

Local and Other Items.

The "Northern Light" is still detained by ice at Pictou.

W. A. BRENNAN, Esq., of the Journal paid us a friendly visit to-day.

MAILS crossed to both Capes to-day. Couriers left Cape Traverse for this city at noon.

R. K. BRACE to-day shipped six boxes of eggs per "Northern Light" for the Boston market. We believe this to be the first shipment from the city this season.

MR. C. E. PRATT, of St. Peter's, yesterday made the first shipment of the season of eggs to the Boston market. It consisted of six cases, and was sent via Georgetown.

AMONG the candidates for the Halifax Mayorality are Messrs. J. C. Mackintosh and Edward Jennings, M. D. A requisition is also in circulation to bring out Mr. J. P. Connolly.

MESSERS. CLARK & CAMPBELL have finished the lighthouse breakwater at the entrance of Summerside harbor. These gentlemen deserve credit for finishing up this work in such a prompt and businesslike manner.

THE ice in the harbor is becoming very dangerous. Horses are breaking through at the various landing places. One animal had a narrow escape from drowning at Queen's Wharf landing, at one o'clock to-day.

MR. TIM O'CONNELL, who recently disappeared from town leaving numerous mourners, and who was afterwards arrested and lodged in Dorchester jail, yesterday "swore out" of that institution.—Moncton Transcript.

THE general stores of J. H. Cole & Brother, and the store of Mr. McIntyre, "Sisters Act Vendor," at Tyne Valley, were consumed by fire on Friday night, the 4th inst. Both had a large stock, and the loss, therefore, is heavy.

THE notice published in our advertising columns, headed "Charlottetown Woollen Factory Company," refers to the old "Woollen Factory Company," not the one at present doing business under the management of Mr. W. D. McKay.

ALEX. FERGUSON, of St. Peter's Road, left this week for San Francisco, Cal., and John Piro, of Rustico, for Jamestown, Dakota. They both purchased their through tickets via Boston, at the Union Ticket Office, Queen Street, from Wm. A. Faught, ticket agent. We wish our young men success abroad.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD gave notice in the House of Commons that, on Thursday next, he would move that it is expedient to amend the Liquor License Act of 1883 in several respects, and especially as to the time for applying and taking out licenses; as to the appointment of Commissioners, and as to the legal proceedings enacted and penalties imposed by the Act.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES WAGES.—In the House of Commons on the 1st inst. Mr. Davies strongly urged that the wages of workmen on the P. E. Island Railway should be increased to the same level as similar employes on the Intercolonial. Sir Charles Tupper said he was not going to raise the pay of these men until the annual deficit on the running of the P. E. Island Railway had been reduced. He was not obliged to pay more than was required to have the work performed efficiently.

ONE WIFE TOO MANY.—A man from Lunenburg county was married to a widow here a few days ago, says the Dartmouth Times. The next day the bride on going to Halifax learned that her spouse had a wife living there, and when she returned she found her lover as happy as a lord, but she ordered him out of the house, and threatened to shoot him if he remained. He then sought proceedings to get back the wedding ring and four dollars in cash he had given her, but we think the matter has dropped.

THE Western Agricultural Convention met in the Court House, Summerside, at ten a. m., on Friday, 4th inst. The debate was opened in the forenoon by Alex. Laird, Esq., President of the Association. He read an able paper on the subject, "Mutual Insurance for Farmers." The time of the association was taken up until one o'clock in discussing this matter. The afternoon session was opened by R. H. McDonald, Esq., who read a paper on "Which is the most profitable to farmers, Stock Raising or Dairying." The discussion was continued during the afternoon, but a decision was not arrived at. The general impression of those present was that a combination of both would be best for the farmers of P. E. Island.

AN APPLE OF DISCORD.—A short time ago the Clerk of the Legislative Council had a dispute with the President of that important branch of the Legislature regarding the spelling of the name "Lansdowne." The bet was a treat "for the crowd." Mr. Clerk won, and the President accordingly sent for the treat—a dozen and one-half of apples. "The crowd" assembled to the number of seventeen, and were each presented by the President with an emblem of disobedience. It happened that after all were served that it happened remained, and the gentleman Usher of the Black Rod claimed it was his right, while the messenger disputed his right to it. A wordy quarrel, we are informed, ensued, and an official of the building only arrived in time to capture the apple of discord, and thus settled the dispute. We were shown the fruit to-day. It bears evidence of being viciously bitten by either the Usher or some member of the Lords.

STEFFINGTON, of the Intercolonial Railway, appears to be a detective who does too much "detecting." The St. John Telegraph says:—"There is a sequel to the reported suspension of Intercolonial Railway conductors a few days ago, and such a sequel that will be decidedly unpleasant for the man who was instrumental in bringing about an investigation. A lady (whose husband is entitled to the courtesy of the railway, and is in possession of a pass for himself and wife), was on the way to Halifax, and asked the conductors to pass her. They, knowing the lady's husband to be as represented, allowed her free passage, and this fact was reported by Detective Steffington to headquarters, with his suspicions reflecting on the character of the lady. The conductors were suspended and fined. It came to the husband's knowledge how the conductors had been served, and he also found out the nature of the report of the detective when they were brought up. He sought legal advice, and the result has been that the detective had papers served on him in a libel suit brought by the husband. The zealous official, it is said, went to one of the leading officers of the road and was told that he would have to get himself out of the difficulty as best he could, it having been brought on by himself. In the meantime the men have been reinstated, but the lady says if the fines are not returned she will make them good to the conductors."

IN BERMUDA.

Another Interesting Letter from Rev. W. R. Frame.

I think it was the London Times correspondent who, in 1860, accompanied the Prince of Wales on his visit to North America, that likened P. E. Island, with its complete machinery of government, to a birch bark canoe having in it an engine out of a Cunard steamer. Had he visited this—one of the least of British colonies—containing an area of only nineteen and a quarter square miles, I know not to what he would have likened it, with its Governor, Legislative Council and House of Assembly. On the principle that "misery likes company," I may mention, for the special benefit of those of your readers who desire a reduction in the membership of the Local Legislature, that Bermuda, in regard to the number of her representatives, is in a much worse condition than Prince Edward Island.

With a population of 5,384 whites, and 8,564 blacks (the females in both cases being in a majority), making a grand total of 13,948, Bermuda has no less than thirty-six representatives in her House of Assembly. She has actually one representative for every twenty-four electors—the latter requiring a property qualification of the value of £60 stig.

Were Prince Edward Island represented at this rate, according to population, instead of thirty she would have some 280 members in her Lower House.

I am not sending this information with the view to damp the ardor of those who are anxious for the change referred to, or cause them to "rest and be thankful;" for it is quite likely that the public interests would not suffer in the least, if some of the lights from the Colonial Building were removed—of course I don't mean extinguished. The Bermuda House of Assembly is a very ancient institution—dating back to 1620—a period when what is now the United States and Dominion of Canada was nearly all a vast, unbroken wilderness. The Bermuda Legislative Council is composed of ten members. The Chief Justice is ex officio President, the two assistant judges being also members. The Colonial Secretary and Receiver General likewise belong to it. The remaining members are of the "old family compact," so the vulgar say.

The members of the Legislative Council are appointed by the Crown for life. When a vacancy occurs, it is said that the strictest care is taken by the surviving members that none outside the pale of the "compact" shall be recommended to Her Majesty as a "fit and proper person" for the vacancy. Though the "Crown" gets the credit of appointing the Legislative Councilors, the Council virtually perpetuates itself.

The members of the Legislative Council, with the Governor at their head, also constitute the Executive Council, or Government. It will thus be seen that the Government is entirely distinct from the House of Assembly, and in no way depending on it, or responsible to it. The Government cannot be removed by any power in the colony. "To turn out the Government," so well understood in P. E. I., is something utterly unknown in Bermuda politics. In the House of Assembly there is technically neither "Government party" nor "Opposition." The members are generally a united and presumably happy family. What a political millennium would be in P. E. I. if it had such an Assembly. But then how dull, and worse than dull, would political matters soon become, and how tame the newspapers would be, when an election took place at Belfast or in some other district.

Every measure after it has received the assent of the Assembly, Legislative Council and Governor, must also be approved of by the Queen, before it can become law, and it not unfrequently happens that the Colonial Secretary is "unable to advise Her Majesty" to assent to certain of the Bills sent home for Her Royal approval.

Though the House of Assembly has no authority over the Government, yet it wields a large amount of power, of which it is extremely jealous.

It possesses complete control over the revenue, and all monies belonging to the colony. The Executive Council makes appointments to office without any reference to the representatives of the people; but it has no funds whatever at its disposal, except what is granted by an open vote of the House.

Until within a period of about 20 years the Imperial Government paid in full the salary of the Governor and also of the leading government officials in Bermuda. Since then the Colony has paid the salaries of the officials and also a portion of the Governor's.

This change was brought about by a somewhat amusing circumstance—at least to an outsider.

During the American Civil War, Bermuda was a great rendezvous for blockade runners. They brought immense quantities of southern cotton here, which was stored up for a time and then shipped to England. Such prosperous times the Colony had, perhaps, never before witnessed. Dollars were nearly as plenty as onions.

Everyone was getting rich, or thought so, and the House of Assembly discovered that it had quite a surplus on hand. But how to dispose of it was a question that required careful consideration.

With all their professed regard for Jefferson Davis and his cause, the members of the House were far too shrewd to "take stock" in a Confederate loan. After wise deliberation it was at length unanimously agreed that the money be invested in English Consols where it would be perfectly safe.

As soon, however, as the fact came to the British Government, the latter naturally decided that a colony which could invest money abroad was quite as able to pay its own government officials as the overburdened taxpayers of the United Kingdom, and made an order to this effect.

The House could do nothing except submit, but the members became of opinion that it was a dangerous thing to have a surplus, and like prudent legislators, as well as enlightened political economists, have ever since arranged the public receipts and expenditures that one has nearly balanced the other.

While the House of Assembly is independent in its own sphere, yet a recommendation to it from the Colonial Office is generally regarded as law, to be implicitly

obeyed, as it is not pleasant for a small colony to incur the wrath of Downing Street. But there was rather a notable exception to the general action of the House in this respect only last session. It appears that some time during the past year the officers of this Garrison came to the conclusion that it would be much to their pecuniary interests to have their wines and liquors enter the colony duty free. So important in their estimation did this matter become that they made it the subject of a memorial to the Colonial Office, and Lord Derby, in a despatch on the subject to the Governor, recommended the desired change. The Governor, as a matter of course, laid the despatch before the Assembly.

The House, however, stood on its ancient rights, and asserted its independence in a most practical way. It not only emphatically refused to make the concession, but stated its reasons in language very courteous, but firm, calm and vigorous.

The House reminded His Lordship that the Imperial Government expected the colony to keep the public road service in a high state of efficiency, and that the revenues derived from the duties on liquor was mainly spent on this service, and further that the officers had full use of the roads like other people.

The decision of the Assembly was duly communicated to the Colonial Office, and there the matter appears to have ended. And these disappointed military gentlemen have still to sip their wines and liquors at their own expense—instead of partly at the expense of the public. In speaking with one of the members on the subject, he seemed quite proud of the achievements of the House which he regarded as a triumph over the Military, but especially over Downing Street.

I may observe that the discussions in the House of Assembly here are characterized by moderation and courtesy. It may be in part due to the climate, or that there is nothing very important to discuss, but such violent and unseemly language as is sometimes heard in Colonial Parliaments further north, is quite unknown in Bermuda.

A stranger cannot fail to notice the small amount of interest taken by Bermudians generally in political matters. So unlike the people of the Canadian Provinces. It must be admitted that there is very little except pure patriotism to induce a native to become a politician, as there are no offices of emolument to which he can reasonably hope to aspire. The principal offices, those worth seeking after, are all filled by the Home Government, and the recipients are the sons of English gentlemen, sent out for the purpose, and also a few favored ones from the "aristocracy" of the colony.

The members of the Assembly receive an allowance of eight shillings sterling per day when in actual attendance at the House.

The general election takes place but once in seven years. So far as I can learn an election here is not quite so interesting as one in P. E. Island. It is even said that the wife of the Bermuda politician is often put to the severest strains in order to get up a suitable "cry" at election times.

W. R. F. East Warwick, March 20, 1884.

Gordon on the Situation.

On learning that an emissary of the Mahdi was at Shendi attempting to stir up the people there to revolt, the Khartoum correspondent of the Times asked Gordon to give his views on the situation. He answered: "There is nothing further to be hoped for in the way of quieting the people than has already been accomplished, and there is a certainty that as time advances the emissaries of the Mahdi will succeed in raising the tribes between this and Berber. This is not owing to disaffection, but to fear caused by the pronounced policy of the abandonment of the Soudan, which policy has been published by sending down the widows and orphans and the Cairo employes from Khartoum."

WE CANNOT BLAME THEM FOR RISING when no definite sign is shown of establishing a permanent government here. Except by means of emissaries the Mahdi has no power outside of El Obeid, where he distrusts the people and also the Bedouins around. He is a nonentity as to any advance on Khartoum, but all-powerful through his emissaries when backed with the pronounced policy of abandonment without establishing a permanent government. Graham's victory is a glorious one, and if followed up by an advance of about two squadrons to Berber would settle the question as to this place, for the people there and Khartoum would not think of rising. Zebek Pasha should be sent to succeed me. With these squadrons and Wood's invincibles should advance a regiment, or it should go to Dongola, while 100 British troops might make a Nile trip to Wady Halfa, and stay there for two months.

THIS WOULD SETTLE THE QUESTION, for when the Nile rose, with the Berber black troops and those of Khartoum, which I would bring up, I could deal with the rebels on the Blue Nile and open the road to Sennar. Then I would take out the Cairo employes and Zebek Pasha would put his own men there. I would evacuate the equatorial Bahr Gazelle Provinces, and hand over the troops to Zebek Pasha, who would before the end of the year finish off the Mahdi. As for Zebek Pasha's blood-fred with me, it is absurd, if a subsidy be granted him for three years dependent on my safety. As for Zebek's slave dealing offences, they are bad, but not worse than those of Ismael and other Turks, for the thief is no worse than the receiver. Be sure of one thing. If Her Majesty's government do not act promptly

GRAHAM'S VICTORY WILL GO FOR NOTHING, and with the useless expenditure of blood the effort of it will evaporate. I do not believe we shall send any more telegrams, for it is no longer a question of days, but of hours. I am dead against the sending of any British expedition to reconquer the Soudan. It is unnecessary. I would not have a single life lost. It is my firm conviction that none would be lost by the plan I propose, and our honor would be saved. I like the people in rebellion as much as those who are not, and I thank God that, so far as I am concerned, no man has gone before his Maker prematurely through me."

Some of the cattle shipped in the "Toronto" weighed over 2,000 pounds. One of the cattle men says the shipments over the I. C. R. will average 300 head per week from now till the opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence.

SPRING GOODS, SPRING GOODS

Perkins & Sterns

Ask Special attention to their Stock of the following Goods, which are, beyond question, as good value as can be found:

- 550 Pieces Grey Cottons, 280 Pieces White Cottons, 300 Pieces Print Cottons.

English, Canadian and American Knitting Cotton, A good Stock of Canadian and American Corsets.

- Black French Merinoes, Black Nun's Velling, Black Cashmeres, Black Persian Cord.

A FULL LINE OF MOURNING GOODS.

Table Linens, Towels, Sheetings, Pillow Cottons, Room Paper.

Rugs, Mats, Carpets, Oil Cloths, etc., all standard Goods, and prices low.

PERKINS & STERNS.

Ch'town, Feb. 26, 1884.

GREAT SALE OF New Cottons.

We have just opened a large Stock of

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN PRINTS, NEW SPRING STYLES,

Received Before the Advance in Duty.

We have an immense stock of

GREY AND WHITE COTTONS,

Purchased when the Cotton market was at the lowest point of depression.

Fleecy Cottons, Sheetting Cottons, Pillow Cottons,

TABLE LINEN AND NAPKINS,

Towels and Towelling,

TAPESTRY, SCOTCH AND BRUSSELS CARPETS,

And other House Furnishing Goods.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

CHOICE TEAS, VERY CHEAP!

By the Chest, Half-Chest, and Quarter-Chest. Also, in Packages of 5, 10, 15 and 20 pounds.

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Ch'town, Feb. 11, 1884.

BIG FIRE!

OWING to the Big Fire W. & A. BROWN & CO. will clear out, during the next six months, their

WHOLE STOCK AT A BIG DISCOUNT.

LOOK OUT EARLY FOR BARGAINS.

This offer is positive, as we mean clearing out to be ready for new premises.

Remember the Place: Mr. H. A. Harvie's Old Stand,

NEARLY OPPOSITE WATSON'S DRUG STORE.

W. & A. BROWN & CO.

Ch'town, April 2, 1884.—dy wkly

WANTED,

A GOOD STEADY MAN, who understands taking care of horses, and capable of attending to the delivery of Goods, etc., from warehouses.

PEAKE BROS. & CO.

April 1—11

NOTICE.

ALL persons owing Robert Young, of Charlottetown, merchant, are hereby notified to make payment forthwith to the subscriber, agent of Messrs. Daniel & Boyd, assignees of said debts, at Robert Young's store, 77 Queen Street, Charlottetown.

W. J. ROBERTSON.

Ch'town, March 28, 1884.—61

\$500 REWARD.

A REWARD of five hundred dollars will be paid by the undersigned to the person giving such information as will convict the party or parties who feloniously destroyed by fire, on the night of the 26th instant, the stable situate at the head of Knight's Wharf, in Souris East.

JAMES McFARLANE, VERNON H. KNIGHT, Trustees of Estate of late John Knight, Souris, March 28, 1884.

Executors' Notice.

WE, the undersigned, executors of the last will and testament of the late Alexander Simpson, of Hope River, in Queen's County, deceased, hereby notify all parties indebted to the estate to make immediate payment to the undersigned. Also, all parties having legal demands against said estate to present them, duly attested to, within twelve calendar months from date.

ALBERT SIMPSON, JOHN SIMPSON, Jr., Executors. Hope River, January 14th, 1884. [mar] 13 4w wkly 41

30 DAYS TRIAL

DR. DYER'S ELECTRO-VOLTAIC BELT and other Electric Appliances are sent on 30 Days' Trial TO MEN ONLY, YOUNG OR OLD, who are suffering from NERVOUS DEBILITY, LOST VITALITY, WEAKNESS, and all those classes of PERSONAL NATURE, resulting from ABUSE and OTHER CAUSES. Speedy relief and complete restoration to HEALTH, VIGOR and MANHOOD GUARANTEED. Send at once for Illustrated Pamphlet free. Address VOLTAIC BELT CO., Marshall, Mich.

WHITE RUSSIAN SEED WHEAT.

THE best producer yet tried on the Island. Call and examine and see testimonials at my Furniture Store, J. D. McLeod's corner.

JOHN NEWSON.

Ch'town, March 8.

PATENTS

MUNN & CO. of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN continue to act as Solicitors for Patents, Caveats, Trade Marks, Copyrights, for the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany, etc. Hand Book about Patents sent free. Thirty-seven years' experience. Patents obtained through MUNN & CO. are noticed in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, the largest, best, and most widely circulated scientific paper. \$3.50 a year. Weekly. Splendid engravings and interesting information. Specimen copy of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN sent free. Address MUNN & CO., SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Office, 311 Broadway, New York.

P. E. Island Pottery.

WE are Agents for the P. E. Island Pottery. Orders sent to us will receive prompt attention. Jars, Jugs, Bean Pots, Mugs, Flower Pots, Spitoons, Stove Stones, etc., etc., in stock.

BEER & GOFF

AGENTS

Ch'town, Oct. 26, '85.