

THE DAILY EXAMINER. FEBRUARY 21, 1890.

Civic Reform.

ANY important measure of Civic Reform must be passed by the Provincial Legislature. To secure its passage by the Provincial Legislature, it must first be actively favored by a majority of citizens of all classes.

To say that the principle of representation by population is—in a general way—a right principle, is to say that which almost everyone will admit to be true.

In like manner, it will be admitted that the northern part of Charlottetown is not represented in the City Council in equal proportion to the southern part.

Wards Four and Five have a voting population of about eleven hundred, and send four members to the Council; Wards One, Two and Three have a voting population of about seven hundred, and send six members to the Council.

The unfairness of this distribution of seats can be seen, and will be admitted, by everyone.

Therefore, those who desire a new distribution, desire that which is reasonable and just.

But how is the new distribution required to be made so that it will be at once fair to all sections and interests of the Corporation, and gain the assent of a decided majority of the electors?

The idea of replacing five Councillors by the whole electorate of the City must be abandoned, for the simple reason that a very large proportion of the people are—rightly or wrongly—wedded to the Ward system.

But there are other propositions which seem to be worthy of consideration. One is to divide Ward Five into two, making six Wards instead of five, and elect one Councillor for each Ward instead of two—thus obtaining a Civic Board of six Councillors and a Mayor, instead of ten Councillors and a Mayor.

Another is to change the direction of the Wards from north to south, so that no matter how far the town may extend to the northward the relative proportions of the different Wards will be pretty well preserved, and the present unfairness cannot again prevail.

One or other of these propositions will, probably, be submitted to the citizens ere long. Let both be considered and discussed.

News From New Brunswick.

A PIECE OF P. E. ISLAND POLICE MEANNESS.

Under the above caption the Halifax Herald publishes the following:—

St. John's, February 17.—Mrs. Weeks left for Charlottetown this morning in charge of City Marshal Cameron and accompanied by her brother. An incident in connection with Mrs. Weeks' detention has come to light this morning and the Island authorities are being severely condemned for their unfairness.

Cameron did not present his warrant of arrest until late morning and the reason for this was that the Island authorities would not have to pay Mrs. Weeks' hotel expenses, except the one day she was detained here by the police awaiting the arrival of the Island constable. This is regarded as a rather mean proceeding.

The statements made in the above despatch are, we are assured by Marshal Cameron, largely inaccurate. The Marshal arrived in St. John at midnight on Tuesday, and on the following morning he had his warrant for the arrest of Mrs. Weeks endorsed by Police Magistrate Ritchie. When the Marshal appeared before Mr. Ritchie to have his warrant endorsed, Mr. Armstrong, Mrs. Weeks' attorney, was present, and carefully examined the document. After the endorsement of the warrant the Marshal took charge of his prisoner, relieving Detective Ring. When he took charge he saw that she was very ill, and instead of rushing into her room, presenting the warrant of arrest, and telling the sick woman that she was his prisoner, he very properly informed her sister, Mrs. Thompson, of his mission, and there is not the slightest doubt but that lady soon made Mrs. Weeks acquainted with the facts of the case. Later on, when Mrs. Weeks had sufficiently recovered, the officer made his mission known, personally. He had no orders from the authorities to withhold presentation of the warrant as long as possible in order to evade payment of Mrs. Weeks' board bill, nor was anything ever said to him about her bill during his stay at the Dufferin. The Marshal paid his own bill—all he was asked to pay—previous to leaving for home with his prisoner. During the time that Marshal Cameron had Mrs. Weeks in charge, he treated her as kindly and courteously as he could consistently do, having due regard to the performance of his duty.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain; and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels and is the best known remedy for diarrhoea, whether arising from teething or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and take no other kind. Jan 7 '90.

Spring Mattresses.—A few slightly damaged double Woven Wire Mattresses, the best kind, 30 per cent discount, as good as ever, at John Newman's, Feb 20, 1890.

Sixteen cases Kirby's Malt, just opened at John Newman's.

Ottawa Correspondence.

THE DUAL LANGUAGE BILL—AND OTHER BILLS.—NEWS AND GOSSIP.

(Special correspondence of The Examiner.)

I mentioned last week that the Department of Agriculture has ordered from England a supply of two-rowed barley for seed. It is expected to arrive in Canada early in March and will be distributed in two bushel bags, sufficient for an acre, and which, it is estimated, should yield 30 bushels. Prof. Saunders, of the Experimental Farm, has recently received from Scotland a specimen of oats, said to be the finest ever seen in Canada, and it is not improbable that some will be imported for distribution.

Mr. Taylor's Bill to prohibit the employment of alien labor in Canada is daily attracting more attention, and the opposition to it is strengthening. At first it was not seriously regarded, but now interested parties are becoming alarmed.

The Senate has not been overworked this week, and most of their attention has been devoted to divorce cases. Senator Boulton has given notice that on March 11 he will move in favor of representation of Canada in the Imperial Parliament and Cabinet. Senator Abbott has gone to Florida for his health, and his place as leader in the Upper House has been taken by Senator LaCoste.

A purebred specimen of the negro, rejoicing in the name of Rev. C. A. Johnson, was here this week, the bearer of assurances of loyalty from the colored population of Canada. Brother Johnson is editor of the British Lion, and while here delivered a lecture on "Sun Spots" before the Y. M. C. A., in which he made the startling assertion that in 25 years the sun would be burned to a cinder and other statements of a similar nature.

The Liberals had a caucus the other day to which Mr. Welsh was not invited. They evidently suspect him, since dining with Sir John. The Commodore does not seem to mind the slight offered him.

Senator Montgomery has recovered and is in his seat all week.

Among the parties incorporated to build a railway from Buctouche to Richibouco, connecting by ferry with a branch from Cape Wolfe to the mainline of the P. E. Island Railway are the Hon. J. O. Arsenault and Mr. Charles G. Hunt, of Summerside.

At an early hour on Wednesday afternoon the galleries were packed, anticipating that Mr. McCarthy's bill abolishing the official use of the French language in the Northwest territories would come up, but the audience were doomed to disappointment. It did come up, however, at the evening session when Mr. Davin took the floor, and in an eloquent speech of an hour's length, moved—

"That the bill be not now read the second time, but that it be resolved that it is expedient that the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories be authorized to deal with the subject of this bill by ordinance or enactment, after the next general election for the said Territories."

It is only possible to give a faint idea of the debate which has been going on for the past three days and is not yet concluded. Mr. Davin must be well known, at least by reputation, to the majority of your readers. He is not much to look at, but he is probably the most highly educated man in the House, an eloquent speaker, a master of sarcasm and repartee, and has the sweetest brogue that ever delighted the heart of an Irishman. Mr. Davin represents a Northwest constituency, and therefore is particularly interested in this measure. He indulged in considerable boinage at the expense of Mr. McCarthy, who had confessed to absolute ignorance of some of the most important provisions relating to the government of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Davin stigmatized Mr. McCarthy's deliverances upon this subject as illogical. The question was a local one and should be dealt with by the local legislature. Mr. McCarthy was too busy a man to inform himself properly, too much of a nisi prius lawyer to be accurate, and too much of a mere lawyer to be a statesman. Mr. McCarthy talked about this being a British colony—why was it a British colony? Because of that very Lower Canadian French race, for we know very well that there was a time in our history, when that race had just passed over to the British flag, when temptations were held out to them to join the thirteen colonies; and if they had not been true to their new-found allegiance—if their loyalty had not been impregnable against the seductions of Franklin and others, we would have had no British colony here to-day. Mr. McCarthy had undertaken a crusade against a million and a half of people and against the Catholic Church, but Mr. Davin could assure him that no assault from outside, no matter how great—no catapults that have been brought against that Church from outside—had ever done it the least harm. (Mr. Davin is an English Church man.) The way to strengthen the Catholic Church was to assail it, and the way to solidify and make French Canadians united was by such speeches as he was disseminating through the country. Mr. Davin instanced Switzerland in whose Parliament five languages could be spoken, and three were official. Switzerland was a highly prosperous country, her commerce exceeding per capita that of any European country. She is the oldest existing republic, and her people contented and prosperous. In Canada we had all the conditions necessary to produce a strong federal people. To show how little language had to do with preventing people becoming citizens of a country, he had travelled in Alsace-Lorraine where the people speak German. They were now under the German flag, but gladly would they go back to France. They had fought loyally under the French banner, and a more loyal part of France did not exist than Alsace-Lorraine. Then he instanced the Bretons. In the summer of 1870 he had seen Gen. Trochu reviewing 300,000 Bretons, mobiles in the streets of Paris, and there was not one of the officers who could speak French; yet these men, when the hour of peril came, went into battle and fought just as gallantly and eagerly as the men who spoke French. History taught that country after country had risen, speaking different languages, that they had come together, fought under different banners and lived under different Governments, and gradually became assimilated until the difference of language disappeared and sometimes a new language was evolved. History would teach Mr. McCarthy that he could dispel those fears

with which he had sought to inflame the passions of the people of this country. The main propositions behind Mr. McCarthy's speech were groundless; his deductions therefrom fallacious; the authorities he had quoted actually taught something else, and Mr. Davin hoped that there was that grandeur of soul in his honorable and learned friend, that having come to the conclusion that he had been in error, he would resolve to mend his ways.

Mr. Davin was followed by Col. O'Brien in support of the Bill, and by Mr. White, of Cardwell, against it. Mr. White dealt with the history of the use of the French language in Canada, and while granting that a common language would be an immense advantage, he argued that the decision should be left to the people who were the most interested. The assimilation of the people was coming about. In the Province of Quebec there were more Frenchmen speaking English than ever before, and the fact was that in Frenchmen learned English to one Englishman who learned French. But make efforts to antagonize the French, and they will become more exclusive than ever.

Mr. Beausoleil (Opposition) followed in French, contending that the French population in the Northwest, which was increasing, were entitled to the same rights as the English minority in Quebec, which was decreasing. What would be said if the majority in Quebec attempted to abolish the official use of the English language. He moved in amendment:—

"That the official use of the French and English languages in the Legislature and before the tribunals of the Northwest territories was established by this Parliament in the well understood interests of the people of the said territories, and the harmony and good understanding between the different races, and with a view, by a liberal policy, to promote the colonizing and settlement of those vast domains; that nothing has since happened to excuse or justify the withdrawal of the privileges granted only a few years ago;

That the result of the proposed legislation would be to create uneasiness and discontent throughout the Dominion and to put in doubt the stability of our institutions, and thereby to hinder and delay for a long time the development of the immense resources of the Canadian Northwest.

Mr. Denison, of Toronto (Conservative), followed in support of the bill, and then Wednesday's debate was over.

On Thursday the debate was resumed by Mr. Muloch (Liberal) against the bill, followed by Mr. Gigault on the same side. Mr. Curran then took the floor and delivered an eloquent and forcible speech against the bill in French, a compliment to the members of that nationality which was much appreciated. After recess, Mr. Robillard, Conservative M. P. for Ottawa, addressed the House against the bill, followed by Mr. Dawson, M. P. for Algoma, on the same side. It is a noticeable feature of this debate that, while since the opening of the session French has been almost exclusively spoken by the French members, nearly all of them chose the English language in speaking on this bill. One of the ablest and most forcible speeches of the series was delivered by Sir Hector Langevin. Sir Hector seldom makes a speech—he is an indefatigable worker, and finds quite enough in the management of the Public Works Department to occupy his time. But he rose to the occasion on Thursday evening, and the way he lashed Mr. McCarthy must have been galling to that gentleman. Sir Hector has an excellent command of English, which he speaks in a high key, but he is, of course, not the orator that Chapeau or Laurier is. I am looking forward anxiously to hear them. Sir Hector charged Mr. McCarthy with taking upon himself to legislate for the Northwest without any request from the people of that territory, who had their own representatives in the House to speak for them. The Bill before the House aimed at preventing a portion of the population of the Northwest from using their mother tongue, which God had given them—and this was Equal Rights. What prompted Mr. McCarthy to this course? Simply that their blood was not his blood. Their only crime was that they were French, yet they were as loyal to the Queen as Mr. McCarthy, or his children, or his ancestors. Sir Hector recommended Mr. McCarthy to learn French and study French history he would learn that no attempts such as his had ever succeeded. The use of the French language had been objected to on the ground of expense, but the translation and publication of the journals and ordinances of the Northwest cost less than \$400 a year. It was not the expense, however, that was the trouble, Mr. McCarthy hated the French from the day he came into Parliament and once he showed it in a caucus. He knew that he could never recover the good graces of that race till he apologized for his offensive language, and this he would not do. His object was disclosed in the preamble of the bill; he sought to introduce the thin edge of the wedge, and, if he succeeded in that, he would go farther and seek to destroy the race from the Northwest to the Atlantic. After the session of Canada to England, the French had no right to use their language in courts of justice. This was the position Mr. McCarthy wished to establish in the Northwest. But after the American revolution, England remembered that the French Canadians were the large majority of the people of Canada, that they had proved their loyalty during the Revolution, and England restored to them their rights. If we wished to be one people, if we desired to be a nation, we should do what has been done in the three kingdoms. We found a number of languages, a number of dialects in the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, but how many languages were spoken under the shadow of the great and noble flag of England. It was the glory and the joy of the British Empire that all nationalities were welcome under that glorious flag, and that it covered and protected them all. The French Canadians asked no favors, but only the continued enjoyment of the rights they possessed by nature and as British subjects. What harm would it do in the Northwest for the French Canadians living there to be allowed to speak their own language? Reverse the propositions, and suppose for one moment that in the Northwest the French were largely in the majority and the English only 500 or 1,000, and that the French were to ask that the English be forbidden to use their own language, would the English agree to that—would it be proper treatment? No, it would be oppression. Mr. McCarthy talked of uniting the country and of a united people will speaking the same language, yet

he was doing his best to divide the country, to divide the races, to put the French and Catholics on one side and the Protestants on the other, but he would not succeed. This was a question of race and nationality, of self-preservation, and Frenchmen on both sides of politics would band together to procure their autonomy, their language, their institutions—everything sacred to a nation. English, Irish, Scotch, French, German had created this confederation and they had prospered under it, and their prospects were large. We were all subjects of the Queen and equally loyal, whether we spoke one language or another. We did not want to change our relations, but to maintain British institutions. Our constitution was modelled after that of Great Britain. We had the same Queen, the same flag, the same aspirations. Why then should we make a large portion of our population unhappy and create dissension in their midst?

Hon. David Mills followed in a magnificent effort against the Bill. The preamble he considered more dangerous than the Bill; though aimed at the Northwest its purpose was evidently to destroy the use of the French language. What was to be gained by the passage of the bill? Was it going to be an advantage to arraign one race against the other? Did Mr. McCarthy consider the sacrifices he was asking the French Canadians to make—the sacrifice of rights they considered most sacred. Mr. McCarthy's proposition to make all the people in this country speak English reminded him of old man Easy in one of Captain Marryatt's novels, who invented a machine for making men moral by a process of suction and pressure. Mr. Mills said it was absurd to attempt to compel people to speak English when French was their mother tongue. The ties of family are stronger than those of nationality, and the latter stronger than the ties of state. He cited the instances of Austria, Russia and Finland, to prove that no attempt was made to denationalize the people because of their language. He referred to the United Netherlands as a country where coercion had been attempted to make the people speak one language, but it had failed. This question was one for the people of the N. W. to decide. As at present constituted their legislature could not pass upon it. As the French people in the N. W. were in the minority, there was the greater reason that they should be allowed the use of the language they best understood. If Mr. McCarthy wished to succeed he must not only prohibit the use of French as an official language, but he must prohibit it in the schools, the pulpit and the press. Unless he was prepared to do that he must leave the laws of society to work out their own object. The efforts of Mr. McCarthy would only produce a conflict of race and religion, and if he were sincere in the policy he propounded he had taken the wrong steps to carry it to success.

On Friday the debate was resumed by Mr. Charlton in a vigorous speech in favor of the bill. He was followed by Mr. Blake, who was received with immense applause from both sides of the House, and who made the first speech he has delivered in the Commons for two years. If Sir Hector Langevin castigated Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Blake literally flayed Mr. Charlton. He ridiculed the idea of Mr. McCarthy obtaining what he proposed to seek—national unity—by doing away with the French language. He quoted Mr. McCarthy's speeches to show that he aimed at the abolition of the French language in Quebec as well as in the Northwest, and the deprivation of the French Canadians of rights secured to them under the constitution. Mr. Blake pleaded for toleration and the exercise of a generous spirit by the majority, and he warned the leaders of the present Equal Rights agitation to stop and consider ere they lighted a fire which they would not be able to extinguish. Mr. Blake did not fancy either of the amendments before the House, and intimated his intention of offering another one for consideration. Upon resuming his seat Mr. Blake was loudly cheered. He was followed by Col. McNeill in support of the bill, soon after which the House adjourned. The debate will be resumed on Monday.

W. C. D.

Charlottetown Board of Trade. THE ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING of this Corporation will be held at the Board Room on the evening of MONDAY, the 24th inst., at 8 o'clock. J. MACEACHERN, Secretary. feb 21-31

BOOKBINDER. WANTED.—A good Job Forwarder and Finisher to take charge of a general Bindery. Good wages to the right man. Apply immediately to JOHN COOMBS, Steam Printer and Bookbinder, Queen Street, Ch'town. feb 19

CLUB TROT. A CLUB TROT will be held at VERNON RIVER BRIDGE on SATURDAY, the 22nd inst. Liberal prizes will be given in the following classes, viz.:—A Three-Minute Class, Free-for-All-Class, and Three-Year-Old Class. Strangers will receive the best of fair play. All are invited to attend. WM. G. McDONALD, Secretary. feb 19

Re Estate of William Minto, Cardigan Bridge. WILLIAM MINTO, of Cardigan, has made an assignment to us for the benefit of his creditors. All persons indebted to the Estate of the said William Minto are requested to settle their respective accounts with us or our authorized Agent, Peter McPherson, of Cardigan, either in cash or notes of hand payable 1st December, 1890. Parties having claims against the Estate are requested to furnish the same to us duly attested. WILLIAM STEWART, THEO. J. CLARK, Assignees. 5th Dec 20, 1890—By 31 wky 31

BEER BROS.

SPECIALTY FOR THIS WEEK WILL BE

CARPETS AND OILCLOTHS.

Also, a few pieces of Chenille and Tapestry Curtains still remaining, will be sold at a Special Reduction.

CAMPBELL'S SKREI BRAND OF

Cod Liver Oil.

THIS IS THE FINEST COD LIVER OIL EVER BROUGHT OUT. Cod Liver Oil usually has such a disagreeable taste, and is to many so difficult of digestion, that its excellent nutritive and medicinal qualities are not experienced. The Skrei Oil is free from these objections, being beautifully clear, pale and bright, and readily assimilated by children and the most delicate invalids.

Sold by W. R. WATSON, Dispensing Chemist, Queen Street, Charlottetown. feb 19

BANKRUPT

FURNITURE!

Lower than Auction Prices.

An Immense Lot of Bankrupt Furniture for sale at Dazzling Discounts. Must be sold at once. I defy competition.

JOHN NEWSON,

South Side Queen Square,

Charlottetown, Jan. 29, 1890.

OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

THE SCRUTINY!

THE OFFICIAL COUNT IS MADE, and the Returning Officers have declared it as the unanimous verdict of the People that the place to secure Bargains in Men's Clothing, Furnishings, Hats and Caps, is at

D. A. BRUCE'S.

To make room for the largest and finest stock of goods ever handled by us, which will begin to arrive soon for the coming Spring Season, we offer the balance of WINTER GOODS at prices that withers competition.

Remnants of Odds and Ends at prices to suit you.

D. A. BRUCE, Queen Street.

Ch'town. Feb. 18, 1890—cod & wky

A BONANZA

FOR

Bargain Hunters

AT THE

STAR TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT.

We offer for the balance of February, a SPECIAL LOT OF STAPLE TWEEDS at Cost, over the counter or made up as you wish. Genuine Bargains! Genuine Goods! Call and be convinced, as we mean what we say.

McLEOD & McKENZIE.

Charlottetown, Feb. 17, 1890.