

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., JANUARY 3, 1859.

1858.

While the year which has just closed presents to the reviewer none of those salient points of interest with which its immediate predecessors were rife—

"While war's deadly blast is blown, And gentle peace returning,"

the events of the past twelve months have not been unimportant to the commercial world, nor altogether without instruction to the observant of any and every class. A fearful paralysis has for months past deadened the spirit and energies of many staple sources of wealth and industry, but from the compensating influence of hitherto untrodden paths of enterprise, and the peaceful and voluntary breaking down of the barriers which have long isolated the fairest and most densely populated portion of the globe, from the humanizing operations of traffic and mutual intercourse with the rest of the population of the world, we may with confidence assume that the dark cloud which has for so long a period and with such density of shade obscured our atmosphere, is about to display its silver lining. When we last year addressed our readers at this season, we had to chronicle the many horrors of the thrice-accursed Indian outbreak. The Baltic and Crimean records had previously afforded but too much matter for our pen, and thankful we are that on the present occasion we can wish our patrons a happy new year, unaccompanied by aught of more desponding spirit than the assurance in which we have every faith, that "There's a good time coming, boys."

While the recent opening to commerce of China and Japan, those teeming hives of humanity, must have a stimulating effect upon the active industry of the European and American worlds, we are called upon to rejoice in the extinction of the Indian Mutiny, and to reflect with pride upon the heroism which endured and controlled the desperate frenzy of a people united only by a common hatred of their conquerors. Turning to Europe, we see that while France is devoting her intellect and her wealth to the material objects of aggressive and defensive warfare—while the nation is drunk with joy at the recently inaugurated works of Cherbourg, the whole power of the despotic ruler of thirty millions of people is employed to bring to trial a virtuous and enlightened lover of freedom, whose conviction of the crime of saying that liberty had found a resting place in England, was a mere matter of course to the supple tools of tyranny—the oppressed turns on the oppressor, and, proudly confident in the position he has assumed, throws back with contempt and loathing the proffered pardon of his alleged offence.

While the prosecution of Montalembert has shown the sandy foundation on which the authority of the Imperial usurper of the French throne is based, while its inherent weakness is betrayed by this rash and inebriated onslaught on the freedom of opinion, it is pleasing and profitable to note the contrast which the mother country presents. There we behold the energies of the most indomitable perseverance directed to the accumulation of wealth, and the consequent improvement of the great human family. France and other of the European nations may point to the greatness of their powers, as evidenced by the smoking chimneys and frowning broadsides of their ships of war—may argue the advantages of miles of railways and acres of arsenals, but while the Briton sees the works of peace progress, he knows full surely that freedom, and the spirit which guards it, but await the moment when their active manifestation shall constrain the adversary, come from what quarter he may.

We cannot divest ourselves of the idea that ere another year shall have run its course, the electric telegraph will have connected the continents with the "Isles of the Sea" in the far off Eastern world, and that the marvels which historians delight to record, and students to ponder, shall be eclipsed for all time to come.

As to our island home, we are happy in the belief that the distress shared by our commercial men in common with the rest of the fraternalty over the world, has passed its culminating point; and that if it should please the Giver of all good to bless us with a harvest in 1859 as abundant as that with which we were favored in 1858, we shall speedily emerge into a state of prosperity.

A little periodical called "The Bulwark or Reformation Journal," printed in Edinburgh, and seemingly devoted exclusively to the abuse of Roman Catholics and their religion, has been put into our hands by a friend, and in perusing the No. of the 1st December last, we find the following extraordinary article in reference to the public meeting which took place in Charlottetown on the 25th August last:—

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—A correspondent, in referring to the recent mass meeting in Charlottetown, says that the Government organ invited Irishmen to come to the meeting prepared to fight:—

"The invitation was complied with. They assembled in swarms. Their leaders told them that the governor was to be removed on religious ground, and this made them furious. During the first part of the day they were the most numerous, but about 12 o'clock more than two hundred Belfast Scotchmen arrived with the gallant Col. Gray at their head, and preserved the peace of the day. The Irish were known to have brought in 'Shillelaha's' of green beach in truck-loads the evening before the meeting. These they concealed in cellars. The Protestants took proper measures for self-defence. They bespoke axe-handles for their country friends, and themselves they armed with pistols and revolvers. Thus a large proportion of both parties were armed. The Romanists attempted to do at night what they feared to do in the day. Several Protestants who were found alone were maltreated. These things served to make staunch consistent Protestants of many respectable men who previously acted with the Romanists in politics."—Presbyterian Witness.

The falsehoods in the first part of the above extract are too notorious to require refutation. There was no person on the decision referred to who told any class of people that the "Governor was to be removed on religious grounds." No sensible man ever believed that His Excellency would be removed before the period for which he was appointed should expire, unless he chose to resign. The arrival of Col. Gray and his "two hundred Belfast Scotchmen," had nothing to do with the preservation of "the peace of the day." The only time at which the peace of the day was imperilled, was when Col. Gray marched his infuriated followers yelling to the public platform, but the presence of superior numbers soon taught them the prudence of remaining quiet, until they had returned to the other side of the Ferry, when they again began to show off by discharging their pistols, and chasing unoffending persons on the highway. As to the "Shillelaha's of green beach

in truck-loads; concealed in cellars," this is the first time we heard of them; but it is not the first time the story of the "axe handles and revolvers" has been related to us. It is satisfactory, however, to have so good an authority as the Presbyterian Witness, backed by the Reformation Journal, for the fact, that the opponents of the Government were armed with deadly weapons on the occasion referred to, and only wanted an opportunity to shed the blood of those who would not join them in raising an incensate howl against it.

TRADE OF P. E. ISLAND.

We are indebted to the Controller of Customs at this Port for the following interesting statement of the extent and value of our Exports from Charlottetown during the past year, amounting, as will be seen, to £119,246 16s. 3d. The Exports from the same port for the previous year amounted to £105,800, shewing an increase of £14,554. It is believed that the value of Exports will amount to about £110,000, and the value of shipping exported from the whole Island to nearly as much more, making the total value of our Exports in round numbers about £330,000. We have not yet been able to obtain any returns of our Import trade, but we believe the amount will be considerably less than that of our Exports.

Exports at the Port of Charlottetown during the year ended December, 1858:

Table with 3 columns: Item, Quantity, and Currency. Includes categories like ANIMALS (Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Pigs), Butter, Beef, CORN (Barley, Do. Pearled, Oats, Oatmeal, Flour), Eggs, Fish (Cod, Hake, Alewives, Mackerel, Herrings), Geese, Turkeys, Other fowls, Hay, Hams, Hides, Lard, Oil (fish), Pork, Potatoes, Turnips Parsnips & Carrots, Sheep Skins, Wool, Wood (Boards, Deals, Lathwood, Timber, Spars, Shingles), and Miscellaneous.

WM. E. CLARK, Controller.

BANQUET OF THE CANADA CLUB.—We observe by the London Canada News of the 24th ult., that a grand entertainment was given by the members of the Canada Club to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Ministers of the British American provinces, lately on a mission to England, at the Albion Tavern, London, on the 11th ult. Among the toasts given on the occasion was that of "His Excellency Sir Dominick Daly and the Province of Prince Edward Island," and also "His Excellency Sir A. Bannerman and the Colony of Newfoundland."

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

EXCHANGE ROOMS.

CHARLOTTETOWN, January 3, 1859.

Steamship America, Capt. Miller, from Liverpool, arrived at Halifax at 9 A. M. on Sunday last. Reports strong westerly gales during the entire passage. Steamship Prince Albert arrived at Halifax at noon of the 17th, bringing brief synopsis of President's message. Steamship City of Manchester takes place of Baltimore, to sail from Liverpool on the 22d.

BRITAIN.—Extraordinary general meeting of Atlantic Telegraph Company held in London on the 15th ult. Hon. Stuart Northley presided. The report showed that the total receipts of the Company on capital account had been £387,470, and the expenditure £364,046 leaving a balance on hand of £23,424, against which there are various outstanding liabilities. New shares to the value of £75,000 have been issued to projectors in purchase of their original rights and privileges. Chairman made lengthy explanation on condition of Company; Cable had been under run to the distance of 11 miles from Ireland, and found perfect; directors, for want of funds, unable to carry on further operations. They had applied to Government for guarantee of four and a-half per cent, on £535,000 of new capital, with which to construct and lay new cable, but no decision had been received. He urged upon the proprietors harmonizing and energetic action, as the only way to ensure success, and moved adoption of directors' report, which was carried unanimously. Whitehouse, late electrician of Company, called attention to the establishment of another Company, formed for the establishment of telegraphic communication with America by southern route, and having half its capital subscribed. He had been instructed to state conditions under which the fusion of the two companies could be effected. Several shareholders suggested that such matters could not be entertained by the meeting; and the Chairman said that, pending negotiations with Government, this proposition ought not to be discussed. Whitehouse withdrew subject, and an adjournment until the general meeting in February, was unanimously carried.—London Times, taking for its text President Buchanan's letters to meeting in celebration of the capture of Fort Duquesne, comments on the tone in which President speaks of future of republic, and brings into contrast language of public men on future prospects of England, who deem that England's evils are passing away, while the tone of American society indicates that those of the New World are increasing.—Reform movement was progressing. John Bright had addressed another great meeting at Edinburgh, and Manchester Reformers' Union had been formed by the Bright party.—Influential meeting of English ship owners held in London to take into consideration the ruinous condition of navigation. Resolutions were adopted attributing the cause to the repeal of the Navigation Laws, and an address to the Queen was adopted, praying that ships of non-reciprocating countries may be placed on as nearly as possible the same footing in British ports as British ships are placed in those countries.—In regard to recent arrests in Ireland of members of the Phoenix Club, the Cork Constitution says, that "treason was carried much further than was suspected. There was daily and nightly drilling pikes, men with manufactured arms imported from America, and the use of them taught. Government not a moment too early in interfering, a body of military and militia having been distributed through western portion of the County Cork to prevent insurrection. Belfast Mercury says, "There is no doubt the Phoenix Club is entirely seditious, and made up of the drogs of Young Irelandism." Seventeen persons had been arrested at Belfast, in addition to those at Cork. Government was expected to issue special commissions for immediate trial of prisoners.—Mr. Gurnsey, arrested by Government for stealing London despatches, lately

published in Daily News, was tried and acquitted.—Provisions fluctuating. Sugars flat. Timber improved slightly; market fairly stocked. Consols 97 1/2.

ROBERT HYNDMAN & Co.

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S LITERARY INSTITUTE.—On Thursday evening, the 16th ult., Mr. George Howlan delivered a lecture on "Self-Education." To give it that praise to which it is justly entitled would occupy more space than a mere newspaper article; and, for the present, we will content with saying that it was eminently practical and will venture to assert equal to any that has been delivered in this city for years past. It was listened to with the greatest attention by a large and respectable audience. After the lecture a lively debate ensued. On Thursday evening, the 23d ult., the Hon. D. Brennan delivered a lecture, entitled "A Fragment of History." The lecturer treated principally on Napoleon the First. His remarks upon that celebrated man and the times in which he lived, as also upon a subsequent period, were truthful and forcible. Although the learned gentleman's remarks could in no particular be controverted, yet an animated discussion took place. Also, on Thursday last, the 30th ult., Mr. Henry A. Bennett lectured on "The Beauties of Nature." On Thursday evening next, the 6th inst., William Murphy, Esq., will deliver a lecture on "Ventilation and Respiration."—Com.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

MR. EDITOR.—Knowing that you are a sincere advocate for the advancement of intelligence throughout the Island, I feel confident you will give the following remarks a place in your influential journal, the Examiner. Having occasion to visit the westward of this Island some few days ago, I was invited to attend a Debating Society held at Indian River, on Thursday night, the 30th ult.—A Society which reflects great credit on the young men of that place. I was both delighted and surprised at the manner in which the subject of debate for the evening was handled. They appeared to be perfectly well acquainted with it, and were not the least reluctant in coming forward to express their sentiments on the subject in a clear and able manner. They made an impression on my mind contrary to that which is entertained by a large portion of our citizens, and augurs well for the future intelligence of the young men of Indian River, Malpeque and adjoining settlements. In the course of the debate, the present Government received no small amount of encomium for the manner in which they have conducted the gubernatorial affairs of the Island. After recording a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. P. Delaney, of Malpeque, the meeting adjourned, apparently well pleased with the evening's entertainment. Yours, &c., Ch. Town, January 1, 1859. A VISITER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir.—Some ungenerous remarks and govtelling personalities having appeared in the Islander of the 21st instant, of which the present School Inspector has been the unoffending victim—will you please to insert in your next the following brief observations in reply? To say that Mr. I. is "ignorant of Geometry, Trigonometry, Algebra and Latin," is a falsehood, to which any intelligent person acquainted with him can testify. That insinuation is equally ridiculous with the assertion that he is "morally objectionable." If any talented gentleman of such known abilities as Mr. I. would happen at any time of his life, through simplicity and good nature, to indulge (as Burns says) "in random fits o' daffin'" and more likely through physical than any moral defect—does it follow that he is thenceforward to be considered as "morally objectionable." But the Islander scrambles for imaginary objections, merely because the present School Inspector is politically opposed to the principles of that paper. I am, Sir, Your obedient servant, BICKERSTAFF.

St. Andrew's, Lot 37, Dec. 24, 1858.

FOR THE EXAMINER.

THE LAND QUESTION.

A highly instructive and interesting Lecture was delivered on the above subject, by Mr. Donald Campbell, Teacher, at the St. Margaret's Schoolhouse, Lot 44, on Saturday evening the 18th inst. The house was crowded to excess. It was evident, from the free and easy, yet forcible manner in which the lecturer treated of his subject, that he was truly interested in and perfect master of it. He clearly proved that the Proprietors forfeited all right to the lands of this Island, when they did not comply with the terms contained in the original grants. He concisely showed that Proprietors generally have already received the price of their lands ten times over in the shape of rents; that Landlords' monopoly of the lands was not the only grievance which people have had to bear, but their influence at the Colonial office prevented all truly liberal measures from receiving the Royal assent. In conclusion, he called upon the audience to agitate for a Court of Escheat, as the only alternative now left since the failure of the Loan Bill. A lively and animated debate ensued; after which it was proposed by Mr. Alex. McDonald, and seconded by Mr. Ronald McDonald, that—

"WHEREAS this meeting is of opinion that a general meeting of the people of King's County should be called at an early day in January: Therefore Resolved,—That a committee be appointed to draw up a requisition, directed to the High Sheriff, requesting him to call a Meeting of the inhabitants of this County, as soon as practicable, that the people may have an opportunity of expressing their sentiments on that most momentous question which so deeply affects their interest.

"RESOLVED—That Messrs. Martin Ryan and Donald H. McDonald be a committee to draw up the said requisition.

"RESOLVED—That the proceedings of this Meeting be sent to the leading Journals of the Island for insertion."

A vote of thanks having been given to the Lecturer and the Chairman, it was Resolved, that the chairman, Donald McDonald, Esq., do leave the chair, and that Mr. Donald H. McDonald do take the same; after which the meeting dispersed. MARTIN RYAN, Sec'y. (Other Journals please copy.) Dec. 23, 1858.

SAINT JOHN'S DAY.

St. John's Lodge, No. 562, Dec. 27, 1858.

The brethren of the above Lodge met at high twelve, this day, for the installation of Officers for the ensuing year. The Worshipful Master, W. T. Paw, installed Brother Adam Murray Worshipful Master, who returned thanks to the brethren of the Lodge for the high honour of electing him their W. Master, after which he proceeded to appoint the following Brethren Officers for the ensuing year, viz:—

- Brother Michael W. Skinner, S. W.
" Morih Lowden, J. W.
" Rev. Charles I. Burnett, Chaplain.
" P. M. Henry W. Lobban, Organist.
" James Connell, T.
" Hugh Fraser, S.
" Winter Renault, S. D.
" John Dillon, J. D.
" John McNeill.
" Nathaniel McDonald, } Secs.
" John W. Fraser, T. G.
" William B. Davidson, Tyler.
" James Evans, Marshall.

The Lodge was then closed with the usual solemnities. At 8 o'clock, p. m., the members of St. John's Lodge, R. W. Master, and a good number of the brethren of Victoria Lodge re-assembled, with a very respectable number of guests, being the leading men of the community.

The brethren were glad to see among them Brother Carril, from King Hiram's Lodge, St. Eleanor's, who gave a very gratifying account of King Hiram's Lodge, which, being in its infancy, is making great progress, and will no doubt, in no long time, vie with its brother Lodge in Charlottetown.

The brethren and guests, to about sixty in number, sat down to a very excellent and sumptuous dinner, prepared by Bro. James Connell, Treasurer of St. John's Lodge, to whom, with the brethren of the Committee of Management, there is every credit due.

The blessing was pronounced by Brother the Rev. Charles I. Burnett, after which the company heartily sat to work, and partook of the goodly things before them. True Masonic love prevailed throughout.

The Chair was well and ably filled by the Worshipful Master.

The cloth having been removed, the following standard toasts were given from the Chair, and received with full Masonic honors.

1st Toast, by the W. Master—The day we celebrate in its festive ceremonies. We gratefully commemorate the memory of one whose name sheds lustre on our ancient and honorable institution—The memory of the holy St. John, to whom this Lodge is dedicated.

2d, by the W. Master—Her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, the daughter of a Free Mason. God bless her; may her reign be long, prosperous and happy.

3d, by the Senior Warden—His Royal Highness Prince Albert, our distinguished Brother.

4th, by the W. Master—The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, our Most Worshipful Grand Master, and Officers of the Grand Lodge of England.

5th, by the Senior Warden—His Grace the Duke of Athol, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Scotland.

6th, by the Junior Warden—The Hon. Alexander Keith, Provincial Grand Master, and Lodges under his jurisdiction.

7th, by the W. Master—His Excellency Sir Dominick Daly, Lieut. Governor.

8th, by the Senior Warden—Lady Daly and the fair daughters of P. E. Island.

9th, by the Junior Warden—His Worship the Mayor and City Council of Charlottetown.

10th, by the W. Master—The Rev. Clergy of all denominations: With faith their guide, and humble hope, Warm charity and love, May they at last be raised to share That perfect light above.

11th, by the Senior Warden—the Chief Justice, the Bench and Bar of P. E. Island.

12th, by the Junior Warden—The Press. May it ever be the true friend and advocate of religious toleration and political freedom.

13th, by the W. Master—Our Guests, who have honored us this evening with their company; we give them a cordial and friendly welcome.

14th, by the Senior Warden—Our Brethren wheresoever scattered over the face of the globe, although personally absent from us this night, still we are one in spirit. May the benediction of the Great Architect rest upon them and theirs.

15th, by the Junior Warden—The Most Worshipful Master, Officers and Members of Victoria Lodge, and our visiting Brethren. We tender them our fraternal sympathies and regard; and stronger may be the bonds which unite us as members of the same family.

16th, by the W. Master—Our Brethren in St. Eleanor's. May they and King Hiram's Lodge have a long, prosperous and happy reign.

Volunteer toasts. The toasts and volunteer toasts given were rapturously received. The speeches and songs that followed the toasts were truly eloquent and sentimental.

Parting toast by the Junior Warden, at low 12: As happy we have met, And happy we have been, So happy may we part, And happy to meet again.

At an early hour, when the parting toast was given, the Brethren and their guests parted, highly gratified with each other—after singing the National Anthem—in peace and harmony, to their respective homes.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE CHARLOTTETOWN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, FOR THE YEAR 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—Time, which is ever moving onward in its course, has brought us to the period when we are to render to you, our constituents, an account of our stewardship.

We feel that it is unnecessary to enter very minutely into detail, because our doings throughout the past year have not been effected in a corner, but have been patent to all, and you have been the witnesses of our success, and of our defeats, if we have sustained any.

We believe that the Institute has now got such a firm hold of the affections of a large portion of the community, that it may be considered one of the standard Societies of this City, and that its future will be one of progress and of usefulness. In order to accomplish these results, its friends must not be idle, but must work with redoubled energy and greater zeal.

Our Lectures, throughout the past course, have generally been written with very great ability; the subjects have been well selected, and comprehensively discussed, and the debates that ensued have been conducted with courtesy, and marked with candor and good feeling. Lectures and debates have both been highly creditable to the persons engaged, as well as to the Institute. We feel that the leading principle which binds us together as members of one body, has been kept in view at each of our meetings, and that the Institute is instrumental in promoting a knowledge of the Arts and Sciences, and of general Literature.

During the last Summer two eminent gentlemen from the other Provinces visited this Island, and by special request kindly lectured before the Institute. The Hon. Wm. Young's graphic Lecture will not soon be forgotten, nor will the sketches which M. H. Perley, Esq., brought forward, be easily effaced from our memory.

The attendance at our meetings has generally been very good; but there is still a large class of persons in this City that keep aloof from us, who ought to be our most active supporters. We allude to the Mechanics themselves. There are a few honourable exceptions, and we give honour to whom honour is due. We would like to see every "boss," and every journeyman, and every apprentice a member of our Association, all appreciating the advantages to be derived by hearing our Lectures, and by listening to, and also taking part in our discussions. Let us each exert ourselves to bring Mechanics under the influence of our motto, "Virtutis Scientia Comis."

By resolution, our Library was sold in April last, and realized the sum of £21 8s. 8d. When the Library was established, there was no public Library in existence in this City, and it was thought desirable to organize one, in conjunction with the Institute; since then, the Presbyterian, Episcopal, Wesleyan, and the Roman Catholic Churches have each established Libraries in this City, and it was thought unnecessary to sustain our Library, and therefore it became one of the things that ceased to be; and the Institute is thereby relieved from the expense of keeping it in operation, which generally amounted to about £20 per annum.

The Legislature, with its accustomed liberality, appropriated, during the last Session, the sum of £20, which was of very great service to us.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, our Patron, kindly presented to the Institute the working plans, descriptions, regulations, &c., of the Life Boat and Carriage for the same, adopted by the Royal National Life Boat Institution, and which are now on the table for your inspection. His Excellency deserves our warmest acknowledgments for the interest he has always manifested in our success, and for his occasionally honouring us with his presence.

By the lamented death of John Gainsford, Esq., one of our Vice Patrons, the Institute has lost a long tried friend. We respect his memory, and regret his loss.

An Account current of our receipts and expenditure is now before you, and we are gratified in being able to state that we are out of debt, and we have some funds on hand:—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'The Receipts for the past year have been' £62 2 1 and 'Amounts due the Institute' 6 4 9.