

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

ADVERTISER IN THE EXAMINER. Its circulation is large and increasing. 31. SNOW-STORM.—Yesterday, (April 12), the island was visited by a heavy snowstorm.

THE ISLAND IN CHARLOTTETOWN HARBOUR shows signs of breaking up.

CHARLES BRIDGES has resigned his position as Manager of the Grand Trunk Rail.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The letter of "A Monaghan," is crowded out of this issue; it will appear next week.

PERSONAL.—Captain Evans, of the S. Lawrence, is in town, ready to take command when navigation opens.

FIRST ARRIVAL.—A schooner arrived at Georgetown on Thursday last. Two others were reported outside the harbor.

JUDICIAL.—Hon. W. A. Henry and Alexander James, Esq., are spoken of as prospective Judges for Nova Scotia.

REI AND PERRY are the only members of the House of Commons who are precluded from taking their seats.

A subsidy has been granted to Nova Scotia Shore Steamboat Lines, \$6000 to Halifax and \$4000 to Clements.

PETITIONS in favor of Protection have already been presented to Dominion Parliament. Protectionists are active.

CLOSED.—The bar of the House of Commons at Ottawa has been closed by order of the Speaker, pursuant to the vote of the House.

FITTING UP.—The Steamers Princess of Wales and S. Lawrence, are being fitted up and made ready for their summer work.

SEABOARD.—S. S. Souders left Boston for Charlottetown on Saturday last. The steamship Prince Edward will leave Liverpool, on the 15th for this island.

MR. ANDREW McDONALD, who writes to say that he forwarded a registered letter to this office on the 5th of March, will please send us his full address.

BURNED TO DEATH.—In Halifax, recently, a man named Kieley set fire to the clothing of a woman named Satterly, and she was literally burned to death. Kieley is in jail.

PROPERTY IN SUMMERSIDE.—The property of the late John O'Neill, in Summerside, sold at auction for \$200. Stephen McNeill, Esq., was the purchaser.

PRESENTATION.—The Congregation of Rev. Alexander Campbell, Strathville, recently showed their appreciation of his services by presenting him with a horse.

SHIP NEWS.—The Ship James Duncan, left Liverpool for Charlottetown on the 4th, left The Barque Lelia Alton, left London for this port on the 9th inst.

THE "RIEL SENSATION."—Governor Archibald, it is said, is summoned to Ottawa to give evidence respecting the North West rebellion in relation to Riels.

TRADE OF HALIFAX.—A comparative statement of Customs receipts in Halifax for March, 1873 and 1874, shows that the increase for March, 1874 is \$16,876.66.

MR. EARLE'S CONCERT, which was postponed on account of the storm on Friday last, will take place in the Market Hall this evening at 8 o'clock. Get your tickets at Dr. Dodd's Medical Hall, where a plan of the hall can be seen.

ACCIDENT AT SEA.—A St. John's Newfoundland despatch says, that the Steamer Tregent of the Pacific expedition, while sailing from her berth, exploded her boiler, and two of her engineers and twenty of her crew were killed.

PROFESSOR GOLDWIN SMITH has a letter in the London News on Home rule. He advocates giving to them legislative powers for the administration of Local affairs, similar to those of Legislatures in American States.

CHARGE OF RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.—An Ottawa despatch to Nova Scotia papers, reports—It is stated that Nova Scotia members held yesterday afternoon, it was agreed to advise Government to hand over the old Nova Scotia Railway lines, from Wind to Junction to Pictou to the Local Government, in order to enable that Government to extend railways east and west. The idea is that the Local Government may allow other companies to use these roads after they have built and equipped their own lines, the Local Government having a discretion in the matter.

ENTERTAINMENT.—The entertainment in aid of the Christian Brothers' School, given by the Charlottetown Amateur Dramatic Society, in St. Patrick's Hall, on Easter Monday night, was a very creditable affair. The Hall was respectfully filled, and the most perfect order maintained. The pieces consisted of the Irish Emigrant and 'Handy Andy.' In the latter, Mr. John Doyle won for himself the applause of the audience in his impersonation of 'Handy,' and Messrs. Dougan, Stranberg and Gaudin added materially to the entertainment by the rendition of some exquisite music during the period allotted to intermission. The amount realized exceeded \$100.

ARBITRATION IN THE DOMINION.—The Ottawa Free Press says—A correspondent, writing from London, informs us that the Imperial authorities have under consideration a matter of grave moment regarding Canadian affairs, the tenor of which will probably be announced in a few weeks. It is presumed that the subject under discussion is the advisability of erecting the Dominion of Canada into a Vice Royalty, by sending the Duke of Cambridge to Canada as the representative of Her Majesty. Should this information prove correct, it will afford ground for serious consideration to the people of Canada, as it would involve the establishment of a Court in the Dominion and raise a question as to whether or not the climate of this country is favorable to the growth of aristocracy. This report is probably an invention.

LOSS BY FIRE.—Yesterday afternoon (1st April) whilst Mr. Wm. McEneaney of St. Peter's Road was in the woods cutting rails, his house took fire and burnt to ashes. How it caught fire remains a mystery, as the fire was new and thought to be good. It is supposed that the inside of the roof must have ignited from a spark through some aperture in the flue, as the upstairs was in flames when the inmates discovered that the house was on fire. Mr. McEneaney was ill in bed at the time, and had to be carried on a tick to the neighboring house. The fire was too far advanced to save the building or much what it contained when assistance came. Two good stoves, a clock, set of carpenter's tools, the potatoes in the cellar, and many other useful articles were destroyed with the house. The house was a neat little cottage, Mr. McEneaney who is an honest, industrious young man has sustained a severe loss, and much sympathy is felt for him. I trust it may take a substantial form, and that friends will assist him to replace his home.—Com. to Islander.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Our summary of proceedings in Dominion Parliament, this week, necessarily short. No mails have been received at Charlottetown; and consequently we are minus our exchanges. Our information is therefore limited to that received by telegraph.

The late Speaker, Mr. Perry—has been endeavoring to render himself notorious at Ottawa. On the 7th instant, he caused a petition to be presented to Parliament, in which he prays to be delivered from "the embarrassments of his office." It is likely that the telegraph-rumor has substituted the word "office" for that of "position." Mr. Perry is just now in a most embarrassing position. He is a member of our Local House of Assembly, and being so, he is liable to a fine of \$2000 per day, if he takes his seat in the House of Commons. Mr. Perry is probably "too shallow in himself" to see that the proper way of relieving himself of his embarrassment is to send his resignation to the Speaker of our House of Assembly.

The Minister of Justice has introduced the Election Bill. In a telegram so the Minister, it is announced that the leading provisions are:—The Sheriffs of Counties are to be returning officers, unless there are special reasons why they cannot act. Public nominations are abolished. Ten electors are to sign nomination papers. Nomination to take place on the same day in all the Provinces except Manitoba, British Columbia, and a few distant counties of Quebec and Ontario. Election to come off one week later. No property qualification for candidates required. Qualification of electors to be the same as for the elective House in each province except the Island, where Legislative Council qualification will be taken until registration of voters for the House of Assembly. Vote to be by Ballot, carefully guarded against stuffing. Strong clauses are in the Bill against bribery, treating, hawking to polls, and such like influences. The Bill, it is said, was well received by both sides.

Our latest despatches report Mr. Burpee having given notice that he will move the House into Committee of the whole on Tuesday next, to consider the state of P. E. Island in relation to trade in liquors.

At a caucus of French Canadian Conservative Senators, held on Friday, it was decided that representations should be made to Sir John to the effect that they would withdraw their support from him did he not come forward and do something for Riels. The rumor that Government intends to drop the question this session is untrue.

A despatch to the Parliament reports—On Thursday the Finance Minister brought down the estimates for the current year. He provided for an expenditure of \$24,000,000. The increase above last year is \$1,584,000. The amount of Island items is \$33,000 for the railway outside the contract, \$202,500 for working expenses; Governor's salary, \$7000, Chief Justice, \$3000, Assistant Judges, \$2,900.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Our Legislators have, during the past week, applied themselves to the business of the country with commendable assiduity. In the Lower House, they now have three sittings daily—forenoon, afternoon, and evening. On Tuesday last, the Attorney General submitted a resolution setting forth the desirability for a bill empowering the Government to buy estates under one thousand acres, and the expediency of authorizing Government to purchase large estates, without resorting to arbitration, in case they can be obtained on fair terms. The resolution passed, and the bill was introduced. The propriety of having some such bill in the Statute Book, is self-evident. The Land Purchase Act, 1874,—that is the compulsory Act—makes no provision for the purchase of estates under one thousand acres; and yet there are several of these in the market. Nor does it empower the Government to buy estates which may be offered at fair prices. Every estate purchased under its provisions must be taken by force. Arbitrators must be appointed; estates must be appraised, and titles examined. These will necessarily be expensive and delay. Now, in case a reasonable proprietor offers his land at a reasonable price, unnecessary expense will be saved the country, and tedious delay spared all parties, by authorizing the Government to act on behalf of the tenant—to appraise estates, to examine titles, and to purchase estates at prices which they may deem fair, without resorting to arbitrators at all. The objection raised by the Opposition, is that the Government cannot be trusted. But surely the Government may as well be trusted as any arbitrators who may be appointed. They have been selected by the people because they are able, more discreet, or in every way better qualified to appraise land. Again, they are sworn to do justice. The arbitrators are not required to take an oath more binding. Besides all this, the Government is directly responsible to the people, the arbitrators are wholly irresponsible of any power except their own judgments and consciences. When we remember too, that the awards of the arbitrators are absolutely binding upon the Government—that the Government has no redress in case of an excessive award—we may well pause and consider whether or not it is expedient that the Government should have a chance to purchase before resorting to arbitration. Besides, the most radical among us must admit that the "Compulsory Act" is a radical measure; and therefore it will be wiser to resort to it unless a proprietor flatly refuses to sell at a fair price. We have been among the most active and energetic advocates of this measure; but we have always contended that it should be in the second Land Bill which would be better altered, amended, or left out; it may be expedient to add some provisions; but the object for which it is intended is good.

On Wednesday, the House—in committee of Supply—discussed the condition of our Lunatic Asylum. It was described as too small to accommodate all the inmates; as too filthy to live in—a disgusting place; as disagreeable to the Colony. It was contrasted with the Asylums of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; the small, ill-ventilated, clean, airy apartments. The uncleanly carpenter, Gidley, with the kind-hearted, well-liked Drs. DeWolf and Waddell, the rough unclean assistants of the carpenter with the trained attendants upon the specially educated superintendents, all these alternate shades and lights were well portrayed in the debate. One Hon. gentleman (Mr. Stewart) drew a graphic picture of an excited maniac with a chain around his leg—struggling and quivering in the hands of men who were treating him worse than the lowest order of single kind treat their "brute beasts." A single visit to our Asylum had so disgusted the Hon. member, that he never had gone, and never wished to go, there again. That is condition is scandalous, was admitted by all who had visited it. The Premier

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The tenants in this Island hold their land under a very different tenure, namely, the payment of a certain sum annually per acre, varying from one shilling to three shillings; and the leases, under which they hold, are all business-like, containing no restrictions except such as are necessary to enable the proprietor to recover his rent, and generally containing a clause binding the proprietor to sell to the tenant the fee simple of the land at the rate of twenty shillings for every shilling of rent paid by the tenant. The proprietors let their land thus on lease, in the first instance, and have continued so to let it, up to the present time, not because their land was not worth more, as such land rates much higher in the neighboring provinces; but because the parties, in general, too poor to pay a higher rent, and totally unable to purchase. I may remark that the supposition that a tenant cannot make a living and pay his rent, is no proof that the land is worth nothing as it may happen that the tenant is too poor, or disinclined to work the land to advantage. The tenant's want of capital is no proof that the land is of small value. Had the tenants' minds not been disturbed and excited by evil-disposed and designing men, the tenants themselves, their farms, and the landlords, would this day be greatly better off than they are.

If the principle be admitted that a man may possess property, whether in land or money, we must admit that he may use or lend it, and that, if he lend it, he may receive payment for so lending it. In the case of money being lent, the payment is made in interest; in the case of land it is Rent.

It is utterly unconstitutional to abrogate agreements in other cases, whether of Bond or Lease. A legislative enactment to compel a land-owner to sell land at its full value, for making a roadway for the accommodation of the whole community, is one thing; to compel A. to sell his land, against his will, for the purpose of transferring it to B., is quite another thing. There is no just analogy between the two things. The one may be a public benefit, in which the seller of the land partakes; the other would be merely a private robbery, sanctioned by act of Parliament.

Yours truly, A LANDLORD. Queen's County, 10th April, 1874.

TELEGRAPHIC.

OTTAWA, April 7.—The Citizen to-night has a sensational article, stating that the French Canadians held a meeting, at which propositions were made to take possession of the Parliament House if Riels were arrested. This is said to be a fabrication.

Mr. Cauchon presented and read the petition of Mr. Perry, late Speaker of Prince Edward Island House of Assembly, asking to be relieved of the embarrassment of his office.

LONDON, April 8.—Mr. Cross, Home Secretary, having received application for a new trial of the Tichborne Claimant, replied by asking on what legal grounds the demand can be made. It is rumored that Mr. Disraeli is to marry the Dowager Countess of Chesterfield. Government will defray the expenses of Dr. Livingstone's funeral, which takes place at Westminster Abbey.

New York, April 8.—News is received of the sinking of the French Trans-Atlantic Company's steamer Europa, while on a voyage from Harre to New York. She was valued at \$1,250,000; and her cargo consisting of silks, was valued at \$1,000,000. Up to 2 p. m. to-day no tidings of the steamer Europa were received from Sandy Hook, off which point that vessel is now due, with crew and passengers of lost steamship Europa.

A Washington despatch says that the report that Secretary Richardson's portfolio has been offered to Anthony Drexel, the Philadelphia banker, is undoubtedly true.

OTTAWA, April 8.—Mr. Cauchon asked for the exact wording of the Premier's reply to the question concerning an amnesty to those connected with the North-West rebellion. Mr. McKenzie replied that Government has no intention to apply for an amnesty for such offences at present.

Messrs. W. A. Henry and Alexander James are spoken of as prospective Judges of Nova Scotia.

LONDON, April 9.—A despatch to the Times from Calcutta reports that 500 natives have died from disease and starvation in Hatscoil. The mortality from the famine is sensibly abated by the relief measures of the Government.

A Madrid despatch says Senarino is to return to that city, and Concha will succeed him in command against the Carlists. It is believed in Madrid that Senarino will call a convention.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh will soon pay Ireland a visit.

New York, April 9.—Portions of New Orleans is inundated, and serious loss is feared.

OTTAWA, April 9.—The excitement concerning Riels and what Parliament will do with him is unabated. It is generally believed that he is hiding in or somewhere about Hull Village, on the Lower Canadian side of the Ottawa River. The North-West Amnesty Committee met this morning and adjourned until Tuesday, pending the arrival of Archbishop Tache, and other witnesses summoned from Manitoba.

DIED.

At Wood Islands, Lot 62, on the 25th March of Consumption, Mr. Archibald Crawford, joiner, in the 48th year of his age.

At Montague Bridge, on Sunday, March 26th, aged four months and ten days, Minnie John, youngest daughter of Mr. David Johnston, of Montague Bridge.

The people of the Sandwich Islands have been imitating the conduct of the discontented of British Columbia. Since the death of King Lumillo there has been a sort of contest, struggle between Queen Emma and Prince Kalakawa. Queen Emma is rich and some favor her cause. She is poor and the populace prefer him contrary to civilized practice. Queen Emma is rich and some favor her cause. She is poor and the populace prefer him contrary to civilized practice.

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A REMARKABLE OPERATION.—B. Franklin, whose name is famous for his wisdom, was the first to perform miracles. The first operation was performed by a gentleman named B. Franklin, whose name is famous for his wisdom, was the first to perform miracles.

ONE THOUSAND MEN, upon their works, on the Line of Railway, from the early opening of Spring. Apply at the Works.

Tobacco, Cigars, Pipes.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LAND QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER. Sir,—I trust that you will permit me, even although I am a landlord, to offer a few remarks upon what is called the "Land Question," from a landlord's point of view. In discussing this question in the Legislature and elsewhere, the advocates of the tenants' view of that question have fallen into several errors. They compare the position of the tenant, with respect to his landlord, with that of the original grantee in respect to the Crown; and argue that because the Crown did not exact the fulfilment by the grantees of the conditions of their grants, that therefore the present landholders should not be too strict in exacting from their tenants the fulfilment of the conditions of the leases under which they occupy the land; and that, in consequence of this leniency of the Crown to the original grantees in former times, the present landholders should be content to take a less sum for the fee simple of their lands. Now, there are two errors in this line of argument. In the first place, the original grantees or parties to whom the lands of this Island were granted by the Crown, were officers in the army and navy, and others, who, by their services in assisting to conquer from the French these very lands afterwards granted to them, and in other ways had acquired claims, and were, by those very grants, acknowledged by the British Government to have acquired claims upon that Government for pensions, grants of land, or other payments for those services. Now, the tenants who are compared to these grantees, had in no case, as far as I can learn, any claim upon those parties who, as a matter of business, leased to them the lands they occupy. In the second place, it is false reasoning to assume that the present landholders and tenants are in any way concerned in transactions which occurred between other parties many years ago, and over which they had no control, and, further, it is absurd to suppose that because the owner of an article bought it cheap, or was allowed any reduction in the price, or even had it given to him for nothing, that therefore he is bound to sell it cheap again, or even to sell it at all. A comparison is likewise frequently made between the seigniorial tenures of Canada and the leasehold tenures in this Island; but no fair argument can be founded on such a comparison, as the two systems are totally different. The consistencies, or tenants under the seigniorial tenures of Canada, held their land on condition of certain payments in work and produce annually, and the payment of certain fines, called "Lods et ventes," on every sale or transfer of their farms, and were bound to grind their corn at the seigneur's mill, and many other such conditions. And the seigniors from whom they held their land were also bound up by conditions and restrictions, as they were also tenants to the Crown.

The tenants in this Island hold their land under a very different tenure, namely, the payment of a certain sum annually per acre, varying from one shilling to three shillings; and the leases, under which they hold, are all business-like, containing no restrictions except such as are necessary to enable the proprietor to recover his rent, and generally containing a clause binding the proprietor to sell to the tenant the fee simple of the land at the rate of twenty shillings for every shilling of rent paid by the tenant. The proprietors let their land thus on lease, in the first instance, and have continued so to let it, up to the present time, not because their land was not worth more, as such land rates much higher in the neighboring provinces; but because the parties, in general, too poor to pay a higher rent, and totally unable to purchase. I may remark that the supposition that a tenant cannot make a living and pay his rent, is no proof that the land is worth nothing as it may happen that the tenant is too poor, or disinclined to work the land to advantage. The tenant's want of capital is no proof that the land is of small value. Had the tenants' minds not been disturbed and excited by evil-disposed and designing men, the tenants themselves, their farms, and the landlords, would this day be greatly better off than they are.

If the principle be admitted that a man may possess property, whether in land or money, we must admit that he may use or lend it, and that, if he lend it, he may receive payment for so lending it. In the case of money being lent, the payment is made in interest; in the case of land it is Rent.

It is utterly unconstitutional to abrogate agreements in other cases, whether of Bond or Lease. A legislative enactment to compel a land-owner to sell land at its full value, for making a roadway for the accommodation of the whole community, is one thing; to compel A. to sell his land, against his will, for the purpose of transferring it