

THE DAILY EXAMINER. MARCH 26, 1884.

Drawing the Long Bow.

The Patriot claims that its estimate of the public debt, made before the Belfast election, is under the mark, and in its issue of yesterday sets down the whole indebtedness of the Province at the end of 1883 at \$100,846. We have not the Patriot of the 13th of February before us, but we have a distinct recollection of the manner in which our contemporary figured in trumping up an enormous balance against the Province.

In the first place the organ put down as a debt \$23,000 or \$24,000, being for one quarter's salary of teachers unpaid at the 31st of December. This was unfair to the present Government, because as we showed yesterday they have paid the large sum of \$482,000 for education during the five years they have been in power. That amount includes four full quarters for every year. The teachers could not be paid on the 31st of December. It was impossible for them to have their papers completed until after the 1st of January. We will be asked, we dare say, why then did you insist on charging the Davies Government in 1878 with the quarter's salary which fell due on the 31st December? The answer is obvious. Every year should be charged with four quarters' salary to teachers. The Davies Government only paid three quarters salary in 1878, and they were therefore justly chargeable with the other quarter. In view of the facts that the teachers cannot be paid until their papers are obtained from the Trustees of the Schools, and that these papers cannot be given until after the 1st of January, and that the present Government have paid twenty full quarters' salaries during the five years they have been in power, it is simply childish in the Patriot to charge a quarter's salary as a floating debt of the Province.

Another item in the Patriot's estimates is for unpaid accounts at the close of the year. This is also straining a point beyond what is reasonable and just. The present Government have every year since they came into power made most strenuous efforts to pay off in each year, every obligation properly belonging to it. Despite every effort, small sums amounting in the aggregate to over \$5,000 to \$12,000 may be found, unadjusted and carried forward. Nothing but a desire to trump up a balance for electioneering purposes, would induce any person to set this amount down as a debt against the Province. Perhaps we will be told that unpaid accounts at the close of 1878 were alleged by the conservatives to be a fair charge against the Davies Government. This is quite true, but the cases are widely different. In 1878 the Government systematically refused payment of large sums which were undoubtedly due. They agreed with some of the public creditors to pay interest on accounts due them, so that these amounts would not appear in the accounts of 1878. They issued a circular in the autumn of that year instructing Supervisors to draw no more orders until the 1st of January, and they opened a suspense account, by which means, large sums paid in 1878 were charged in the accounts of 1879. The large sums carried forward in 1878, by a system of desperate financing, bear no comparison to the few unpresented accounts which may have been left unpaid at the close of last year. Other items in the Patriot's estimates are just as wide of the mark as those to which we have referred, but we have no time to-day to take them up in detail.

But what is most remarkable in Mr. Laird's manner of dealing with the financial state of the Province, in the article before us, is that while he trumps up every conceivable item for the purpose of swelling the public debt, he carefully leaves credits out of his calculation. It was perhaps quite consistent for him to omit an amount for piers, before the Belfast election, because he then declared that Prince Edward Island would never secure a dollar from that source. He said that the Government had been "peering" for money, on account of these works, for a long time; but they were "farther from getting it than ever." We gather from the Patriot of March 24th, that Mr. Laird is now of a different opinion. He intimates that the sum of \$53,000 is to be received for the maintenance of public piers since 1873; and he actually strikes a balance between that amount and the deficit as shown on the face of the public accounts, as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Admitted debt of Province \$54,657.58, Pier money 53,000.00, Deficit \$1,657.58.

We think from the above that Mr. Ferguson's fox story has not lost its applicability to Mr. Laird and other Brit financiers in dealing with the public accounts. The Patriot gives a version of the story, but misses the application. We now quote the anecdote as it appears in the Parliamentary Report of Mr. Ferguson's speech on the Budget, 1880:—

"It was certainly highly gratifying to the Government, to find that their opponents have been taken on the finances of the Province, and the manner in which the Opposition are compelled to go back on their own figures is exceedingly creditable to them, and calculated to shake whatever confidence any portion of the people might be inclined to place in their calculations. The manner in which they have abandoned the previous contention reminds me of a Scotch clergyman, of whom I heard, who was given, like the hon. member for Tighnish, to make somewhat exaggerated statements.

The Kirk session complained to the reverend gentleman on this score, and he admitted his weakness, and promised amendment in future, and it was arranged that his ruling elder should watch his reverence, and whenever the latter drew a long bow, the elder, whose name was Sandy, should cough. A short time after the minister was preaching about the foxes which Samson tied tail to tail for the purpose of firing the Philistines' corn. He said that foxes in these days had tails fifteen feet long. Sandy coughed. The minister took the hint, and continued: 'It is the opinion, brethren, of some of the commentators that the foxes tails were not so long as that; some are of opinion that their length was only ten feet.' Sandy coughed again. The preacher hesitated a little, and went on: 'And still there are other commentators who say the tails of these creatures were only five feet long.' Sandy coughed once more, when the minister, whose patience was finally exhausted, burst out: 'You may cough as much as you like, Sandy; but I won't take off another foot to please you. (Laughter.) The hon. members of the Opposition had, no doubt, taken heed to the cough of incredulity with which the financial statements they have made have been greeted by the public, and they have come down accordingly in their figures; but, I suppose, they have made up their minds to make a stubborn stand at \$30,000, and declare to the intelligent public: "Cough as much as you like, we won't come down another dollar." (A laugh.)

In one issue of the Patriot Mr. Laird declares that the debt of the Province is \$100,000.00. To make up this sum he includes items which have no right to be included, and leaves out all credit for money to be received for maintenance of piers. In another issue, Mr. Laird admits, as quoted above, that the actual deficit is only \$1,657.58. Who will say, after reading these two widely differing calculations, that Mr. Laird is altogether deaf to the "cough of incredulity" with which his figures are received by the public? He may now stubbornly declare that he won't take off another dollar. We shall see.

The game of this Province requires protection. Lately sportsmen, for profit, have been bagging large numbers of wild fowl by using torchlight at night. This means nothing more than the slaughter of all game to be found on the Island. An Act is being prepared to remedy the evil, and we hope our Legislators will give it due consideration.

A CORRESPONDENT of the St. John Sun complains that the diplomas and medals awarded to exhibitors at the St. John Dominion Exhibition have not yet been presented. This is not right, and exhibitors feel that an injustice has been done them by the Exhibition Commissioners. Among those who won medals and have not received them, are Messrs. Longworth & Co. of this city.

The Electric Telegraph.

The proceedings before the Literary and Scientific Association, last evening, were of an interesting character. Mr. A. E. Morrison's paper, and his illustrations and experiments were highly creditable, and won for him, at the close of the session, a warm expression of thanks from the Association. Mr. Morrison by cursorily defining frictional and voltaic electricity, showed the method of sending and receiving despatches by the old style Morse instruments, with the clock-work and strip of paper arrangements, and said that these latter were dispensed with in all the large offices, and messages were received and read by sound. Mr. Morrison described the "sounder" and the "relay," and exhibited a simple but ingenious device to illustrate the method of receiving sub-marine cable despatches. His work with the battery and instruments, and his allusions in his paper to historical incidents connected by telegraphy, together with the pieces of the old and new cables laid in the Straits, greatly interested those present. An animated discussion then resulted. Dr. Leeming described the first Wheatstone system as he saw it as a boy. Mr. Francis Bain, of the North River, in his usual logical manner, complimented Mr. Morrison, and then proceeded with an ingenious theory and description of the generation of electricity by the voltaic batteries, and the results therefrom, and also discussed the great possibilities yet to arrive from the use of electricity in the future. The Secretary, Mr. H. C. McDonald, also addressed the Association on the subject; and the Vice-President, Mr. Alex. McKinnon, created much amusement by objecting "to the explanations Mr. Bain was about to make to Mr. McDonald's remarks," and by facetious reference to some others present. Charles Palmer, John Newson, and Robert Smallwood, Esquires, also spoke on the subject in hand, as also did Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Good, law students. The sessions of the Association this winter have shown that many in this community are competent to grapple with metaphysical and scientific subjects in an intelligent and comprehensive manner.

Mr. Robert Smallwood will read his second paper on the subject of steam, particularly in reference to its use in land locomotion, on Tuesday evening next.

Nova Scotia's Charities.

At the Provincial and City Hospital, Halifax, during 1883, there were 766 patients—death rate 6.23. The admissions exceeded those of 1883 by 46. The largest number in the hospital at any one time was 86. Total number admitted since opening of hospital in 1867, 8,238. Deaths during that time, 578.

Twenty-two deaths occurred in the Pools' Asylum during the year; 13 men and 9 women. There were in the Pools' Asylum during the year 108 men, 82 women and 34 children, chargeable to the Province; 186 men, 108 females and 46 children chargeable to the city of Halifax.

The attendance at the Deaf and Dumb Institution for the year was 76 pupils—43 males and 33 females. Of these Nova Scotia furnished 42 and New Brunswick, 21.

The pupils in the Blind Asylum school at the close of the year numbered twenty-seven—18 boys and 9 girls; of these 19 belong to Nova Scotia, 6 from New Brunswick and 2 from P. E. Island.

Wiggins Predicts Another Storm.

Dr. E. Stone Wiggins predicts another great storm, on the 28th inst. Writing on the subject to the Halifax Herald, he says: In criticising my letter to the President of the United States last year, Gen. Hazen said that no signal officer or anyone else could possibly foretell a storm above 48 hours in advance, and yet what did the crafty general do? He saw my prediction of a great storm to take place on Sept. 14th, 1883, the storm in which the "Asa" was lost on Lake Huron with a hundred souls on board—and he put out cautionary signals a week in advance all along the Atlantic seaboard, and by this act the American Register tells us (I quote from the London Graphic) he saved eight millions of dollars worth of United States shipping. The storm of last March was caused by a union of forces, that DOES NOT OCCUR MORE THAN ONCE IN A CENTURY.

This is seen in the fact that it extended over the whole world, producing the highest general tide ever known on the Atlantic coast. Tidal waves were also felt in the middle of the Pacific in Australia, the Sandwich Islands and New Zealand, the houses along the coast, in many instances, having been flooded. Several towns in America and Europe had the sea upon their streets. In Flushing, New Jersey, the water was four feet deep, and so of twenty cities and towns in Great Britain. Two weeks after the Lord Mayor of London published a letter in the Times, asking subscriptions in aid of the 450 widows and orphans whose husbands and fathers—mostly fishermen—had been lost in the great tempest of March 9th. But it was upon the lava veins of the earth that the planetary attraction was most apparent. The moon's conjunction with the sun occurred over the meridian of the island of Borneo, and it is known world-wide that

THE GREAT VOLCANO

on the adjacent island of Java broke out immediately in eruption, as I had foretold, and for which the New York Times was generous enough to give me credit. It may then well be asked if the storm was so great why was it not more disastrous in America. I answer because, 1st, the storm-area rose on striking the coast, and moved half a mile above the earth's surface in passing over America; and 2nd, it was not cramped in its westward march by the serial polar currents. The storm of August 24th, 1873, was greatly its inferior, and yet from being pressed upon by air currents it scattered destruction and death everywhere upon the coast of Nova Scotia. From the smallness of its band the storm of the twenty-eighth instant will be one of great danger; and were it not for the peculiar position of the planet Jupiter would have its greatest violence in the Maritime Provinces, whereas it will occur in its greatest strength, midway between Halifax and the Cape of Good Hope. It will be accompanied by

EARTHQUAKES IN EUROPE AND AMERICA and in April the volcanoes in Europe and Asia will be in full play. There are several storms of prominence which will take place on your meridian in the year reckoned from the 28th inst., but the four following are the most dangerous and should be avoided by seamen, viz:—

- April 26th-28th, 1884.
Sept. 20th-22nd, 1884.
Oct. 20th-22nd, 1884.
Mar. 18th-19th, 1885.

The lightest of these will be that of April 26th, and the heaviest that of Sept. 20th. Each will be succeeded about ten days after by a reflex storm, not however of much danger, but of tolerable severity. All will be attended by high tides. It is this class of storms, and this alone that is attended by dangerous tidal waves. Two years ago I pointed out that during the years '83, '84, and '85, the four great planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune would be near their perihelion which would greatly increase the density of the earth's atmosphere and that therefore the winters of these years would be remarkable for their severity and in the abundance of snow, while the summers would be cool and excessively moist. So far this has proved to be true. The excessive attraction of these bodies upon the sun has caused the disappearance of the burning hydrogen in the corona of the solar orb, while the remarkable sunsets we have recently seen sufficiently prove the condensation that has taken place in the atmosphere of the earth. It is this density of our atmosphere that has made our heaviest storms so dangerous, and caused the destructive cyclones on the American continent the last year.

Our Advertisers.

Mr. J. C. Fleming will lecture in St. Patrick's Hall, on the evening of the 2nd of April, next. His subject is "The Pathways to Fame."

Wm. J. Jenkins challenges Chas. Paton to a skating contest.

Much attention has been excited by a letter from Rome which appears in the Defense, a clerical newspaper of Paris. The writer recounts the charges of the Papacy against Italy. The Pope believes that his independence is threatened, especially since the Court of Cassation rendered its decision that the real property of the Propaganda Fide should be converted into Italian rentes. The latter asserts that His Holiness is again considering the advisability of leaving Rome.

The Pathways to Fame.

J. C. FLEMING, ESQ., Editor of the N. S. Charlotteville Herald, will deliver a LECTURE,

on the above subject, under the auspices of the Catholic Literary Union, in ST. PATRICK'S HALL,

Wednesday Evening, 2nd April,

Admission, 10 cents; Reserved Seats, 15 cents. Tickets for sale at Fraser & Reddin's Drug Store and at Apothecaries' Hall. Doors open at 7:20; Lecture to commence at eight p. m.

T. CURRAN, Secretary. Ch'town, March 20, 1884.

FIRE INSURANCE.

HORACE HASZARD,

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT,

—REPRESENTING—

Western Fire Assurance Company, Toronto, Ontario,

CAPITAL, \$800,000.00.

Commercial Union Assurance Company, London, Eng.,

CAPITAL, \$12,166,666.00.

British American Marine Insurance Company, Toronto,

CAPITAL, \$500,000.00.

Risks taken on all descriptions of insurable property.

OFFICES—Corner of Queen and Lower Water Streets.

Ch'town, March 17, 1884.—1m cod

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF ENGLAND.

ESTABLISHED A. D. 1836.

Invested Funds, \$39,632,000; of which ONE MILLION DOLLARS is invested in Canada.

General Reserve and Fire Re-Insurance Fund, SEVEN MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

This Company will now do a general business in the City and Province. Risks taken daily by

R. R. FITZGERALD,

AGENT.

Ch'town, March 10, 1884.—cod

WEST INDIA WAREHOUSE, TRADE SALE.

The Subscriber will sell by AUCTION, at his Auction Room, corner of Queen and Water Streets, on

Wednesday, the 2nd April next

AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK, A. M.,

Molasses, Sugar, Herring, Tea,

PAPER BAGS, WRAPPING PAPER,

Brooms, Nutmegs, Gloves and General

Groceries.

ALSO,

BOOTS AND SHOES, DRY GOODS, &c.

Terms at Sale.

N. J. CAMPBELL,

Auctioneer.

Ch'town, March 20, 1884.

J. A. CHIPMAN & CO.

Are Offering ex Warehouse,

400 bbls. Medium and High Grade Patents

(American and Canadian),

125 bbls Low Grade Bakers.

OFFICE OPPOSITE RANKIN HOUSE.

N. B.—We are now prepared to receive orders for Spring Importation Flour, Cornmeal, etc. Also, parties having Oats or Malt-Berley for sale would do well to call.

J. F. SHATFORD,

Agent.

Ch'town, March 13.

Ground Bones.

The undersigned will be prepared to supply pure ground bones, of all sizes, and in large or small quantities, to farmers and others about 1st April.

Highest Cash Price paid for

Old Bones.

J. W. MCGILL.

Ch'town, March 14—cod 2m pat cod 2m sj 2m

Valuable Property FOR SALE.

The undersigned offers for sale the business premises known as "32" QUEEN STREET. The building is large and commodious, running back from Queen Street eighty-three feet; and the stand is unsurpassed. Terms easy.

JAS. DESBRISAY.

Ch'town, March 6—cod 1f

Executors' Notice.

WE, the undersigned, executors of the last will and testament of the late Alexander Simpson, of Hope River, in Queen's County, deceased, hereby notify all parties indebted to the estate to make immediate payment to the undersigned. Also, all parties having legal demands against said estate to present them, duly attested to, within twelve calendar months from date.

ALBERT SIMPSON, JOHN SIMPSON, Jr., Executors. Hope River, January 18th, 1884. (mar 19 cod wkly of)

TO LET,

THE RAILWAY HOUSE, situated on Richmond Street, near London House. Also a shop adjoining, 16x20 feet. Apply to THOMAS CAMPBELL. Ch'town, Feb. 23, 1884.—1f

CHALLENGE.

I HEREBY challenge Charles Paton to skate me any place and for any amount.

WILLIAM J. JENKINS. March 26, 1884.—pd

FOR SALE,

A SPLENDID SUIT of Drawing Room Furniture, little used, will be sold for half-price. Rare chance. Apply at this office. Ch'town, March 21.

SEED WHEAT.

CHOICE White Russia Wheat (imported), for sale by F. L. MACNUTT. Water Street, March 24—61 cod wkly 21

Lord's Wharf Property.

THE undersigned will receive SEALED TENDERS, up to the 31st March, inst., from parties desirous of renting the above Wharf, with Warehouses, Coal-beds, Weighing Machine and Office, for a term of from one year to five years. Particulars can be obtained from Mr. David Stirling, Architect, etc.

J. HAMILTON GRAY, Trustee. DAVID STIRLING, Ch'town, March 20, 1884.

FOR SALE OR TO LET,

LATE ALLAN McNEILL'S HOME-STEAD, in Royalty, fronting on Malpeque Road, containing about eighteen acres, with Dwelling House and Barns. Enquire at office of PALMER & McLEOD. Ch'town, March 13.—7w cod us 2w

MOLASSES.

50 PUN. CHOICE MOLASSES,

on consignment, for sale at a bargain.

A. H. B. MACGOWAN,

AGENT. Ch'town, March 12, 1884.—cod 2w

FOR SALE,

THE Old Baptist Church Property, on Great George Street, next to premises lately occupied by the Bank of P. E. Island. For terms of sale and other particulars apply to F. H. ARNAUD, Agent, Merchants Bank of Halifax. March 1, 1884.

BARGAINS.

I AM selling the balance of my furniture saved from the fire of the 20th ult., at J. D. McLeod's corner, Queen Street, at a reduction of from twenty-five to fifty per cent. below usual prices. JOHN NEWSON. Ch'town, March 8.

WHITE RUSSIAN SEED WHEAT.

THE best producer yet tried on the Island. Call and examine and see testimonials at my Furniture Store, J. D. McLeod's corner. JOHN NEWSON. Ch'town, March 8.

Piano Tuning.

D. M. REID announces that he is prepared to tune and repair Pianos of all kinds. Broken or defective wires replaced. Pianos tuned by the year. Orders may be left at the store of Miller Bros., Queen Street, or at his own residence, Kent Street. Feb. 18, 1884.—dy 41 wkly 21 pd

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c.

WANTED—Several Ladies and Gentlemen to study Telegraphy, with a Commercial Training. Term will commence on April 1st. Apply at office to M. B. McINNIS, Rocklin House. (mar 26)

LOST—A Red and Black WOOLLEN LAMBIT. The finder will oblige by leaving it at THE EXAMINER OFFICE. (mar 26)

TO LET—A Cottage pleasantly situated on Grafton Street, opposite the Prince of Wales College. Apply to Wm. McLEAS, at Merchants Bank of P. E. Island. (mar 22)

WANTED—A Man, or Boy, who understands the care of horses, to work about a house. Apply at EXAMINER OFFICE. (mar 22)

WANTED—A Cook and a Housemaid, to whom high wages will be paid. Apply at EXAMINER OFFICE. (mar 22)

TO BE LET, about the 1st of May next, a Cottage containing nine rooms, with a good Yard, Garden and Stable, pleasantly situated on Upper Hillsborough Street, nearly opposite the residence of Mr. W. Leitch. Apply at EXAMINER OFFICE. (mar 22 cod)

WANTED—A Servant Girl for general housework, Liberal wages. Apply at this office. (mar 21)

A COOK WANTED IMMEDIATELY, for a Hotel. Good wages. Apply at this office. (mar 19)

FOR SALE—A large fire-proof SAFE (nearly new). Apply at A. McNeill's Auction Room. (mar 14 ff)

OFFICE SAFE—Will be sold at a bargain if applied for at once. Enquire at this office. (mar 14)

THE Parties having in their possession a set of new Driving Harness, taken from the fire of the 20th February, will oblige by returning them to the subscriber without further notice.—JOHN NEWSON. (mar 8)

HOUSE TO LET—The large Dwelling House on corner of Pownall and Kent Streets, occupied by Rev. John M. McLeod. Apply to Thos. W. Doherty. (m 5 w s 2w)