

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

PROBATIONARY.—The Legislature will probably 'rise' in a few days.

READ THE REPORT OF SPEECHES ON THE SCHOOL QUESTION IN ANOTHER COLUMN.

PAPER FACTORY.—A paper mill is to be established at Ellershow, Nova Scotia.

Y.M.C.A. ASSOCIATION.—The new Y.M.C.A. Association Building in Halifax has been opened.

SNOWSTORM.—A heavy snowstorm commenced yesterday morning (April 25) and continues today.

YOUNG EMIGRANTS.—Eighty sturdy young emigrants—orphans and girls—arrived at Halifax on Monday last.

STEAMERS TO ST. JOHN.—The Anchor Line Steamship Company promises to give St. John two steamers a month.

A PROLIFIC EWES.—That of Wm. Stevens, Esq., of Shediac, which recently gave birth to four lambs. The same interesting sheep had, on several occasions, been the mother of triplets.—St. John Telegraph.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Robert Harris—who has during the winter, been pursuing his art studies in Boston—has returned to the island. Hon. Benjamin Davis is ill, and unable to take his seat in the Assembly.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—The train which left St. John for Halifax, on the 23rd inst., when about one mile south of Londonderry, N. S., ran over and killed a man named Henry Morrison.

A WOODEN MAN.—The Hon. Mr. Ross, Minister of Militia, who sat in his chair in the House yesterday, impassive and helpless, while the Leader of the Government answered the questions which were put to him (Mr. Ross).—St. John News.

A FORGED NOTE.—A Bank of British North America \$10 note, photographed, and capable almost of deceiving an expert, was detected yesterday morning by the teller of the Bank. The public have been told by their guard about this denomination of note of this Bank.—Halifax Citizen.

SEWER IN A TRENCH.—Customer—"I want another pound of that fifty-five cent tea." Grocer—"It is sixty cents now." Customer—"Why so high?" Grocer—"Fifty-five cents for the tea and five cents for our pure patriotic and economical 'Reform' Government. You voted for the 'Reform' ticket, you know, and ought not grumble at the expense."—St. John Tribune.

A YOUTHFUL MURDER.—In Boston, on the 23rd inst., Edward Pomroy, aged fifteen, killed a four year old child, who he enticed to a lonely spot in the suburbs. He stabbed his victim eighteen times and finished by cutting his throat. The young assassin was recently pardoned from the Reform School for mutilating several children younger than himself.

THE SALTARY.—In Dominion Parliament, Mr. Palmer, of N. B., protested against inequality of the salary of judges in different Provinces. He argued that the members of the Bar should stand on an equal footing in all the provinces. He compared the salaries of the judges in the different provinces, to show the discrimination against those of the Maritime Provinces.

The Sisters of the "Congregation de Notre Dame" purpose having a Tea party in the Convent Hall on the 25th of May, (D. V.). All persons who are generous enough to contribute towards it will please send their contributions to the Convent during the course of next week. The Sisters will profit by the occasion to raffie the Gold and Silver Watches remaining from their last Bazaar. Persons holding tickets should not fail to attend.—Health.

A STRIKING RESULT.—One striking result of the recent change of Government in Canada, has been a very sensible decline in the value of our securities in the English market. We venture to predict that Mr. Cartwright's budget speech, weak and inconsequential though it will, will do more to depreciate the credit of the Dominion than any event which has taken place during the past seven years.—Toronto Mail.

STEAMERS.—The Heather Bell goes to Mount Stewart to-morrow morning. The Princess of Wales, from Pictou, arrived on Saturday evening, and the St. Lawrence from Shediac, on Saturday night at 12 o'clock. As soon as the storm abates the Princess of Wales will go to Pictou for repairs. She will probably be on the 'lip about a week. The St. Lawrence will leave with mails and passengers as soon as weather permits. The Prince Edward is expected at the end of the week. The Somerset is still on-bound at Pictou. The Carvell will, in consequence, leave Boston until Saturday, May 2nd.

TERIBLE ACCIDENT IN A MILL.—A terrible accident occurred in the saw mill of Messrs. J. G. Titus, Upper, about 5 o'clock on Monday afternoon, by which a man named James McCully had his head nearly sawed off by a circular saw. The unfortunate man while engaged about the table which held the saw, had occasion to put his head beneath the table and beyond the saw. He was warned that he was in a dangerous place, but it was thought owing to the noise he did not hear the warning. In withdrawing his head it came in contact with the saw, cutting the whole upper portion of his head more than half through. The unfortunate man lingered four or five hours when death ensued.—St. John News.

POLICE COURT.—On the 11th inst., George Swan, was arraigned for Stealing a horse and cost from the premises of Mr. Currie, Fowling Street. The property having been found, the prosecution was not pressed and the prisoner was dismissed with a fine of \$2.00 and a reprimand. His "ruling passion" must have been strong for, on the 22nd he was again tried for larceny of valuable property from a Mr. Mullen, at the Dominion House. It is due to the proprietor of the establishment to say that he is stated in his evidence that he would on no account permit the presence of Swan on his premises until he had been paid for the horse he was taking to be sold. The prisoner had no defence to make and was remanded to his trial at the next sitting of the Supreme Court.

A JOGGER'S STORY.—The following is travelling the rounds of the American press:—There is a bush story of a negro who, for a bottle of rum, agreed to strip to the waist, and lie on his face, to be bitten for a quarter of an hour by mosquitoes, at the quarters of New Brunswick. He endured his pests manfully, and had nearly won his prize, when one of the lumbermen who stood by laid on him a small piece of charcoal, when the negro wriggled and twisted about frantically; at last, unable to hold out any longer, he jumped up, calling out, "Woo! 't no bargain for dat; dat is deegon fly!" Lumbermen play sad tricks on the negroes sometimes. At a colored town drinking a lumberman slipped a plug of tobacco into the kettle, when an old negro who presided called out, "Mo' water! 'mo' water! 'oo' 'long for missa' tobacco!"

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

APRIL 22, 1874.

MR. JOHN A. McDONALD, agreeably to notice in the Order Book, moved that the House resolve itself into a committee of the Whole, to take into consideration certain amendments to the Education Act. After some discussion regarding the appointment of a Chairman,—

MR. McDONALD took the Chair, and Mr. Thomas Kelly moved the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the laws in force in this Province relating to education be examined and reported on, and that the same be amended, if necessary, and that the same be referred to a select committee, to be composed of the following members:—

Resolved, That it is expedient to introduce a Bill to amend in some respect the laws relating to education, and in particular to provide a certain mode for the employment of teachers of such persons as shall produce to the Board of Education satisfactory certificates, as to their character and attainments, from some college or other institution of learning in Europe or America; and also to render permissive the imparting of religious instruction in the schools in which the pupils are of the same denomination,—that no religious instruction be subject to the approval of the parents or guardians of the children.

It was, Mr. McDONALD supposed, necessary to offer some explanation. It was well known that there was a great deal of dissatisfaction in reference to the Free Schools, and more particularly in reference to those in the city. There was, he said, a school over the city which education was imparted in a very satisfactory manner, and the teachers in which did not receive state aid. He asked that those teachers should be allowed to receive a share of the public money on their producing certificates of competency from any institution of learning in Europe or America.

MR. ASSESSOR.—This was a question in which all were interested. Everyone desired to be well educated, and that their children should be so also. This question was one which no one need be ashamed of discussing. It was well known that the laws on education, as they now stood, were a difficult matter to make them so. These laws might be amended, from time to time, as might laws on any other question. With a good understanding, the defects in the Education Act might be remedied. He did not see that it was a question of Catholics or Protestants; all denominations should work upon the matter. From all sides congratulations were made. Quarrelling over the matter would never amend them; that could only be done by calm reasoning. In some instances teachers were not paid, and some were not to be taught. Some gentlemen who had spoken on this matter, had referred to the Prussian law, but there was no need of going far from home. We were all concerned with education. 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It had been proved that these schools were purely Protestant; established for the purpose of educating the children of the children who attended, and to attend which inducements were held out. The Catholics who had come out here had thus no means of education, and he had seen it stated that they were not to be educated in any way. When an Irishman went to New York, and was asked what he could do, his answer was, "I can dig." What left him in that position was that he had no education. He was a thing physically inferior in the appearance of the hon. member to other hon. members in the House? Was there anything physically inferior in the Irish race? Education was what made the man. The great love that the Irish had for their country, arose from the wrongs to which they and their country had been subjected. Their close adherence to their faith was owing to the wrongs which they had suffered. 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Was the fact that the schools were there taught a religion different from that held by others, any reason why this should not be done? Would any one say that the system of education in the schools was inferior to that in others? The teachers devoted their lives to their profession; they lived for it, alone, if they were not for that fact the schools could not be supported; salaries such as others received could not be paid. Few would be found who would express opinions contrary to those which he had advanced. It was ignorance which made people parties to this act of injustice complained of.

MR. CONROY was glad that the question was fairly before the House, even at this late hour. He had hoped to be more upon it, after waiting so long. If he had ever wished the gift of oratory, he wished it now. He believed that only educated men could speak fully upon this subject, which was the reason why he objected to the placing of the learned member of Summerville in the chair, thereby preventing the speaker from speaking on the subject. Some gentlemen who had spoken on this matter, had referred to the Prussian law, but there was no need of going far from home. We were all concerned with education. A man who was educated for a lawyer or doctor, received an instruction suitable for his profession. The first thing that he thought of after his education was what he should do for his country. He did not know why Roman Catholics only had spoken upon this question, and the others had been silent. The people to whom he belonged, were uniformly in favour of education than most others. It was not necessary to go into the cause of this. It was not necessary to refer to the wrongs which they had suffered before they came to this country. It had been in the country from which they had come, a penal offence for them to learn the alphabet. Regarding their religion had made them what they were. When he had been in his country, had seen the action of the clergy in his country denouncing for keeping the children from attending the schools, which were supported by men outside the country, coast guards and others. It had been proved that these schools were purely Protestant; established for the purpose of educating the children of the children who attended, and to attend which inducements were held out. The Catholics who had come out here had thus no means of education, and he had seen it stated that they were not to be educated in any way. When an Irishman went to New York, and was asked what he could do, his answer was, "I can dig." What left him in that position was that he had no education. He was a thing physically inferior in the appearance of the hon. member to other hon. members in the House? Was there anything physically inferior in the Irish race? Education was what made the man. The great love that the Irish had for their country, arose from the wrongs to which they and their country had been subjected. Their close adherence to their faith was owing to the wrongs which they had suffered. When in this country, the children of such parents were sent to school, and he had to read and write, they, in a short time, knew more than their parents, and was not that a sad state of things. The child must respect his parents, but he could be in some cases respect his teacher when that teacher, as was sometimes the case, was not so good as the parents. The case was seen in the case of the public-house to his lodgings? To whom had the child to go for protection and instruction in what was right? He could look only to his father, and he was ignorant, and sometimes worse. A child should be sent to school where he would be taught what was right in morals and religion. The hon. member was not surprised at the conduct held by his Protestant friends. It required a great deal of energy and honesty to look upon the demands of Catholics as just. The more dignified and the more just a man was, the better citizen he made. The argument was used that certain things only should be taught in the schools, and that to learn religion the children should go to their parents, friends, or the church. Would they learn religion in the homes to which he had alluded? It was unfortunately the case that some of these homes were public houses, and were not to be taught religion in such homes, where men and women were to be seen in a state of intoxication? He spoke in the interest of the poorer classes who should be in the care of the State. Could Catholics be satisfied with the present state of affairs, when every week a collection had to be made for their schools? One day there was a Bazaar, and the hon. member had seen a silver collection for the support of the schools. And yet it was said that this was free education. He wished to know why pro rata allowance should not be made towards those schools. Was the fact that the schools were there taught a religion different from that held by others, any reason why this should not be done? Would any one say that the system of education in the schools was inferior to that in others? The teachers devoted their lives to their profession; they lived for it, alone, if they were not for that fact the schools could not be supported; salaries such as others received could not be paid. Few would be found who would express opinions contrary to those which he had advanced. It was ignorance which made people parties to this act of injustice complained of.

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