

The Extraordinary Capacity of our Premier.

When the Premier was in Souris last summer he was waited upon by a committee of gentlemen, who represented to him that during the previous year a storm had carried away a portion of the breakwater at a cost to the contractors of upwards of \$3000; that in all probability a similar storm would impare it in the future; that it was not reasonable to suppose that a perpendicular wall—some twenty-seven feet high and of such great length as the Breakwater—could long withstand the immense force of the sea at the entrance of the Bay. The committee begged him to have a quantity of stone thrown over the sea side of the work to intercept the waves and prevent the "scouring," which it was feared would remove the foundations and prove fatal to the stability of the work. We are informed that Mr. Perley, C. E., and Mr. Cunningham, C. E., both advised the protection of the Breakwater in the manner indicated. But the mind of the great Premier was, we presume, taken up with the herculean task of proving that the EXAMINER had circulated falsehoods respecting him, and that the Hon. J. C. Pope was "dead in trespasses and sins."

Consequently Souris Breakwater is to-day a wreck; at a very moderate estimate the country is minus \$25,000 to \$30,000, which must be expended to repair the damage done; and the harbor of Souris is forever injured.

We have hitherto failed fully to appreciate the peculiar talents of the heaven-born Premier. We are far from the scene of his most celebrated deeds—his most glorious triumphs. We therefore fail to recognize his signal merit in sinking nearly \$2,000,000 upon steel rails, \$200,000 upon Fort Francis locks, \$10,000 upon the Georgian Bay Branch Railway; \$35,000 upon Godrich Harbor works—not to speak of sundry smaller sums squandered and wholly lost. But we can realize the energy, the watchfulness, the care, the economy of the man who permitted \$30,000 to be washed away at Souris.

LONG CREDIT.

The Monetary Times, the commercial journal of Canada, has, for a long time, been inveighing against the system of long credits existing in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, and has done some good, if we can judge from the number of letters from town and country shopkeepers, that appear in its columns, stating that they were induced by the articles in the Times to place their business more on a cash basis.

We have often thought that our own Island has not escaped the evils of long credits, and upon inquiry we find that we are as bad in this particular as our sister Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. We find from good authority that there are numbers of our country and town merchants who purchase goods at three months' credit; but do not actually pay for them for a year or more; in many cases long after the goods have been sold by them. This extension of credit is effected by repeated renewals of the note originally given, each renewal being made for as large an amount as the leniency of the creditor or the bank that holds the note will allow.

This renewal system operates disastrously on every class of the business community: On the creditor, because the contract he originally made with the purchaser of his goods has been broken, and he has to take the risk of the transaction for a longer period than he at first contemplated. On the debtor, because, when he knows he can renew his obligations by paying only a small portion, and thus put the matter out of his mind for three months longer, he becomes careless in the collection of the debts due him, and thus providing for his liabilities. On the banks, because a portion (and we have reason to believe a large portion) of their funds is always locked up in this undesirable description of paper, and they are restricted to that extent from taking new and legitimate business.

A renewal of a business obligation is only excusable in one case, viz.: when the purchaser of goods is unable to dispose of them, and even this should be very exceptional, as no one ought to buy more than he can expect to sell within a reasonable time.

With whom does the fault lie that this pernicious system is so prevalent in P. E. Island? We answer, with the wholesale merchants in the first instance, for allowing their customers to violate the terms of their contracts; but our Banks are not wholly blameless in the matter, as the business community naturally looks up to them as the exponents of sound business principles, and when a merchant finds that a Bank will knowingly accept a second or third renewal he imagines there is nothing wrong in it.

Let our Banks refuse to make a practice of renewing for anyone, unless they know that the circumstances of the case warrant it, and our wholesale merchants will receive their payments more promptly, the retailer will buy more carefully in such lots as he can readily dispose of, and will also pay more attention to the collection of his book and other debts; while our banks will have more money to advance for new business. This will place the business of the Island upon as nearly a cash basis as is possible or desirable.

A summary and immediate abrogation of this pernicious system would, under present circumstances, perhaps, be disastrous to all but the strongest firms. But we cannot help thinking that some step should be

taken towards its gradual extinction. If our banks were to restrict dealers to one "renewal" and require that at least a half of the original amount be paid before a "renewal" could be obtained, the evils which spring from "renewing" would be lessened, and the way to further reform prepared.

There are other flaws in the commercial system of this Province which we may examine into on some future occasion.

Georgetown Jail.

A GENTLEMAN from this city who recently visited Georgetown informs us that the accommodation of the King's County Jail is a fit subject for immediate investigation by the Grand Jury or other proper authorities. He describes one of the prisoners as lying on his bed of fever in a miserable cell, surrounded by his fellow prisoners, and there he may suffer and perhaps end his sufferings by death. Is there no Hospital for such cases? A new jail is imperatively and immediately required. Let this stigma be at once removed from our Island.

Souris Beach.

THE attention of the Commissioner of Public Works is once more directed to the road over the beach between Souris West and Souris East. In one place, the action of the current has washed the sand-bank, over which people were wont to cross, entirely away; and at high tide, the water in the gully is about four feet deep. In order to cross at high tide, it is necessary to have a waggon or a boat. A pedestrian or a person having a sleigh, has to wait until the tide goes out—or get a ducking in water which is icy cold. After dark the place is very dangerous. We expect soon to hear of the untoward death of some unlucky wight of a stranger who passes that way during the night. A person getting into the gully in the dark is apt to think that he has missed his way, and fallen into the harbor or the river. An old resident of Souris—one well acquainted with the locality—informs us that a short time ago, he escaped from the place with the utmost difficulty, and that if he were a stranger, he would assuredly have been drowned.

The attention of the Government has again been directed to this wretched road. But nothing whatever has been done towards mending it. The Commissioner of Public Works is imbued with the same spirit as his greater contemporary of the Dominion Government. He prefers gadding about the country, talking stale nonsense interlarded with wise saws from John Stewart Mill, Adam Smith and the Scriptures, to attending to the duties he has solemnly pledged himself to perform.

A Bear Story.

A young man named McDonald residing in the County of Hauts, while travelling recently in the woods adjoining his father's place, encountered a bear. The young man took to a tree, and the bear followed him. The young man kept brim at bay as best he could, in the meantime calling loudly for assistance in the hope of being heard by some of the neighbors. The contest continued for some time, until finally the man was pursued by his assailant to the top of the tree. By this time, one of the neighbors who had heard the cries of distress arrived at the scene, and looking into the trees saw the state of matters. The bear discovering the new arrival came down the tree to attack the new comer, who, as he was unprovided with any weapon, cleared with the double object of saving his life and obtaining assistance. On his return with assistance and weapons the young man was found lying on the ground insensible, but no bear was to be found. After some time the young man was restored to consciousness, when he informed those who came to his assistance, that after the bear had pursued the person who came first to assistance his a short distance, he returned and reascended the tree and renewed the attack. The bear caught him by the heel of his boot and tore it off and lacerated his heel. In the struggle being driven to the extremity of the tree by the attack of the ferocious animal, they got entangled and both fell to the ground through the branches of the tree. The young man recollected nothing more until he recovered consciousness as already stated; with the exception of the damage to his heel he did not suffer any other serious injuries, except the shock which rendered him unconscious. The effect of the injuries to his heel will likely be to lame him for life. It is probable that in falling through the branches of the tree the rapidity of their descent was checked, and that finally they landed on the ground, the bear underneath, and in this way the life of the young man was saved. The bear in all probability astonished at the result of the conflict got up and ran away. The escape of the young man was most providential.

ANOTHER BEAR STORY.

Mr. Wm. McKenzie of West Branch, East River, in this County, was out last summer in the barrens at the head of the West Branch in company with a young boy. Each of them was provided with loaded guns. They suddenly encountered a bear with her cubs. The cubs sought refuge in adjoining trees. The young boy terrified at the appearance of brim dropped his gun and ran away. The bear alarmed for the safety of her cubs made for McKenzie. Instinctively comprehending that there was to be a life or death struggle, McKenzie who happened to have a butcher knife in his possession put it between his teeth, and placing himself alongside of the gun dropped by the boy, prepared for the encounter. He fired and shot the bear through the body, but the infuriated brute unheeding the wound rushed forward. He then picked up the boy's gun, and at the distance of about two yards discharged its contents into the breast of the bear, which tumbled at his feet, mortally wounded. On the discharge of the last shot the bear tumbled heels over head, his hind quarters striking Mr. McKenzie and nearly knocking him down. Fortunately there was no occasion for the use of the butcher knife, providently reserved for a final conflict, rather than to skin and dissect the ferocious animal.—Pictou Standard.

MGR. CONROY attended a meeting at Montreal, on the 6th, for the establishment of a branch of the Laval University in that city. All the Bishops of the Province and five hundred priests were present.

Latest by Telegraph.

WAR NEWS.

Another Decisive Victory for the Russians.

THE ARMY OF SHIPKA PASS FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE ENEMY.

[By Telegraph to Reading Room and Daily Examiner.]

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. Gold 102½. Exchange 82 to 85.

LONDON, Jan. 11. The Grand Duke Nicholas telegraphed the Emperor on the 9th that a brilliant victory had been achieved on Thursday. General Eradzelky captured the whole Turkish army at Shipka, consisting of forty-one battalions, ten batteries and one regiment of cavalry.

General Miresky occupied Mezanik, and Schobeloff holds Schipka Pass.

It is reported that military operations are suspended from 10 o'clock Tuesday night. Mehemet has been appointed to arrange an armistice.

The Turks have again defeated the Montenegrins at Shaz and Milisoure, and have driven them to Yewther.

English Volunteers.

In the present critical state of Continental affairs, the following from the "Daily News" on the present state of the English Volunteer Force will be read with interest. It appears from the reports of commanding officers furnished during the past month to the War Office, that they amount to upwards of 175,000 men, all of whom have fulfilled the obligations required by the Field Marshal Commander-in-Chief from efficient volunteers. Of these 175,000 men, 32,000 are artillerymen, 7,000 engineers, 133,000 infantry, and the remainder mounted rifles and permanent staff. The infantry are not only tolerably disciplined and drilled, but are all of them intelligent men armed with weapons of precision, which they know full well how to use. Every rifle volunteer among them has, besides his drilling, gone through a course of musketry instruction, and fired sixty rounds of ball cartridge at the butts. Or if he has not actually expended so many rounds, it is because he has proved himself a crack shot in the first score emptied from his rifle. The artillery volunteers, again, are not simply gentleman soldiers. To earn the capitation grant and become enrolled among the valuable defenders of his country, a volunteer artilleryman must have taken his turn at serving the big guns attached to his battery, or must have proceeded to one of the coast forts or to Shoeburyness to become practically acquainted with the working and training of heavy cannon. They are not expected to act as field batteries or horse artillery, but the gunners are instructed in all the duties of coast and garrison artillery. Of cavalry, there are but a few hundreds among the volunteers; the deficiency in reserve horsemen is made up, however, by the yeomanry, who are supposed to muster upwards of 14,000 sabres. These, with the militia, represent the second line of defence, which may be stated in round numbers at no less than 300,000 men of all ranks. Thus, of militia, infantry and artillery, there are 115,000; of yeomanry and cavalry, 14,000, and of volunteers 175,000 men.

On Saturday morning, an Indian by the name of Mitchell was found frozen to death at Kensington. The deceased, Peter Snake and Joe LaBobe had been to Summerside during the day, and it is said had returned the same evening in a state of intoxication. Nothing more was heard of them until Saturday morning, when Mitchell was found near Mr. D. Cameron's shed, where he had perished. Joe LaBobe was found by Mr. A. McKinnon about 3 o'clock the same morning. Mr. McKinnon heard some person rapping at his window, and he got up to see what was the matter. But a short distance from his house he found an Indian sitting in the snow under the influence of liquor. This man, strange to say, escaped without being even frost-bitten. Peter Snake managed to reach his camp. The night was very stormy and cold, and no doubt, the Indians being stupefied, wandered about until they became exhausted. An inquest was held on the body of the dead Indian the same evening by D. Darrah, M. D., and the jury returned a verdict that the "Deceased came to his death from exposure while under the influence of liquor." Mr. T. Stewart, the Indian Commissioner, was present at the inquest, and questioned the witnesses very minutely, in order to ascertain, if possible, where the Indians obtained the liquor. The matter, no doubt, will be thoroughly investigated.—Journal.

We trust that the Halifax papers will disabuse their readers of the idea that anybody in St. John cares where the capital of the United Maritime Provinces is situated—supposing that there should be a Maritime Union. St. John itself has no aspirations in that direction. It expects, of course, to be the leading city of the Union, to lead in thought, in energy, in enterprise, in industry, in activity. There have been many occasions when a very little agitation would have transferred hither the capital of New Brunswick. But St. John preferred not to have it. The generally healthy tone of public morality here is due to the fact that this city is above being tempted by such trifles. We think if anybody in St. John cared anything about Maritime Union at all, or gave any consideration to the question of capital, his choice as respects the latter would fall upon the ancient capital of Nova Scotia, the charmingly situated and beautiful village of Annapolis.—St. John Globe.

The Grand Division will meet at Lot 49, on Thursday, the 24th inst., at 10.30, a. m.

New Advertisements.

FINE ARTS NEW YEAR'S CLASS.

MRS. W. W. IRVING begs to intimate to the public that she has re-opened her Classes at the late City Hotel, opposite the R. C. Chapel, where, having every facility, she is prepared to give lessons in Oil and Water Color Painting, and Drawing in Crayon and Pencil in all their different branches. Terms made known on application. Jan. 11, 1877.

CHEAPEST YET!

In Connection with our Cheap Dry Goods Sale

BOOTS & SHOES,

of about \$2,000 worth, at cost to clear, consisting of—

- Men's Wellington Boots. Men's Leather Congress Boots. Men's Felt Congress Boots. Men's Larrigans & Overshoes. Men's Felt and Leather Slippers. Women's Leather Boots. (Elastic and Laced).

- Women's Felt Boots. Women's Slippers & Overshoes. Misses' & Children's Leather Boots.

COME ONE AND ALL AND GET BOOTS CHEAP

J. B. MACDONALD, QUEEN STREET, CHARLOTTETOWN. Jan. 9—ne pat

KING SQUARE HOUSE!

WE HAVE A COMPLETE STOCK OF

CARRIAGE GOODS

Consisting in part of

- Iron, Steel, and Castings. Spokes and Rims. Axles and Springs.

We call special attention to HENRY'S PATENT SINGLE PLY

Cast Steel Carriage Springs,

for which we are agents. We warrant each Set.

OUR PRICES ARE VERY LOW

BEER & SONS.

Ch'town, Jan. 9, 1878.

Provincial Normal School.

The Winter Term of the Normal School

WILL BEGIN ON THE

THIRD TUESDAY IN JANUARY.

and all intending students are requested to make application to the Principal, who will supply them with all necessary information in regard to the entrance examination. Students who intend studying for a First Class License are specially requested to attend during the winter term, in order that special attention may be given to the subjects required for their examination. All students must be present on the day of opening. JOHN HARPER, Principal. Dec. 24, 1877—

Notice to Procrastinators!

All Accounts furnished at Xmas and Midsummer of last year, that remain unpaid after the First February next, will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, without distinction of persons. MARK BUTCHER. Jan. 2, 1878—

ON CONSIGNMENT

With Positive Instructions TO SELL:

- 20 HHDS. MOLASSES, 10 do. SUGAR, 200 Bbls. APPLES, 25 Crates ONIONS, 100 Pairs Men, Women & Boys BOOTS, 10,000 CIGARS.

Counter and Platform Scales,

Direct from the Factories.

—ALSO—

A few Celebrated Bourne Pianofortes,

Mason and Hamlin Organs.

Second-hand Instruments taken in exchange at fair valuations.

A. McNEILL, Auct'r. No. 11 Queen St., Jan. 3, 1878—6i law

BUY THE DAILY EXAMINER, for the latest news—local and telegraphic.

New Advertisements.

OUR GREAT CLEARANCE SALE

WILL CONTINUE AT Further Reduced Prices.

BANKRUPT STOCK!

still on hand, will be sold at HALF PRICE.

Remnants at half Price!

WOOLLEN & FUR GOODS

AT COST.

GREAT BARGAINS IN CLOTHING!

for Men and Boys.

ROBERT ORR & CO.

Charlottetown, Jan. 8, 1878.

PUBLIC MEETING.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the electors of

Morell and vicinity, will be held at MO-

RELL on

TUESDAY, THE 14TH,

at the hour of 3 o'clock, p. m.,

For the purpose of selecting a candidate for the

Legislative Council, and discussing the Asses-

sment Act, and other questions agitating the

country. The members of the District, the

press and electors from other parts of the Dis-

trict, are respectfully invited to attend.

DANIEL STEWART, THOMAS KEEFE, MICHAEL MURPHY, JOHN MURPHY, MICHAEL DUNN, WILLIAM DUNPHY, PATRICK CLARKIN, THOMAS KENNY, JAMES DUFFY, MARTIN SINNOTT, PETER DUFFY, JAMES DOLLARD, THOMAS DUNNE.

Jan. 9, 1878.

Important Decision!

THE SEWING MACHINE AWARDS.

[From the Sewing Machine Journal.]

The Special Medal to Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company.

Extract from the Judges' Report:

"The recommendation we hereby submit—

"The great advantage which it obtains in its

distinctive feature, the Rotative Hook, over

the class of machines using the reciprocating

shuttle, is one which needs, to show it, no special

demonstration; it being apparent at once,

not only to the educated mechanic, but to any

intelligent observer."

The Report concluded:

"The tension is more easily adjusted and

needs less regulating than any other that we

know of. The range of work successfully per-

formed by the apparatus known as the 'No. 6

machine' in our presence, was larger than we

have elsewhere seen on any one machine, going

from many thicknesses of tin and cloth to-

gether to the finest cambric, without stopping

the machine, and the sewing all perfect, showing

the perfection of the tension device used.

The machine is well made, all its parts being

fitted to gauge, and consequently interchangeable.

It has already received from the American

Institute all the awards and recognitions

under the rules possible to a sewing machine.

We consider the apparatus known as the No. 6

to be the most mechanical in construction

and as attaining the best results of any ma-

chine we know of, and we do not hesitate to

declare it, as in our opinion, at present the best

sewing apparatus in the world; we recommend

for it the highest recognition under the rules

that can be awarded—the Special Medal of 1877.

J. G. BRONAHAN, U. S. N., B. F. WOOD, U. S. N., J. W. COLLINS, U. S. Rev. Mar. } Judges.

The prices of these Machines have been greatly reduced. Mr. Theo. L. Chappelle, Diamond Bookstore, is the Agent in this City. Ch'town, Dec. 29—3i eod.

NOTICE!

NEVER in the history of the "LONDON HOUSE" have we been selling DRY GOODS so LOW as at present, and we would invite those in Town and country, who have not participated in the EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS we are giving, to call at once.

We only ask a personal inspection to show that we are, in good faith, SELLING OFF at the LOW PRICES advertised.

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Dec. 13th, 1877.—eod2w

WRAPPING PAPER—All sizes, best quality, and cheapest in the market. CARVELL BROS. Agents N. B. Paper Co. Dec. 5—pat 3i