

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

NOVEMBER 14, 1887.

HALDIMAND.

HALDIMAND has again returned Dr. Montague. His majority is small; but the victory is a splendid one. Mr. Laurier and his lieutenants in the Upper Provinces all took an active part in the contest; Dr. Montague "went it alone." When we reflect that Haldimand never returned a Conservative before this year, we must regard the election of the Doctor under such circumstances as a grand victory for the Liberal-Conservative Party—a certain proof that the popularity of the Government of Sir John Macdonald is increasing as the years roll on.

Local Prohibition.

THE idea of Provincial Prohibition is making some way in Nova Scotia. We are decidedly in favor of Prohibition when and where it can be enforced; but recent observations in the North-west have convinced the writer that unless Prohibition be backed up and enforced by public opinion, it is much worse than useless. Whether or not Prohibition could be enforced in this Province is, however, a question well worthy of consideration. If we had a law prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of liquors, and if that law were supplemented by revenue officers to prevent smuggling, could it be enforced in this Province? Certainly, the success of the Scott Act is not assuring. But, then, one of the weaknesses of the Scott Act is that it permits the importation of liquors in both large and small quantities; and it has not sufficient strength either in itself or from public opinion to keep men from selling, and drinking, and getting drunk on the liquors which are imported. A Prohibition law, with the revenue officers to keep the liquor out, would undoubtedly have a great advantage over the Scott Act. Even with this advantage it would be no good unless backed up in a practical way by public opinion. Could public opinion be depended upon to do this? In Charlottetown it could not; throughout the country it could. Temperance men in town talk loud and do nothing; temperance men in the country say less but do something; and we may reasonably conclude that the work of the latter would more than counteract the verbosity of the former. On the whole, we are disposed to regard the idea of Provincial Prohibition with favor. But would (or could) Parliament make special laws to affect one or two Provinces in respect to the importation of liquors?

"Mr. Fitzgerald's Doings."

THE Patriot tacitly denounces the tactics of the Guardian respecting Mr. R. R. Fitzgerald; and says that it regards a libellous letter which appeared in the Guardian of Saturday as "one of those injurious attacks on the Stipendiary Magistrate which are not only untrue but are calculated to injure the cause which the writer seeks to promote."

There can be no doubt that the cause of temperance (per se) is good and strong—good enough and strong enough to be discussed on its own merits; and it argues something wrong somewhere when supporters of the Scott Act are constrained to make their campaign one of slander and libel, in which strong and faithful temperance men who see that the Scott Act is not doing true temperance work are subjected to the most annoying taunts and innuendoes, and officers of the law, striving to do their duty are made the objects of false charges and bitter invectives.

We cordially agree with what the Patriot says in defence of Mr. Fitzgerald:—

"Mr. Fitzgerald fills a position of great difficulty when presiding at the hearing of charges for violation of the Canada Temperance Act, and we have no hesitation in saying that he has discharged the duties of that position well. He, no doubt, has made mistakes; most men do at times. So far as we can remember, there is no court in the Dominion, from the Supreme Court of Canada down to the petty small debt court, which has not had its decisions occasionally reversed by a higher tribunal; yet they are not made the subject of denunciation in the outrageous way in which Mr. Fitzgerald has been denounced. We have known Mr. Fitzgerald to be attacked, and bitterly attacked, by indiscreet supporters of the Scott Act for not having convicted persons charged with offences against the Scott Act, when no magistrate who valued his oath of office and understood the laws by which he should be governed, could do otherwise than Mr. Fitzgerald did."

Every word of this is true. Mr. Fitzgerald is painstaking and careful in the investigation of Scott Act cases, to a degree. That he has made some mistakes, goes without saying; nor has THE EXAMINER hesitated to point his mistakes out. But we believe that the public have perfect confidence in his ability and impartiality as a magistrate, and we have very great pleasure in bearing testimony to the fact.

—The Northwestern Chronicle, one of the leading Roman Catholic journals of the United States, in its last issue, published an eloquent appeal, over a column in length, to the Catholic women of Minnesota to form themselves into temperance unions. The movement is approved by Bishop Ireland and the leading clergy of the State.

A Sure Sign.

THE intolerance exhibited by some supporters of the Scott Act and their remarks about the unchristian conduct of those who may choose to differ with them on the grounds of the Act being a failure, is one of the surest signs that the position taken by THE EXAMINER is sound. We maintain that as a suppressor of the rum traffic the Scott Act has been tried and found wanting. With a license law making the vendor responsible for all damage done by those to whom he sells, and which will make of him a detective to ferret out and inform on those who illegally have intoxicants for sale, the cause of temperance will be much better served than by continuing an Act which has never been properly enforced, and which, under present conditions, invites lying, false swearing and shiftness. Why do not the people who talk so glibly about the benefits of the Act see to its enforcement? Do they lend it their countenance, and go to the places where they know rum is sold, and inform the authorities, and do their part towards bringing the offenders to justice? Oh, no; they stand on one side and make attacks on the characters of those officials who seek to get at the truth through the mass of lying, perjury and deceit by which they are surrounded. In proof of this, we have only got to point at the uncalculated and malicious attacks on our Stipendiary Magistrate, who is doing his best to have all proven violators of the Act fully punished. There is a great difference between being accused and being proven guilty; but the wise-acre who covets Mr. Fitzgerald's job does not know this. Let us say, once for all, we believe in a prohibitory law that will prohibit; not a law that allows liquor to be imported into the Province, as the Scott Act does.

Temperance Sermons.

WE have lately had several very good temperance sermons; and more are promised. This is as it should be. Then drunkenness, there is no vice demanding more constant attention from the pulpit and from press. But while the press has from time to time denounced violations of the law, commented upon the results of the operation of the Scott Act, and inveighed against the evil of the increasing drunkenness, the pulpit has been almost silent. Now, on the eve of a Scott Act election, the pulpits begin to speak. People are reminded that temperance is a sin, and told that it is their duty to uphold the law. Had such preaching issued from each of our pulpits once a month during the past three or four years, it is not at all likely that so many temperance men, disgusted with the results of the Scott Act, and despairing of ever having it enforced in Charlottetown, would now be glad to see the Scott Act repealed, and a law which would be better enforced take its place. We sincerely hope that as a result of the sermons and the prayers, the clergymen, at least, may have their eyes opened to discern the essential difference between Temperance and Scott Act, and that they will not cease to preach temperance as soon as the votes are in.

Two Daring Robberies.

SOME TIME between Saturday night and this morning burglars entered the meat market of Blake Bros. at the West end of the Market House, and took about \$12 in small change from the locked drawer of the desk in the private office. They also took a number of valuable papers from the desk drawers to the outside market, where, after cutting them over, they left them. An entrance was effected through the refrigerator window on the South side of the building, thence over a wall through an aperture about nine inches in height, into the office. For some time past several petty robberies have also been committed at their premises on King Street, the thieves contenting themselves with stealing sheep pelts. The robbery at the meat market is said to have been committed while the Salvation Army were on the Square yesterday.

About three o'clock on Sunday morning one of the panes of glass in the window of the Boot and Shoe Store of Michael McQuaid, on Lower Queen Street, was broken and three pairs of boots which were on stands in the window captured. The watchman on the block below heard the noise just in time to see the thief disappear around the Union House corner with his booty, but too late to effect a capture. All the robberies are supposed to have been committed by the one gang, and as their names are known to the police their capture is, no doubt, but a question of time.

Supreme Court.

MONDAY, NOV. 14. The Court met to-day for the purpose of hearing two applications under the Scott Act. The three judges were on the bench.

Re James Doyle, a prisoner in Queen's County Jail.—The prisoner was committed to jail by two justices of the peace for a breach of the Scott Act, and on Wednesday last Mr. Peters obtained an order for a writ of habeas corpus to discharge him. To-day he was brought before the Court, and after argument the Court refused to discharge Doyle and he was remanded to jail. Mr. Davies, Q. C., appeared for the convicting magistrates.

Re Elizabeth Noonan.—This was an application made by Mr. Wright, of Summerside, to set aside a conviction made by the Stipendiary Magistrate of Summerside, against Mrs. Noonan for a breach of the Scott Act. Mr. Wright objected to all the Magistrate's proceedings, especially on the ground that the summons had not been personally served on defendant. Mr. Hodgson, on behalf of James Caldwell, the Summerside Inspector, opposed Mr. Wright's application, and asked that it be dismissed with costs. Mr. Wright was heard in reply, at some length. The Court dismissed the application with costs.

The Court stands adjourned until Wednesday, for the purpose of delivering judgment.

TOWN TOPICS.

What is being Talked About on the Streets and Elsewhere.

THE Scott Act campaign goes bravely on. As election day approaches the interest increases. The friends of the Act are making a big push. They are determined to sustain their pet fad, and with this object in view are importing people from the other provinces to tell the intelligent electors of this city how the Act has worked here during the past six years! Just what these importations know about the success or failure of the Act remains to be seen.

The many citizens who have become disgusted with the working of the Act are going to vote in favor of a change for the better, are not so demonstrative as their opponents, but are nevertheless working well. They have every confidence in the intelligence of the electorate. They think that our citizens are sufficiently discriminating to judge for themselves in the matter of the success or non-success of the Act, and are not indulging in any silly sentiment or appealing to the passions of the multitude. This is as it should be. I have no doubt but on the 24th good sober common sense will prevail, and as a result that temperance abolition the Scott Act will be defeated.

The wet, drizzly weather, we have lately been treated to has not improved the temper or added anything to the comfort of those of us afflicted with that dire complaint, rheumatism. Rheumatism is an old foe, a foe we all dread. It usually strikes in about February, and sticks like LePage's glue until June, when it gradually saws off. If then goes on a vacation until somewhere in the leafy month of September, when the fall term commences. This term lasts till about New Year, when the annual "calls" and "bills" are reasonable. These two combined sorts of lays it over for about a month, when it returns to the fray like a giant refreshed with new wine.

Rheumatism is no respecter of persons. Old and young, grave and gay, rich and poor, all are at its beck and call. And the longer it works the more vigorous it becomes. It does not limit its labors to eight hours a day, but will hold out for the twenty-four, with Sundays and holidays thrown in, and never tucks of striking for higher wages. Many rheumatism specifics are in the market, all of which are warranted sure-cures. Nothing is, however, so uncertain as these sure cures. One does not know when he has them. However, it does not take one long to find out when he has the rheumatism.

Charlottetown, for its area and population, is one of the most gossipy places on the face of the earth. Each one knows all about the other's business. Indeed, some know more about other people's business than they do about their own. This characteristic appears to have been handed down from past generations, and is one of the several things that the march of progress and civilization has not been successful in stamping out. Some of our young men are much given to this unmanly pastime, but to the young women must be awarded the palm.

The women are almost always chock full of small talk. They consider it their duty to communicate what they know in strict confidence to some friend. This friend releases the story, slightly embellished, to some of her friends, and so it passes from one to another. The story, as a general thing, loses none of its interest by frequent telling, as it is always dished up in a new form, and finally all traces of the original are swept away. Truly, the average woman is becoming a most dangerous rival of the newspaper as a disseminator of news.

While passing along Prince Street, towards Grafton, yesterday afternoon, my attention was attracted in an easterly direction by the noise of profanity, mingled with Salvation Army songs. On looking in the direction of the noise I was much pained to observe a young lad about sixteen years of age reeling along the street in a beastly state of intoxication, and indulging in profane and obscene language. There were quite a number of people, among whom were many very young boys and girls, looking at the sad sight and drinking in the foul language of the young tough. This young lad, I am given to understand, is but one of the many of like years who have grown up drunkards under the protecting wing of that great temperance measure, the Scott Act!

Manager Webber is with us once more. He has, in my opinion, the best company he has ever brought here, yet he does not draw as he did in former years. Why this is so I cannot understand. His prices are fair and his repertoire is made up largely of standard plays—plays which in former years "drew like a plaster." He is, so far as I can learn, a square man, a man who pays as he goes every time. This is, of course, nothing more than he should do and for which he deserves no particular commendation; but his conduct in this respect is in striking contrast to that of some other managers who have used our people to further their own ends and then left them in the lurch. There is nothing mean about Webber, and he certainly deserves better patronage than he is receiving.

Local Notices.

A VERY superior lot of Rubbers at Goff Bros. G. H. HAZARD is now opening his Christmas and New Year Cards for season of 1887-1888. Designs are finer than ever, nov12-31 CHEAP dress goods at J. B. Macdonald's. oct13 tf LADIES' and gents' walking boots, latest style at Goff Bros. oct. 6 tf BOOTS! BOOTS! BOOTS!—The largest stock in the city. One hundred and four cases boots and seventy cases rubbers now open and more to follow. You can get the best quality, the largest variety and the lowest prices in town at the Dominion Boot and Shoe Store.—J. B. Macdonald, Proprietor. oct13 dy wy tf BANK OF MONTREAL.—The statement of the Bank of Montreal for the six months ending Oct. 31st, submitted to the Directors, shows a decrease in the net earnings of about \$100,000 compared with the corresponding period in 1886.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A "Merchant's" Views.

SIR,—I am an interested on-looker of the campaign now going on between those who support the Scott Act and those who are opposed to it. I belong to the latter class. I have no interest in the sale of spirituous liquors at all; it does not interfere with me in the least. As a merchant I import what I require for private use, including some that I send round as presents, or in case of sickness; and I may therefore claim to have no pecuniary interest in the matter.

I concede all that the most extreme Scott Act men say as to the liquor traffic. I have been drinking more or less for the last fifty years on sea and land, and I ought to know something about it. It is a curse. But mind you, sir, when the system has been accustom'd to the use of it it is hard to give it up. It amuses me to hear inveterate smokers or tobacco chewers "spouting" at meetings against those who take a glass of beer or grog. I really don't know which habit is the most offensive. But as far as crime is concerned, no doubt the use of intoxicants is so. Curious, is it not, sir, that one man makes a "stove pipe" of his throat, and is down upon another who indulges in a glass of beer or some hot brandy and water.

You are a cold water man, I believe, but nevertheless you are constrained to say, as a public journalist, that the Scott Act has proved a failure. I give you credit for the stand you have taken. You are a Liberal-Conservative and I am a "grim Grit," and a follower of Blake's; but as I consider the Scott Act not a political question, but one in which we should throw politics aside, I am with you on the stand you have taken. I opposed the re-enactment of the Scott Act prior to the last election, and wrote several letters pointing out that on commercial principles the Act must prove a failure in this Maritime Province of ours.

Now, let us look at the question from a commercial point of view. The laws that govern commerce say "That wherever there is a demand, and money to be made, a supply will flow in no matter what 'State' restriction may be. This has been abundantly proved by the sometimes bloody conflicts between smugglers and the coast-guard service in the Mother Country in bygone times.

The folly of the Scott Act is this: The Government allows the country to be flooded with liquor on payment of the duty, and the Canada Temperance Act says it shall not be sold in small quantities under severe fines and penalties. This sort of Legislation encourages the importation of liquor on the one hand, for the sake of the duties, and with the other says it shall not be consumed!

The working of the Scott Act has just been what was to be expected, a logical sequence of "cause and effect." It has proved a miserable failure. The trade, or traffic, or whatever you choose to call it, has been driven from the respectable tavern or boarding house, where you could get refreshment for man and horse—as the old sign-boards used to indicate—to the secret saloon and the cellar, where the worst kinds of intoxicants are sold. It has, in my opinion, aggravated the disease.

The local statistics of the importation of spirituous liquors do not afford any index as to the quantity of spirits used. I will give you a proof. Last week I imported a quantity of flour and other goods from Montreal. Among these goods was a cask of old rye whiskey. I did not require to go to the Custom House at all to make an entry, the goods were delivered to me on payment of the freight here. The excise duty had been paid in Montreal. It is the same with brandy, wine, beer, &c., from any other part of the Dominion here. The duty is paid at Halifax, St. John or Montreal. The importer takes it away and does what he likes with it.

The clergy here, as usual, take the lead in favor of the Scott Act. We give them credit for good intentions, but as one of the laity I should say:—"You had better confine your dogmatism to the pulpit, and not quote misleading statistics in matters you do not understand, and we must beg you not to abuse us, as the editor of the Patriot does over anonymous signatures, for opposing the Scott Act. It is possible that our opposition to the Scott Act may be as sincere as yours is in favor of it. The only difference is that we look at it practically, and you look at it sentimentally and theoretically."

Since writing the foregoing I have been at St. Paul's. The new rector—who is a man of thought and culture—gave us a very good sermon on the temperance question, and narrated some terrible experiences that came under his personal observation of the evils of the liquor traffic. I could have supplemented them from mine. He was of opinion that moral suasion was not sufficient and was in favor of the retention of the Scott Act. But, to my mind, he did not strike at the root of the evil. It would have been more to the point, I thought, if he had struck at the Government for continuing the traffic—because practically it is they who do it by legalizing a system that puts millions of dollars into the Treasury. It is for the people to sweep the system away if they choose.

I shall have to ask you for space for another letter.

Your obedient servant, MERCHANT. Ch'town, 14th Nov., 1887.

LYCEUM, CHARLOTTETOWN.

Boston Comedy Co. H. PRICE WEBBER, Manager.

This (Monday) Evening, Nov. 14, the great play, the

OCTOROON; OR, LIFE IN LOUISIANA.

Admission 25, 35, and 50 cents. Seats for sale at usual places. Doors open at 7; Overture at 8 o'clock. For further particulars see bills of the day. Nov. 14, 1887.

Charlottetown Boot & Shoe Factory

BETTER THAN EVER.

Old Lasts Thrown Away; New Lasts Received.

The Long-looked for Boot at Last. Great Comfort. Great Wear. Best Value.

GOFF BROS.

Ch'town, Nov. 14, 1887—eod & wky

COMMERCIAL UNION,

GEORGE E. FULL'S,

Where You Can Exchange Your Money for What You Want at the Very Lowest Prices.

Ladies' Dress Stuffs, Meltons and Cashmeres, Wool Shawls and Squares, Fur Tippets, Flannels, Hats and Bonnets, Gloves and Hosiery.

Men's Overcoats, Reefers, Coats, Pants, Vests, Linders, Knit Top Shirts, Hats and Caps—All Too Cheap.

30-CENT TEA FOR 25 CENTS.

GEO. E. FULL

Sign of the LION, Queen Street.

Ch'town, Nov. 12, 1887—eod & wky

- New Carpets at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Dress Goods at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Velveteens at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Cloths at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Furs at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Overcoats at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Wool Goods at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Hats and Bonnets at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Mitts and Gloves at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Underclothing at JAMES PATON & CO.
New Collars, Braces, &c., at JAMES PATON & CO.

JAMES PATON & CO.,

Charlottetown and Summerside.

Ch'town, Nov. 2, 1887.—dy & wky

NEW FALL GOODS NOW OPEN.

J. B. MACDONALD.

Every department full of the Newest Goods. Everything New in Ladies' Dress Goods. Everything New in Ladies' Jackets. Everything New in Ladies' Hats and Trimmings. Tremendous Stock of Ready-made Clothing. Every Inducement to Cash Buyers. Goods Bought Right. Our Prices will be found Low.

J. B. MACDONALD,

Ch'town, Sept. 26, 87—dy wy—pat