

Parliamentary Notes.

Mr. Charlton proposes to amend the law of seduction by reducing the age of responsibility in men from 21 to 18 years.

Sir John states that the government have under consideration the establishment of experimental farms in the Northwest Territories.

Hon Mr. Pope, in replying to a question, stated that the Dominion was liable for railway subsidies, when earned, amounting to \$3,268,000, besides an annual subsidy of \$250,000.

The Ottawa correspondent of the St. John Telegraph says: "Senator Haythorne contemplates his resignation, as he is going to leave for New Zealand. His friends are naturally averse to his resignation."

The sheet and cotton manufactures of Canada are pressing for additional protection. It appears that a large quantity of these goods are sent into Canada by American manufacturing companies at low invoice prices, and to overcome this unfair competition, a specific duty on the articles is asked.

The agitation against the enforcement of the Customs regulations with respect to passengers' baggage has been successful. The deputation that waited on the Minister of Customs on Friday to represent to him the mischievous tendency of those regulations were assured that they would be rescinded as far as railway travel and inland transportation are concerned. They are to be enforced only with respect to passengers by the ocean steamers.

Davin, in asking for documents relating to scrip for Northwest volunteer, made an appeal that the Regina Home Guards should receive the same consideration as the regular militia who took part in suppressing the rebellion. Dr. Sproule made a like claim for the Macdonald Scouts of Moose Jaw, and Weldon of St. John presented the case of New Brunswick's battalion which was called out, kept in Camp Sussex for a time, but was not ordered to the front. There was no one to put in a word for the Island's contingent.

The Parliamentary Librarians at Ottawa report that among the donations of the year is one from Hon. Mr. Haythorne, of the Senate, a member of the Library Committee, consisting of a valuable collection of the Laws of Prince Edward Island from the earliest period of the Island's legislative history. An example so well set may well be recommended to those gentlemen who, having passed many years in public life, have accumulated large stores of valuable public documents and pamphlets, for which the only permanent place of deposit for useful purposes is the Parliamentary Library. The Librarians also acknowledge the gift of a bust of the Duke of Newcastle, formerly Colonial Secretary, presented to the Library by the Right Honorable Sir John Macdonald. This bust, the work of a distinguished sculptor, has been duly placed in the Library, and forms a valuable addition to the statuary by which the Library is adorned. The Librarians also acknowledge the receipt from the British Government of the numerous, costly and most valuable reports of the Challenger Expedition which were sent to the Library on the application of the Honorable the Secretary of State, through the High Commissioner in London. These reports have been carefully indexed, and their contents swell the Scientific Section of the Catalogue of additions. The Librarians also acknowledge the great courtesy of the Honorable the Secretary of State at Washington in promising for the use of the Library, the extensive and valuable records of the late Civil War, which are in course of publication. The great courtesy of the United States Government and of the various States in supplying the Library with reports that are asked for, makes us regret that we have so little to offer them in return.

The (Alleged) Letter of Parnell.

The London Times, as reported by telegraph, published the fac simile of a letter alleged to have been written by Mr. Parnell. The letter fills one side of an ordinary sheet of note paper, and is in a strange handwriting, "Yours very truly, Chas. S. Parnell," is at the top of the other leaf. The Times suggests that the signature was thus written so that it could be torn off if necessary. The letter, which is dated simply "15/5/82," without an address, is as follows:—

"DEAR SIR,—I am not surprised at your friend's anger, but he had you who had known that to denounce the marbles was the only course open to us. To do that promptly was, indeed, our best policy, but you must have seen that all others concerned that I might suggest the accident of Lord Cavendish's death I cannot refuse to admit that I might have done so. You are a man who is a man, and you are a man who is a man, and you are a man who is a man. He can write to the House of Commons."

The publication of this alleged letter has created a great sensation throughout England. Its authenticity is, however, emphatically denied by Mr. Parnell and his friends; and it is stated that they are about taking proceedings against the Times for libel.

In an interview Mr. Parnell pointed out that although at first sight some of the letters in the Times fac-simile printed lately appeared to resemble his autograph, a close comparison shows a decided and striking difference in many important points. The forgery slopes upwards; the genuine handwriting downwards. Mr. Parnell always places a full point after the initial "S" in his name, which the forgery omits. The "R" in Parnell, and the "C" in "Chas" are quite different from anything he has ever written. The letters "Ch" in "Chas" are abnormally long, and the "S" and "P" are the only letters in any way resembling his genuine autograph. The pen at the beginning of "A" in the forged "Chas" was evidently taken off the paper, whereas in the genuine signature it is always written without a break. The forgery, Mr. Parnell says, is the work of a person accustomed to penmanship and writing a flowing hand, whereas his own writing is always in a cramped style. Mr. Parnell further said that the letter and signature were impudent forgeries, and that he strongly suspected the identity of the forger. He was undecided whether to prosecute the Times or not. On the other hand the Times dares him to do so. The Times says: "We pay no attention whatever to Mr. Parnell's big words. If he proceeds to apply the only test by which the truth can be brought plainly before the world we are quite prepared to meet him."

Provincial Legislature.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, April 22.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

House in committee further considering and passed the Bill amending the Education Act. When the Speaker resumed the chair, Mr. Yeo moved that the following clauses be struck out, viz: the 5th 6th 7th 10th 13th and 14th. The motion was lost on the following division:—

FOR.—Messrs. Yeo, Farquharson, Richards, Sinclair, J. R. McLean, Matheson, Martin, Bell, Sutherland, Forbes and Wise, 11.

AGAINST.—Messrs. Sullivan, Ferguson, N. McLeod, Arsenault, Bentley, Prowse, McDonald, Gillis, John McLean, A. McLean, Kelly, Shaw, H. L. McDonald, 13.

The fifth clause of the bill limits the time during which teachers may attend Prince of Wales College and Normal School free of charge to four months. The sixth clause provides that the Board of Education may fix and establish the salaries of assistants in ungraded schools. The seventh clause repeals the provision that candidates for licenses to teach shall be exempt from fees. The tenth clause repeals the provision that any time spent by any licensed teacher in attendance at the Normal School shall be deemed to be service as a teacher; and fourteenth provides that the Board of Education shall have power to fix the standard of first and second class schools and to make such regulations as may be necessary to carry the act into effect.

FORENOON SESSION.

April 23.

The bill to incorporate the trustees of Orwell Presbyterian church was read a third time and passed.

MR. FARQUHARSON asked the Leader of the Government if a bill is to be introduced this session, by the Government, making wire fences legal.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN said that they had no such intention.

MR. A. McLEOD asked the Commissioner of Public Works what action the Government intend to take with respect to a petition to John McPherson and others praying for the completion of the County Line Road, from McKenzie's mills to Wood Island Road, between Lots 56 and 61; also if it were his intention to comply with the prayer of a petition for a new road from Peter's Road to Clarey's mills?

HON. MR. BENTLEY replied that he intended soon to visit the locality, and if he found the roads were required he would try to have them opened this summer.

MR. SHAW asked the Commissioner of Public Works what action the Government propose taking with reference to the construction of a breakwater at Boughton Island for the shelter of boats; also what course the Government intend to take with reference to the opening of a road from Launching Road to Cardigan River at Thomas Woods; also what action the Government propose to take in completing the road partly opened from Launching Road to Narrows Creek; also what action the Government propose to take in completing the road from Narrows Creek Chapel to Grand River; also what action the Government intend to take in opening a road from Seal River Road to Seal River; also what action the Government intend to take in continuing the road leading from Dundas to Lot 56; also what action the Government intend to take in completing road from Millburn Settlement to St. Peter's Road, Lot 53; also what action the Government intend to take in opening a road from Lorne Valley to Pisquid Road; and also what action the Government intend to take in establishing a ferry from Launching Bay to Boughton Island,—petitions for said works having been forwarded to the Government.

HON. MR. BENTLEY said that he proposed soon to visit the various localities; and would endeavor to comply with the petitions as far as was right and possible.

Out of Work in Boston.

Nearly every mail from the States brings letters from Provincialists who would return home if they had the means to do so. The Digby Courier advises all who contemplate leaving Canada to "learn, mark and inwardly digest" the following extract from a letter received by a clergyman of that town from a hard-working, honest toiler, ready for any kind of manual labor, but unable to get employment:—

"I must tell you I have had a hard time since I left home, and I have not any work now. I have only worked two days. I tried with a man, and he was so cross that I could not get any work, and I was told that I would not get my pay, and he wanted a man that would work Sunday, and I would not do that. I was in Boston three days at the factory in the city. There were five men and one woman, and there were no men to hire them. There are lots of people here that cannot get home. I will return as soon as possible."

Magnificent Gift.

Sir George Stephen and Sir Donald A. Smith have each given a half million dollars—making a million in all—for a hospital for the sick poor of Montreal, provided the city would donate a certain site on Mount Royal for the institution.

That the citizens of Montreal have been deeply gratified at this splendid display of generosity and thoughtfulness for the poor goes without saying. The magnificence of the gift will be spoken of throughout the Empire, and its appropriateness in this Jubilee year will suggest that head and heart have joined to do the right thing at the right moment and in a manner, as regards detail, which makes the gift a perfect tribute to the virtues of the merciful and just lady now seated on the throne of Britain.

The Catholic News of the 18th has received the following despatch from Rome concerning the Pope and the Knights of Labor:—"The Pope has decided the question of the Knights of Labor in favor of the organization. This decision will stand so long as the present method pursued in furthering their aims prevail. The document of Cardinal Gibbons has been endorsed. The Pope further decrees that in Canada, where a movement had been issued against the Knights, the members of the order will receive absolution on promise of obedience to future decisions of the Holy See. If the Knights identify themselves with theories now being disseminated by certain agitators, this decision in their favor will be revoked."

The Latest Duel.

TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY HAVE A DISPUTE, AS A RESULT OF WHICH A CHALLENGE TO MORTAL COMBAT IS ISSUED.

In the House of Assembly, on Thursday afternoon, the discussion was quite warm. One of the junior members, in the course of the debate, made use of language which one of the senior members considered very personal. The senior member thus attacked, replied in language of somewhat the same kind. The Speaker cried "order," "order," but for some few minutes there was nothing but disorder. Finally, order was restored. It was thought that the affair was all settled. But such was not the case. Behind the placid exterior and bland smile of the senior member there lurked a desire for revenge. A challenge to mortal combat was quickly forwarded to the offending junior member. In this challenge the second was named—an exceedingly wise junior member—and a place of meeting suggested. The challenged party at once replied, accepting the challenge and appointing another junior member—who is a bit of a wag—as his second. A conference of the seconds was next in order. This was held. The wise junior member called upon the waggish member at the hotel at which he was stopping. The wise second was all excited over the terrible affair; the waggish one all seriousness. The prospects of the killing of one or both of the combatants was discussed. The wise second ventured the opinion that there was every prospect of one or the other of the seconds being wounded, as neither of the parties to the duel were accustomed to the handling of young guns, or, for that matter, firearms of any description. The waggish second concurred with his fellow member, and thought it were better to consider the matter of damages or rather the prevention of damages. Accordingly they went into committee on the subject. After some time spent in consideration of the measure a brilliant idea struck the wise second. He at once called the attention of his companion to it. He said that after giving the entire affair his most serious consideration he had arrived at the conclusion that the only way the seconds could avoid getting killed was for them to fall flat on the ground as soon as the word "fire" was given—the duel being one with revolvers. The waggish second accepted the idea with all the gravity necessary to the trying occasion, and after the arranging of some minor details they separated. The wise second reported progress to his man as did also the waggish second to his. After the would-be gladiators had looked into the case and considered carefully the benefits the House of Assembly would derive from a reduction in its numbers, decided that the affair should not take place. As a consequence the duel is now "off" and a certain wise second will sleep more comfortably to-night than he did last night.

Drowning Accident.

MR. THOMAS HEWSON, OF ST. PETERS ISLAND, BREAKS THROUGH THE ICE AND IS DROWNED.

We regret to learn of the accidental drowning, at St. Peter's Island yesterday, of Mr. Thomas Hewson, son of the light-house keeper at that place. It appears that young Hewson was out shooting in a paddle boat and had winged two geese near the edge of the ice. He secured one and the other escaped, scampering off along the ice. Hewson, after pulling his boat upon the ice, got out and ran after the geese. He had not proceeded far when the ice broke, and he fell through and was drowned. Captain Lund and his son were eye-witnesses of the accident, but too far away to render any assistance. Mr. Hewson, sr. and others made several attempts to reach the scene of the accident, but could not do so owing to the breaking up of the ice. The body was recovered several hours after the accident, and will be interred to-morrow. Mr. Hewson was about twenty years of age and a general favorite with all who knew him. His parents and relatives have our sympathy.

Old Dalhousie's Corner Stone.

The work of demolishing the old Dalhousie College building is progressing rapidly. Yesterday the corner was reached and President Forrest, who was on the watch, with Mr. Murray, the foreman, removed the box and bottle placed there 67 years ago. The box contained a brass plate, on which was engraved an inscription. The plate was in a remarkably good state of preservation. But unfortunately the bottle had been imperfectly sealed and instead of the documents, which were eagerly looked for, there was nothing but a few ounces of discolored pulp—the moisture having evidently passed through the stone, and found admission through the seal and cork of the bottle, resulting in the total destruction of the documents. At first it was supposed that the coins were missing, but a more careful investigation revealed them imbedded in the pulp at the bottom of the bottle. The bottle has not yet been opened, and will not be until Contractor Milliken arrives, when the denominations of the coins will be made public.—Halifax Herald.

The good people of Fredericton, N. B., are much excited over an attempt made by a man named Crowley to destroy his life. It appears that shortly after breakfast on Tuesday morning, Crowley, who was jealous of his wife, went into the woodshed and hung himself from a beam. When he had been hanging a short time his son entered and cut him down just in time to save his life. Crowley has been arrested.

The postmaster-general's report shows the gradual extension of the postal operations during the past year. The number of post offices shows an increase of 211 and is now 7,395. Some 11,000,000, 15,000,000 post cards, 9,000,000 newspapers, and 15,000,000 of circulars and samples passed through the mails. The total stamp issue was \$2,420,215, an increase of \$82,353.

The German Government has decided on a new church bill. It does not effect the expulsion of the Jesuits and affiliated orders in Germany.

Weather Bulletin.

TORONTO, April 23—10 a.m. Winds shifting to southward; fair weather; stationary or higher temperature.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Hon. D. Laird to the Front.

SIR,—For the first time during the session the Legislative Council is graced with the presence of Hon. David Laird. It was noticed that immediately after his return from his "wild goose" chase for votes from his friends, the half-breeds of the Northwest, the Patriot came out in violent opposition to the Subway scheme. And now it appears that he is not satisfied with the influence he wields through that wily sheet, and that he has to lobby with the Legislative Council in order to more effectually defeat the Subway scheme, and thus show his undying determination to keep Belfast without a railway, ferry, or any other accommodation.

OBSERVER.

"Startling."

SIR,—The City Debt on the 31st Dec., 1886, as certified by the City Report, together with our proportion of the amount, given by the Patriot as the Provincial Debt, is as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. City Debentures afloat: \$115,200 00; School: 37,500 00; Unpaid City Accounts: 3,353 63; City's share of Provincial Debt: 18,000 00. Total: \$174,053 63.

These facts are an awful revelation, in view of the effort of David Laird to plunge the city still further in debt by an extravagant scheme of waterworks, especially as the debt of the city is about ten times as much per head as the Provincial Debt of P. E. Island of which he complains. The facts are serious for our taxpayers. Further comment is needless.

CITIZEN.

The Government Park Roadway.

SIR,—As a poor citizen I complain that the delightful piece of pleasure ground, Victoria Park, as at present situated, is altogether monopolised by people of wealth and leisure who have time to walk the long distance around Brighton Road or have carriages to drive. The wives and children of the poor should be allowed to use this healthy recreation ground as well as the rich, and our only way to have the park secured for all classes is to have the direct roadway around Government shore built. Then the park will be a civic institution in ten minutes connection with our city. We are fond of sea air, and green fields, and beautiful trees as the people of wealth and fashion are, and I hope that our City Council and Government, and all citizens will help the work that is being talked of. Let us build the road and have a big turn out when it is done, and let soldiers and citizens, with brass bands and colors flying march over it to the park.

I remain, Yours &c., ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

BIRTH.

At Southport on Wednesday, the 20th inst., Mrs. H. H. Beer of a son.

DIED.

At North River, April 22, William E. Cass, aged 21 years 22 days.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Ottawa, John Corbett, mechanical engineer of the marine department, aged 59 years.

At Hagg's Cove on the 18th inst., Susan, wife of Capt. Daniel Crowther, and daughter of George Munro, J. P., in the 57th year of her age.

BANK OF P. E. ISLAND, IN LIQUIDATION.

FINAL DIVIDEND.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Sixth and final dividend on this estate, of 4.05-100 has been declared, pursuant to an order granted by His Honor Mr. Justice Peters, payable on and after the Twenty-eighth instant. Creditors will receive their dividend cheques on application at the Bank of Nova Scotia, Charlottetown.

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA, Per Geo. McLeod, Manager.

L. C. OWEN, Liquidators of Bank of P. E. Island.

Ch'town, April 22, 1887—tl 28th

FROM NEW YORK DIRECT.

THE BRIT. LOTTIE BELL will sail from New York on TUESDAY next, for Charlottetown, direct.

For Freight apply to Miller & Houghton, South Street, New York; or to the owners, here.

LONGWORTH & CO., Ch'town, April 22, 1887—H

ODDFELLOWS' NATAL DAY CELEBRATION, 1887.

On Tuesday, April 26th,

in the Evening of which day a

CONCERT LYCEUM.

will be given in the

The first part of Programme will contain several new features—New Orchestral Selections, "Mikado" Selections, New Songs, and the first appearance in this City of the

VOCOPHONE BAND

An entirely new attraction on this Continent—exceedingly fascinating and amusing, alone worth the price of admission.

The second part of the programme will be

An Old-Time Minstrel Entertainment,

consisting of some of the choicest Christy Vocal pieces with Orchestral Accompaniment under the direction of Mr. Vinnicombe.

Programme will appear shortly and will, without doubt, be the most attractive since the days of "Pinafore."

Tickets for sale at the usual places. Admission—Reserved seats, 50 cents; Parquette and Gallery, 25 cents.

Be sure and place a sum sufficient in your estimates for Concert purposes to attend this one.

A. E. McDONALD, Sec'y Committee.

April 9—wed & sat 11 20 then daily 11 20

CHEAP FOR CASH.

WE want money, and to that end are offering our immense stock of Furniture and House-furnishing Goods at prices that defy all competition. Call and see.

We are prepared to fill all orders entrusted to us with promptness. Special attention this season to Repairing and Upholstering for house-cleaning time.

An immense stock of Window Shades, Children's Carriages, Mantle Mirrors, Picture Frames, Mouldings, Window and Cornice-pole Goods to arrive in a few days.

MARK WRIGHT & CO.

Ch'town, April 22, 1887.

BACK TO THE OLD STAND.

J. B. MACDONALD

HAS removed back to his Old Stand, on QUEEN STREET, and is now opening his Spring Stock, personally selected in England. Buying his goods for Cash, and selling only for Cash, he will consequently be in a position to offer his customers goods at the very Closest Prices.

J. B. MACDONALD.

Ch'town, April 21, '87—dy wky

FOR CASH ONLY.

Perkins & Sterns

From this date we intend to do business For Cash only, thereby preventing any loss by bad debts, saving salary of a Book-keeper, loss of interest, cost of stationery and books, and other charges on a credit business,—will buy and sell for Cash and be in a position to give ready money customers the very best value.

NEW STOCK OF ROOM PAPER JUST OPENED

(Over 25,000 Rolls in Stock—Newest Patterns—Very Cheap.)

Large stock of STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS to arrive in a few days by regular steamers.

Perkins & Sterns

April 15—& wky

LONDON HOUSE.

House-keeping Goods, New White and Gray Cotton, New Printed Cottons, Bleached Sheetings, Unbleached Sheetings, Pillow Cottons, Table Linens, owels, Toweling.

THESE goods have just been opened for Spring Sale, and having been bought before the recent advance in Cottons, will be found extra value.

CARPETS! CARPETS!

Brussels, Tapestries, Hems, Floor Cloths, Matting, Hearth Rugs, Door Mats, Lace Curtains.

Tailoring Department.

A lot of Spring Tweeds just opened.

HARRIS & STEWART,

SUCCESSORS TO

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Ch'town, March 7, 1887—wky