

THE DAILY EXAMINER

DECEMBER 9, 1882.

Early Closing.

SEVERAL communications, favouring the early closing of all our stores, have been received at this office; and the example of Messrs. Perkins & Sterns, and W. & A. Brown & Co., has been referred to as worthy of imitation.

It is, indeed, a pity that all the business of the town is not done in the daytime. If it were, our long winter evenings might be devoted, much more than they are, to the pleasures and refinements of literature, music and social intercourse.

Besides this, our young men who are inclined to be "fast" would be deprived of the ready excuse that they now have in the evenings, to "go down town to see a man;" and, instead of spending their leisure time in billiard rooms and illegal rum-shops, might be constrained to take healthful, wealthy, and innocent enjoyment with their sisters, cousins, and sweethearts.

There can be no doubt either that, if the proposed change were adopted, business men themselves would profit very largely, in wealth, in health, and ease of mind. The largest proportion of them keep at it altogether too unremittingly. They have so much energy that they don't take sufficient time to think. This is undoubtedly one of the chief causes of their failures. If they enjoyed their evenings at home and quietly meditated over their circumstances, it is not at all probable that they would rush into speculations outside their legitimate sphere, and beyond what either the capital they possess or the small limits of the Province, which is their field for business will justify; and so, instead of winning a sure competence and a easy and happy old age, bring upon themselves and their families trouble and ruin, or perhaps go down into an early grave.

The man who spends all his time straining to be rich is off the right track. He may, by chance, gain his object; but he will certainly fall far short of the standard of true living.

It is to be feared that—"The world is too much with us; late and soon, Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers. Little we see in nature that is ours We have given our hearts away a sordid boon!

And the ruin and trouble resulting from the smash up of the Bank of P. E. Island, with the damage done to our trade by persons who took dishonest advantage of the eagerness of those connected with it to get large dividends, are our rewards in this one most notable instance.

This "early closing" question is well worthy of serious consideration. Of course, a large proportion of our citizens who are at work in the day find it convenient to do their shopping in the evening. But we think there are comparatively few who could not, without much trouble, do it at some leisure interval in the day.

A Department of Agriculture.

THE farmers of Great Britain propose that there shall be in the Government, a Department of Agriculture.

The desirability of the thing has, according to the *Live Stock Journal*, long since been demonstrated, and they have now got to the point of considering how it is to be done. This phase of the matter has been engaging the attention of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, which has recorded the unanimous opinion that "the special interests of agriculture demand a distinct Department of the State, in which should be concentrated all the various matters relating to agricultural affairs." There was a strong minority of the Chamber in favor of recommending the Government to entrust the Department to a Minister of the Crown unconnected with any other branch of the public service. The majority, however, thought it better not to go further than to urge that there should be a separate Department, leaving untouched the question whether or not there should be a separate Minister. We confess we think the minority right—as minorities very often are. Mr. Gladstone had invited practical suggestions from the Chamber, which could not therefore, have been going beyond its province in announcing itself to be in favor of appointing a Minister to give his undivided attention to affairs agricultural.

By the way, it seems to us that in this Province, the interests of which are nearly all Agricultural, a Department of Agriculture in the Provincial Government would be eminently proper. Indeed the wonder is that, as in Ontario, we have not long since had a Commissioner of Agriculture, whose business it would be to make the promotion of good farming his special concern. When the selfishness and prejudice and ignorance which prevent a reduction and readjustment of our Legislature and Government shall have been overcome, we may hope that a Department of Agriculture will be established.

—The best way to remove "A Voters" grievance is to do away with the cause.

The French Premier has informed Lord Granville that France declines the presidency of the public debt commission proposed to be established in Egypt, and insists on the maintenance of the joint control.

Commercial Negotiations with France.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Toronto Mail* remarks that Mr. Blake, in arguing that Canada should have the power to conclude her own commercial treaties, laid great stress last session upon the inconveniences of the present system, which existed only in his imagination, but altogether overlooked the advantages which Canada gains in all such arrangements by the support which she receives from the Imperial Government. Representations which would be lightly treated if coming from a nation small in population, however fertile in resources, are received with deference when they are endorsed by the mighty empire of which we form a part. Instead of obstacles being thrown in our road, the British Government is always ready to receive and act upon our suggestions, and to give every possible assistance to our representative. Sir Alexander Galt is now receiving the emphatic support of Lord Kimberley and the Foreign Office in resuming the negotiations with France which were previously opened by him, and the most favorable results are hoped for from the present *pouparlers*. It is probable that Sir Alexander will soon visit Madrid in order to re-open the negotiations with the Spanish Government tending to the freer intercourse of Canada with Cuba.

—A correspondent of the *Toronto Mail* reports that "with the view of increasing the immigration to Canada of Germans, who are a most desirable class of settlers, a line of steamers, which is to be run under the auspices of Mr. Munderloh, the German consul at Montreal, has been promised the assistance of the Dominion Government in the shape of a subsidy. The Minister of Agriculture, whose energy and ability have conducted so largely to the increase of immigration of the proper description, attaches great importance to this new line. The steamers will probably run from Bremen to Quebec and Montreal in summer and Halifax in winter.

—In his message to Congress President Arthur urges that:

"Large reductions from the customs revenue are entirely feasible," and that "the tariff ought to be so revised that while not abandoning the protective features the revision shall equalize the public burden among all classes and occupations, and bring the tariff into closer harmony with the present needs of industry."

This means that the President is in favor of having the United States tariff made more like that of Canada.

—It would be more satisfactory if our correspondents in the matter of the Bank of P. E. Island appended their own names to their letters, especially as the conduct of persons is criticised; but as both "Junius" and "Depositor" are creditors of the Bank in very large amounts, and represent to a large extent, the ideas and feelings of the creditors, we insert the letters over the respective pseudonyms.

The Progress of Astronomical Discovery.

SUMMARY OF DR. LEEMING'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

DR. LEEMING hoped to have laid before the Association something concerning the most important Astronomical event of the century, viz. the transit of Venus across the sun's disc; but, unfortunately, the weather here on the day of the great event prevented the consummation of that hope, and he would merely endeavor to point out some of the successive steps by which astronomical discoveries were made.

The progress of astronomy runs through two distinct eras—the era of the unaided vision of the naked eye, and the era of the telescope. Thales, of Miletus, who flourished about 600, B. C., is recorded to have been the first who calculated an eclipse, discovered the obliquity of the earth, and divided the five zones or climates of the globe. He died 584 B. C., aged 96.

Then there was Anaximander, also of Miletus, who died B. C., 547. He was the first to base a guess at the size of the heavenly bodies. He thought the stars were suns, and that the sun was a circle of fire twenty-eight times larger than the earth.

Following him came Aristarchus, of Samos, who lived 280 B. C. He discovered that the earth revolved on its axis about the sun. He calculated that the sun was nineteen times further from the earth than the moon; and made some other estimates which are proven by modern science to have been marvellously correct.

Menton was the next astronomer of whom we have a record. He discovered the cycle which bears his name—the Mentonic cycle of nineteen years, during which all the eclipses and moon changes occur, and after which they all commence again in the same order and succession as before. It is this cycle which is made use of at the present day in the calculation of Easter; and the golden number noted in the Calendar bears that of the nineteen years cycle.

Next in the order of progress is Eratosthenes, of Cyrene, who had charge of the Alexandrian Library. He calculated the obliquity of the ecliptic, which he reckoned at 23 degs., 51 mins., and 19 secs. He also determined the circumference of the earth with considerable exactitude, by the same method that is adopted by modern science, and died of voluntary starvation, at the age of 82, B. C., 194.

Posidonias, a friend of Cicero, also made ingenious calculations of the earth's circumference, explained that the tides were due to the influence of the moon, and reckoned the height of the atmosphere to be very near that of the modern estimate.

Hyparchus, of Nicea, made great additions to the sciences. He detected the earth's

orbit, and made the first step towards the discovery of the Planetary motions.

The doctor referred to the fact that Stonehenge besides being a place for Druidical Worship, was also, evidently, an astronomical observatory; and referred to an interesting observation he had himself made there.

He spoke of the discoveries of Galileo, and other more modern astronomers, and as he went along, described the methods the early astronomers pursued, as well as the results they obtained.

His discourse was very attentively heard, and at the close he was tendered a hearty vote of thanks.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

Bank of P. E. Island.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR,—A short time since the following question was argued before Judge Peters, viz.: In the case of a man who is both shareholder and depositor, shall it be lawful to set off, against his liability as shareholder, an equivalent amount of his deposit? The Judge decided in favor of the set-off. It appears that Mr. Fitzgerald, the lawyer employed by the liquidators, is determined to appeal. He has again consulted two St. John lawyers, at our expense.

By prolonging litigation, he will obtain two objects, viz.: pecuniary profit to himself, and a chance (only a chance) to beat his opponents. We must not forget that now, on the very threshold of this business, he has presented bills for himself which amount to \$3,000. His first appeal will be to the Court here, consisting of Judges Palmer, Peters, and Hensley. Of these, Judges Palmer and Hensley cannot act. The first, because he is related to Mr. Cundall, the nominal plaintiff in the case; the second, Mr. Hensley, because he is directly interested in the Bank's affairs. The appeal, then, will be a mere farce, viz.: an appeal from Judge Peters below to Judge Peters above. It will, nevertheless, be expensive, for at least three or four lawyers will have to argue from two to four hours at our expense, although they all know that Judge Peters will certainly re-affirm his judgment.

Then there will be an appeal to the Supreme Court at Ottawa. Enormous expenses will be incurred, and there will be a delay of a year, perhaps a year and half, in the settlement of the Bank's affairs. The directors once sent Mr. Fitzgerald to Ottawa. He was away about twenty days, and he charged them \$400, which came out of the assets of the Bank. What then will be the cost if he is allowed to have his own way? He will probably have a St. John lawyer to help him, and we have had some experience of this, viz.: \$250 for eight days. We all know that there are other enormous fees in these heavy lawsuits. Whether we gain or lose the suit, it has been ruled by Judge Peters that the Bank must pay the costs—even if the liquidators should win. After all these suits, there will be a gain of only 1 1/2 per cent. on the dividend. It appears that a majority at least of the liquidators are inclined to do what is right; but their lawyer is urging them or persuading that they cannot do otherwise than appeal. The liquidators must dismiss their present legal adviser. If he is allowed to have his way every cent will be swallowed in law expenses. There will be nothing left for a dividend. The difficulties are numerous in their business, and unless they be checked their will be appeals in every case. The depositors must agree on a plan. Let us agree to leave the whole business to Judge Peters. He is one of the ablest and most honorable judges in the Dominion. Of course he is not infallible; but who does not know the uncertainty of legal decision. By leaving everything to him we can have an early settlement of the Bank affairs, and certainly as just a settlement as can be obtained. It is a most extraordinary thing that hitherto the settlement of the Bank affairs has resembled a continuous lawsuit; whatever has been done has been done by a lawyer.

Here is another very extraordinary thing: although the liquidators have been in office for a long time, yet owing to their lawyer's neglect they have not obtained power to collect a single debt in a court of law. What suits have been begun must now be withdrawn. The depositors must move in this matter and put a stop to this law business. One very serious point should not be overlooked. If the liability of the shareholders can only be determined by long and tedious lawsuits, probably by the time the decision shall have been obtained, the shareholders will either be out of the way or their property will be out of their hands. For many reasons the liability of the shareholders should be determined and collected with the least possible delay.

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Dec. 9th, 1882.

JUNUS.

The Bank of P. E. Island.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

DEAR SIR,—On reading an article in your paper of yesterday, headed "The Market," I was much surprised to learn that the firm on Hillsborough Street is doing such an extensive business in pork, lark, etc., etc. It quite eclipses Owen Connolly and all other traders in the same line of business. No doubt it will be pleasing to many of your readers who are depositors and note-holders of the Bank of P. E. Island to know that the firm is in such a flourishing condition. It is to be hoped that one of the members, who managed to get such large advances from the Bank of P. E. Island to prop up the business, will surely be in a position, at the close of the shipping season, to pay the liquidators of the defunct Bank at least a part of his indebtedness. It is well known that, up to the present, he has paid nothing.

Ch'town, Dec. 9, 1882.

DEPOSITOR.

Weather Bulletin.

Probabilities for the next 24 hours for the Maritime Provinces.

TORONTO, Dec. 9—10 a. m.

Fresh to strong winds, mostly westerly; fair weather, lower temperature.

WE ARE OFFERING AT THE LONDON HOUSE, BEFORE CHRISTMAS,

The Following Goods, at Reduced Prices.

- A Lot of White Blankets, at \$1.50 and \$2.75.
- A Lot of Men's Reefing Jackets, \$2.75 and \$3.50.
- A Lot of Men's Overcoats, \$4.00 and \$4.50.
- A Lot of Men's Ulsters, \$5.50.
- A Lot of Men's Pants, \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00.
- A Lot of Ladies' Cloth Sacques, \$1.00, \$1.75 and \$2.25.
- A Lot of Ladies' Skirts, 50 cents.
- A Lot of Cheap Tweeds, 40, 50 and 60 cents up, for Men's and Boys' Wear.
- A Lot of Winceys, Wool Goods and Dress Goods,
- A Lot Men's Wool Underclothing, very low.
- A Lot of Men's Shirts, job lots.
- A Lot of Horse Rugs and Carriage Wraps at very low prices.

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Charlottetown, Dec. 8, 1882.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BEFORE you buy your Christmas and New Year's Presents, see our varied and carefully selected

HOLIDAY GOODS!

—COMPRISING—

PLUSH ODOR CASES, in Fashionable Colors; Satin-Lined DRESSING CASES; Stained-Glass SMELLING BOTTLES, with Gold, Silver and Plated Tops; also in Tortoise Shell Cases; Small Cases and Boxes (containing three) of the latest fashionable ENGLISH and FRENCH PERFUMES AND SOAPS; PUFF BOXES; TOILET BOTTLES, in great variety of color and design; FLACONS of COLOGNE, LAVENDER and other TOILET WATERS; Handsome Painted, Inlaid and Florence BRUSHES; HAND MIRRORS; Fine Sponges; Sponge Bags, etc., etc. GENTLEMEN'S LEATHER DRESSING CASES, CASES OF BRUSHES, SHAVING OUTFITS, CIGAR CASES, FLY BOOKS, CARD BOXES, SOAP CASES, LEATHER CASES for Brushes and Comb, and other requisites for travelling. PIPES, Boxes and Bundles of CIGARS and CIGARETTES.

Besides a large stock of ordinary Druggist's Fancy Goods and Toilet Requisites,

AT W. R. WATSON'S CITY DRUG STORE,

33 Queen Street, Charlottetown, P. E. Island.

Nov. 29, '82.—m w s t f

GREAT SALE OF BOOTS AND SHOES.

—AT—

J. C. SPRAGUE & CO'S.

Sign of the Red Boot, Queen Street.

Our Fall Stock Consisting of over FIVE THOUSAND PAIRS will be sold at prices to suit the times.

Please give us a call and convince yourself that such is a fact.

J. C. SPRAGUE & CO.

Ch'town, Nov. 21, 1882.—2aw & wkl 6w

THE HANDSOMEST, THE CHEAPEST, THE BEST, SLEIGH ROBES!

BEER & SONS.

Nov. 22, 1882.—eod

To be Let.

THE two story Dwelling House, fronting on Grafton Street opposite the Prince of Wales College, and formerly owned by Mrs. Watts

EUSTACE HAVILAND.

Charlottetown, Nov. 22, 1882.

BARGAINS! BARGAINS!

Change in Business.

SELLING OFF.

THE Subscribers, intending to devote their time exclusively to the Auction and Commission Business, will clear their Stock on hand at greatly reduced prices for one month, consisting of a good assortment of—Boys' and Youths Clothing, Men's Clothing, in Suits, Coats, Pants, Vests, Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefing Jackets, Underclothing, and a splendid lot of Men's Shirts, Felt Hats, Fur Caps, Cloth, Silk, Whitney and Sealcloth Caps, Tweeds, Trimmings, Scarfs, Collars, Ties, etc., etc.

—ALSO—

Paper Hangings and Blinds. An early call will secure bargains, as a full clearance must be made within the month.

F. LePAGE & CO

Oct. 16, 1882.—wkl

JOHN MAGEAGHERN,

(Late of Italian Warehouse)

AGENT FOR

Royal Fire Insurance Company, of England, London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Company, of England, City of London Fire Insurance Co., of England,

HAS REMOVED

His Office to his New Building,

Cor. Queen and King Sts.—Up Stairs, Ch'town, Dec. 7, '82.

More Truth than Poetry.

Do you want to see the choicest CHRISTMAS CARDS? Just some utterly too utter CHRISTMAS CARDS. Go right to the DIAMOND BOOKSTORE, And behold just what you look for—Chappelle sells the best and cheapest CHRISTMAS CARDS.

You will find the Cheapest and best CHRISTMAS PRESENTS In the city at the

DIAMOND BOOKSTORE,

85, North Side Queen Square.

Dec. 5, 1882.

A CHRISTMAS TREE

—AND—

APRON FAIR

Will be held in the Hall of the

Convent de Notre Dame,

HILLSBOROUGH SQUARE ON

Monday, 11th, and Tuesday, 12th December.

It will be managed by the ladies of St Dunstan's Congregation.

A well supplied REFRESHMENT TABLE will be provided, and Tea will served at six o'clock each evening.

Admission, 10 cents; children 5 cents.

TEA, FLOUR AND COFFEE.

50 Chests Superior Congou TEA, 120 Half-Chests, 250 Barrels FAMILY FLOUR, 5 Cases FRENCH COFFEE.

All just received and now on sale.

WILLIAM FODD, Auctioneer.

Nov. 28, '82.—3w 2aw

FALL, 1882, SUPPLIES.

In Store and to Arrive:

- 1000 brls. Sup. Extra and Patent Flour,
- 200 brls. kiln dried Cornmeal,
- 150 half-chests Congou Teas,
- 20 chests India Tea (imported direct),
- 50 puns. Molasses,
- 100 brls. Yellow Sugar,
- 25 brls. Gran. Sugar,
- 20 brls. Vacuum Pan Sugar,
- 10 tons Wheat Bran,
- 10 tons Wheat Shorts,
- 50 cases Preserved Salmon,
- 200 cases Preserved Lobsters,
- 1000 boxes Tin Plates (14x20),
- 50 pigs Soft Lead,
- 160 ingots Refined Tin,
- 5 bars 14 inch Square Copper,
- 150 qtls. large Codfish,
- 100 qtls. large Hake,
- 100 half-brls. Herring.

FOR SALE BY

HORACE HASZARD

Ch'town, Oct. 31, 1882.—lm eod

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c.

WANTED in a private family, a parlor and bedroom with board for a single gentleman, apply at the EXAMINER Office. [de9 1882]

LOST—On Friday, the 8th inst. between L Isaac Wadman's dwelling house, on Grafton Street, and the Apothecaries' Hall, a red leather wallet, containing two cheques and several other papers. The finder will be rewarded on leaving the same at this office. [de9 1882]

MALCOLM BRUCE, Mount Stewart, can get the parcel of clothing left in care of James Parks, Summerside, by applying to James Parks, McAskill River, Lot 42. [de9 1882]

WAREHOUSE TO LET on Sidney St. Possession immediately. Apply at EXAMINER OFFICE. [de9 1882]

A COTTAGE PIANO FOR SALE.—Apply at the Dominion House. [de2 1882]

FOR SALE.—Holland Cove Farm, Rocky Point, containing 177 acres. Terms easy. Apply to McLean & Martin. [de2 31 eod]

TO LET—A Dwelling House pleasantly situated on Prince Street. Apply to Peake Bros. & Co. [no 15]

WANTED—A man with experience in Dry Goods to take charge of an establishment in this City with a view to closing it out. Good terms will be given to any one wishing to purchase or continue the business. Apply by letter to box 135. [nov 3]

TO LET—Immediate possession given of a desirable residence, situate on Upper Hillsborough Street. Rent low to a good tenant. Apply at the Mounts Bank of P. E. I. to Mr. F. R. Moore. [nov 17]

CHANGE OF TIME LEAVING FOR PICTOU.

FOR REMAINDER OF SEASON

ON AND AFTER 2nd day of December next, the Steam Navigation Company Steamers will leave Charlottetown for Pictou, on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings at FIVE o'clock. Also, the Georgetown trips will be discontinued after this week. By Order, F. W. HALES, Secretary.

Ch'town, Nov. 27, '82.

CONFECTIONERY.

JUST RECEIVED.

- 800 lbs. SUGAR STICKS,
- 600 lbs. ROYAL AND LORNE MIXTURES
- 250 lbs. EXTRA STRONG MINTS,
- 600 lbs. CONVERSATION LOZENGES.

—ALSO—

Novelties and One Cent Goods.

ALL OF THE ABOVE

Will be Sold Cheap.

J. QUIRK, PRINCE STREET. Ch'town, Nov. 15, '82.—lm eod

CIGARS!

GREEN'S Genuine Imported Small Queens None genuine without the trade mark. For sale everywhere.

APOTHECARIES' HALL CO., Sole Agents for Charlottetown, P. E. I. Oct. 23, '82.—2m