

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions or statements of correspondents.

Letter from Messrs. Sterling & Harris.

CHARLOTTETOWN, 14th April, 1878.

To the Editor of the Examiner:

Sir,—After reading the letter of Dr. Jenkins which appeared lately in your paper, we feel bound for our own reputation and in the interests of honesty and fairplay to reply.

There has been a tremendous deal of talk lately about the Asylum walls. Now, everybody can understand that when a large work of this kind is at all defective, it requires but a very little imagination to make the whole appear very bad.

We, of course, acknowledge and have all along done so, that there are some portions of the work built in an unworkmanlike manner, and that there are stones here and there throughout the structure which have gone with the frost and damp of the past winter; but for persons to condemn the whole foundation on account of certain portions being bad, is, in our opinion, a most contemptible quibble. The wall is twelve hundred feet long and nine feet high, and to make a thorough and minute examination of this work, looking first at the inside and then at the outside face, noting where bad material shows itself, examining the whole of the bond and where the construction is not of good quality (which we intend doing as soon as the wall has had the benefit of a fortnight or three weeks of warm weather), would take a considerable time; and yet opinions condemning the whole work have been formed by persons who spent a few hours looking at the work during the unpleasant accompaniment of a dirty drizzling rain.

The contractors had an order from us in January last, notifying them to remove all stones touched with frost, and to take down the bad work, and reconstruct it with good materials in the spring, before any brickwork was commenced.

The portions of the wall in which the bad work appears, were built late last Autumn, at a time when the stone was very wet. A cubic foot of this stone will absorb about seven tenths of a gallon of water, thus keeping the mortar in the heart of the wall in a very damp condition, and, consequently, much of it will not set—until it has the benefit of warm weather. A similar case of mortar not setting in the interior of a stone wall, may be seen in St. James' Church. In the heart of portions of the walling built in October last, the mortar is only now beginning to set, while on the inside and outside faces of the same portions of the work, it has set almost as hard as the stone itself. The mortar in the exposed faces of portions of the Asylum wall has been touched with frost and pulverised.

Of course whenever the mortar inside the wall has gone with frost, the same will be taken down and re-built, as the contractors, by agreement, are responsible for all effects of the weather on the work.

The upper portions of the wall would never have been built last autumn; but that we particularly wished to have the whole foundation well completed, so that it would be submitted to the winter's test, before any brick walling was placed upon it. Building it at that season, of course, was rather risky for the mortar; but whether portions of the mortar have gone or not—and at present it cannot be exactly known—we congratulate the Government, the contractors and ourselves that this work was completed, and has had a thorough test applied to the stone as a material; and we consider that the test is worth to all parties concerned far more than the amount that will be required to take down and rebuild portions of the work. Many bad stones have gone, but the good ones are very well rid of their company.

The total cost of labor and mortar in the whole foundation wall is \$2,332.40.

For re-building one quarter of the rubble work above surface-line (this is about the quantity of condemned work in Mr. Cunningham's evidence), and replacing defective stone, it would cost the contractors about \$670.00—a sum not very large in proportion to the contract price of \$76,000.00. Of course we cannot tell what proportion of the work will have to be re-built until we make our special examination in about a fortnight.

This is a very small matter to start a political scandal about.

In regard to J. T. Jenkins, Esq., we will acknowledge that the Doctor is a fine specimen of a muscular citizen; and we have often admired him for his principles of pluck and fairplay; but in the present instance we feel rather indignant. Rascality and incompetence are hard potatoes for any architect to swallow, and we will refer him to the contractors of St. James' Church, so that he may be further advised regarding our character as architects.

We kindly ask our friends and fellow-citizens not to believe all the political hue and cry that has been raised on account of some defects that have crept into a large foundation wall, and which will be thoroughly remedied ere a brick is laid on the top of it.

All this unnecessary noise about the Asylum walls is beginning to damage our reputation, and people will begin to imagine that we intend, by the "mighty superstructure" of the Lunatic Asylum, to force the bottom clean out of the Island, and eventually to scuttle our poor old ship in the gulf.

If any persons would like to see our work, both in regard to design and superintendence of construction, we will refer them to St. James' Church, where they may go and judge for themselves. It will be much more satisfactory to do this than to believe all the evidence given about the Asylum walls. We are in possession of a few facts which, were we to publish them, would make the flesh creep all over the body of one of our defamers.

We remain, yours respectfully,
STERLING & HARRIS, Architects.

A Great Man in Obscurity.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR,—This sketch written by "Roderick Random," which appeared in your paper of the 9th inst., created within me a burning desire to show my admiration for the great talents, I might say genius, for public business of our representative—the Hon. W. D. Stewart. The expressed intention of William Welsh, Esq., to leave the arena of politics prompted your correspondent of Kinross to write his sketch. I write under different circumstances and from a different motive than merely to pay a tribute of respect to a life-long friend who is about to leave the unsatisfactory field of politics which

he had hoped would afford him a pleasant pastime. Not even a hint, to say nothing of a positive statement, has been given of any intention of the

HON. W. D. STEWART

to retire from public life. He fully appreciates his responsible position. Caring very little about the office of Commissioner of Public Works or the salary attached to the office, he is solicitous only for the welfare of his constituents, whom he believes might be represented by a man of inferior abilities if he retired from office. My motive in writing this epistle springs from a generous desire to give credit to a man of great intellectual endowments, and who has rendered important services to his country. A man that, up to the present time, has remained in obscurity through his extreme bashfulness and a fine sensibility, which causes him to shrink from the applause of the vulgar, choosing rather that the calm, cool judgment of posterity should do him justice, than to be borne upon the crest of the wave of public opinion, which cannot fully comprehend his life and acts. DeQuincey recognized the merit of the philosophical poet Wordsworth a quarter of a century in advance of the great literati of Europe, and when all the world were hastening to do in chorus what he had the intrepidity to do many years before, he then pointed to his discovery of the poet's genius with pride. I must confess to a little vanity myself in being the forerunner of public opinion in discovering the abilities of our representative, the Hon. W. D. I anticipate, with pleasure, the time when the public will swing round and follow in the wake to do honor to a great man. I hardly know which of the peculiar talents of this many-sided man is most to be admired. There is the breadth of mind, the mental vision, and the intellectual power which can grasp abstruse questions of political economy. The more abstruse and misty these problems, the greater is his delight in diving into them, grappling with them, and moulding them into something definite and tangible. In this he resembles his great master, John Stuart Mill. Then, again, his

TALENTS FOR DIPLOMACY

have struck me with peculiar admiration; but the crowning excellence of this great man is his devoted piety. His manner of dealing with abstruse questions, such as employed the mind of Mill, can be better understood in the mild and kindly criticisms of the Editor of the Herald, which have secured for him the friendship of the great Stewart, and which I hope to see ripen into intimacy.

THE PIETY

which forms the chief charm of the great man's life I leave to be described by the Editor of the Presbyterian, who himself has attained to such heights and depths, and lengths and breadths of rich Christian experience and progress as to be the most capable of measuring the depth of piety which has been reached by his illustrious Christian brother. But the talents for diplomacy of the great Stewart have not been brought to the notice of the public so prominently by the writers of the day as his other accomplishments, and I therefore hasten to perform that act of justice which an ungrateful public has omitted. I might here remark that that which observers who cannot see beneath the surface call an air of self-sufficiency in the manner of the Hon. W. D. is the complacency of *Brand* which distinguishes the genuine diplomatist from the mere political trickster. Among the first opportunities which our subject had of exercising his great talents were in connection with the School Question. A great religious denomination had supplied a long felt want by erecting a commodious school house, but the Trustees had discovered that Government aid would be necessary, unless the school were supported more liberally by the public. If the Government of the day afforded the aid it would open the door to rival schools that had ineffectually demanded the same boon. Our hero was equal to the occasion. An election was in the near future; he saw that the indigent circumstances of the first mentioned school might be utilized in the campaign. He accordingly framed the articles of what is known as

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE,

in which three denominations agreed to make a sacrifice, by supporting the Academy out of their church funds, and thus preclude the possibility of their rivals receiving the aid which was sought from Government, and at the same time avoid the terrible infliction of denominational education. The Hon. W. D. Stewart, by way of inducing his denomination to concur in his plan, offered the handsome contribution of \$100; and had sufficient influence over another pious gentleman, who occasionally sits at the Council Board of the same church, to offer a similar amount. His influence extended beyond the limits of his own church; and a well-known politician was induced to offer another hundred if the Alliance were formed. But, as your readers already know, this scheme was not intended to be a permanent arrangement, but intended to bridge over the difficulty till after the elections. We judge that the scheme was merely temporary, from the fact that we have yet to learn that the hundred dollars were paid. The election being over, and matters having nearly run in the channel which was desired by the Hon. W. D., a difficulty presented itself in connection with the school again. A

MR. MANNING

had stipulated for a five years' term, in which he was to be fed, clothed, warmed and housed. How to provide for the "White Elephant" was the cause of not a little uneasiness in the minds of the Trustees; but our hero was equal to the emergency. The office of Superintendent of Education for the Island evolved from his gigantic brain, and the "Elephant" comfortably located, with ample provision for his travelling expenses when the Government see fit to exhibit him to the children of the various school districts. Thus, by a happy selection and arrangement of circumstances, most satisfactory results were reached through the ability of our representative.

Now all these acts which I have mentioned have been characterized by short-sighted and narrow-minded individuals, as mere

"POLITICAL KNAVISH TRICKS,"

and if it be admitted that these acts are not such as a great and masterly mind should be engaged in, on the other hand, we are compelled to acknowledge that the limited circles of Island politics does not afford sufficient scope for the display of brilliant diplomatic talents. Were the Hon. gentleman in Europe, the present crisis would afford an ample field for the exercise of his genius, and, might we not hope that the tension of feeling caused by the prolonged uncertainty of affairs, would be released. Who will deny that hordes of commentators would not hang over his sentences, as was the case when Lord Palmerston dictated the policy of Europe, and is now the case when

Bismarck speaks. All must admire the patriotism of one whom nothing will cause to

"EXPATRIATE"

himself from his country; but his content, from love of her, to experiment upon the filling up of rats in her highways, the building of culverts, the awarding of ferry contracts, and the examination of cellar walls. Some perverse and impertinent critics, who cannot conceal their jealousy and chagrin at the success of the measures of our representatives, resort to the despicable system of criticising his fondness for

KID GLOVES.

They persist in attributing to him vanity, while sensible men look upon the fondness for kid-gloves as one of the idiosyncrasies of the great man. Disraeli, in early manhood, had a fondness for kids. These traits connect men of transcendent genius with the rest of humanity. The political opponents of our representative say that

HUMILITY

and condescension are graces seldom or never practiced by him. I am pleased to be able to record an instance of humility, and even tenderness, which shows that when our great man unbends himself he can display a degree of condescension rarely reached by politicians. During the last election campaign the Hon. W. D. visited house after house in our district enquiring about the health of the families of each house, discussing the crop prospects and affairs of state. The monotony of a round of visits was occasionally relieved by a word of prayer. The junior members of the households who, in most cases, showed their distaste for the trammels which society puts upon the free exercise of the nether limbs, located themselves upon the knees of our hero. The accumulation of dirt caused by the free use of molasses and oatmeal, with here and there a fragment of egg shell stuck fast, were no barriers to the caresses of the great man. But the male members of the family above the age of twenty-one received the largest share of attention; lessons in manhood suffrage, elective franchise, statute labor and commutation money being willingly imparted. The

VERSATILITY OF TALENT

in our hero is wonderful. At a public meeting held near Rustico, at which the Hon. W. D. was present, some cynical critic, dissatisfied with the definition given in Manning's Spelling Book of the word "Mare," was instantly silenced by the great man who showed his talent for lexicography by exclaiming, "If I know anything about the structure of the English language, a 'Mare' is a female horse."

HIS PARLIAMENTARY UTTERANCES ON THE PRESS

show a narcotic indifference to the strictures of independent papers, and rather a weakness for mercenary and servile writers. In this respect his opinion coincided with his great contemporaries, Bismarck and Blake. When some one had the intrepidity to say that the opinions held by those men, respecting the liberty of the press, were somewhat autocratic, he, with a slight change of the words of the poet Shelley, exclaimed: "I would rather be politically damned in such company than be saved with those independent newspaper writers who mould public opinion." His

ORATORY

is not of the vehement and impassioned kind, his sentences being of that sort which is termed "darkness visible," and only successfully employed by men of genius. It has been said that an historian can never exhaust the language, but an orator can. Our hero will not allow himself to be trammelled by the arbitrary rules of syntax; the English language he knows is plastic, and he makes it bend to his own "sweet will," believing that genius is above all rules. In fact, those instances in which he rises above the rules of grammar are the best indications of his originality. I shall end, Mr. Editor, by giving an extract from one of his speeches upon the examination of the cellar wall at Falconwood, or upon public opinion. I am not sure which—"Mr. Speaker, the Hon. gentlemen who compose the Committee of Examination, however stern and severe their logic, or nice their rhetoric, can't disguise the fact, that in their crowbar ramifications, they was as pleased at the discovery that the internal structure between the parallelogram superies was as dissicative as the desert of Sahara—was as gratified, I assert, as Euclid when he discovered the forty-seventh problem. They may affirm that their actions was only tentative with a view of averting similar momentarily, calamitous circumstances as sepulchred the artisans at the Tower of Babel. Their aggravation examinations are actionable; it is beyond the powers of the human mind to erect a foundation of the same solidarity as the rock of Gibraltar."

MICAWBER.

Strathalbyn, April 13, 1878.

Wants, Lost, Found, &c.

Advertisements under this heading, in space not exceeding half an inch, will be inserted for Ten Cents per day.

WANTED—Two or three respectable Young Men as Boarders. Apply at this Office. April 15—1w

FOUND—To-day, April 15, half a dozen SHIRT-FRONTS. The owner can have the same by paying expenses, on application at the EXAMINER'S Office. April 15—

LOST—A CHECK on the Union Bank of Charlottetown, dated April 6th, and signed by Matthew, McLean & Co., Souris, in our favor—amount \$60.49. Payment has been stopped. A. A. BALDWIN & CO. April 15—dy pat 2i

WANTED—By a young man with three years experience in business in a Quebec house, an engagement as Bookkeeper or Clerk in a wholesale or retail establishment. Good recommendations from his former employer. Address, F. P., care of Mrs. Pease, Great George Street, Charlottetown. April 10, 1878—1w

HAY FOR SALE—Nine Tons,—in bales of about 275lbs. each,—good—at \$1.00 per hundred. Apply to JOHN NEWSON. April 9—1w

WANTED—By a steady, respectable young man, a situation in a Store or Office, or at any respectable employment. Good references. Apply at this Office. March 20—

SPRING GOODS!

Ex S. S. Northern Light,

—AT THE—

London House

WILL BE SHOWN ON MONDAY, the 4th March, 200 PATTERNS

CANADIAN TWEEDS,

West of England and Scotch Makes.

—ALSO—

BLACK & BLUE BROADCLOTHS,

Worsted & Fancy

COATINGS!

SINGLE GARMENTS and SUITS made up in the best styles and at the shortest notice.

OUR

TAILORING DEPARTMENT A GREAT SUCCESS.

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT

Men's and Boys' Hats.

We offer SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS in House Furnishing Goods—

DAMASKS, REPPS, CRETONNES, MOREENS, ETC.

SHEETINGS, PILLOW COTTON, WINDOW HOLLAND, White & Grey CALICO, ETC.

CARPETINGS, HEARTH RUGS, MATTS & MATTING, FLOOR OIL CLOTH, ETC.

A CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF

Paper Hangings.

GEO. DAVIES & CO. March 2—1m 2aw,

Auction Sales.

TRADE SALE!

WE will Sell at AUCTION, on

Wednesday, the 17th inst.,

AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK,

100 Bbls. Spring Extra FLOUR, 50 " Fancy do., 50 " Howland's do., 5 Hhds. English Refined SUGAR, 10 Bbls. Granulated do., 5 " Coffee do., 15 Casks Kerosene OIL, 50 Sides SOLE LEATHER, 20 Coils Manila ROPE, 10 Boxes CHEESE.

PENTON T. NEWBERY & CO.

April 15, 1878—2i

SALE OF STALLIONS AND FAT CATTLE.

I HAVE been instructed by the Hon. J. C. Pope to offer, at AUCTION, on the Market Square at 12 o'clock, on

Tuesday, the 16th April next,

The splendid thoroughbred HORSE "WARRIOR," 7 years old, imported by the Government in 1875. His Colts, which can be seen at Kensington Brewery, are very promising, and prove him to be a first-class stock getter.

Also—The handsome and powerful Draught HORSE "CHAMPION," 17 hands high, weight 1,600 lbs., compact, active, and a splendid worker.

Also—3 FAT OXEN. The Stock can be viewed at the Brewery any day previous to sale.

WM. DODD, Auctioneer. Ch'town, March 30—

AUCTION!

MORTGAGE SALE.

To be Sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, the 15th day of May next, A. D. 1878, at the Court House, in Charlottetown, at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the Sixteenth day of December, A. D. 1873, and made between Alexander McSwain, junior, and Gulielma, his wife, and Alexander McSwain, senior, of Township Number Twenty-one, in Queen's County, in Prince Edward Island, of the one part, and George Peake and Ralph Brecken Peake, of Charlottetown, in the said County and Island, Trustees, under the marriage settlement, of Fanny Leigh, of the other part—

ALL that Tract, Piece and Parcel of Land being on Lot or Township Number Twenty-one, in said County and Island, bounded as follows, that is to say: By a line commencing at a stake fixed on the northwest side of a road from Haslam's to Rattenbury's Mill, in the southwest angle of farm-lot number seventy-four; thence (according to the magnetic meridian of 1764) north fifty-seven chains, or to the rear line of farms fronting on the Wigmore Road; thence along said rear line west eight chains; thence south to the aforesaid road; thence, following the course of the same, northeasterly, to the place of commencement,—said land being known and distinguished as Farm-Lot Number Seventy-three, as laid down on a plan in the margin of a Deed thereof, from the Government of said Island to the said Alexander McSwain, junior,—containing Fifty Acres of Land, a little more or less, together with all Buildings and Appurtenances thereto belonging.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Hodgson & McLeod, Solicitors, Charlottetown. Dated this Eleventh day of April, A. D. 1878.

GEORGE PEAKE, RALPH B. PEAKE.

April 11, 1878—t sale

AUCTION!

Fishing Station at Rustico.

TO BE SOLD, ON

Thursday, the 9th May next,

at 11 o'clock, on the premises,

THE FISHING STATION of the late E. E. Churchill, which comprises all that tract of Land situate on Rustico Beach, in Lot 24, bounded and described as follows: Commencing at a stake set in the west side of Water Terrace, and in the northeast angle of Fishing Station No. 1, in possession of R. B. Morrison, and running thence by the Magnetic Meridian of the year 1764, south sixty degrees west, two hundred feet, to the shore of Rustico Bay; thence north sixty degrees east to the said Terrace; and thence southwardly along the same to the place of commencement—together with Buildings thereon.

4 Fishing BOATS, 8 DORIES, 25 PUNCHEONS, Lot of Fishing Gear, Baits, Barrels, &c., &c.

Terms at sale. J. S. CARVELL, Administrator, Ch'town, March 11—cod wkly t sale

FOR SALE,

THE Fast-trotting Canadian STALLION "Kemble Morrel." Was imported into the Island about three years ago. It can be shown that he is the sire of the most promising Stock, in shape and gait, that the Island can produce. If not sold at private sale before TUESDAY, the 16th inst., he will be offered on that day at Public Auction. Terms liberal.

PETER DOYLE.

Ch'town, April 8—t sale