

The Upper House.

In his invaluable treatise on Representative Government, John Stuart Mill says:—
For my own part, I set little value on any check which a second Chamber can apply to a democracy otherwise unchecked; and I am inclined to think that if all other constitutional questions are rightly decided, it is but of secondary importance, whether the Parliament consists of two Chambers, or only of one. If there are two Chambers, they may either be of similar, or of dissimilar composition. If of similar, both will obey the same influences, and whatever has a majority in one of the Houses will be likely to have it in the other.

Again:—
If there are two Houses, one considered to represent the people, the other to represent only a class, or not to be representative at all, I cannot think that where democracy is the ruling power in society, the second House would have any real ability to resist even the aberrations of the first. It might be suffered to exist, in deference to habit and association, but not as an effective check. If it exercised an independent will, it would be required to do so in the same general spirit as the other House; to be equally democratic with it, and to content itself with correcting the accidental oversights of the more popular branch of the legislature, or competing with it in popular measures.

The consideration which, in the judgment of John Stuart Mill, tells most in favor of two Houses is the evil effects produced upon the mind of any holder of power, whether an individual or an Assembly, by the consciousness of having only themselves to consult. It is, says Mill, and it is, no doubt, important that no set of persons should, in great public affairs, be able, even temporarily, to make their *sic volo* prevail without asking anyone else for his consent.

But this consideration in favor of two Houses of Parliament does not apply in Prince Edward Island; for there is a Lieutenant Governor, a Minister of Justice, a Dominion Cabinet and a Governor General to criticize and check the legislation of the Local Legislature!

It appears, then, that the experience of Ontario and the observations of such a keen observer as John Stuart Mill confirm belief of the people of this Island that the Legislative Council is of no practical use whatever.

But, it is said, "Oh, if we abolish the Legislative Council, the rights of property will be endangered!" What nonsense. As if, with a vivid remembrance of the \$25,000 a year episode, as if with the iron tyranny of the tax curse entering their pockets, the people of this Island could be fooled into the belief that their property can possibly be in any greater danger from a bad Legislature than it is at the present moment.

It is our firm belief that the abolition of the Legislative Council (coupled with the demolition of the Rump Government) will rather tend towards the preservation of the rights of property than to their further endangerment. The responsibility of legislating for this small Province is too much divided. The Province is being borne down to ruin by a superincumbent mass of needless legislators. If the mass were reduced, responsibility would press heavier upon those who remain. There would be less of that rollicking carelessness, which has become a characteristic of the "hon. member" while engaged in his legislative duties; and legislation would, consequently, be better done. If this be so, our first duty is to get rid of some of our legislators; and thus save \$10,000 a year, and make a decided step in the direction of economy and improvement.

The School Question.

The "Herald" of to-day says:—"The Davies government was elected to pass a new Public School Act. They have done so, and have, therefore, accomplished their mission. No one wants to disturb that arrangement except to bring the machinery within the capacity of the colony to bear. We imagine that even in this most necessary work, Mr. DeBlois would assist. The "Patriot" asserts that this Education Act is not safe in the hands of Mr. Sullivan or any other Roman Catholic. We believe this to be a wicked slander. Mr. Sullivan has as little thought of changing that Act as he has of remodelling the decalogue. Every effort has been made to bring about a settlement of the Question. The law was indeed, opposed so long as opposition was available. That time has gone by. It is settled, and so far as we are concerned, we can see no reason to disconcert a settlement of which all are availing themselves."

A NUMBER of unsightly old posts are allowed to remain obstructing the sidewalk on the north side of Queen Square. Although the police and other city officials continually pass by, no effort is made to remove them.

BARK *James Peake*, John Graham, master, with cargo of 56,000 bushels of oats of 34 lbs., and 650 pieces of deal, containing 18,000 feet, superficial measurement, shipped by Peake Bros. & Co., cleared for Queenstown for orders on the 19th instant. Frank Beete, Esq., passenger.

Methodist Missions.

DR. McDONALD ON JAPAN AND THE JAPANESE.

At Prince Street Church, last night, Dr. McDonald gave an interesting description of Japan and the customs of the Japanese. "Japan," he says, is not known by that name in Japan itself. The Japanese have twenty different names for it. It is a really beautiful country; and the Japanese equivalent for the beautiful country is, perhaps, the most popular name it bears. The Empire is about a quarter larger than Great Britain and Ireland; and its population is about thirty-three millions. Earthquakes prevail. In fact, Japan is a rather shaky country to live in. The Japanese have an idea that the world is built upon the back of a huge fish, who shakes himself in a lively way when he is displeased. Twenty-five years have, however, passed since a very disastrous earthquake took place—though "shakings" are frequent. The climate is rather enervating. Long rains are followed by great heats. The "black stream" brings heat from the tropics in summer, while a cold stream from the North affects the temperature of the Northern Island—rendering it so cold in winter that ice sometimes forms to the thickness of a quarter of an inch. A strong person is not likely to gain strength in Japan, and a weak person will probably become weaker. Dr. McDonald pictured an excursion into the interior of the country—showing how the Japanese travel, what they wear, how and what they eat and drink, etc. Some of the coolies, he says, can travel 50 miles in a day; and one he had hired, travelled with him 75 miles in a day. The Methodist missionaries are doing a good work among the Japanese; and it is the Doctor's belief that the whole Empire will, in due time, be Christianized. Many interesting details of his lecture we are obliged, for want of space, to omit. Dr. McDonald speaks to-night upon the Religions and Religious Customs of Japan.

Current Events in Manitoba.

The *Mail's* correspondent writes:—"Altogether unmindful of the proverb that it is wise not to stir muddy water, Lieut. Governor Cauchon actually threatens further exposure of the domestic economy of Government House by authorizing his counsel to apply for leave to enter a nonsuit in the action of Newton vs. Cauchon, with the ulterior resolve, in case the late proceedings cannot be rendered void in that way, to apply for a new trial. Of course when people are altogether callous to public opinion, fear of criticism or scandal has no terrors. It is hard to tell whether Mr. Cauchon is so case-hardened as to be perfectly indifferent to popular sentiment; but it certainly seems so, or surely he would not wish to appear again in a court of justice over a miserable dispute about a coat worth only \$10 or \$12, and to brave the obloquy attaching to such a petty kind of litigation. A generous spirited man would hardly seek to undermine a verdict which has virtually pronounced William Newton an honest man, when the converse would be to establish his character as that of a thief."

Before passing to a more agreeable subject than the present occupant of the viceregal throne in Manitoba, it is pertinent to allude to a circumstance which occurred on Hallow'een. Somebody once said that "a fool is born every hour," in order to account for the astonishing number of individuals that may be so classed. Of course we have a share of them in Manitoba, as witness the pranks played on Hallow'een, when signs were removed, exchanged, and made away with in a manner not only insane, but unlawful. Among the larks of the "rollicking rams" of Winnipeg was the hoisting of the sign of a city firm (R. Gerrie & Co.) to the top of the flagstaff of the Canada Pacific Hotel; but this was but a slight affront compared with that offered, by probably the very same misguided persons, to our Lieutenant Governor. About 6.30 a. m. on the day following Hallow'een a French halfbreed came rushing down Main street, in a state of great excitement, vociferating loudly "On a pendu un cochon." (They have hanged a pig.) He met a few working men on their way to their daily toil, one of whom, having acquired a smattering of French, caught the idea that Mr. Cauchon had hanged himself. He further interrogated the *metis*, who was understood to declare, with much vehemence, that he himself had witnessed the tragedy; furthermore, that the act was perpetrated on the flagstaff of Government House. The group of enquirers was just then dispersing, when the man who spoke French made one more enquiry: "Est il mort?" which elicited the reply, "Non, non, mon Dieu, il grogne." (No, no, he's squealing!) This altered the intentions of the crowd which had now gathered, and, somebody having said, "Say, mates, let's go and cut him down," off they started on the run. What was their astonishment, on turning a corner which brought them in view of the viceregal abode, to witness, suspended by the halliards of the flagstaff, a veritable cochon, relieving his feelings by the utterance of as lively cries as ever proceeded from a youthful porker which had never suffered from *trichina* or measles. It may well be supposed that the unfortunate victim of this very unseemly practical joke was soon released from his awkward predicament. The story of the affair, however, rapidly spread through the city, and universal indignation was expressed at the outrage. Indeed, there was no one hardly but what exclaimed that "it was rough on the pig."

Hard Times in England.

A London correspondent, who says that the depression at the present moment is unexampled in his experience, points to the loss caused by the failure of foreign states to pay interest on their bonds as one of the chief causes. Thousands of people with small fortunes, instead of being content with the low rates of interest to be got out of safe investments, bought such "securities" as Turkish bonds, and doubled their incomes. Then, as a matter of course, they increased their expenditures, indulging in luxuries that would otherwise have been out of the question, and forming extravagant habits. When the payment of interest ceased they readily cherished the delusion that all would be well in a short time, and kept up the style of living to which they had accustomed themselves. But now the shoe is pinching. They see no hope of receiving returns from these investments, their money and credit have been exhausted, and they fully realize the necessity of going back to an even, simpler style of living than before they risked their money for the purpose of increasing their incomes. Retrenchment in household expenses, the discharge of servants, the wearing of old clothes instead of buying new, and the lessening of expenses in various ways, on the part of all the people whose incomes have been seriously affected by this cause, affect trade very considerably. The bond for which £50 was paid is worth only £10 now, and the holder must either go without any income from it or sell and put up with the trifle a re-investment of the selling price will yield. "When I repeat," says the correspondent, "that the estimated loss of income, owing to foreign states having recently ceased to pay interest on their debts is equal to ten millions sterling, it will readily be admitted that the area of financial suffering in this country is very wide. But while the majority of the sufferers are private persons, a considerable number of business firms have been sufferers also from the same cause. Many firms have invested their spare capital in the foreign loans which yielded a very large return on the money invested. When these loans returned no interest, when the capital invested had lost forty-fold of its market value, and when business had simultaneously become unremunerative, the result was bankruptcy. The worst is that so much capital has been irretrievably sunk in these foreign loans as to render it difficult for business men, as well as persons living on fixed incomes, to regain their former position. Years must pass away before, in the most favorable circumstances, the savings which have disappeared can be replaced. Existing circumstances are unfavorable for the beginning of the process. The panic which the electric light has caused among gas stocks, leading hundreds who bought at a high premium to sell out at a discount, also entails a lessening of income that means, in most cases, a reduction in expenditure. The farmers, notwithstanding the good crops, are grumbling even more than usual. The competition of imported grain is so sharp that their profits are small, and the importation of meat and live stock has all but ruined the business of the grazier. To meet this competition it will be necessary to reduce rents, which will curtail the incomes of the great spending classes, and thus affect the trade in luxuries on which so many in England depend for a livelihood."

A Foul Murder near Baddeck.

A MAN STABBED IN SEVEN PLACES AND DIES WITHIN FIFTEEN MINUTES.

The following additional particulars have come to hand, of the foul murder committed at Washabuck, Victoria Co.:

On Thursday, the 7th inst., Donald McLean, Esq., a well-to-do farmer of Washabuck, a settlement opposite Baddeck, had a number of men employed ploughing, and, as is usual on such occasions, a dance was held at his house that night, at which several of the young men and young girls of the neighborhood gathered. Two families reside at Washabuck, between whom a feud has for some time existed on account of a dispute about some land. The sons of these families having met at the dance in McLean's house, the quarrel was renewed when Peter McNeill (John's son) drew a knife upon Hector McNeill (Angus's son) and stabbed him in seven different places. The last cut was made under the arm and severed the main artery, from which the unfortunate man

BLED TO DEATH IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.

In the excitement and turmoil which ensued, the murderer made his escape, but returned through the night and surrendered himself to the nearest magistrate, who had him brought to Baddeck on Friday, and lodged in jail.

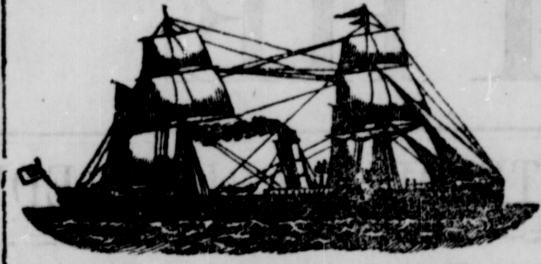
THE VICTIM

of this terrible tragedy was a young man 28 years of age, and bore an unblemished character. His untimely death under the awful circumstances which attended it, has filled the whole community with grief, and the most profound sorrow is felt and expressed for his afflicted relatives. All the parties were perfectly sober, there being no liquor used at the dance.—*H. Herald.*

STOMACH ACHE.—We all know what it is; we acquired a knowledge of the "Pet" in our youth, after a raid on the green apples we were expressly forbidden to touch. Our mother gave us Perry Davis' Pain Killer, and, strange to say, no other remedy has been discovered to equal it.

THE reward for the recovery of Stewart's body is about to be increased to \$50,000 by Judge Hilton, at the request of Mrs. Stewart, who is in a great way at the desecration of her husband's grave. This reward will not require the conviction of the perpetrators of the crime, as it is generally believed that this clause has been the means of frightening the parties, and may have led to the destruction of the body.

SPECIAL NOTICE



Steamship "Prince Edward,"

FROM GLASGOW AND LIVERPOOL, will be Berthed at Peake's No. 2 Wharf, and commence discharging cargo at 10 o'clock, a. m.

THURSDAY, 21ST INSTANT.

Consignees will oblige by passing their entries at the Customs, and removing their goods at once, as they will be considered at their risk as soon as landed on the wharf.

PEAKE BROS. & CO., Managers.

Nov. 20—

For Auckland, New Zealand,

Calling at Littleton or Wellington, to Land Cargo.

THE fine New Clipper Brig *Annabell*, A. F. YATES, Commander, 350 Tons Register at Lloyds, Metalled, is now on the berth at New York, loading for and will sail for New Zealand about 15th December. This fine vessel has been fitted with all the recent improvements, and has First-Class accommodation for a few cabin passengers. For freight or passage apply in New York to ARKELL, TUFTS & CO.; here to the undersigned,

DANIEL DAVIES, Ch'town, Nov. 20—pat 5i

POTATOES.

AN OFFER SOLICITED FOR

500 Bushels Blue Potatoes,

Stored in Cellar in a convenient part of the City; can be delivered at once or held for late shipment. Address

D. M. McLEOD, P. O. Box 126, Charlottetown. Nov. 20, 1878—

Retraction of Slander.

Monaghan Settlement, Queen's County, Lot 36.

WE do hereby admit and confess that we falsely accused Miss Ellen Simpson of stealing tea from our house; that we believe her to be strictly and conscientiously honest, and that there was no foundation whatever for such accusation.

JAMES CALLAGHAN, MARY CALLAGHAN.

Witness:

his JAMES x SIMPSON.

mark. Nov. 20, 1878—neli

TO BE LET,

A COMFORTABLE DWELLING HOUSE on Sydney Street. Possession can be given immediately. Apply to

FRANCIS P. McCARRON.

Ch'town, Nov. 19—3i eod

1878.

A LECTURE, by Rev. J. LATHERN, will be delivered on the Evening of Thanksgiving Day,

Thursday, 21st instant,

in the Basement of the Methodist Church.

SUBJECT:

"THE EMPIRE OF TRADE, AND TRADE TRANSACTIONS OF 1878."

Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock.

Music by Organ and Choir, accompanied by Cornet.

Admission, 10 cents.

Nov. 18—

STOLEN,

FROM the Subscriber's Stable, Queen's Arms, North River Road, on the night of the 16th Nov., a BAY MARE, 4 years old, one white foot, and a white star on her forehead, and weighs about 1,100 lbs. Any person giving any information of her whereabouts will be rewarded.

EDWARD HURRY.

Charlottetown, Royalty, } s j 3i

\$5.15. Halifax & Back. \$5.15

RECEPTION OF THE MARQUIS OF LORNE AND PRINCESS LOUISE AT HALIFAX.

THE Steam Navigation Company have arranged with Intercolonial Railway to issue tickets, on above occasion, to Halifax and back, at one Single Fare. Tickets to be issued Thursday, 21st, and Saturday, 23rd—returnable on or before 27th Nov.

F. W. HALES.

Ch'town, Nov. 16—3i

FRANK COX, M.D. C.M., Physician, Surgeon & Accoucheur.

OFFICE APOTHECARIES' HALL. Residence: Capt. Mutch's, Water Street, next door to St. Lawrence Hotel. N. B.—Particular attention paid to diseases of the chest and stomach. Ch'town, Nov. 16, 1878—3m

The London House

CELEBRATED FOR

Goods Adapted to the Season,

Has, for the Coming Winter,

AN IMMENSE STOCK

Men's Overcoats,

Reefers,

Usters,

Coon Coats,

Fur Caps,

Undershirts &

Drawers.

Blankets,

Flannels,

Buffalo Robes, &c

All Selling at Extraordinary Low Prices for CASH.

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Nov. 18th, 1878.

MISSIONS.

A PUBLIC MISSIONARY MEETING will be held in the Methodist Church, Prince Street, on WEDNESDAY EVENING next, 19th inst.

Rev. Dr. McDonald,

a Missionary from Japan, will be present as a

deputation from the Central Board.

Chair will be taken by W. E. Dawson, Esq.,

at 7.30 p. m.

Collection after service in aid of the Mission Funds.

WM. HEARD, Sec'y.

Ch'town, Nov. 16—

MARKET HALL,

—COMMENCING—

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20.

Blind Tom!

The Musical Phenomenon of the Age, renowned throughout the world as the greatest

(NATURAL PIANIST LIVING.)

At these performances, Blind Tom will exhibit the marvellous gift which has gained him world-wide celebrity, and which has both astonished and delighted the greatest masters of music.

MATINEE,

Thursday, Nov. 21, at 2 p. m.

Admission, 50 cents; Children, 25 cents;

Reserved Seats—no extra charge.

Reserved Seats to be had at Watson's Drug Store.

Nov. 15—6i

THANKSGIVING DAY!

The Women's Temperance Union intend having a

TEA AND SALE OF

Useful and Fancy Articles

—IN THE—

REFORM CLUB HALL,

—ON—

THANKSGIVING DAY!

SALE TO COMMENCE AT 4 P. M.

Tea on the tables at 6 p. m.

Tickets for Tea, 25 cents. Admission to

Hall, 10 cents.

Instrumental music will be provided

throughout the evening.

M. L. JOST, Secretary.

Nov. 12—1 aw ti

QUEEN INSURANCE CO., Y OF ENGLAND.

CAPITAL. . . TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

INSURANCE effected on all kinds of Build-

ings, Merchandise and Produce. Also, on

Vessels on the stocks.

Special rates for isolated residences. Losses settled promptly.

GEORGE MACLEOD (Union Bank), Agent for Prince Edward Island. June, 1877—

Charlottetown, Nov. 14, 1878—pat 3i