

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

The News Room here received a telegram from Sackville on Friday last, announcing the arrival of the Mail Steamer *Arabia* at Halifax on the morning of that day. She encountered stormy weather during the whole passage. The steamer *Propeller* of the Galfway line ran ashore in Galway harbour—the tide flowed into her, and fears were entertained that she would become a wreck.—Rumours of impending war prevail upon the continent, which were somewhat strengthened by a speech from the King of Sardinia at the opening of the Legislative Chambers at Turin, which breathed a warlike spirit. The funds in the principal continental cities became depressed in consequence of this feeling.—The British Parliament is prorogued until the 3rd of February.—Chief Justice Macaulay of Canada has received the honour of Knighthood.—Proceedings are said to be nearly completed for the prosecution of the members of the Phoenix Club, lately arrested in Ireland for alleged treasonable practices.—The Markets are said to be about the same as at former advices.

The Mail for this Island is expected to arrive here on Wednesday next.

CHANGE OF GOVERNORS.

The Obstructives continue to glorify themselves amazingly about the report for several days in circulation respecting the appointment of a successor to Sir Dominick Daly. We cannot say whether there is any foundation for this report; but we believe that our present Governor has for several months expected an appointment to a far better Government than the one which he now holds, and we have no doubt that his wishes in this respect will be complied with in due course of time. If the change be, therefore, an advantageous one for his Excellency, his friends, though they may regret the removal for their own sakes, will heartily rejoice at it for his.

It is no new practice with our opponents to rejoice when a new Governor is about to be appointed in the place of an old one. This, within our own recollection, was the case when Sir Henry Vere Huntley left our shores. They expected great things from Sir Donald Campbell, but although the poor old gentleman tried to please them in some things, he found that he could not govern public opinion to meet their views and his own; and in the struggle he sacrificed health and life. When Sir Alexander Bannerman came to the Colony, the same party professed to be mightily pleased with the prospect before them. But Sir Alexander governed the Colony with so much firmness and independence, that they were better pleased at his departure than at his arrival. The same state of feeling prevailed at the arrival of Sir Dominick, and the best testimony that could be offered to the efficiency and integrity of his administration, is, that the Obstructives hate him not less cordially than they did any of his predecessors. In short, no Governor will ever please the Obstructives unless he lends himself body and soul to their designs. He must put them in office, and keep them there, in spite of public opinion, and he must do exactly as the proprietors direct him; otherwise the Obstructives will not condescend to speak a civil word regarding him. The kind of government they want is such as that which obtained when George the Third was King; but the present age has no relish for such rubbish, and any Governor who attempts to foist it upon a free people will find that he has fallen into a most disastrous error. In fact it is a matter of little consequence now who is at the head of affairs. Whoever he be, he must carry on the Government according to the principles of the new Constitution, which is not the handiwork of any clique or faction, but the embodiment of public opinion.

ELECTION FOR THE FIRST DISTRICT OF KING'S COUNTY.

The violence of temper displayed by our political opponents at the constitutional means taken by the Government to supply the vacancy for the first district of King's County, caused by Mr. Beaton's acceptance of an office, shows how deeply they have been disappointed in their hopes of getting the seat for their willing tool, McEachen. This man having forced his way into the House by false pretences in 1854, where he at once connected himself with the enemies of popular rights and interests—the party whom he then served are of course anxious that he should be again allowed to take a seat by means of similar artful dodging, convinced that he will never be able to claim one by fair election. The grounds on which the Tories claim the seat for McEachen are, that he was the next candidate on the poll to Beaton—that Beaton had no qualification, and that McEachen, therefore, should come in. It is true McEachen was the next candidate on the poll, because there was no other, but he was 311 votes behind Beaton, and did not poll one-fifth of the constituency. As to whether Beaton had a qualification or not, the time for deciding that question has passed away, so far as the election is concerned. If Mr. Beaton was known to have a defective qualification, when he was nominated, and before he was returned on the Sheriff's writ, Mr. McEachen should have protested against his return. But he did not protest, and he has now no ground on which to found a petition. It is not positively known that Mr. Beaton has thought proper to vacate his seat for want of a qualification—that is merely a surmise of his opponents; nor is it well known that he had a defective qualification at the time of his election. Many well informed persons had no doubt of the sufficiency of his qualification at that time; but a few days may make a sad change in the circumstances of the wealthiest men.

The election for the vacant seat will commence on the 5th February, by the nomination of a candidate at Georgetown. Should there be a contest, the polling will take place on the 12th. We have not heard, with any degree of certainty, who will be brought forward on the Liberal side; but we believe it will be either Mr. Cooper or Mr. McIntosh. We hope, however, the Liberals of the District will be united and firm in their support of the Liberal candidate, whoever he may be. Much depends on their choice at this election. The Tories think that by getting the seat for McEachen, they may destroy the present Government—repeal, or by other means vitiate every Liberal measure that has been passed for the welfare of the country—and put an end to all hopes of settling the long-agitated Land question. But we need not warn the Electors against McEachen. He basely deceived them once, and associated himself with their worst enemies. The last election showed how little he was thought of; and he is as much the slave of the Tories now as he was then.

Correspondence.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

MR. EDITOR.—In the *Islander* of the 4th ult. appears a communication over the *nom de plume* of "The Pedlar." That name becomes the writer's ideas better than any other he could have selected, I opine. Slander and calumny are most bewitching subjects for shallow, narrow minded men to go "a peddling" with. In exercising the artillery of their faculties on those subjects, persons like "Pedlar," who bend their talents in that direction, are insensibly led into impertinence and absurdity; and it cannot be surprising to see these obstructive opinions in the *Islander*, as I presume they have proved to be rather a poor stock in the rural districts of the eastern section of the Island; and having grown weary of disseminating obstructive theories and opinions, *viva voce*, Pedlar determines to immortalize himself in the columns of the *Islander*.

Now, Sir, we must recognise him as a hired tool of the Tory clique who writes falsehoods and misrepresentations in opposition to a public improvement, the utility and convenience of which is so apparent as the proposed road across Rollo Bay flats to the wharf. But permit me to review his sophisticated letter. I need only review that portion of it which makes reference to the road from the shore at Rollo Bay to the wharf, a distance of 786 yards, and not "nearly a mile," as Pedlar states—the parties otherwise mentioned in his slandering epistle may notice him if they choose.

He says "it is impossible to build a road in any place so much exposed to the sea," from which we are to conclude that in addition to his knowledge of the peddling business, and the School Visitor's duty, &c. he is a first class mechanic, capable of performing any piece of public work—a judge of the utility and convenience of such a road—and that he understands the geological structure of the Rollo Bay flats! A practical man in every sense of the word, you'll say, Mr. Editor, but very presumptive and very void of sense in his political epistles, in my opinion. To judge of this public improvement it is necessary to understand that the flats are composed of a hard black marsh, covered to a depth of from nine to fifteen inches by a sticky hard sand, which the tide in its ebbing and flowing has deposited over it, and on which the working of the sea has scarcely any effect. This caused the failure of Mr. Cooper's plan. If Mr. Cooper had had a knowledge of this hard marsh being under the sand, he would scarcely have proposed to the Government the building of a road with brush and sand; but he is entirely blameless, for as soon as he perceived his error he stopped the work and gave notice to the Government and the Commissioner respecting the matter, and spent no more money. The Commissioner was then instructed to let the work on a different plan, which was approved of by a meeting, and the work was accordingly continued. Had the work been done according to this plan, and according to contract (although not a substantial plan), it is believed that none of it would have been destroyed by the fall tides; but the Commissioner resided twelve miles from Rollo Bay, and could not be expected to be in attendance while the work was being performed to observe the proceedings of the contractor, who used refuse timber and butt-bolts that had been condemned for vessel use, and which were too short to fasten the timber together; besides, the piles which were intended by the Commissioner to have been driven four or five feet, were never driven more than one foot or eighteen inches at most. In addition to this, when his Road Certificate was signed by the Commissioner, it was done with an understanding that ten days work would still be performed, which was never done. The Commissioner is certainly blameable; but only for being too indulgent with the contractor, a fault to which all Road Commissioners are liable, and often commit. It is too much to expect of Commissioners. The superintending of public works, where any large sums are granted, should devolve on persons appointed expressly for that purpose by the Government, and paid by the Government for their time.

In conclusion, let me state that the tide never rises more than two and a half feet on these flats; that a wharf at the channel stands well, and is never injured by tide or sea; that but a small portion of the Road has been destroyed, and that which remains has had the effect of deepening the Harbour fifteen inches during the fall; that in addition to its utility to seamen, it is the nearest harbour to the inhabitants of the north side of Lots 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46 of Line Road, Bay Fortune Road, Bay Fortune and Rollo Bay; that it is the easiest harbour of access east of Three Rivers, and that such a harbour would bring vessels from the United States to purchase produce from our farmers, as was the case last fall, if they had a road to the wharf which the Government has erected at the channel; that competent judges have confidently stated that a road can be built, and warranted to stand for any number of years, for the sum of £400; that the people will not pay the sums they have subscribed to the contractor, because the work has not been done according to contract, but are taking measures to nullify their former list of subscriptions, and opening a new subscription list payable to the Government.

Hoping that no such non-progressionist as the Pedlar may ever represent the inhabitants of the First District of King's County,

I am, very truly yours,
Rollo Bay, January 10, 1859. CELTIUS.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We observe by the minutes of the Committee of Management, published in last week's *Islander*, the re-appointment of Mr. Irving as Secretary and Treasurer to that Institution, and also his Honor Judge Peters's resignation as President and as a member of the Society. We cannot avoid noticing the uncalled for expressions used towards Mr. Irving in the letter which contains his Honor's resignation. We think they are written in bad taste; but when we reflect that his Honor, from his high position on the Bench, does not hesitate to browbeat witnesses, added to the profession in which he has been brought up, we are forced to acknowledge that we ought not to be surprised at any thing he may do. The law, (and we are free to confess there are many gentlemen in the profession of refinement of mind and deficiency of expression), is nothing but a vast arena of the vices and evil passions of mankind, when its professors, stripping off their moral clothing, appear as gladiators to fight for victory, not for justice! to stand in the midst of a wrangling crowd, and constitute a focus for all its hateful feelings—to be made the confident of rogues and thieves—to be the depository of the offences—to witness perjury—to advocate wrong and oppose truth and justice, when hired to do so by a client; and finally, to be promoted to the Bench. Let the designing hypocrite be branded as he deserves—let every honest hand be furnished with a whip for the interested or malignant liar, and let selfish cunning and deceit be ever the object of our scorn, and do not let us be misled by the egotism and sophistry of even so great a person as his Honor Judge Peters. Let us take in review a few of the actions of this "wise and upright judge," who declines to have any connection with a Society whose affairs are entrusted to such management. (Honest man!) We are assured that his Honor Judge Peters, knowing there was only one cash of good turnip seed last Spring in the whole stock of the Society, took his own seed from that cash, and as President of the Society sanctioned seed being sold to the poor farmers that he knew to be three and four years old, and utterly worthless, and then boldly asserted, when a general and almost total loss of crop was

complained of, that his seed grew very well! We are requested to ask his Honor whether he will deny that he, and some of his clique, bought Clover Seed at the stores in Charlottetown to sow upon their own land, because they knew the seed in the Society's store had been kept so long that in all probability it would not grow; and yet, he being still President, allowed it to be sold to the public! "O most rightful judge." And we are told to enquire of his Honor whether he, being the sole cause of so much surplus stock left on hand, did not induce the Committee, in order to get rid of the responsibility, to take the custom of the Society from Mr. Whalley, the Seedsman at Liverpool, and give it to somebody else, stating, or implying, that bad seed was sent by Mr. Whalley, instead of honestly acknowledging that the fault was to be attributed to himself alone, by his obstinately insisting that the same quantity of seed must be had year after year, whether sold or not, until there was an accumulation of two, three and four years' seed on the premises, spoiling and spoiling, all of which was being sold to the public, by his Honor's sanction, as *new seed*. "O, most learned judge."

In alluding to the resignation of his Honor Judge Peters, we most heartily and cordially congratulate the Royal Agricultural Society in having got rid of an incubus, the fearful oppression of which has kept it from rising ever since its birth. Had his Honor been a practical farmer, the Society would not have been kept down under his influence; but when he knows very little of farming operations generally, nothing whatever of stock, added to a total deficiency in the *suaviter in modo*, which is generally looked for even in uncultivated society, we confess we see every reason to rejoice at the resignation of his Honor as a member of the Committee and as President, to neither of which offices should he, in our opinion, ever have been elected; and the Committee can now, being freed from the dictatorial and dogmatical influence which has heretofore been exercised over it, act upon, and up to the unbiased resolutions of their own deliberations.—*Com.*

Some observations contained in the above article are not only new to us, but of a startling nature. For very many years now the Royal Agricultural Society has received large sums of money from the public Treasury, varying from £500 to £1000 per annum, and the understanding with which the vote was given in the House of Assembly was, amongst other considerations, that by thus liberally endowing the Society, country farmers would be enabled to purchase seeds and implements at the Society's depot of a cheaper and better quality than they could purchase them elsewhere. But it seems that worthless trash of two kinds of seed has been imposed upon the public, with the knowledge and connivance of the officers. If the fact be as stated, Judge Peters is no doubt highly censurable for allowing this imposition to be practised; but we cannot consider the other officers, and particularly the Managing Committee, to be exempt from blame. If not the whole Committee, several of them must have been quite as well informed as to the bad quality of the seed as the President, and it was their duty to see that the trash was destroyed. The public will now, however, though late, learn a useful lesson with regard to the operations of the Society; and it will be the duty of the Legislature to discontinue the annual grant.—*Ed.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—You will oblige me by giving insertion to the following statement, in order to convince the public of the malignant attack made on me by Robert Atkinson, of Shediac, published in the *Islander* newspaper of the 28th instant. I beg to state, that I never said I did not care what became of the Mails in the sense Atkinson represents; on the contrary, I never allowed the Mails to go out of my sight, from the time I received them, until they were delivered at their destination, except when I locked them up in the mail-room on board the steamer. Mr. Owen, the late Postmaster General, as well as the present one, can attest to my diligence and care on that point, and so will Edward Smith, Esq., postmaster, at Shediac, if necessary.

But when I demanded a receipt for the delivery of the Mail Bags from Atkinson, the Way Office Keeper at the Railway Station, agreeable with instructions received from Mr. Postmaster General Davies, he objected to do so, and said to me, what am I to do if the Mails should be lost on their way to the Bent. I said, that was his look out; it was not my business; I did not care. We had high words at the time in consequence of his refusing to give the receipt demanded, and I refusing to deliver the Mails without it. Ultimately it was settled by my proceeding immediately to Mr. Smith, the Postmaster, a distance of three miles, who gave me an order to Atkinson, requesting him to give me receipts for any Mail Bags that I might deliver. He was very sulky at the time, and said Mr. Smith got the pay, and that he had the work to do and the responsibility to answer for. I deny that the Mail was ever over five minutes on board the Westmorland after her arrival at the Railway Station.

The second charge is false, as there was only the one Island Mail sent back by Atkinson to Charlottetown, instead of forwarding it as he ought to have done to St. John, and that was late in November, as my receipt shows. And the tale about the label is a pure invention on his part, as well as my going back and taking a Bag the second time.

I must say Mr. Atkinson is not particularly careful in delivering the Mails; and if I had not been attentive to my duties, the mails for other places would have found their way to Charlottetown many a time. The Mail Bags were very seldom delivered to me; I was generally directed to a corner and told to take them out; the office was generally in charge of a boy about 14 years of age.

The public can scarcely be humbugged into the belief that I stated I did not care about the Mails, and that I was only bound to deliver the Mails of one trip a week. If he can show I ever neglected to deliver any mail, for I have had some hundreds in my care, his charge might have some effect; but coming from a man who has committed a series of blunders, in attempting to cast the stigma upon me, throws it back upon himself.

With respect to the third charge of the mail containing the missing Registered Letters, I never said more than merely to enquire of him if he had sent it on; that affair has been fully explained.

The fifth charge is a real cock and a bull story. I leave the Editor of the Examiner to reply to it. Probably Mr. A. has been indulging at the times.

Why were you, Mr. Atkinson, compelled to give me a receipt for the St. John Mail Bag, if you had nothing to do with it, as you have said. You wish to appear a singular fellow, as you are. Mr. Smith and the Post Office department at St. John and this Island, are the best judges as to which of us has done his duty.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
THOMAS LUND.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last Tuesday evening, Mr. A. A. McKenzie delivered an instructive Lecture on "Acoustics." The lecturer, before entering upon his subject, gave a beautiful sketch of the life of the celebrated Scottish poet, Burns, whose contemporary probably thousands were then assembled to celebrate in different parts of the world. After the Lecture was concluded, a very spirited discussion ensued.

Next Tuesday evening Mr. Silas Barnard will lecture on "The water we drink, and by which we extinguish fires."

The opening of the doors to the Public this evening appears to have had the desired effect in drawing a large audience, for we were pleased to see the Hall crowded. The doors will again be thrown open to the Public, and we bespeak for Mr. Barnard a large attendance.—*Mon.*

THE ISLANDER'S REVIEW OF SIR D. DALY'S GOVERNMENT.

The *Islander* has devoted two lengthy leaders to a review of Sir D. Daly's administration of our Government, in the course of which the editor has discovered only three causes of complaint against His Excellency: viz: 1st—That he gave his sanction to a Bill altering the mode of summoning Juries. 2nd—That he sanctioned another Bill relating to the office of Sheriff. And 3rd—That he sanctioned the proceedings that were taken to organize a small military force, when the regular troops were withdrawn from the Colony through the misrepresentations of the late Sir Donald Campbell, and which force was to be paid out of the proceeds of the Rent Roll Bill. With regard to the first charge, the Jury Bill was passed before Sir Dominick came to the Colony; but if it had been introduced in his time, it would not only have been his duty, but we believe his pleasure, to assent to it. It is an excellent Bill, and prevents tampering with the Jury lists, which the old law did not. The principle of the Sheriff's Bill—the subject of the second charge—was recognized by the House of Assembly in 1851, when a similar Bill was passed, three years before Sir Dominick came to the Island. But this measure was loudly called for, and the object of it was to prevent the Supreme Court from choosing for the office of Sheriff the same political partisans every year. The law is now the same as in the other provinces; and instead of evil, benefit has resulted from its operation. The Judges of the Supreme Court ought to be grateful to the *Islander* for the compliments paid to them in connection with this subject. They are told that the Executive has corrupted the stream of justice as it flows through that Court, and that the whole judicial power of the land is a base instrument in the hands of the Government. This falsehood is too apparent for refutation.

With respect to the third charge, His Excellency the Governor acted in accordance with instructions from the Colonial Office, the authorities in which are now lauded with so much obsequiousness by the *Islander* people; and in this case, as well as in the other two, His Excellency acted by and with the advice of his Council—who, if there was any blame to be attached to the measures, should alone be held responsible for them.

The *Islander's* attack upon Sir Dominick is a wretchedly lame and impotent affair, to which we have given but a passing glance for the present. If no stronger charges can be brought against him, the defence of His Excellency, when the time comes for it, will be an easy task; but it will be gratifying to him and to his friends to reflect that, after nearly five years rule his worst enemies could prefer no accusations against him further than that he had given his assent to two particular Acts of Parliament, which were called for by the circumstances of the country—which were amongst the best acts of his Administration, and for passing which the Executive Council are entitled to a full share of censure or applause.

PUBLIC MEETING IN KING'S COUNTY.

This meeting of the electors of King's County, held at St. Peter's Bay, on Wednesday last, was one of the most numerous gatherings of the kind we have ever witnessed in this Colony during the winter season. It included persons from the remotest sections of the County—from the Head of the Hillsborough to the East Point—from Souris, Rollo Bay, Bay Fortune, Upper and Lower Grand River, Launching Place, Cardigan, Montague, &c., and it was addressed by many of the most intelligent and influential men of the County. The first part of the proceedings had reference to an application to be made to the House of Assembly for pecuniary aid towards improving the navigation of St. Peter's Harbour, and after passing some resolutions on the subject, a subscription list was opened to aid the object in view. The subject of the Land Question was then discussed at great length, and several resolutions were passed by acclamation in connection with it. Murdoch Murray, Esq., J. P., occupied the chair, which was placed upon a spacious platform erected in front of Mr. Sutherland's house, and J. C. Underhay, Esq., J. P., assisted by Joseph McVarish, Esq., J. P., acted as Secretaries, who are authorised to prepare the proceedings of the Meeting for publication, which will be given to our readers in our next No. We shall forbear until then to make further remarks on the spirit which characterised this important meeting.

THE LOAN BILL.

We have received letters from Summerside and other parts of Prince County, informing us that petitions are being hawked about that County, addressed to—we don't know who—against the Loan Bill. What fools there must be in Prince County! Don't they know that the Loan Bill is a dead letter, until the Imperial Government shall give the guarantee; and the Proprietors, by their intrigues at the Colonial Office, have stopped that for the present.

DR. GESNER IN NEW YORK.—Dr. A. Gesner, formerly of this city, has been lecturing in New York on the "North American Fisheries." The Dr., if he has not thrown off his allegiance, has certainly thrown off much of the respect he once evinced for his countrymen. In the course of his remarks he drew some unfavourable comparisons between our fishermen and those of the U. States. The Editor of the New York *Albion*, who was present at the lecture, takes exception to many of the Doctor's remarks. We give an extract from the *Albion*—

"Dr. Gesner compared the character of the American fishermen—'ours' as he called them—with that of the Provincials who dwell along the shore, very much to the disadvantage of the latter. He represented these, his old acquaintance, as lazy and thriftless, planting a few potatoes, catching a few fish, studying only how to exist; and nothing more. The American fishermen on the other hand, he described as exclusively the hardy and industrious workers on the waters of the Bays and Gulfs of the East and North. 'The Colonial fisherman lets his jigger grow black and rusty,' says the Doctor: 'the American keeps his bright with sandpaper.' This is mere generalisation, from a specific fact, and cannot be said of the Provincial fishermen as a class. In regard to carrying into effect the Treaties between Great Britain and the United States, the lecturer announced that the Colonists were much more harsh in their dealings with American fishermen than the British man-of-war supervisors; and as a climax, to show a reason why our naval officers were inclined to be lenient with trespassers, he added: 'The blood of an Englishman boils on coming in contact with a man who hauls fish,' a remark which caused great laughter, but whether at the lecturer or with him, we cannot say."

The St. John *Morning News*, in giving the *Albion* article, has introduced it with some lengthy strictures on the Doctor's character. Dr. Gesner is possessed of some ability, and has a ready mode of turning his own labor, and that of others, to a good account—he was employed during Sir John Harvey's administration in New Brunswick, for two or three years, as Provincial Geologist, at a salary of £200 a year, we think (not £600 as stated by the *News*) and some years since was employed for a short time by the government of this Province. The Doctor's great Asphaltum cases in this and the adjoining