

Professor Sheldon's Report

PROF. SHELDON, who, last summer, with Mr. Sparrow, visited Canada on invitation of the Minister of Agriculture, publishes a report which speaks glowingly of the Dominion as a field for emigration. In this report he gives a good deal of attention to Prince Edward Island, which, he says, is "in some respects the most beautiful Province of the Dominion. He speaks in very glowing terms of the island, and, in fact, the pliancy of the soil, he remarks, "is easy to cultivate; sound and healthy, capable of giving excellent crops of roots, grains and grasses—of an honest soil which will not fail to respond to the skill of the husbandman." He shows the "Prince Edward Island" is particularly adapted for raising horses, cattle and sheep. The horses, being the most to be seen in any of the Provinces, he is in a "small way" the Arabia of the Dominion. The Professor refers to our sheep as good, but the breeds are open to improvement, and he remarks that it cannot but be regarded as a good thing for the Island that Senator Garvell has opened up such an important trade as the export of wool to England. Our cattle are not near so good as our sheep, and Professor Sheldon regrets that our farmers do not avail themselves of the advantages of the Stock Farm. However, as a trade in cattle is open to our farmers, the Island farmer may, in fact, "shoulders to the wheel" and bring up the cattle to a level with the sheep. The Professor refers to the growth of wheat in this Province as good, the growth of oats as probably the best in the Dominion, and the growth of potatoes as large and excellent. He also refers to the mine of wealth our farmers have in the beds of mussels found in the bays and rivers, and says this mud is "a fertilizer" of a singular value and potency. After referring to the price of lands in the Province, the educational advantages of its people, its good roads, its railway, its excellent harbors, mills, factories, etc., the Professor says: "It is true that a man, who has spent out on a small farm in Prince Edward Island that would be in England, but at the same time there are no numerous evidences of happiness and contentment among the people. It appears to me that Englishmen of moderate ambition would find homes congenial to their tastes in this beautiful Province; and I have an impression that, with cattle and sheep raising and fattening for the English market; better times are in store for these hospitable and kindly Islanders, many of whom I shall have known from my first feelings of more than ordinary kindness."

The "Patriot" and the Civic Election.

FORGIVE me seldom smiles upon the Patriot that it has a good reason to congratulate itself on the fact that its advocacy was not fatal to the candidature of Mr. Dawson.

But the Patriot is not magnanimous in its hour of triumph, for it goes out of its way to have a sting at THE EXAMINER which it charges with doing its little best, in a small and mean way, to injure Mr. Dawson's election. It does not, it is to be noted, attempt to support this charge by a tithe of evidence. Nor does it attempt to show that the reasons we advanced in opposition to the candidature of Mr. Dawson were sound and correct. It does not say that even one so meritorious as Mr. Dawson should hold the Mayorality in perpetuity. It does not dare to say that it is exactly right that one so intimately connected as Mr. Dawson with the Bank on which the city is dependent for advances of money should hold the office of Mayor. The citizens yesterday showed that they possess unbounded confidence in Mr. Dawson. By their votes they have virtually given him complete control of the city for it is a well-established fact that that power which controls the purse strings. Had it not been for Mr. Dawson's past record, and for the unimpaired ability Mr. Dawson possesses, we should, for the reasons we have mentioned, not have contemplated our dealing with any stalling the evident objections to his candidature—we should have urged these with all our strength. The questions as to whether the course we pursued, in these premises, was a "small and mean" way of injuring Mr. Dawson, we leave to the judgment of the citizens, and to Mr. Dawson himself.

The Meeting on Tuesday Night.

IT IS not probable that the meeting held in Market Hall last Tuesday evening had any effect on the election. It was too late for that. Nevertheless, some good grain appeared amid the superabundance of chaff—some good ideas were uttered and discussed, and Mr. Henry Coumbes is to be thanked for the active part he took in having the meeting called.

The speech of Councillor Blake was an excellent one. We hope the new Council, as a whole, will be guided by the principal principle which he laid down, of keeping the expenses within the revenue, and that this a comprehensive estimate will first have to be made; and this will involve, at the outset, a thorough investigation of the present state of the city, and a careful consideration of the various bills and demands upon the citizens and of the requirements of the city during the coming year. So that the most important work of the new Council will be that which will fall upon it at the commencement of the term.

Councillor Blake attacked with ability and success, the unfounded projects raised against the Union Bank. Another Bank might, perhaps, have done as well for the City; but it would not have done better; for a Bank must deal on equal terms with its competitors, and it is not to be expected that a Bank will do more for the Union Bank than give the City an advantage which it would be obliged to refuse to citizens and the public in general. The only right way to reduce the floating debt, and save the interest is to keep down the expenditures, and to pay the necessary taxes and have them paid promptly—though it may be expedient in order somewhat to lighten the burden in the meantime, to have it funded at a lower rate of interest. This means that when a Collector is appointed, he should be one who will be agreed that on the whole, no letter man could be employed than Mr. Shepherd. But if each citizen were to come forward and pay promptly the amount that, sooner or later, he must pay, it is plain that a Collector would not be needed, and the salary of that official at least, together with a large amount of interest now necessarily paid to the bank, might be saved.

Councillor Blake, Mr. McNeill, and other speakers tried upon a subject of importance as it is important to the community. The long, but actually living on a mixture not to be contemplated. Even if water works were introduced, we doubt if the water closest system would, on account of the fact-

ness of the place, rid us of the nuisance, as does in cities which are built on the side of a hill. The "dry earth system" seems to be the only one which would prove effectual; and if it were introduced and enforced upon all citizens, our wells might, ere long, be able to be enriched at small cost by one of the best fertilizers.

The speech of Mr. T. A. McLean was a good one. Mr. McLean scored a point not touched by previous speakers when he spoke of encouraging manufacturers in the Dominion. He showed that in any other part of Canada outside the city of Ottawa. We certainly should, at least, take hold of the manufacture of shoes and woolen cloths, of which we have now to import large quantities; and it strikes me that if our City Council would do to import in Toronto, Montreal, Moncton and other centres of industry—if they would relieve persons establishing factories from taxation for a term of years and encourage skilled laborers to come here, several factories would soon be opened to the profit of those immediately interested in them, and to the profit of the City and Province at large.

The Civic Election.

THE excitement in the election for Councillors on Tuesday was confined to Ward 5, where the votes were, throughout the day, polled evenly. We are informed that our candidate, Mr. Blake, was elected by a majority of 16. At the time the election was announced, the returning officer—Councillor Smith—who had voted during the day as a citizen, gave his casting vote as returning officer in favor of Mr. Blake, and thus elected him by a majority of one. Mr. Horne believing this unfair, protested against the election and demanded a scrutiny, which took place at the Council meeting last night. The following is the result of the election of Mayor and Councillors:—

Table with 2 columns: Name and Majority. Includes Mayor (Blake) and Councillors (Dawson, Heard, Koughan, Barrett, McLean, Dawson, Heard, Blake) for various wards.

The New Syndicate.

ONE who heard Sir John Macdonald's speech, part of which we publish on our first page, writes:—

"The speech delivered by Sir John Macdonald upon the Pacific Railway Syndicate is deserving of the eulogiums universally passed upon it. At the time and place where he delivered it, he appeared to great advantage. The delivery, tone and matter of this effort were worthy of the man and the occasion. Sir John, with that keen, incisive style peculiar to him, probed the second office to its innermost depths, if depths there are to be dwelt with telling force upon its indefinite wording of the contract, its political origin, its impracticability, its unpopularity. And Sir John was right; every day that elapses but strengthens the Government's proposal every day but weakens the cause of those who have attempted a second night attack and come to grief. The second office is a political one through and through; it was born and shaped in the clear Grit wigwag; it is a political, brotherly politics, suggests politics; the frontispiece are clear Grits, out and out, and like clear Grits, they waited until the last moment ere putting in an offer. When Mr. Mackenzie was in power, no offer was made by them, and Sir John Macdonald and his colleagues endeavored to solve the problem, no movement upon their part was observable. Look at some of the men who are now so anxious to construe the Pacific Railway:—

Prince Edward Island Railway.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT FOR 1879-80.

The length of the line is the same as previously reported, 198.5 miles. Both road and rolling stock have been well maintained and are in a good state of efficiency. The accounts in connection with the operation of the line during the fiscal year 1879-80, make a very satisfactory exhibit of the net results of the year's operations.

Capital Account.

The total cost of the railway at the close of the year ended the 30th June, 1879, was \$2,450,000, and an expenditure of \$16,623.82 was incurred during the past fiscal year, making the total cost on the 30th June 1880, \$2,466,623.82.

The gross earnings were:—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Shows gross earnings of \$1,253,851.11 and a decrease of \$120,000.

The passenger traffic as compared with that of last year shows a decrease of \$6,787.02 in receipts and in the number carried of 14,913.

Supreme Court.

FRIDAY, JAN. 21.

The Court was engaged Wednesday and Thursday in trying the case brought by James Stewart against John Henry Gates, High Sheriff of Quebec's County, for illegal seizure of a horse and cart, which was returned to one of Gates' stables for the purpose of \$45 damages. The facts as appeared in evidence were:—

Wm. Wyatt having a judgment in the County Court against John R. Stewart, the plaintiff's father, issued an execution which was sent in the usual way to the Sheriff, who placed in the hands of a Bailiff named Bernard Kiggins, to be executed. Previous to this another execution had been issued out of the Supreme Court, which W. H. F. Pollard, the Deputy Sheriff, executed, in doing so, levied on everything in the defendant's possession, excepting a black mare.

The above sum of \$16,539.82 was expended on the construction of the track of 8.40 feet, a shipping wharf in 16 feet of water at a low tide, 1000 feet long and 75 feet wide at the outer end, with a warehouse thereon 100 feet long and 45 feet wide, a passenger station, freight shed and engine house, and a whole of which are completed and in use.

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Public Meeting at Eldon, Balfast.

According to public notice, a meeting of the electors of Eldon and Orwell and surrounding Districts was held at Moore's Hall, on Tuesday the 18th inst., to discuss the propriety of getting increased and better accommodation for the travelling public between Charlottetown and Orwell, and other matters in connection with the District.

Hugh Elliott Esq., was elected Chairman and the undersigned Secretary. The Chairman, in addressing the meeting, spoke at some length of our local wants and grievances, and considered that, owing to the increase in business in this section of the Island during the past few years, a daily communication by steamer between Orwell and Charlottetown was indispensable, suggesting the propriety of employing this route for daily mails, and running a daily stage for mail and passengers through to Murray Harbor calling at intervening settlements. He contended that this arrangement would, in some measure, compensate for our want of the railway facilities now enjoyed by other and less important portions of the Island.

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NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Pacific Railway Contract.

The vote on the question of concurrence in the Pacific Railway resolutions was taken at 6 o'clock this morning, amidst the greatest enthusiasm and excitement.

Several telegrams were received here last night, announcing that the Hon. Leclerc de St. Just was dying. The Hon. gentleman has been sinking rapidly of late, and it is feared that last night's sad news is only too true.

The fraudulent nature of the Grit petition has been shown in many instances, but in none more so than the one from P. E. Inland presented a few days ago by Mr. E. Anglin, containing 4400 names.

The Government has information that there is danger of the Fenians making use of the agitation in Ireland.

Judge Fitzgerald in his charge to the Jury repudiated the theory of the defence that the land league was both a charitable association, and the contrary theory that it was a scheme of Socialism, devised in America.

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The net cost of the Afghan war is estimated in the official statement at \$17,500,000, including the cost of the frontier railway.

Inquirer—A jury is a body organized for the purpose of deciding which side in a lawsuit has the smartest lawyer.—Boston Post.

The friends of General Grant are now retiring a plea to have him placed "on the retired list with the rank and pay of a General."

According to Professor Prester, the end of the world is postponed until 1887, when the earth and a comet are to pass each other on the same track.

A writer in the Montreal press states that there are hundreds of opium eaters of both sexes in Montreal, and calls on the press to make war against the practice.

Sixty-four lives were recently lost by the foundering of a Japanese coasting steamer, which had on board at the time sixty passengers and a crew of twenty-two.

Mrs. Liston, of Montreal, whose husband kissed and choked her at the same moment a day or two since, has not yet recovered from her injuries, which are serious.

Jan. 21. A woman who has been a day or two since, has not yet recovered from her injuries, which are serious.