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THE DAILY EXAMINER

DECEMBER 3, 1897.

THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

The heroism displayed by the Gordon Highlanders at Dargai has provoked the admiration of the civilized world, and their praise has been sounded by writers of prose and verse. Charlottetown has shared in the enthusiasm, and at the recent St. Andrew's dinner their heroic conduct was referred to in eloquent and happy terms.

For the sake of accuracy, it may be pointed out that the body of troops who have been covering themselves with glory on the Indian frontier are not, historically speaking, the Gordon Highlanders at all, that they only became such by courtesy and the designation of the Horse Guards when they were linked with the 92nd Highlanders and acquired the official designation of "1st Battalion (Gordon Highlanders) Reg. Dist. No. 75, Aberdeen." The real and original Gordon Highlanders were the gallant "Ninety Two," who were raised by the Marquis of Huntley in 1794. The number of men necessary for this Regiment was raised, not entirely in Aberdeenshire, as is sometimes supposed, but mainly, at all events, from the estates of the Gordons which at that time, extended as far west as Ballachulish and Lochiel, from which district the regiment long continued to be recruited, though Argyllshire and the Western Isles have, from the first contributed a considerable quota. The regiment early distinguished itself in Egypt, and in the Peninsular War, and subsequently at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. In the later times, the history of the regiment was well sustained in Afghanistan, South Africa and other sections.

The regiment of which we have been speaking now forms the second battalion of the territorial regiment which bears its name, and has every reason to feel proud of the work that has been done by the regiment with which it was linked under the scheme of 1881, and which, because of seniority, became the 1st battalion. The regiment referred to was formerly known as the 75th, and its history has always been such as would redound to the credit of Scotland. At the outset it consisted in some part of Highlanders who had served in America under Colonel Robert Abercromby, of Tullibody. This officer commanded a light infantry brigade during six campaigns on this side of the water, and several companies of the 75th consisted of Highlanders as attachment sprung up between them and their commander. When peace was declared the Highland Light Infantry were disbanded, but many of the old campaigners flocked to Col. Abercromby's standard when he was appointed commander of one of the new line regiments. This regiment bore the name of the Stirlingshire Regiment until it was joined with the 92nd Highlanders and the Royal Aberdeenshire Militia, under the name of the Gordon Highlanders.

Soon after its formation, in 1788, the 75th was ordered to India and took a distinguished part in the attack on Seringapatam, as well as some years later in the disastrous movement against Bhurtpoor. Afterwards it gave a good account of itself in the Kafir wars, and at the time of the Indian Mutiny it formed part of the force which marched to the relief of Lucknow. Since then it has been well to the fore in all the military operations of the Empire, distinguishing itself in

the Egyptian campaigns. Its career in India was also in the highest degree creditable.

Colonel Mathias, who commands the first battalion, was not with the regiment during the Egyptian campaigns, but he has always been considered an admirable soldier. In the Chitral campaign he won his C. B. at the storming of Malakand. He is a nephew of Mr. A. B. Law, Sanquhar Mains, near Forres, Scotland, and joined the old Stirlingshire Regiment in 1869 when he was not quite 19 years of age. Two years later he was made a lieutenant, and eight years later a captain. He rose to be major in 1883 and lieutenant-colonel in 1895. For some years he held a staff appointment in Natal and from 1879 to 1884 he was a volunteer adjutant at home. He was present at the Nile expedition of 1884-5 and was awarded the medal and clasp and the bronze star. His heroic speech at Dargai Ridge will always live in history.

THE MARKETS.

Cheese—The latest advices from London, Ontario, reported that the season there was ended by sales at 8s and 8s-16 cts per lb. The Montreal Gazette reports: Cheese continues quiet and steady. The public cable declined 6d today, but the fact caused little comment on the street as holders do not appear to be anxious about doing business at present. Values, therefore, are mostly nominal. In the country cheese is gradually passing out of first hands, for we learn that the London and Listowell districts had been practically cleaned up last week of what stocks remained in first hands.

Finest Ontario Septembers.....8½ to 8½
Finest Ontario Octobers.....8½ to 8½
Finest Townships.....8 to 8½
Finest Quebec Octobers.....7½ to 7½

Butter—The butter market is dull and business is confined to trading in a small way on local account. For parcels of finest creamery for this demand full prices are realized, but shippers are doing little or nothing. Cables from Liverpool quote finest at 92s, and good at 60s.

Finest creamery.....18 to 18½
Seconds.....17½ to 17½
Dairy butter.....16 to 16½

Pork.—Since the opening of Ratteburry's packing house a week ago from 350 to 400 hogs have been slaughtered daily and several thousands are still on hand.

The street price of pork in Charlottetown ranges from 4 to 4½ cts.

In Montreal at latest advices the provision market was without any new feature. The demand was slow and the trade quiet, with no change in prices. We quote: Canadian pork, \$15 to \$16 per barrel; pure Canadian lard in pails at 7s 7½; and compound refined at 5c to 5½ per lb; hams, 11c to 13c; bacon, 10c to 12c per lb.

The tone of the Chicago provision market was easier for future options and prices for pork closed 5c lower, at \$7.25 November; \$8.17½ January; \$8.40 May. Short ribs closed \$4.20 November; \$3.15 December; \$4.17½ January; \$4.30 May.

Potatoes.—The colder weather has stopped the movement of potatoes and prices are nominal. The demand seems to be increasing and if potatoes can be kept through the winter they will probably sell at good prices. The Halifax Herald says: "Potatoes are in great demand. The New Brunswick and Nova Scotia stock has been about all bought by shippers, but a very good quality of P. E. I. potatoes are selling from vessels at the wharves and from wholesale produce merchants at 25c per bushel. Turnips 25c per bushel, oats 28c per bushel, cabbages 50 per dozen saurkraut \$1.50 per half barrel. The indications are that produce of all kinds will soon advance in price. Beets are very scarce this season."

OBITUARY

We regret very much to have to report the death of Peter Cairns, which occurred at Sparrow's Road, on the 10th of November last. He was aged 58 years, and left a widow and eight children. The funeral took place on the 12th November. The body was interred at Vernon River, the burial service being performed by Rev. Dr. Doyle. To his bereaved wife and family we extend our sincere sympathy, as also to his brother, Mr. Patrick Cairns, who has thus been called upon to mourn a second bereavement, following so closely upon the death of his wife in July last.

Another Mystery.

"There is one thing I should like to know about actors."
"What is that?"
"Do they wear big fur collars because they have got famous, or do they get famous because they wear big fur collars?"
—Chicago Record.

Just Like Her.

"I never shall love again," he cried.
"Ah, yes, you will," said she.
"A year from now you will wonder how you could ever have worshipped me."
He went his way. When a year had passed, he had learned to love again. And it made the girl who had sent him hence
"As men are a settin' ben."
—Chicago News.

GREAT LANDLORDS.

ASTOR PROPERTY IN NEW YORK WORTH NEARLY \$200,000,000.

There is No Sentiment in the Management of This Vast Property—Tenants Must Face the Music—Not Very Progressive and Wait For Others to Lead.

We are all inclined to regard the great American landlord with disfavor. He is associated in our minds with the idea of high rents, demanded the instant they are due, with unfulfilled promises as to repairs and little improvements that would add so much to our comfort and with many other small annoyances that make him the man terrible, the man unfaithful, the man hostile.

Through the obscurity of these prejudices it is doubtful if many of us see him clearly or judge him fairly. According as we are near moving day or not and as we secure repairs we are apt to regard him as a very disagreeable person, indeed, with few of the higher human attributes or else the reverse, and in the meantime we pay rent and tolerate him because he continues to exist and the law protects him.

Perhaps the best example of the American landlord is Astor, or rather the Astors. The interests of this famous New York family are so numerous and so extensive, so widely distributed and so varied in character, that as landlords they hold sway over all classes of society, occupying every kind of structure. Then, too, the Astors are typical in that no sentiment enters into the management of their properties, and, after all, this is true of the management of most real estate in this city.

As landlords the Astors demand the market rate for rents, and they demand it the first of every month or quarter, as the case may be. Sooner than make material concessions in the amount to be paid on a lease the Astors will allow a house to remain vacant, not one season or year only, but two, three or more years, and if then a good tenant is not at hand the building will be altered, provided the condition of the neighborhood requires it. It is apparent, therefore, that the Astors get the figures they ask. These are not the highest paid, for the estates take no risks, but they are well up to the average.

No one possibly requires more assurance of responsibility in tenants than the Astors. References as to character and financial standing must be forthcoming if you would be an Astor tenant, and they must be more than paper references, for they will be investigated carefully. If you are unknown or can-

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not show who you are and what you have got, and that you are fairly certain of being able to meet the rent for the term of the lease, do not try to rent an Astor house. You will be refused.

As a matter of fact, the Astor rent rolls, if one could secure copies of them, would be an excellent commercial directory, far more reliable within the limited sphere, perhaps, than anything ever attempted in this city. Ninety-five per cent of the persons whose names are on them pay the rent they agreed to pay on the first of every month. Those on the rolls who do not disappear when their leases are up or before if possible. The Astors are not hard landlords, but they are very businesslike, and the dispossession proceeding is resorted to whenever occasion demands.

Though of Dutch stock the Astors have no feeling of friendliness for the liquor traffic. The saloon keeper is not wanted, even at the high rates he offers, and neither is any other sort of tenant who is likely to clash with the police. From time to time, of course, persons not in favor with the authorities creep into Astor properties, but when discovered they are ousted as quickly and as quietly as possible.

So far as improvements go, the estates are behind many of the other large landlords and a host of the smaller ones. Up to a very recent period the management of the family possessions was exceedingly unprogressive, and it is hardly up to what might be expected of it yet. It is urged in defense of this policy that various sections of the city in which Astor holdings are large are at present undergoing a change and that alterations appropriate in character will be made later. That is the trouble with the Astors. They are always backward in aiding a change. Their conservatism holds them in check, while smaller and weaker men take the risk, and often they stand in the way of progress by presenting immense blocks of property directly in the line of great improvements. If changes are effected all around them, they will alter also, but they are always the last to do so.

In the matter of individual repairs, decorations and the like they are not liberal, but they have the reputation of doing what they promise. Usually residences are put in order before the new tenant goes in, and then the occupant has got to be very careful. It is not expected by the estates that much money will be spent upon the house except at long intervals.

The Astors hold few tenements and flats directly, though they own the ground upon which hundreds of such structures stand. This kind of building is not popular with either branch of the family, and they only have to do with it so far as receiving leasehold rents are concerned. Dwellings in great number and comprising all kinds, from one bringing in hundreds yearly to one yielding thousands, and business and office buildings and hotels are chiefly the income producers aside from the leasehold properties.

How much those rents amount to perhaps only the Astors can tell, but the real estate of the two branches of the family is worth nearly \$200,000,000, according to a conservative estimate, and most of it is rented. If it averaged 5 per cent, the yield would be \$9,000,000 to \$10,000,000 a year, to be divided between two men.—New York Herald.

Souvenir OF P E Island

A copy of "Prince Edward Island Illustrated," is about the best thing for the purpose of giving strangers an idea of this beautiful Province. It consists of 100 pp. printed on the best paper. The engravings are numerous and first-class. The price is 25c a copy. They are for sale at all the bookstores in Charlottetown, Summerside and Souris and on the tram. They may be obtained at this office securely wrapped, ready to mail to friends abroad. Write or call.

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