

LET II, March 1st, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR,—You may recollect that last summer I addressed a letter to you, as one of the delegates, on the subject of the Land Commission. I then declared my belief that the whole affair was a humbug. How fully I am borne out in that belief, must be evident to every one who has read his Excellency's Speech, wherein he says—"The Colonial Minister did not anticipate that the Legislature would have passed an Act of Assembly antecedent to the making of the award," or, in other words, the Duke of Newcastle must be certain of the Commissioners giving their award in favour of the Proprietors before he recommends the final passing of the Bill; and this, I believe, has been effected through the Government, which is known to be favourable to the Proprietors. The cry amongst the Tories at the last election was, Down with taxation. Instead of this, taxation was increased, so that smuggling has been carried on to such an extent that with a double tax on Spirits the revenue has decreased; and we do not hear that temperance is the cause of it.

We were promised an Elective Council, instead of which five additional members were appointed; and this was done without any authority which the Government dared to show the public; and many believe it was done without any authority whatever. However, these matters to be brought forward at the proper time, when the electors will have an opportunity of rectifying the error they committed in having a Proprietary Government to rule over them. By giving the above a corner in your liberal and independent journal, you will oblige

Yours truly, J. WARBURTON.

THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—A letter appears in the last *Islander* from Mr. John Hunter, Captain of Volunteers, wherein he states that a certain letter, written by him in June last, and addressed to the Rev. Mr. McLeary, was marked "private," and thereby endeavoured to show a breach of confidence on the part of that gentleman.

The letter in question was put into my hands by the Mail Carrier, Mr. Archibald McLeary, by the orders, as he stated, of Captain Hunter, that I might answer it in the absence of the Rev. gentleman to whom it was addressed—a most extraordinary request if the letter had been marked "private," or even intended to be so. I accordingly opened and read the letter, and told Mr. McLeary I had no answer to return. I am not, however, without hopes of being able to refresh Captain Hunter's memory by a sight of the original, which may convince him that it was not marked "private."

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

NICHOLAS CONROY.

Charlottetown, March 9, 1861.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., March 11, 1861.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

UNITED STATES.

Our American papers, received by the Mails of the past week, are filled with the most elaborate details of the ovation given to the President elect on his journey towards the Capital, where, we have no doubt, he was duly inaugurated on Monday last, without any violence from the Southern secessionists. His reception in New York was exceedingly brilliant, fully equal to that given to the Prince of Wales. Mr. Lincoln made speeches at the several cities through which he passed, on his way to Washington; but in no instance did he give the least indication of his future policy.

The secession movement has not slackened its pace in the six seceding States; but their number has not been increased. Mr. Jefferson Davis—a violent anti-Union man—has been elected President of the Southern Confederacy; and a Congress has been engaged in framing a Constitution for the new Republics. Davis was inaugurated in Montgomery, Alabama; and on his way thither from Mississippi, he was met by thousands of crowds in every town and village; and it does not appear that he allowed their enthusiasm to subside, for we are informed that he made the unaccountable number of twenty-five speeches in one day, of the most inflammatory description.

Acts of spoliation continue to be committed on the property of the Federal Government by some of the most unscrupulous of the secession leaders; and in one case we learn that General Twiggs, lately in the pay of the Union, has committed the daring and treasonable act of giving up to Texas, one of the seceding States, property belonging to the Federal Government, worth a million and a half dollars. The following additional items of news, in reference to the secession, will be found interesting.

NEBRASKA CITY, February 19.—Fort Kearney was taken possession of by the secessionists. The Palmetto flag waved over it this morning; but an attack was made upon it by Unionists, the Palmetto flag torn down, and the American ensign with the Stars and Stripes, was hoisted amid intense excitement.

MONTGOMERY, February 20.—English agents are here, negotiating with the Government of the Southern Confederacy, and offering liberal advances.

The Southern Congress has passed an Act declaring that munitions of war, breadstuffs, provisions, and agricultural products, also all goods from the United States, shall be admitted duty free, for the period of one month.

WASHINGTON, February 21.—The French Minister has received despatches from the Government, favoring secession; but the official communications to the French Consul are said to be of a contrary nature.

The Emperor demands explanations from the United States Government.

The Russian Minister has despatches which favor the secessionists.

The United States Government has despatches from its representatives at Foreign Courts, which state that the Great European Powers have resolved not to recognize the Southern Confederacy until it has been acknowledged by the Government of the United States at Washington.

SAVANNAH, February 22, 1861.—The Governor of the Independent Republic of Georgia has seized three New York Ships, and will hold them until the arms seized in New York are given up to the Agent of Georgia, which, although advised by Counsel, has not yet been done.

While noticing those proceedings between the North and South, it will not be out of place here to quote the sentiments which fell from the lips of Her Majesty the Queen, at the recent opening of the British Parliament, in which Her Majesty intimated as a lively interest in American affairs, on account of the recognition given to her son, and expressing a heart-felt wish for a satisfactory adjustment of the existing difficulties. Her Majesty says:—

"Sincere differences have arisen among the States of the North American Union. It is impossible for me to look without great concern upon any events which can affect the happiness of a people purely allied to my subjects by descent, and closely connected with them by the most intimate and friendly relations. My heart-felt wish is that those differences may be susceptible of a satisfactory adjustment.

"The interest which I take in the well-being of the people of our Empire cannot be increased by the kind and ardent reception given by them to the Prince of Wales during his recent visit to the continent of America.

"I am glad to take the opportunity of expressing my warm appreciation of the loyalty and attachment to my person and throne manifested by my Canadian and other North American subjects on the occasion of the residence of the Prince of Wales among them."

DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD.—A terrific freshet occurred at Albany, N. Y., by which property—stores, warehouses, wharves, and dwelling houses—to the amount of \$100,000, was destroyed. A late Albany paper says:—

The previous warm weather admonished many citizens of danger, and they moved their goods to places of safety. Gangs of men worked all night, and as a consequence the destruction was much less. Many poor families are in a most deplorable condition. The people gathered in places on the banks of the river to an enormous height, and further catastrophes are feared.

We group the following additional items of U. States news:—

A painful sensation has been produced at Washington in the announcement of the death, by suicide, of Commander Edward G. Pilon of the United States Navy, who shot himself through his head at his residence in the city Friday afternoon. He left the table, where he was dining with his family, and without the slightest warning retired to an upper room and committed the fatal act.

AFFAIRS OF HONOR.—Both Parties Killed.—A duel was fought in Georgia, on the 8th inst., between Edwin Hart, editor of the *Fal* (Fla.) and a gentleman named Coleman, in which both parties were killed. Rev. Wm. W. Walker and J. E. R. Crab were arrested in Westmoreland county, Va., last week, and bound over not to fight a duel, which had been arranged to come off with rifles. The difficulty originated in politics.

The New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor have eighteen thousand five hundred and eighty-five persons now dependent upon them for aid, and the donations have been inadequate to the wants of the association.

The Auditor of Public Accounts of Louisiana has made a report that within thirty years there have been ninety-one defalcations by State Tax Collectors, exceeding \$350,000.

Pennsylvania offers to guarantee U. S. bonds to the pretty amount of \$2,800,000. Sidney Smith should have lived to hear of such an incident in American politics. Drab is looking up as war approaches.

COLONIAL AFFAIRS.

The news from the adjoining Provinces is not very important. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the proceedings of their respective Parliaments constitute the chief topics of interest. Much excitement appears to prevail amongst the rival politicians in Nova Scotia; but the Government appear to have a fair working majority—as to whether they are all-able to sit, is a matter upon which we are not prepared to pass an opinion.

DEATH OF A DISTINGUISHED CANADIAN.—The Hon. D. B. Viger, a member of the Legislative Council of Canada, died at Montreal on the 13th ult. Mr. Viger is the author of several interesting papers on the early history of Canada, chiefly illustrative of the labors of Roman Catholic missionaries, in civilization and colonization that Province. For his labors in the direction he received from the Pope the rank of a Roman Cavalier.

By the Mail from Newfoundland, received via Halifax, we learn that the Sealers were preparing for their usual voyages; and as many of our Island people are deeply interested in their enterprise, we cannot but wish them success.

We regret to hear that St. John's has not escaped the scourge of Small Pox. It is said to be spreading to a great extent in that place.

A report has been in circulation here—based, as we understand, on private information—to the effect that Sir Alexander Bannerman has dissolved his Executive Council without their consent. Of course we cannot vouch for the correctness of this report. The political horizon of the sister Island has been very cloudy for some time; and remembering how Sir Alexander lectured the House of Assembly at the commencement of their present Session, which could not have been very acceptable to those who command the majority—we should not be at all surprised if his Excellency adopted the extreme course attributed to him.

A sloop called the "Electric," laden with fish from Placentia Bay to St. John's, sprung a leak and foundered about six miles east of Point Lance, carrying down with her two men.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The only news of importance from Europe, received since the arrival of the last English steamer at Halifax, is a report, brought by the Canadian steamer Portland—which we read in the St. John, N. B. *Freeman*—that Gaeta had capitulated, and that the King and Royal family had left the doomed fortress in a French ship. If this intelligence be true, there is no doubt that the non-intervention policy, lately announced by Louis Napoleon at the opening of the French Chambers, tended very materially to hasten the capitulation.

THE LAND COMMISSION—THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE'S DESPATCH.

Well! the great bubble has burst sooner than we expected it would. The correctness of our first impressions in regard to the Land Commission, is established beyond a doubt by the despatch from the Colonial Minister, which was laid before the Legislature during the past week. The tenantry may now settle themselves down as soon as they can tendure with what patience they may—if they can find patience a virtue in this case—all the hardships of their hard condition as serfs to unforgiving agents and their masters beyond the seas. If they trust to the Commission to supply a remedy for their grievances, they will certainly be trusting to a broken reed. But we hope that when the time shall come, they will make some of their representatives duly sensible of the delusion they have practised upon them.

For some weeks previous to the arrival of the Commissioners in August last, the *Islander* published several leading articles, in which it was stated and re-stated that the award would be binding on none but the few proprietors who consented to the arbitration—that no enquiry would be made into the conditions of settlement under the original grants; that the question of escheat, in short, would not be entertained—that the subject of the Reserves would not be investigated, nor the arrears of Quit Rents enforced—and that the few proprietors who agreed to the reference could not be compelled to sell under the award unless the price fixed would afford them a sufficient compensation for the relinquishment of their titles. We contended that if these views were correct, the tenantry would be no better off, or have no better prospect of improving their condition than if the Commission had never been thought of; for if a leaseholder wants to buy out the freedom of his farm under the present state of things, the landlord will readily sell it to him, provided he gets the price he wants. When the Commissioners, however, opened their Court, the learned Counsel appointed by the Government repudiated in very strong terms the notions of the *Islander*. He argued that the Court would certainly be useless, and had better be closed at once and for ever, if it could not exercise control over all the township lands in the Colony; and determine the questions of escheat, fishery reserves, quit rents, and every thing connected with the leasehold tenure. It was his opinion that the powers of the Commissioners were absolute and unlimited—and perhaps they were—under the Act which it was then supposed would shortly become the law of the land.

This broad and liberal view of the whole subject gave much encouragement to the tenantry, and even led us to think that the Commission might turn out better than we at first thought it would.

But the despatch from the Colonial Minister, dated the 2nd January, 1861, shows us that second thoughts are not always to be depended upon; for the *Islander's* views are really confirmed by it, and the whole scheme is virtually shown to be a delusion.

The first part of the despatch refers to "an Act to authorize grants of the shores of this Island," which the Duke of Newcastle has refused to present for the royal allowance, being apprehensive that it would interfere with all the fishery reserves, which it was not intended to affect. These reserves must not be disturbed, says the Duke, and so the Act is allowed to drop.

The Colonial Minister then proceeds to notice the Land Commission Bill. He says he merely wanted the Legislature to give a pledge that they would pass a law to give effect to the award after the award was given. He wanted no prospective legislation. Why did he not state this view in his despatch of June last, when he was well aware that the Legislature had passed a Bill in the previous month of May? The reason is obvious. By some extraordinary shuffling on the part of the Government, the Bill did not go home for five months after it was passed here! In the meantime the landholders had ample time to prepare their memorials against it. These memorials were sent to the Colonial Minister without any solitary word of comment upon them. There

was not even a copy taken of any of them, which it was the duty of the Government to do; so that now the Legislature and the country are ignorant of the grounds upon which the Bill was opposed by the landholders. From these circumstances it was not difficult for the Colonial Minister to perceive that the Government were indifferent to the fate of the Bill, if not secretly anxious for its destruction; and there is no doubt that the proprietors in England brought their influence to bear upon the Duke of Newcastle. We are not, therefore, surprised at the excuses that are offered for setting that measure aside. The Duke says:—

"The present Act, or any other Act which could be passed at the present moment, might in the event prove either too sweeping or too limited for that object. It would be too sweeping if it were found that the references promulgated decisions respecting lands belonging to persons who have not consented to the reference; or if they made awards respecting questions (like that of escheat) which did not fall within the scope of their enquiry."

It would be too limited, or at least inadequate for its purpose, if it failed to make such provisions of detail as were necessary to give practical effect to the general principles laid down by the Commissioners."

Here we have a positive declaration that the Commissioners shall not interfere with the estates of the non-consenting proprietors; and that all "questions, like that of escheat," (including, of course, quit rents, fishery reserves, and loyalist claims)—do not "fall within the scope of their enquiry."

It would appear from the next paragraph of the Despatch, that the enquiry instituted by the Commissioners last Summer was not satisfactory "to all concerned," because the evidence taken by them was not given upon oath. It is evident that the proprietors have remonstrated against the mode in which the Commissioners conducted their proceedings; and intimated that the tenantry were unworthy of belief without the solemnity of an oath. The paragraph in which this disparaging insinuation is contained is as follows:—

"For these reasons it appears to me impossible to advise Her Majesty to assent, at the present moment, to any such general law as that which has been now forwarded. Nor do I see that any present legislation could be valuable, except such as may be based upon suggestions to be made by the Commission, with the view of defining the persons and questions to which their power is to extend, or of confining them to the powers (like those of compelling the attendance of witnesses, and examining on oath) which are requisite to enable them to carry on their enquiries to the satisfaction of all concerned."

The next and concluding paragraph gives a gentle hint to the Commissioners "not to excite unreasonable expectations or stimulate agitation." It is as follows:—

"I trust you will impress upon the Commissioners (if requisite) the necessity of avoiding, as far as possible, any step calculated to excite unreasonable expectations, or to stimulate agitation. On the other hand, while assuring the Proprietors that the award of the Commissioners will not be enforced by Her Majesty's Government against any persons who have not either personally, or by their representatives, consented to refer their claims to arbitration, I should wish you also to observe to them that their refusal to consent frankly in a measure which was intended to compose existing differences, and which, so far as it has yet proceeded, has been assented to by a large portion of their body, will materially influence the conduct of Her Majesty's Government, if called upon hereafter to support them in any future dispute with their Tenants."

There is no doubt but the proprietors who petitioned against the Bill misinformed the Secretary of State that the Commissioners did "stimulate agitation," and did "excite unreasonable expectations." It is not our business to defend them against an imputation of this kind. If they are willing to submit to it we are content. But we may say that their insinuation of their Court was the strongest incentive to agitation that could be devised; and if any persons are responsible for the evil of exciting unreasonable expectations, the majority of the House of Assembly are; for they have repeatedly assured the tenantry all over the Island, that the Commission would redress all their grievances. But it turns out now that the Commission can result in nothing but determining the price at which the tenants on a few estates may purchase their farms when they can get money to pay for them, provided those prices will be such as to meet the approval of the proprietors who will be affected by the award!

The threat contained in the last part of the foregoing paragraph, to the effect, that the support of Her Majesty's Government will be withheld from those proprietors who will not voluntarily act upon the award—will give little or no uneasiness to those people. The "support" referred to, is most probably an armed force to batter the tenantry in case of resistance to the payment of the rate. No Minister would dare send troops into this country expressly for this purpose. But we are confident there will never be a collision of such a serious nature as to afford the slightest justification for an armed intervention. The non-consenting proprietors know very well that the award will never take effect unless it is perfectly satisfactory to all their body; and in that event they will be only too happy to embrace it; and thus render idle and ridiculous the threat of the Duke of Newcastle.

It is unnecessary to offer further comments at present. Every intelligent man must perceive that the whole scheme of the Commission is a humbug. We do not mean to say that the Commissioners are parties to the humbug. Their character is too high for that; but we cannot help thinking that they must feel humbled, if they proceed with their enquiry, after being stripped of the powers and authorities which they expected to possess under the rejected Act.

The Colonial Secretary devotes a lengthy article in the last *Islander* to gross personal abuse of Mr. Coles for having detected a mis-statement in a despatch written by the Lieut. Governor to the Duke of Newcastle, dated 20th April, 1860, in which his Excellency states that the Bill to give effect to the award of the Commission had passed both branches of the Legislature, whereas, it appears by the Legislative Council Journals, that the Bill did not pass until the first of May. Mr. Coles, however, excoriated the Lieut. Governor from any intention to deceive the Duke of Newcastle by this mis-statement, feeling assured that his Excellency was misinformed by his advisers, as to the stage at which the Bill had arrived.

Mr. Pope is dreadfully shocked at the idea of any person speaking disrespectfully of the Queen's Representative. While Mr. Coles is free from censure on this head, we beg to ask what was Mr. Pope's conduct towards Sir Alexander Bannerman and Sir Dominick Daly? He did not merely accuse those gentlemen of "lying and falsehood," in a single instance, but maintained a regular system of detraction against them for many months, descending often to the lowest Billingsgate abuse. Mr. Pope was not in the least shocked at the imputation of "falsehood" cast upon "Her Majesty's Representative," in 1859, when Col. Gray said, in his place in the House of Assembly—"The loss of that Bill" (meaning the Loan Bill)—"was not attributable to the influence or action of the proprietors, but solely to the falsehoods and misrepresentations contained in the despatch which was sent from here." See Parliamentary Reporter, page 11 and page 12 for similar language. There was no qualification of these sweeping assertions in either case.

It is very interesting to hear Mr. W. H. Pope lecture Mr. Coles or any one else on the enormity of lying. If experience makes one perfect in the practice of an art, no one understands the art of lying better than Mr. Pope. While occupying the editorial chair of the *Islander* he has given proofs of great proficiency in it; and we are sure that no one will now venture to enter the lists as a competitor against him.

Mr. Pope alludes to "an affair of honour" in which Mr. Coles was engaged, a few years ago, with a prominent member of the Government, and says that Mr. Coles' pistol was uncocked when he faced his adversary. This is not the fact. We know, however, that Mr. Coles spared the life of his opponent after receiving his fire; and we know, moreover, that when that opponent came to the ground, his friend produced a pair of empty pistols for display, and had to borrow from Mr. Coles's friend the powder and ball to give effect to the sanguinary intentions of his opponent, and shoot Mr. Coles in the

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The Auditors' classified Accounts, for the year 1860, were laid before the Assembly during the past week, almost in solemn silence, the "Cancellor of the Exchequer," whoever he is, not having a word to say in explanation of the amount of expenditure or revenue. But the document speaks for itself, and a woful tale it tells of financial mismanagement. Scarcely two years have elapsed since the party in power assumed their present position, and they have added considerably more than twenty-two thousand pounds to the debt of the Colony; and, with the exception of the Selkirk Estate, they have nothing worth noticing to show for it. The Liberals were in power for nearly eight years; and added only about £2000 to the public debt during that long period. The Liberals bought double the quantity of land purchased by the present Government—they expended twice the amount each year on roads and bridges—they gave enormous grants for the encouragement of education—they spent far larger sums than their successors to foster agricultural science and industry—they built numerous expensive wharves, bridges, and light-houses; and when they resigned power the debt was only £39,000—it being £31,000 when they came into office. Now the debt is £62,000, notwithstanding that there has been an increase of taxation from 25 to 100 per cent.; and all the Government have to show for this extraordinary increase is the purchase of the Selkirk Estate and Lot 54. On the former the majority of the settlers had not paid a shilling of rent for eighteen years, and owed fourteen thousand pounds to their landlord when the Government purchased their freedom at the public expense. On the latter property, the settlers are still a poorer class—the whole quantity of land purchased on this township does not exceed 13,000 acres, and a very large proportion of that consists of worthless swamps. The value of this speculation may be inferred from the fact that it has not yet returned one shilling to the Treasury, although it has been in the hands of the Government for several months.

We give below the following brief abstract of the debt. We shall, on another occasion, notice some of the principal items of expenditure during the past year:—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Expenditure for the year 1860 (£51,794 12 9), Receipts for year ending 31st Jan., 1861 (43,113 13 5), Excess of expenditure (418,680 19 4), Balance against Colony 31st Jan., 1859 (£30,847 10 2), Do Do 31st Jan., 1861 (62,129 18 3).

Increase of debt in less than two years, £22,282 8 0

We find, on reference to another source, that since the close of the financial year, on the 31st January last, about two hundred Warrants have been issued, embracing an amount of between two and three thousand pounds, most of which was, no doubt, for services rendered during the past year.

It is worthy of remark, that very nearly three thousand pounds (£2900) were spent on the reception of the Prince of Wales. We shall endeavor to ascertain, by-and-by, how much of this large amount was spent in buying cheap ale and bread for the country people. The balance was, of course, expended chiefly for the decoration of our towns, &c.

THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

A Bill was introduced into the Assembly on Saturday, by Mr. Hayland, for the purpose of legalizing the Volunteer Corps, and compelling them to take the oath of allegiance. It is a very remarkable Bill, and will, if passed, cost the country a great deal of money. The remarks we intended to offer on this subject, in the present No., we shall reserve until the Bill is disposed of, as we may gather much additional information from the discussion which will take place on the second reading. We may observe, en passant, that the Government and their supporters are very sore about the charge of partizanship and the exclusion of Catholics in the formation of Volunteer Companies. The *Islander* has attempted to explain away the complexity of the Charlottetown authorities in the proscription of Catholics with respect to the intended formation of a Company at Casumpeque; and though we are willing to admit that the "authorities" are not so liable to censure as we thought they were with respect to this matter, the fact is notorious that Catholics were proscribed. Why has the *Islander* declined to explain away the notoriously partial conduct of the "authorities" here when they refused, upon an unfounded pretence, to let the Hon. F. Kelly organize a Company so far back as March last, after which several other Companies were formed? We shall have something to say in reference to this branch of the subject by-and-by. The *Monitor*, which is known to be under the control of a person high in authority, plainly states, in its last issue, that the reason why Catholics are not allowed to enrol themselves in Volunteer Companies, is, that they are dangerous and disloyal subjects! In reviewing the whole matter, we shall take care to prove that this is a bold and infamous slander.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Royalist." We shall give your letter as soon as we can find space for it.

John Kelly. We cannot make room for this second communication. We have already given you an opportunity to state your case in our columns, and in justice we could not refuse Mr. B. the same opportunity to reply. The whole matter partakes too much of a private character to warrant our giving any more space to it.

"Sophy Higginbottom." Our fair friend must perceive that her letter and the accompanying Valentine are now out of date. We offer our sympathy for her in the disappointment and distress to which she has been so cruelly subjected.

"An Engineer." In the crowded state of our columns, it is impossible for us to find room for your letter. The subject will, however, keep until a more convenient opportunity.

"Aurora." We shall publish your letter as soon as space will permit.

"A Subscriber" has forgotten to authenticate his statement regarding the extraordinary birth at Summerside by giving his own name. We must be sure that our information is correct before we publish the names of the parties referred to.

"Aberlunbee Witcock," and "Civis," have been received, and will receive an early attention.

Our correspondents must be aware that while the Legislature is in Session we cannot spare much room for their communications. We shall feel obliged, therefore, if they will not crowd upon us until a more favourable opportunity arrives. We are anxious to give the debates of the two branches of the Legislature as fast as the Reporters can furnish them. To do even this we shall have to publish a supplementary sheet occasionally, and leave out many advertisements, at a considerable loss to ourselves.

The Rev. James Phelan thankfully acknowledges the receipt of £6 13s. 9d. from the Managing Committee of the Masonic Lodge, to be distributed among the poor.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BANK OF PRINCE EDWARD. The Directors of this Bank have the pleasure of again reporting in favorable terms of the operation of this Institution. The business of the past year has been larger than that of any previous year, and conducted so successfully as to allow of the payment, in June and December last, of a dividend for each preceding half year of 4 per cent. on the Capital Stock, making 8 per cent. for the year.

No loss whatever having been sustained upon any of the operations of this Institution, the Directors have also enabled out of the profits realized, as detailed in the accounts now submitted, to write off a further sum of £1559 13s. 5d. on account of debts standing over since 1857, and accreted to be paid, and £100 of the amount of Bank furniture, having a balance in hand of net profits of £2,406 9s. 6d.

The Bank was completed during the past year, for its own security, to become the purchaser at a tender execution, of considerable Real Estate in Charlottetown. Part of this has been since disposed of with a profit, and it is hoped that the remainder may prove equally satisfactory.

It was not found necessary during the past year to import any specie from England, although large amounts and foreign exchange business have been transacted. It is, however, probable that an importation of specie may be deemed advisable during the next year to meet the increasing requirements of trade.

In conclusion we may be permitted in expressing their belief that the present position of the Institution is sound, and its future prospects in all respects encouraging.

THE MASONIC CONCERT.

For the benefit of the poor of this city came off last evening. We think we were warranted in saying this was the Concert of the season. The singing at the two previous Concerts was, we think, equal to that of last evening; but the addition of two musical instruments, well played, gave variety, and added a charm to the Music Concert which was wanting in the others. The brethren of the mystic tie occupied the platform—the members of St. John's Lodge on the right and those of Victoria Lodge on the left of the performers. The regularity of the performance, and the excellent quality of the music, were very pleasing effects. The amount realized is, we understand, about £60. Want of space precludes a more extended notice in our present number.

Catholic Young Men's Literary Institute.

In consequence of the unavailability of the evening, and the consequent smallness of the attendance at the above Institute on the 7th inst., Mr. Kelly's lecture on "Ancient Egypt" was postponed until Thursday evening next, 14th instant.

E. KELLY, Sec'y.

Obit.

In the Legislative Council on Wednesday last, the President announced the resignation of the Hon. Mr. McLeary, and intimated the resignation of his seat by his Excellency the Lieut. Governor, which resignation His Excellency has been pleased to accept.—Ed.

Obit. In April, 1859, on board Her Majesty's Ship *Northumberland*, at Bombay, Donald, youngest son of the late John McNeill, of New London, aged 19 years. The deceased was a promising young man, and much esteemed by his officers and comrades.

In the 22nd year of his age, at Middle, at St. Peter's Bay, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., Mr. Keable Coffin, second son of the late Mr. William Coffin. He died in peace.

At Woodside, Lot 49, on the 13th ult. Ann Denton, the beloved wife of Mr. William Story, in the 73rd year of her age, deeply regretted by her relatives and others who had the pleasure of her acquaintance.

On Thursday morning, the 21st instant, inflammation of the lungs, after a brief illness of eight days, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Isaac Gregory Williams, North Devon House, Charlottetown, aged 63 years. She was a native of North Devon, England; and came out to the Island, with her husband and a large family of children, in the year 1841. She leaves an aged husband, and a large family and a circle of friends to mourn her irreparable loss. The funeral will take place on Sunday, the 25th inst., at 3 o'clock, p.m., when friends and neighbors are requested to attend.

At Fort Augustus, on Monday, the 4th inst., after a long and painful illness she here with the annual Christ's resignation, Mrs. Eliza Brogan, the beloved wife of Mr. Patrick Brogan, in the 60th year of her age. Her loss will long continue to be felt, as a good Christian and kind friend, not only by her immediate relations, but also by hundreds in the community, to whom, for the past 21 years, she made herself more than a common friend in the hour of need, by her ministrations to the sick and wounded, in the capacity of physician and surgeon. She will be found willing to bear testimony to this, and also that her education as a female was not of a more ordinary kind. Requested in pace.

Ship News.

BARBADOS, February, 2nd.—Arrived Sago, McDonald, Georgetown, 28 days.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A Good Investment.

POSITIVE BARGAINS, FOR CASH ONLY. ALL THE DRESSES, PAISLEY AND CASHMERE SHAWLS and MANTLES, will be cleared out, commencing from this date. Call early if you want BARGAINS. C. C. VAUX.

Glasgow House, Queen Street, March 11, 1861.

GOGGLES.

IMPROVED Wire Gunge Eye Protectors Green Glasses. For sale at the Cash Drug Store of M. W. SKINNER. March 8.

PATENT WIRE CARTRIDGE for shooting wild Fowl at a long distance, and a large supply of POWDER, SHOT and Percussion CAPS, &c. For sale at the Cash Drug Store of M. W. SKINNER. March 8.

NOTICE.

Assignment of Debts. ALL Persons indebted to WILLIAM LENO, of Township No. 24, Traders, are hereby required to make immediate payment to the undersigned, Trustees and Assignees, under Decree dated 12th February, 1861.

JOHN LONGWORTH, JOSEPH HENSLEY, JAMES ANDERSON, GEO. S. BAGNALL. Charlottetown, March 8, 1861.

TO THE MERCANTILE COMMUNITY.

THE Subscriber being anxious to obtain employment, would thankfully undertake any WRITING, such as Posting and making up Accounts, Balancing Partnership and other Books, &c., and will guarantee fidelity and accuracy in any matters with which he may be entrusted.

R. B. IRVING, Notary Public, Conveyancer and Accountant. 23th February, 1861.

NOTICE.