymn of the Latin Church. Yours, etc., R.

"Blessed are the Dead that Die in the Lord."

His day of life is over:

We render thanks to Thee, And pray Thee, Lord, that peaceful His waiting time may be. He rests, O Lord, at Thy dear feet Until the day when all shall meet.

His joys of life are over: Earth's happiness no more Enchains a soul. Thou, Lord hast shown The joys Thou hast in store; For, Lord, to see Thy face in bliss, What earthly joy can equal this?

His toils of life are over: To him, Lord, Thou hast shown The comfort after conflict Thou givest 'neath Thy throne. All sorrows end at Thy dear feet, And there he rests till all shall meet.

But prayer is not over: Though hidden from his eyes, For lov'd ones still in conflict His intercessions rise. Grant, Lord, those prayers may never cease, And to all waiting souls grant peace.

And when the night shall pass, Lord, And the glorious day shall dawn, And he and we shall meet, Lord, On the resurrection morn, Grant us in bliss Thy face to see, And evermore to dwell with Thee.

MR. CAVEN delivered a very interesting lecture at St. Peter's, on the 20th inst., on "Music." It was given in his usual pleasing manner, and illustrated by extracts from the popular poets. He held his audience enraptured for over two hours, and was warmly applauded at the close. A general wish was expressed to hear Mr. Caven again ere the close of the lecture season.

Birds are not noted for courage, but many of them die game.

SUPREME COURT.

KING'S COUNTY.

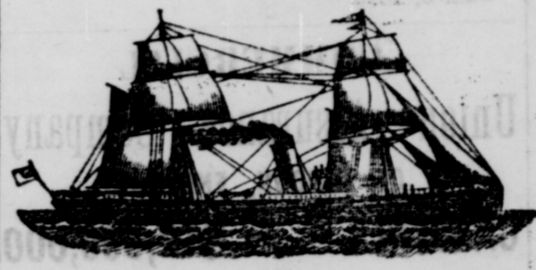
THE SUPREME COURT at Georgetown commenced its sittings yesterday, Mr. Justice Peters presiding.

The following gentlemen compose the Grand Jury: John F. Campion, Souris, Foreman; Joseph R. McDonald, Georgetown; Donald McLeod, High Bank; David Sensabaugh, Gasparaux; Hugh L. McDonald, Cardigan; Benjamin Douglas, Hillsboro; Donald McLeod, Montague; John A. Dingwell, Bay Fortune; Joseph Brehaut, White Sands; Charles McDonald, Little Pond; James Keefe, Rollo Bay; James McEwen, Lot 40; James Bell, White Sands; Richard W. Sprague, Montague; Jos. Dingwell, Fortune Road.

The only criminal case, viz., The Queen at the prosecution of Dennis Lawler vs. James Fraser, for larceny of thirty-five dollars, was confessed. There are on the docket some nineteen civil suits, none of which, it is thought, will take up much time.

1879. 1879.

Ocean Steamship Co'y



OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. SPRING TRIP.

THE FIRST-CLASS IRON SCREW STEAMSHIP

"PRINCE EDWARD," 1,364 Tons Register, Classed 100 A1, which is the highest Class at Lloyds.

ROBERT FRASER, COMMANDER,

Will be on the Berth at Glasgow to receive Cargo About the 15th March.

Leaving Glasgow for Liverpool about the 5th April, and will leave

Liverpool for Charlottetown ON OR ABOUT THE 15TH APRIL,

Carrying freight at through rates from London, deliverable at Charlottetown, Pictou, Georgetown, Summerside, Souris and Shediac.

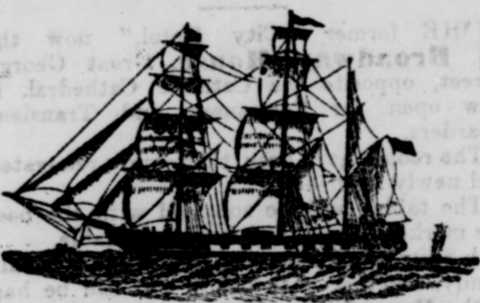
For freight, apply in London to JOHN PITCAIRN & SONS, 16 Great Winchester Street, E. C.; in Glasgow to JAMES KELS0, 134 St. Vincent Street; in Liverpool to PITCAIRN BROS., Brockley Buildings, 51 South John Street; in Pictou, N. S., to NOONAN & DAVIES; or here to

PEAKE BROS. & Co., MANAGERS.

Ch'town, Feb. 28, 1879.—6w 2aw

REGULAR TRADER.

From London to Charlottetown



P. E. ISLAND, DIRECT.

1879. SPRING TRIP. 1879.

The Well-known Clipper Barkentine

"Ethel Blanche," (NOW ON THE BERTH), 428 Tons Register, Coppered and Classed 9 years A1 at Lloyds,

CHARLES GOULD, COMMANDER,

Will Sail from London on or about the 5th April,

CARRYING FREIGHT AT THROUGH RATES TO

Pictou, Summerside and Georgetown.

This vessel was built expressly for the London trade, being thoroughly fitted out in every respect, with splendid accommodation for Passengers, and offers every inducement to Shippers.

Parties wishing to have their Goods delivered here early in the season will oblige by forwarding their orders in time, so as not to detain the Vessel.

For Freight or Passage, apply in London to JOHN PITCAIRN & SONS, 16 Great Winchester Street, E. C.; in Liverpool to PITCAIRN BROS., Brockley Buildings, 51 South John Street; or here to the owners,—

PEAKE BROS. & Co.,

Charlottetown, Feb. 28, 1879—4w 2aw

GENTS'

AMERICAN RUBBER BOOTS,

LADIES'

Rubber Shoes & Boots,

CHEAP,

—AT—

GEORGE E. FULL'S.

Feb. 27, 1879—3i

TROTTING RACES.

RACES to take place on the West River ice, on SATURDAY, the 1st February, for TWO BOX SLEIGHS; 1st Race open to all Entrance \$5.00.

2nd Race, for farmers' horses, barring Fred McLean's mare "Fairy." Entrance, \$5.00. Race, mile heats, three in five.

FRANK POLLARD, North River, Feb. 26, 1879—3in

UNDERTAKING, &C.

JAMES M. BUTCHER is now prepared to give close personal attention to all funerals that may be entrusted to him.

COFFINS, CASKETS, &C.,

of various sizes, styles and quality, always on hand, ready-made.

"PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES."

Ch'town, February, 24, 1879.

Union Bank of P. E. Island.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Stockholders of this Bank will be held at their Banking House, Charlottetown, on Wednesday, 5th proximo, at 12 o'clock, noon, to elect Directors for the ensuing year, and transact such other business as may be laid before the meeting. Proxies for voting must be left with the Cashier at least one day previous to said meeting.

GEORGE MACLEOD, Cashier.

Ch'town, Feb. 20th, 1879—

MAIL NOTICE.

MAILS to be forwarded via Cape Traverse will be closed at this Office daily—Sundays excepted—at 8 o'clock p. m.

The mail for Great Britain, by Canadian Packet sailing from Halifax on Saturdays, will be closed here on Wednesdays at 8 o'clock, p. m.

The mail for Great Britain via New York will be closed on Thursdays at 8 o'clock, p. m.

Mails for all places West of Charlottetown receiving Mails by Railway Train or Postal Car, will be closed daily at 7 o'clock, a. m.

Mails for Georgetown and Souris East, also for all places on the route to those points, will be closed daily at 2 o'clock, p. m.

Post Office open from 8, a. m., till 8, p. m. A. A. MACDONALD, Postmaster.

Post Office, Charlottetown, } 20th Feb., 1879.

BANK OF P. E. ISLAND.

THE Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank will be held at their Banking House, in Charlottetown, on Tuesday, the 4th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of electing Directors for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may be laid before them.

Proxies for voting must be left with the Cashier at least one day previous to the meeting.

J. R. BRECKEN, Cashier. Ch'town, Feb. 19, 1879—a rg p till meeting

FISH.

100 Quintals Prime Codds! CHEAP FOR CASH.

Wright & MacGowan,

Queen's Wharf.

February 8, 1878—law for 2m

Tax Notice.

ALL PERSONS owing City Taxes are respectfully requested to pay the same forthwith, or payment will be enforced by law! By order of the City Council.

W. SHEPHERD, City Collector.

Ch'town, Feb. 18, 1879.—10in

FLOUR!

200 bbls. "GREENHOLM," 100 bbls. "CAMLACHIE," 100 bbls. "NORVAL."

A consignment for sale at a bargain, for cash.

Wright & MacGowan,

Queen's Wharf.

February, 8, 1878—law for 2m

FOR SALE,

THE HOUSE and Premises occupied by the Subscriber, at the head of Queen Street. For further particulars apply to the owner on the Premises, or to ALEXANDER BROWN, Esq.

DONALD MCKENZIE

Ch'town, Feb. 3, 1879—2aw

NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders in the St. Lawrence Marine Insurance Company will be held at their Office, in Charlottetown, at 3 o'clock, p. m., on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day of March next, in compliance with the Act of Incorporation. By order.

FRED. W. HYNDMAN, Sec'y.

Ch'town, Feb. 8, 1879—law till date.

COAL!

100 Tons Round "ACADIA MINES," and a smaller lot of NUT, at our usual low prices.

Wright & MacGowan,

QUEEN'S WHARF

Ch'town, Feb. 8, 1879—law for 2m