

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., FEBRUARY 16, 1857.

THE APPROACHING SESSION.

No. 2.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

In a recent No. of this paper we offered some general observations on the advantages which have resulted, in the Old Country and the New, from the establishment of Municipal Corporations.

In the first place, we shall, no doubt, hear the changes rung upon the hacknied cry, that the country is not prepared for such a measure. This objection is open to several interpretations.

The Free Trade Treaty—the other measure above mentioned—was strongly opposed and ridiculed when first suggested. Mr. Coles, who had the credit, after his return from the United States, about ten years ago, of expressing some opinions favourable to the measure, was taken to task by the *Islander*—

which perpetrated a few pointless jokes at his expense—for thinking of such a ridiculous thing; while in the House of Assembly (in 1848 or 1849), Mr. Palmer and some others of his party denounced free trade with the United States as a measure that would inevitably entail the most disastrous results.

The Charlottetown Incorporation Act was another of those measures for which, it was said, we were not prepared; and although it has had but a short trial, substantial improvement has been effected by it in many respects.

While it is, therefore, evident that the experiment of incorporating a place like Charlottetown has been eminently successful, is there any good reason to apprehend that similar results will not follow the extension of a similar form of local administration to other portions of the Island?

That we are not fit to receive Municipal institutions—that the time for us to adopt them has not arrived—that we have not the materials to work them to the public advantage—that they are too expensive, and we too poor,—will, indeed, be the objections we shall hear urged against the contemplated measure by many persons, some of whom, while really anxious to promote the prosperity of the country, cannot stretch their mental gaze beyond the present hour, but will content themselves with that favourite apology for inertness—"Let well enough alone—there is danger in experiment;"—while there are others who will oppose it from the well-grounded apprehension, that it will give a new impulse to popular opinions, and greatly enlarge the liberty and independence of the people;

Executive and official responsibility gives general satisfaction—so much so, that if the Tory party got into power to-morrow, they would not be fool-hardy enough to attempt the resuscitation of the old system, as the attempt would end in a most signal failure. The mass of the people have fully shown their appreciation of this system, by maintaining in office the men who gave it to them, despite the many struggles that have been made to put the old hacks in their places; besides, no people, having once enjoyed it, would be inclined to part with the immense power which such a form of Government places in their hands—a power which enables them to make or mar public men—which teaches them to believe that they are the masters and not the servants, as they were heretofore,—and the very possession of which, by an intelligent and watchful people, must ensure diligence, impartiality and integrity, in the discharge of official duties.

Of our Educational Establishment—another of the reform measures which was met with the objection we have already noticed—it is hardly now necessary to offer one remark. The tax by which our free schools are maintained does not bear unjustly upon any class. The system gives immense satisfaction to the whole community; and we are confident there are not twenty men in the Colony who would wish to see it abolished. Indeed, an attempt to set it aside, and to go back to the old system, under which school teachers were nearly starved, and education placed beyond the reach of the many—would deplete the country from the North Cape to the East Point.

With respect to the extension of the franchise, another of the measures alluded to—the privilege has been exercised without any commotion, and to the undoubted satisfaction of the vast section of our population upon whom it has been conferred, whose demeanour, on the several occasions on which they were called upon to exercise the privilege, proved them to be worthy recipients of it. If it has not been found to operate to the satisfaction of all, it is consolatory to know that the Tories alone have experienced its disagreeable consequences.

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The Charlottetown Incorporation Act was another of those measures for which, it was said, we were not prepared; and although it has had but a short trial, substantial improvement has been effected by it in many respects. It has given us excellent police regulations—in summer, cleaner and better streets than we formerly had; public tranquility and the supremacy of the law, are fully maintained under it; minor offences are promptly punished, without undue hardship to the offender; and the jobbing administration of justice in holes and corners, heretofore annoying and discreditable, is happily abolished for ever; while our fellow-citizens, as they become accustomed to the management of their own affairs, with a proper consciousness of their powers and responsibilities, think and act with the spirit and energy of men truly free.

At Charlottetown, on Wednesday morning, the 11th instant, the Lady of the Hon. George Coles, Colonial Secretary, of a Son.

At Charlottetown, on Wednesday, the 4th instant, by William Sanderson, Esquire, J. P., Mr. Edward G. Barke to Mary Ellen, daughter of Mr. Asa Simons, all of Bay Fortune, Lot 43.

At Charlottetown, on Wednesday, the 4th instant, by the Rev. J. H. Read, Rector, Mr. George West to Miss Mary Elizabeth Stubbs, both of Summerside.

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unoffending Catholics really contemplated any invasion of Protestant rights. The Tories mustered in great force; and it was really very entertaining to see persons of that party, who, we are confident, scarcely read the Bible once in a two-month—if they own such a thing at all—applauding every expression of veneration for the sacred volume, and chuckling mightily over every sentiment of disapproval at the conduct of the Government in refusing to make it a text book.

We had a special reporter on the occasion, and we shall make no unnecessary delay after being furnished with his extended notes, in giving our readers a full and fair account of the speeches and proceedings, when we shall take occasion to enter on the discussion of the subject at greater length than we have space to do at present.

THE LEADER.—We have received the first and second Nos. of a paper bearing this title, recently issued in St. John, N.B., under the auspices of the Liberal party in that City, and, of course, designed to advocate their principles. Its columns are filled with much interesting matter, and its editorial department is spiritedly written.

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S LITERARY INSTITUTE.—Mr. Ronald Walker will read a lecture on "Meteorology," in the above Institute, on Thursday evening, the 19th inst.

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New Advertisements.

Valuable and suitable Goods. BY A. H. YATES. TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, on THURSDAY, the 5th of March next, at 11 o'clock, at the store in Queen-street—

TO BE LET BY AUCTION, to the highest bidder, on SATURDAY, the 28th instant, at 3 o'clock, p.m., at the Market House, TWO STALLS in the said Market House, agreeably to a Bye-Law of the Corporation, intitled a law respecting Markets. GEORGE LEWIS, Market Clerk.

City of Charlottetown.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

LIST OF LICENSES.

Table with columns for license numbers, names, and dates. Includes names like W. H. Gardiner, J. N. Harris, and W. T. Paw.

TAVERNERS.

Table listing taverners and their locations, including names like Michael Noonan and Andrew Doyle.

STORERS.

Table listing storers and their locations, including names like John Rigg and Hugh Fraser.

TRUCKS.

Table listing truck owners and their locations, including names like Chas McKenna and John Rigg.

COAL METER AND WEIGHER.

By order, W. B. WELLNER, City Clerk.

For Sale.

A FARM of 51 acres on the Malpeque Road, about 15 miles from Charlottetown. There are on the premises a good Dwelling House (32 x 22 feet) with back kitchen attached, a Barn and Out-houses.

Gravestones, Tombstones and Monuments.

THE subscriber takes this opportunity of informing the inhabitants of P. E. Island, that he will receive orders for GRAVESTONES, TOMBSTONES and MONUMENTS of every description of style and pattern, or any other description of Marble Work that may be ordered.

Notice of Removal.

THE public are requested to observe that THE LIBRARY has lately been removed from Dawson's Building, Kent-street, to the premises built by Mr. THOMAS TANTON, and immediately opposite Messrs. Thomas & Dawson's, Great George-street.

City of Charlottetown.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

THE City Council has decided that all City advertisements, during the ensuing year, shall be published in the EXAMINER Newspaper.

By Order, W. B. WELLNER, City Clerk.

The City Council has appointed the following gentlemen to act as Fire Engineers for the ensuing year, viz:—

Table listing fire engineers and their ward assignments, including names like J. W. Morrison and Richard Wright.

And to rank after the Chief Engineer as follows:—

Table listing assistants to the chief engineer and their ward assignments, including names like Richard Heintz and John Ings.

February 9, 1857.

THE BIBLE QUESTION.

A MEETING, called under the auspices of some of the Protestant Ministers of the Island, was held at the Temperance Hall on Friday evening last, for the ostensible purpose of advocating the introduction of the Bible as a class-book into our public schools.

Farm for Sale.

TO be Sold by Auction, on TUESDAY, the 24th instant, at 11 o'clock, the Leasehold FARM of 999 years, 13 of which are expired, and at present occupied by the subscriber, situated on the South Wilshire Road, Lot 32, about six miles from Charlottetown, containing 99 1/2 acres of Land, at the yearly rent of 1s. per acre, about 50 of which are under a good state of cultivation; there is a new Frame Barn, a Dwelling House, and a Spring of Water within a chain of the House; also, about two acres of Bog Mud; all on the premises. Terms of Sale—three months' credit for one-half of the purchase money, and the remainder in two years, on security being given.

Also, on the same day—The Stock, comprising—1 Horse, 1 Ayrshire Cow and Calf, 1 Heifer, 1 Island Red Calf, 3 Pigs, 1 superior brooding Sow, and Farming Implements; also, a quantity of Hay and Straw. Terms—all sums under £5, cash on delivery; above £5, eight months' credit, on approved notes of hand. JAMES TREANOR, Lot 32, Feb. 16, 1857.

A History of P. E. Island, From its discovery in 1497 down to the present time. THE undersigned having undertaken the compilation of a work to bear the above title, announces to the public that it will be issued during the forthcoming Summer, in four Numbers, each No. to contain at least 50 pages, 12mo. Price 1s. Viz: 1. Discovery of P. E. Island; settlement by the French; an account of the Aborigines; acquisition, disposal of and settlement by the English; and a physical account of the country. 2. Emigration to; with an account of the Land Question. 3. Political and Statistical. 4. Social and Chronological. All persons interested in so necessary a work, and who can furnish me with any useful information on the above subjects, will receive my best thanks. THOMAS KIRWAN, Charlottetown, Feb. 16, 1857. (all papers every 2w.)