

The Tunnel.

THERE can be no question that the recent delays of the Stanley, and the loss, inconvenience and annoyance resulting therefrom, have caused the people of this Province to take a deeper interest than ever in the project of a tunnel under the Strait of Northumberland, between Capes Traverse and Tormentine. We feel sure that Dr. Beer voiced the opinion of the audience of last evening, and of the people of this Province at large, when he called for additional surveys and estimates of cost. That the geological conditions between the Capes are favorable to the construction of a tunnel was clearly shown by Mr. Francis Bain, in the excellent paper read by him before the Natural History Society. We know, too, that tunneling has been made comparatively safe, and cheap, and easy by means of the Beach Shield and other improvements of the past few years. There seems to be no good reasons why we should not now agitate with more earnestness than ever for the completion of the bargain under which Prince Edward Island was guaranteed efficient and continuous communication by steam with the railway system of the mainland.

School Holidays.

MISAPPREHENSION evidently exists in respect to the recent order of the Board of Education providing for a vacation at midsummer. Each school district is, by the same order, given the option of having the holidays spring and fall as heretofore. The order provides that there shall be a vacation at midsummer "except where a majority of the ratepayers at the annual meeting decide to adhere to the old system, and transmit to the Education Office a statement of such decision before the date above named."

It is, therefore, not necessary to raise an agitation about the matter, or to be greatly troubled over visions of prospective taxation. Midsummer holidays cannot be forced upon any school district which may not desire them. They are believed by the Board of Education here, as by school authorities in all the other Provinces, to be better for the pupils and better for the teachers. Experience has proved that children cannot learn much in the sweltering days of midsummer, when kept in close ill-ventilated school rooms. Experience has also proved that midsummer holidays are better for the teacher. Midsummer holidays are, we believe, the rule all over America. But if parents in this Province need their children to help forward the work of planting in spring or to pick potatoes in the fall, the Board of Education leaves them free to have the holidays at those seasons. They can, if they choose, as heretofore, let the teacher have times at which to recruit himself, and they can keep their children at work—"right along."

Jamaica Exhibition.

The Jamaica Exhibition, which opens at Kingston on the 27th inst., will rank among the leading exhibitions for the year 1891. Exhibits of Canadian products from all parts of the Dominion, have been sent to the exhibition. Samples of some of the leading products of the soil and fisheries of P. E. Island, have been forwarded by exhibitors from different sections of the Province, as published in THE EXAMINER when shipped via Halifax, N. S., by Mr. A. McNeill, the agent, in November last. Since then, the Island Exhibit has been supplemented by a special exhibit from the Provincial Government, consisting of 12 boxes of potatoes, each box containing a different variety; 72 packages canned meats, viz: beef, mutton, pork, game, turkeys and fowls; 95 packages canned fish, viz: lobsters, mackerel, herring, halibut, trout, oysters and clams; also, a kit (35 lb), mess mackerel; 6 packages of butter, 3 boxes cheese; bags and packages of oats, oatmeal, wheat and barley and sheaves of grain; also, some small samples of other products. A stand in the shape of a pyramid prepared at John Newson's factory has also been forwarded to the Jamaica Exhibition, upon which will be displayed the P. E. Island exhibit, under the supervision of Adam Brown, Esq., Honorary Commissioner, representing Canada.

Ward Five Meeting.

As advertised in the daily papers, the electors of Ward Five met last evening, in Large's ware rooms for the purpose of selecting a suitable candidate to represent the ward in the City Council. The undersigned was appointed chairman. Retiring Councillor Large gave an account of his efforts in the interest of Ward Five since his election, complaining that he was obliged to do all the work of the ward himself without assistance from the other councillors. Mr. Murley said that he was willing to support Mr. Large if he was willing to go for a reduction in the Stipendiary's salary to \$500, and dismiss the water commissioners. Messrs. A. Des Roches and J. P. McCoubrey also favored such a change. Mr. Philip Large, the retiring councillor, was then proposed by Peter Holleran, seconded by James Egan. Pat to the meeting the nomination was declared lost.

A general discussion of civic matters was then participated in by Councillors (Trable, Edward Turner, L. P. Tanton and Chairman of the meeting. On motion, this large respectable and orderly meeting was brought to a close. GEO. H. MCCOURBRY. Jan. 13th, 1891.

THE TUNNEL QUESTION

Its Geological Features.

A Bed of Shale Under the Strait.

Excavations May be Made with Pick and Shovel.

Conditions Most Favorable for the Work.

GREATLY INCREASED INTEREST in the Tunnel Question, as well as regard for the Natural History Society and a desire to hear a paper by Francis Bain, Esq., moved a large number of our best citizens to go to the Board of Trade Rooms last evening. Every seat in the room was occupied, and many persons had to stand. Hon. David Laird occupied the chair, and there were in the audience Hon. Senator Haythorne, Hon. G. W. Bentley, Councillor Byrne, and other public men, besides a number of ladies. Drawings by Mr. Bain, showing the strata under the Strait, and the bed of the Strait in profile, with several of the plants and trees belonging to the geologic ages, were hung against the wall, and several fossils were exhibited.

Mr. Bain said, in the course of his address, that the foundations of this Island are laid upon a great basin of carboniferous rock, extending from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick on the south, to the Magdalen Islands on the north. The rock formations belong, for the most part, to two classes,—the Triassic and the Permian. The latter is softer than the former. A tunnel extending from Carleton Head to Cape Jourmain would go through the Permian. The dip of the strata is toward the north. Half way up the perpendicular front of Carleton Head there is a band of conglomerate, from one to two feet in thickness. This is very hard and shows white, with abundance of lime in its composition. But in the face of the cliff we see the band of conglomerate change into shale. The rocks about Cape Traverse seem to belong to the middle division of the Permian. On the Strait shore, between Rice Point and Canoe Cove, Mr. Bain had found a good section of a large part of the Permian formation as it is developed in the basin of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The only portion of this section to which the beds at Cape Traverse could be referred is the middle portion where the great shale beds thin out and the massive sandstone deposits begin. The Triassic beds of sandstone terminate amid the green slopes of Kinkora; and it is at Kinkora that the Permian begins. There are six miles of the Permian from Kinkora to Cape Traverse, and six and a half miles further the same Permian system is continued under the waters of the Strait as far as Jourmain Island, where the lowermost beds of the Permian are found resting upon the grey sandstones of the New Brunswick coal formation. As the beds of the entire formation here have the same general inclination of about one degree to the north-northeast, the outcrop of the beds, geographically, will indicate their positive stratigraphical position, so that the beds at Cape Traverse, as proved by this test, also, must occupy a position about midway in the Permian formation. Consequently the strata underlying the Strait between Carleton Head and Cape Jourmain belong to the Lower Permian. A section of the Lower Permian is exposed to view at Rice Point. By this section we find that the Lower Permian consists very largely of massive beds of shale, interstratified with shaly sandstones. Referring to this section to that at the Capes crossing, it seems probable that the beds are pretty much of the same character, though not of the same relative thickness. The whole series at the Capes will not be more than half the thickness of the same at Rice Point, this difference being caused by the fact that the centre of the Island is towards the centre of what was a great trough of subsidence during the Permian time, while the Cape Traverse district was on the border of that basin, not subjected to the same amount of subsidence; consequently it did not receive the same amount of sedimentation. The headlands on the shore of New Brunswick are of a much darker red than those at Cape Traverse. Jourmain Point consists mainly of a mass of boulder clay. But on the extremity of the point the clay is underlain by about four feet of red sandstone. Underlying this sandstone is a thick bed of red clay shale. This is the very base of the Permian. Its lowest bed is the great shale bed that outcrops in Jourmain Marsh. This bed must be sixty feet in thickness. Northward, under the water of the Strait, there is a mile or more of soft brick clay bottom, which shows the outcrop of a very extensive bed of shale. Two miles out there is a sandstone ridge, which makes an elevation in the profile of the Strait. The character of the rest of the beds may be judged by their denudation at the outcrop, affecting the profile of the basin of the Strait. Thus the deep water further on is evidently the result of the wearing out of larger beds of softer material which crop out in that locality, and the deep soundings and stiff clay bottom well into Carleton Head prove the continuance of large shale beds close to the Island shore. A tunnel under the Strait would go through the great shale beds of the Lower Permian; and these beds are of a character most favorable for the work; for (1) they are soft and comparatively friable; (2) the tenacious character of the material will tend to prevent flooding—one of the greatest difficulties to be encountered; (3) the beds are comparatively horizontal and unbroken, offering the least possible chance of obstruction by faulty seam or down-throw. As nature has thus provided these conditions, most favorable for the construction of a tunnel, and also suitable material of the cheapest kind at hand in our own country for the lining of the work, Mr. Bain expressed the hope that there would be no lack of enterprise and unanimity in our public men in urging forward this work so essential to the prosperity of the country. Mr. Bain then referred at some length to the more purely geological features of the subject, showing that the law of progress governs the world inanimate as well as animate, and urging that we must use every means that science and art place within our reach, in the endeavor to keep up with the progress of the age. At present, he said in conclusion, "our one great want is easy and regular communication with the rest of the world. Let us be true to our country, true to ourself—by united and persistent effort until this great object is obtained."

The lecturer was complimented by the chairman (Hon. David Laird), Hon. Senator Haythorne, Mr. John Newson, Mr. C. C. Gardiner, Mr. Alexander McKinnon, Mr. A. McNeill, Dr. Beer and Mr. B. Balderston. Senator Haythorne pointed out some of the difficulties which had been encountered while the Severn Tunnel was in course of construction and expressed his pleasure on hearing that the great obstacle to the work of tunnelling, that of flooding, was not apprehended by Mr. Bain. He questioned the statement that material suitable for the lining of the proposed tunnel could be found on this Island. Mr. Bain explained more fully his reasons for concluding that danger from flooding was not to be seriously apprehended, and said that tests had shown that brick clay found in the vicinity of Charlottetown is free from lime, and so, is suitable material for bricks with which to line the tunnel. Mr. C. C. Gardiner asked whether or not it would be necessary to use gun powder in making the excavation? Mr. Bain replied that much of the work could, in his opinion, all be done with pick and shovel. Mr. Newson knew no insuperable objection to the construction of a tunnel and said that the enterprise should be "pushed for all it is worth." He thought it possible that material for lining the tunnel might be taken from the excavation and questioned Mr. Bain upon that point. Mr. Bain replied that it had been found that clay in the lower Permian formation usually contained lime. Streaks of clay in which there is no lime may be found—but even if so, the constant presence of an analyzer would be necessary to prevent the possibility of lime in the bricks. Mr. Alexander McKinnon thought that we should all put aside party politics and go for the tunnel. The party that will give us a tunnel should be our party. He pointed out that great improvements had been made in tunnelling since the Severn tunnel was completed. Mr. A. McNeill thought that the Natural History Society deserved the thanks of the Province for inviting Mr. Bain to prepare the paper to which all had listened with so much pleasure. He spoke strongly in favor of a tunnel. Dr. Beer moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Bain, and expressed the hope that surveys and estimates of cost be obtained. Mr. B. Balderston seconded the motion, and said that, in his opinion the paper should be read before the authorities at Ottawa. A vote of thanks to Mr. Bain was then heartily and unanimously passed.

Society in Charlottetown.

For some days past it has been rumored that a satirical sketch of society in Charlottetown would shortly be published, and an advertisement to that effect duly appeared in our columns. Whatever curiosity had been aroused was gratified last evening by the appearance of a small, pamphlet of 48 pages. Those who hoped to have seen ability displayed are disappointed. The little book is dull reading. It is simply an ill-natured and scurrilous lampoon upon the leading clergymen and several gentlemen in Charlottetown, who, so far as we know, have never obtruded themselves upon the notice of the public. And its tone is decidedly vulgar. It is especially noticeable that whenever any religious subject is referred to, it is always with the offensive flippancy of ill-bred men. We select an extract—not that it is the most offensive in this respect, but because there are fewer personalities in it. The authors are ridiculing the singing of the anthem in the Methodist Church. The words are then taken from the Psalm in which the Hebrew king declares, "I will wash mine hands in innocency, so will I compass thine altar, O Lord." The authors misquote and misplace the words to give effect to their "joke," for so they call it. That, however, is a small matter, for they tell us several times, quite unnecessarily, that they have no religion:

"Then the singers are no end of fun. Here is an incident that rumor says transpired in connection with the choir of the church now described, which I give as I heard it. On a certain evening, the church being full of people taking their religion luxuriously, one of the lady singers got up out of her place and made the astounding declaration, in a treble voice, that she 'would wash!' A fellow (I beg pardon—a gentleman—the only fellow in Charlottetown are the Oddfellows, and a merry set of fellows they are a), well, a gentleman sitting behind, suddenly caught the infection and rising quickly from his seat, apologetically explained (in tenor) that he, too, 'would wash.' Whereupon a thing-a-pogy thing with the general lineaments of a man, with a touching pathos in a bass voice, announced that he would proceed to 'wash.' People at length began to wonder when those things would cease, for a second female (a lady female) who looked rather unclean, hopped up like a bee, and let everybody know pretty plainly, in an alto voice, that, not to be outdone by former speakers, she had made up her mind to 'wash.' Finding themselves in such agreement on the subject, the four singers finally declared in unison that they would 'wash their hands in innocency and so would they encompass the altar of the Lord.' 'Twas a fine joke; but the church is too sacred a place to make jokes in. The singers should not sing alone, they should use such music as all could sing. And in this special case just think how the whole community would be rejoiced to hear from their very own lips that the whole congregation of Disorderists were going to wash. But they mustn't do it now, for there's no drainage in the place and we might get the fever—Tom Trim among the rest; and he could not be spared."

This is sorry stuff, and there is much more like it. The Rev. Mr. Simpson of course comes in for much abuse and the Rev. Mr. Hunt who, we think it will generally be conceded quietly and unostentatiously attends to his duties, is assailed in the same coarse vulgar style. The venerable Bishop of Charlottetown and all the Protestant clergy are coarsely ridiculed, and amidst it all, there is not a witty saying, not a clean remark, hardly even a grammatical sentence—to be found. Perhaps the most offensive part in the

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pamphlet is where our authors undertake to tell of a now almost forgotten controversy between the late Bishop of Nova Scotia and the congregation of St. Paul's. We have no intention of repeating the story as told by our authors, nor are we sure how our readers any desire to hear it, but they may form some idea of the course virulence of this brace of slanderers when we tell them that the late Bishop of Nova Scotia is represented as attempting to force his way into St. Paul's Church, and cursing and swearing at the church door because he was not admitted. The Bishop is now in his grave. There were those of his own church who differed from him upon some points, but this difference existed with mutual respect, as we have reason to know; and we cannot but help a feeling of regret deepening into shame that there are to be found men among us who do not recoil from violating the sanctity of the grave, and from giving utterance to the foul slander that Dr. Binney, speechless with rage, blasphemed his Maker and his God as he attempted to force his way into St. Paul's Church, from which the Rector had excluded him. If the dead are so treated, what can the living expect?

There is one thing that occurred to us as we hastily skimmed over these pages: it was that these dismal, far-fetched puns, these many allusions to Oddfellows (which so frequently appear), and the evident striving to disabuse in a hell—were not unfamiliar to us. We strove to "place" the individuals, but we failed. Perhaps some of our readers may be more successful than we were. Still, we do not advise them to try, if it necessitates the purchase of the pamphlet. It is dull, dry reading, and not worth twenty-five cents.

Wedding Bells.

We extract the following from Bladud, a society paper published at Bath, England:—At the Abbey Church, in this city, yesterday, the marriage was solemnized of the Rev. Maurice Swabe, Vicar of St. Thomas, Exeter, and Incumbent of Aldridge, son of the late Captain Swabe, and Laura Elizabeth, of Wavendon house, the late Mr. Godfrey Price, M. A., of the Inner Temple barrister-at-law, M. A., of Exhilstock, Donbshire. The service commenced at 2 o'clock, the officiating clergy being the Rev. H. B. Swabe, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. J. N. So don, the bride, who was given away by her brother, was married in a travelling dress of electric blue cloth, embroidered in silk and silver, with hat to correspond, and carried a beautiful bouquet of white exotics, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by one bridesmaid, Miss Louisa Swabe, who was dressed in a costume of snowflake tweed, with hat of dove-colored felt, and wore a gold and pearl bangle, the bridegroom's present. The ceremony was very quiet, only a few near relatives and friends were present. After the marriage, the wedding party adjourned to 3, Johnstone street, and later in the afternoon the Rev. and Mrs. Maurice Swabe left for London, en route for St. Leonards and Brighton, where the honeymoon will be spent. The presents were numerous and handsome, including, from the bridegroom, a diamond ring; the bride's mother, diamond and sapphire butterfly, diamond brooch, silver backed brushes, fitted travelling bag, etc.

Election of a Water Commissioner.

IN pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly of this Island, made and passed in the 5th year of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled "Charlottetown Water Works Act, 1887," I do hereby give Public Notice that an

Election of a Water Commissioner for the City of Charlottetown,

in place of ALEXANDER MCKINNON, retire will be held on

WEDNESDAY,

the 28th day of January, A. D. 1891,

at the several places, that is to say:

In Ward No. 1, at or near the Engine House on King Street, between Great George and Prince Streets.

In Ward No. 2, at or near the house of Thomas Mackenzie, opposite Mr. R. Hearty's Warehouse, Sidney Street, between Great George and Prince Streets.

In Ward No. 3, at or near the Market House, corner of Kent and Queen Streets.

In Ward No. 4, at or near the carriage shop of Carroll & McAlister, corner of Euston and Great George Streets.

And at the said Election the Poll will be opened at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and continue open until five o'clock in the afternoon of the same day.

DESCRIPTION OF WARDS.

Number One shall comprise all that part of Charlottetown which lies south of Dorchester Street, and the parcel of land formerly known as the Military Barrack Ground.

Number Two shall comprise all that part of Charlottetown which lies south of Richmond Street and north of Dorchester Street.

Number Three shall comprise all that part of Charlottetown which lies south of Grafton Street and north of Richmond Street.

Number Four shall comprise all that part of Charlottetown which lies north of Fitzroy Street and north of Grafton Street.

Number Five shall comprise all that part of Charlottetown which lies north of Fitzroy Street, including the Common of the said Town.

NOMINATION DAY.

WEDNESDAY the 21st inst., from the time of Twelve at noon until the hour of Four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day.

For qualification of Electors, see Act 50, Victoria, intituled "Charlottetown Water Works Act, 1887," also "Victoria, Cap. 12, sec. 24 to 28."

[L. S.] T. HEATH HAVILAND, Mayor of the City of Charlottetown.

H. M. DAVISON, City Clerk. Mayor's Office, Charlottetown, Jan. 14, 1891.

Settlement to Dec. 31st, 1890.

WE request a settlement of all accounts due, notes, judgments, etc. before the end of January. All debtors will please take notice and save us trouble and themselves expense.

NORTON & FENNELL.

Jan14—dw 3w pat dw 3w her sum jour

Charlottetown Board of Trade.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The General Quarterly and Annual Meeting of this Corporation will be held at the Board Room, Cameron Block, this city, on the evening of WEDNESDAY, the 14th of January, at 8 o'clock.

B. D. HIGGS, Secretary

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In Aid of the Poor.

REMEMBER THE GRAND CONCERT

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF The Oddfellows of this City,

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22nd.

Programme in a few days.

Charlottetown, January 6, 1891.

STARTLING BARGAINS!

Ladies' Ulsters and Jackets, Astrakan Jackets, Children's Ulsters. A lot came late and will have to be slaughtered.

Men's Overcoats, Men's Fur Coats, Boys' Overcoats. We want to clear our tables of these goods, and they will have to go regardless of price.

Our Second Floor is one of the best lighted rooms in the city, and you can see well what you are buying.

HARRIS & STEWART.

Charlottetown, Jan. 7, 1891.

FARM FOR SALE. "Great Men in Council."

LOUIS H. DAVIES, ESQ., M. P., WILL LECTURE IN

THE LYCEUM,

Thursday Evening, 15th OF JANUARY.

In aid of the Funds of the Benevolent Irish Society

Subject—"Great Men in Council."

Admission, 10 cents; Reserved Seats, 15 cents. Tickets for sale at Watson's and Reddin's Drug Stores. Doors open at 7.30; Lecture at 8 o'clock.

S. BOLGER, Chairman Lecture Committee.

WOOD! WOOD!

OWING to the scarcity of Coal I have started a Wood Yard, and am prepared to supply Hardwood at a reasonable price, cut up to suit stoves, and delivered to all points in the city.

A. DOWN, Pownall Wharf.

The Sensation of the Day, (EXPECTED DAILY)

WOOD FOR SALE, BY AUCTION.

Fifty Acres of Hard and Soft Wood for sale on St. Peter's Road, Lot 34, only four miles from Charlottetown.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, 21st January, 1891, at 11 a. m., on the land adjoining the Farm of William Miller, Esq., St. Peter's Road, Lot 34, about 50 acres of standing wood, consisting of a splendid growth of hardwood (beech, maple, birch), and a heavy growth of spruce, suitable for scantling, heavy poles, etc.

The above wood will be sold in quarter and half acre lots. The sale will begin at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, sharp. Terms cash, or approved joint notes at three (3) months. Should the day prove stormy, the sale will take place the following day. A. B. WARBURTON. Jan7—dy and wky

BOARDERS WANTED.—College Students and other boarders can be accommodated at Miss McInnis's, Grafton Street, near J. D. McLeod's Store. 11 pd—Jan10