

Winter Communications.

The visit of the Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries is opportune. Mr. Smith will be able, from personal experience and knowledge, to form an opinion respecting the arrangements for the running of the Northern Light. He will be able to see, for himself, that they are so unsuitable to Prince Edward Island, that crossing at "the Capes"—with all its disadvantages and discomforts—gave far more satisfaction than they will or can possibly give. And he will be able, we trust, to have the obnoxious arrangements changed.

We want—we think we have a right to expect—daily communication with the mainland during fine weather and whenever the Straits are not so obstructed by ice as to render daily communication impossible. In short, we want the Northern Light to do the best she can. She might leave Georgetown at eight or half-past eight o'clock in the morning, arrive at Pictou about noon or shortly after; leave Pictou on arrival of the train with mails and passengers for the Island; arrive at Georgetown at six or later. Thus mails and passengers for the mainland could leave Charlottetown by early morning train; and mails and passengers for the Island could arrive in Charlottetown by an evening special from Georgetown.

During fine weather such an arrangement as this could be carried out just as well as not and in stormy weather, it could be adhered to as closely as possible.

Weights and Measures.

"A TOWNSMAN" has applied to the EXAMINER for information respecting "weights and measures." We cheerfully respond to the application.

On the 23rd of May, 1873, the Parliament of Canada passed an Act relating to "weights and measures," which applied to all Provinces then in the Dominion. But as the Island had not then entered the union, the Act did not affect us.

On the 12th of April, 1876, the Parliament of Canada passed an Act extending the Dominion law relating to "weights and measures" to this Island, and specially repealing all our laws on the same subject. This Act went into operation on the 1st of July, 1876.

During the session of 1877, Parliament amended the Dominion Act relating to weights and measures—and the Act as then amended is the law by which all dealers in Prince Edward Island and throughout the Dominion are bound, and any weigher or other person who infringes it is subject to a heavy penalty.

A "bushel" contains eight Imperial or standard gallons. A hundred-weight consists of one hundred pounds avoirdupois, and not one hundred and twelve pounds; and a ton of two thousand pounds avoirdupois, and not two thousand two hundred and forty pounds—as heretofore. In contracts for the sale or delivery of any of the following articles, the standard "bushel" shall be of the weights mentioned:—

- Wheat, sixty pounds.
Indian Corn, fifty-six pounds.
Rye, fifty-six pounds.
Peas, sixty pounds.
Barley, forty-eight pounds.
Oats, thirty-four pounds.
Beans, sixty pounds.
Clover Seed, sixty pounds.
Timothy Seed, forty-eight pounds.
Buckwheat, forty-eight pounds.
Flax Seed, fifty pounds.
Hemp Seed, forty-four pounds.
Blue Grass Seed, fourteen pounds.
Castor Beans, forty pounds.
Potatoes, Turnips, Carrots, Parsnips, Beets and Onions, sixty pounds.
Salt, fifty-six pounds.
Dried Apples, twenty-two pounds.
Dried Peaches, thirty-three pounds.
Malt, thirty-six pounds.

Grit Corruption Abroad.

A COMMITTEE of Congress has charged that Dr. Young, Chief of the Board of Statistics in the United States, "has been improperly interested with Hon. Geo. Brown, Canadian Commissioner, in preparing tables to aid said Brown in negotiating a reciprocity treaty, and that some of the clerks in the bureau also aided him in the work; that Young, though at first opposed to a reciprocity treaty, suddenly changed after this transaction and favored it."

If this statement be true, Mr. Brown—the Chief of the Grit Party—has been corrupting in Washington as well as in Ontario. Mr. Brown, however, says it is not true.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Court.

Dec. 26.—Geo. FitzPatrick, drunk and incapable, was fined \$3 and costs or 14 days; John Scott, drunk and disorderly, was fined \$2 and costs or 8 days; Brian O'Neill, drunk and incapable, was fined \$1 and costs or 4 days; Mary Hennessy, drunk and disorderly on the street, was fined \$3 and costs or 14 days; Charlotte Byers, drunk and fighting on the street, was fined \$1 and costs or 14 days; Jas. Rush, drunk and interfering with the police, was fined \$5 and costs or 1 month; Thos. Ryston, drunk and disorderly, was fined \$3 and costs or 14 days; Alex. Carpenter, for assaulting Policeman Bradley, was fined \$25 and costs or 3 months; John Salmon, for breach of the Oil Law, was fined \$5 and costs; Thomas O'Brien, selling spirituous liquors without license, was fined \$32 and costs or 3 months.

IMPRISONMENT FOR THANKS.—Alex. Carpenter (colored) was before the Stipendiary Magistrate charged with assaulting officer Bradley. For the offense he was fined \$6 or one month. When the sentence was passed he, with a very contemptuous air, thanked the Magistrate for his kindness. The sentence was immediately altered, and Carpenter was imprisoned for two months in addition to the first sentence.]

OUR CHURCHES.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

ST. PAUL'S.

Old St. Paul's is very prettily decorated according to a design made by Mr. Arthur Newbery. Rev. Mr. Osborne preached an eloquent sermon on "Jesus."

ST. DUNSTON'S CATHEDRAL.

Services were held in St. Dunstan's Cathedral from an early hour yesterday morning. At ten o'clock High Mass was celebrated. At the Gospel His Lordship Bishop McIntyre ascended the pulpit and delivered a very simple and eloquent lecture, in which he gave a brief and beautiful synopsis of the career of our Lord from Bethlehem to Calvary.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

At S. Peter's Church, the services were of the usual festive character. On the Eve several "Christmas Carols" were sung after Evensong. The service yesterday, at 11 o'clock, was fully choral. The Christmas Introit, "While all things were in quiet silence," by Macfarren, and the Anthems "Blessed is He who Cometh" and "O Lamb of God" were sung. The remainder of the music was composed by "Berthold Tours" and by "Merbecke." The well-known Christmas hymns, "O Come all ye Faithful," "While Shepherds Watched," and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," marked well the season. Those who assisted in the decorations deserve praise for the creditable way they carried out their taste of love. The decorations were both tasteful and ecclesiastical. The effect made by the autumn leaves being entwined with the green wreaths was unique. The Rev. G. W. Hodgson, at the noonday service, gave a short address, saying that at such a time the congregation would not expect many words, nor were they necessary. The day spoke for itself. He would just give them points which they might dwell upon during the rest of the service: (1.) Nearness to God. Let us thank Him for having come near to us by the Incarnation of His Son, and pray that we may draw near to Him, for it is only near to Him that we can find joy, peace and life. (2.) From the example of the lowly birth, let us learn humility and lay aside that pride which is the root of so much evil. (3.) Take the Angels' song and try, through God's grace, to put it in practice:—"Glory to God in the Highest On Earth Peace Good Will towards men."

METHODIST BRICK CHURCH.

The Rev. Mr. Lathern preached from the text, "When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." Mat. 2: 10. Nineteen centuries have passed away since a great deal of interest was centered in a small town of Syria—the official residence of the Roman Governors. A decree had gone forth from Cæsar Augustus "that all the world should be taxed." The Governors of Syria and Judea, in obedience to the decree of Cæsar, had caused every man in those Provinces to go up to the city of his nativity to have his name enrolled preparatory to the collection of the tax. The taxing was first made ten years later, when Cyrenius was Governor of Syria. The time was exceedingly favorable for the enrollment. No armies mustered on the battle field for conquest or defence; but every where peace reigned. The old testament predictions was about to be fulfilled. "There shall come a star out of Jacob and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel." The wise men of the east were anxiously expecting some great event in the near future. Their hearts must have rejoiced, and their astonishment must have been great when the brilliant star appeared in the east. These wise men followed the occupation of shepherds, their calling giving them frequent opportunities of observing the starry heavens, and they were well versed in astronomy. Their thoughts were steeped with the idea that a king was to be born. These humble shepherds were acquainted with matters that were hid from the greatest statesmen of the age. Hardly had the seraphic strain of the angel's "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward man," died away, when the shepherd's hastened to tell the story: "Unto us a child is born," &c. There is a traditional account taken from the apocrypha of St. James of the visit of the wise men to Bethlehem; we have also a picture of the imagination from the pen of Milton in his hymn of the incarnation, but these are of little worth to us. The Evangelists' account of the visit of the strangers is the only reliable one. These wise men were from Persia and Chaldea and Arabia; we judge from the nature of the presents. Gold and frankincense and myrrh were products of Arabia. They adored the sun, the moon, and fire, but detested the worship of images. The glory of the star was in accord with the Psalm and prophecy, "Arise, shine," &c., and "The people that sat in darkness have seen a great light." It may be said that these prophecies were purely Hebraic, and known only to the Hebrews. But Daniel was at one time at the head of the wise men of the East, and communicated his knowledge to others. The wise men who visited Bethlehem rejoiced that their mission was not a failure. There is nothing which gives more joy in earthly things to the student than the sudden flash across his mind of some truth which he has long been searching after. The mathematician in olden time who had discovered a great truth went about exclaiming "Eureka," I have found it. There is another system than the planetary one; there is another sky than the blue etherial expanse, and another star, that shines in the Christian firmament and is the centre of the system,—there is another truth, the truth as it is in Jesus. Happy shall they be who at last, when the dark veil shall be drawn away, shall be able to say in a much higher sense than the old mathematician, "I have found it, I have found it."

The wise men rejoiced that light had not only come for them, but for the whole world. Brilliant discoveries had been made in science and art and men possessed much worldly knowledge, but morally and spiritually there was desolation, woe and intense darkness. The light of Christianity has been streaming along the ages for nearly two thousand years and is fast "spreading to earth's remotest bounds." At sunrise some of the highest peaks of the Alps are bathed in sunshine while darkness covers the valleys, but as the orb continues to rise, first the valleys then the ravines receive light. There are lands in moral darkness which have not yet seen a ray of light in the Eastern sky. The day is fast approaching when a nation shall be born in a day. The wise men, in their worship of Christ, seemed to represent culture. There ought to be no estrangement between science and Christianity. The one is the counterpart of the other. Egypt was the cradle of arts, yet Moses, who was learned in all her learning, feared the God of Israel. Daniel, at the head of the wise men of Babylon, was devotional. Paul was the grand representative of Western civilization and he gloried in the cross. Starry Galilee, Sir Isaac Newton, David Brewster were foremost in science yet worshippers of God. The wise men worshipped. Bowing down they sang praises. Ages have rolled along. We are singing the same praises. Milton's hymn of the incarnation, Campbell's hymn, Charles Wesley's and Bishop Heber's hymns are the gold and frankincense and myrrh which we offer. The worship of the wise men was practical. They brought gifts. Mary who brought the alabaster box and poured ointment upon the Saviour's feet will have her reward. In our day those who are mindful of the poor, particularly in this inclement season, can joyfully appropriate the words "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these, ye did it unto me." In conjunction with all the pastors of the city, I wish you all the enjoyments and blessings of the season.

Latest by Telegraph.

WAR NEWS.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.

The Russian loss by war to December 2nd is 80,412 men.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 23.

It is declared that the Porte is determined to carry on the war to the last extremity should the request for mediation fail.

Great distress prevails among the poor of Constantinople. Prices of provisions are rising in consequence of depression of currency. Difficulties are feared if price of bread rises higher.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 23.

The Porte has issued a proclamation deposing Prince Milan of Servia.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

A despatch to the Standard from Constantinople via Syria says that it was rumored that the Sultan had ordered Edham Pasha, Grand Vizier, to take steps to procure peace.

GENERAL NEWS.

LONDON, Dec. 22.

Henry Pinchback, builder, Manchester, has failed; liabilities, \$540,000.

The conviction which has been growing for several days now amounts to a certainty that the Dutch steamer Friesland, from Java to Rotterdam, has been lost, with all hands off Cape Finistere.

EDINBURGH, Dec. 22.

A London despatch to the Scotsman says considerable credit is attached to the report that the Government contemplates the purchase of the Porte's sovereignty over Egypt.

MANCHESTER, Dec. 22.

The Examiner learns that a manufacturer of military stores, who had large orders for both Russia and Turkey, has received notices cancelling both.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

In consequence of the proposed reduction of wages, to take effect after the holidays, one thousand iron workers at Sheffield have ceased to work.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The Spectator believes the real meaning of the summoning of Parliament is that Beaconsfield desires to encourage the Turks to continue the struggle in hope of ultimate British assistance, and that the Turks will so interpret it. The Spectator thinks England, when it comes to the point, will decline to fight for the Turks, who will at last be compelled to purchase peace by withdrawing to their natural home in Asia.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The Times, in its military and naval intelligence, says: "During the past year twelve steamers have been constantly employed conveying stores to Gibraltar and Malta, at each of which there is now vast accumulations of war material. Orders have been received at Woolwich for the manufacture of sixteen pounder field guns. It has also been determined that the four eighty ton guns for the 'Inflexible' are to be chambered forthwith."

The Saturday Review thinks it is probable the House of Commons may be asked to make an extraordinary grant for military and naval purposes. Its anticipation for an unusual period of the meeting of Parliament is, it says, in some respects unfortunate, though it will probably admit of justification.

Died.

CAMPBELL.—At 94 Queen street, on the 24th inst., Arthur Pope Hackett, infant son of Ann M. and F. H. Campbell, aged 2 months and 24 days.

A VERY successful Catholic Temperance meeting was held in Ludlow Hall, Summer-side, on Thursday evening last. John Gaffney, Esq., Rev. R. B. McDonald, Rev. C. O'Brien and Rev. P. Doyle delivered very appropriate addresses. About one hundred and eighty signed the pledge.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NO. 1 CLAPBOARDS.

5,400 NO. 1 CLAPBOARDS,

For Sale Cheap, by

F. S. HANFORD & CO.

WATER STREET.

Ch'town, Dec. 26—3i

OSTRICH FEATHERS

Cleaned, Dyed and Curled. Kid Gloves, Neckties and Ribbons Cleaned and Dyed. Also—Gent's Clothing, etc. Orders left at the Shop of Mr. W. W. Stumbles, 27 Great George Street, promptly attended to.

G. C. Gilmour, Silk Dyer, etc., Fitzroy Street.

Dec. 26—1m 2aw

FOR SALE!

THE STEAMER

HEATHER BELLE,

with all her Machinery, Boats, &c., will be offered at Private Sale, till

THURSDAY, the 10th day

January, 1878.

Should the Steamer not then be sold at Private Sale, she will be offered at PUBLIC AUCTION, at 12 o'clock, noon, on Thursday, the 10th day of January.

For terms and particulars apply to JOHN HUGHES, Agent.

Ch'town, P. E. I., Dec. 26, 1877. 2aw pat a ne till 10th

Toys and Fancy Goods,

CLEARING OUT PRICES!

HASZARD'S BOOKSTORE,

West Side Queen Square.

Dec. 26—2in

Winter Express.

THE INTERCOLONIAL EXPRESS CO. will continue their business during the winter via Steamer Northern Light.

Express closes every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evening at 6 o'clock, and is received here on the same evenings at 5 o'clock.

Goods, Valuables, and money, forwarded, making as quick time as the mails.

THEO. L. CHAPPELLE, Agent.

Diamond Bookstore, 85 North Side Queen Square.

Ch'town, Dec. 26, 1877.—3i

JUST PUBLISHED!

TWO SERMONS,

—PREACHED IN—

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

IN ADVENT, 1877,

—BY—

REV. D. FITZGERALD.

SUBJECTS:

'The Divinity of Jesus Christ'

—AND—

'The Value and Sufficiency of Scripture.'

The above Sermons (published by request) are for sale at Harvie's Bookstore. Price 16 cents.

Dec. 22—4i

Retiring from Business.

BARGAINS!

BEING about to retire from Business, we offer our large stock of MILLINERY and DRY GOODS at the lowest possible prices, consisting of—

Bonnets, Hats, Feathers, Flowers, Scarfs, Squares, Clouds, Turquoises, Cuffs & Collars, Ribbons, Laces,

Gloves, Ladies' and Children's Underclothing and other Goods.

Also—WOOLS OF ALL COLORS for Fancy Work, &c., &c.

THE MISSES CAVANAGH, "Ladies' Establishment," Market Square, South Side.

Dec. 24—

MOLASSES—In Store and to arrive for

Winter's Stock, 125 Puns. Barbadoes & Cienfuegos. CARVELL BROS.

Dec. 5—pat 3

Smoked Halibut, &c.

40 boxes SMOKED HALIBUT, 20 bundles DRIED POLLOCK.

For sale by HASZARD BROS.

December 14, 1877.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WE CONTINUE TO SELL

ALL OUR

STAPLE GOODS

—ON THE—

Most Favorable Terms.

IN STORE:

- 1500 Bbls. Flour, 20 Boxes Axes, 500 " Cornmeal, 100 Boxes 3 in. Nail, 125 Hbds Molasses, 100 " 1 1/2 in. " 30 " Sugar, 50 Boxes Horsenail, 50 Bbls W'te Granulated Sugar, 200 b'xes Confectionery (assorted), 20 Bbls Crushed do, 800 Reams Paper (all sizes), 400 Chests Tea, 50 Doz. Brooms, 125 half Chests Tea, 50 Doz. Pails, 75 Boxes Soda, 100 Tins Pepper, 500 Coils Manila, 60 Boxes Glass, 500 Sides No. 1 Sole Leather, 150 Boxes Bartlett's Blue, 200 Sides No. 2 " 100 Gross Bartlett's Shoe Blacking, 230 Boxes Raisins, 150 Jars Creamtartar, 100 Kegs B'ng Soda, 100 Tins Pepper, 30 Bbls W'ng Soda, 100 " Mustard, 75 Boxes Cheese, 40 " Ginger, 60 Casks Vinegar, 40 " M'xd Spiced, 200 Boxes Soap, 20 " Allspice, 35 Bags Nuts, 30 Packages Whole Cloves, 600 Boxes Table Salt 30 " Nutmegs, 50 Bbls. Currants, 150 Boxes Yeast, 25 Boxes Flat Tobacco, 20 Bbls. W'te Beans, 10 Kegs Isl. Twist 150 Casks Kerosene, Tobacco, 25 Bbls. Onions, 15 k'gs Acadia Twist Tobacco, 50 Boxes Candles.

Carvell Brothers.

Ch'town, Dec. 22—2w 3aw pat ar 2w

NOTICE.

All Persons indebted to the Estate of the late Hon. Patrick Walker, are required to settle up their Accounts within one month from this date.

The large and well-assorted Stock on hand will be cleared out at FIRST COST for cash only.

ANGUS J. McCORMACK, Manager.

December 17, 1877—2w

LEVEE.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant Governor will hold a LEVEE at Government House, on TUESDAY, the First day of January next, 1878, at the hour of one o'clock.

Each gentleman is requested to be provided with a Card, to be handed to the Aide-de-Camp in waiting.

Gentlemen paying their respects to His Honor on the occasion will please to enter by the eastern door.

J. LONGWORTH, Lt.-Col. and Aide-de-Camp. R. R. HODGSON, Lt.-Col. and Aide-de-Camp. Government House, 24th Dec., 1877—

1877 Merry Christmas 1878

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Choice Holiday Requisites

IN AMPLE SUPPLY AT

THE CONFECTIONERY

100 BBLs. BALDWIN APPLES, 20 Bbls. Green GRAPES, 3 " PEARS, 5 " ORANGES (Florida, &c.), 6 Cases " 1 Cask Turkish PRUNES, 1 " EGYPTIAN DATES, 150 Boxes New FIGS, 200 Lbs. Black Currant JAM, 20 Boxes CANDIED PEEL, 20 Bbls. CRANBERRIES, 25 Bloom and other RAISINS.

—ALSO—

125,937,654,821,978 TONS,

(more or less) of

PURE CONFECTIONERY!

All kinds of Canned Goods cheap. Cake and Pastry of all kinds made to order, if not on hand. Wedding and Holiday Cakes a specialty.

Remember that "The Confectionery" is the place to get Choice Articles for the Holidays.

December 22—2i

LECTURE!

J. CUNNINGHAM DUNLOP will deliver

his third Lecture on FRENCH LITERATURE THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock. Subject:

"The Arthurian Cycle."

(King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table.)

Dec. 26—1i