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**THE WEEKLY EXAMINER**  
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**THE DAILY EXAMINER**  
DECEMBER 27, 1897.  
NORTH-WEST FARMERS.  
(Montreal Witness.)

A considerable number of farmers, with their wives and families, who, some years ago, left the lower provinces for the North West, have been, for the past few days, coming east, on their way to revisit familiar scenes during the Christmas holidays. Of these there were several this morning waiting for east bound trains this evening, at the Windsor Street Station. Spoken to about their present circumstances and prospects, the reply was unanimous that they had nothing to regret in leaving their old homes. There was every opportunity for prosperity and development in the region of Alberta, for instance where they have settled. The past year had been exceptionally successful. The crop had been bountiful and the prices for wheat unprecedentedly high. Farmers had been, in consequence, able to pay off old debts, while others, independent, contemplated the purchasing of more land or the erection of more permanent buildings. As for the winter, the testimony was corroborative of that which is heard on all hands—that while the cold is undoubted, it is an agreeable cold—if such a paradox can be allowed—that is to say, the air is dry and orsuring; there is an exhilarating brightness of the atmosphere and the dampness and "mugginess" which are so frequently felt in the east are quiet absent. Cattle can stop out most of the winter, and children can play out of doors without hurt. "On the whole," said Mr. James Anderson, "while we are glad to revisit old scenes, we have every reason to be thankful that we left the east for the great wheat-growing district in the Northwest."

**LOCAL OPTION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.**

In connection with local self-government, by means of the municipal system, occurs the only instance in which the principle of what is known as local option has been put into operation in New South Wales. For many years (says Mr. T. A. Coghlan, in his "Wealth and Progress of New South Wales") there was a strong agitation in favor of local option, or the right of the inhabitants of any district to control the liquor traffic in that district, and on several occasions unsuccessful attempts were made to legislate upon the subject. In the year 1882, however, an instalment of the principle was included in a Licensing Act then passed, which, with an amendment made in the following year, is still in force. These measures provide that in every municipality, or ward of a municipality, a local option vote shall be taken every three years, at the election for aldermen, in which the ratepayers are permitted to vote either "Yes" or "No" on two questions: (1) Whether any new publicans' licenses shall be granted during the coming three years in the municipality or ward in question; and (2) whether any removals of publicans' licenses shall be allowed within the same period. Over eleven-twentieths of the votes polled are required to make the vote operative in the negative. The advocates of local option are not content with this partial adoption of the principle; they urge its extension to every electorate in the colony, all persons on the electoral roll to have the right to vote. They further propose to place it in the power of a majority of the electors to say whether licensed public-houses shall be suffered to exist at all. The extreme advocates of local option also contend that women should have the right to vote upon this question as well as men and that public-houses should be abolished without compensation to the occupants by owners. Although the local option vote is taken once in three years in every municipality, or ward of a municipality, the year when it is taken is not the same in all. During three years 1894, 1895 and 1896, only 29,578 electors voted on the first, and 28,940 on the second question. There were 9,570 votes in favor of, and 20,008 against new licenses; and 11,672 in favor of, and 17,268 against removals. The total number of electors on the municipal rolls in February, 1896, was 177,634; and allowing for the fact that a considerable number of these were for various reasons disqualified from voting. The small number of votes recorded on the local option question shows, nevertheless, a remarkable apathy on the part of persons entitled to vote. The result of the latest voting in 37 suburban municipalities, including 31 where the vote was taken in February, 1897, was that out of a total of 67,676 electors on the roll, only 9,595 voted on the question of new licenses, viz., 3,117 for, and 6,478 against; and 9,115 on the question of removals, viz., 3,630 for, and 5,485 against. It would therefore appear that very little interest is taken in the matter except by the extreme advocates of temperance on the one hand, and those interested in the drink traffic on the other, while the general public is apathetic on the subject.

**KELP GATHERERS.**

THE IRISH PEOPLE WHO DWELL ON THE ISLAND OF MYNISH.

Rude Cabins Which a Rude and Untutored Folk Call Home—Their Vocation Not a Very Remunerative One, but They Are Strong and Healthy Men.

Right on the western borders of the land, and upon the numerous islands and peninsulas which are the common natural features of this broken part of the Irish coast, the kelp gatherers live. In a certain sense they seem to be an amphibious sort of folk and draw their sustenance, apparently always more or less, from the sea, and from sea and land alike. Let us picture their existence for a moment, such as we may see it on the island of Mynish, not far from Roundstone bay, off the Galway coast. Imagine an island, about 12 miles in circumference, connected with the mainland by a kind of viaduct recently constructed by government, low lying and wind swept by the numerous gales of ocean, but crowded with a population of several hundred human beings. Every little cove or bay will have its cluster of cottages, with their fishing boats anchored close by, ready to run down the bay for mackerel or to fetch a load of kelp from the neighboring rocks when wind and weather permit. The surface of the island itself, which is strewn with huge granite stones and boulders, is parcelled out with the most exact and scrutinizing jealousy, and if you attempt a short cut across country from one point to another your way is blocked by a continual succession of loosely constructed stone walls serving as partitions between an innumerable series of diminutive plots. So intricate and puzzling is the arrangement of these plots that you are not at all surprised to hear that they are a source of litigation between the owners of the cottages, who are very fond of invoking the law in spite of their poverty stricken condition.

"Cottages" we call them, for the sake of courtesy, but whereas the word "cottage" calls up in the English sense some bright and picturesque surroundings and some appearance of comfort these cottages or cabins of the kelp gatherers suggest every kind of discomfort. The walls are built of the undressed granite blocks picked up from the surface of the island and loosely put together according to the rules of a very primitive masonry. But the roof is sometimes of sod, and more often of reed. The absurd contrast between the strength and stability of the walls and the feeble character of the roof strikes the eye immediately. The floors are of very unsatisfactory character, as they are simply uneven pavements with muddy interstices and calculated to retain every kind of filth and abomination. It would be almost impossible to sweep these floors clean even if there existed the will to do it.

If there is any glass, it is simply mortised into some little chink, and window frames are unknown—partly because wood is scarce and expensive and partly because the fisher folk do not desire a window that will open.

As far as accommodation is concerned, there are only two rooms on the ground floor—one to be used as a kitchen and sitting room, the other to sleep in, no matter the number of the family party. Sometimes there is a kind of loft overhead on the kitchen, where some of the occupants can sleep. Outside there is no pigsty or cowshed or any other "office" which we are accustomed to connect with the ideas of comfort and decency. In cold and rough weather the pig and even the cow are admitted to the hospitality of the hearth, and this accounts for their very friendly and sociable character. As far as "rent" is concerned, the kelper cannot complain greatly, as it is a judicial "rent" and he cannot be ejected, no matter how he lives, as long as the rent is paid.

Sometimes a kelper has a right to a common adjoining and can run a few black faced sheep and some of the black cattle of the country, and whenever he is in a position to save money he prefers to put it in stock rather than to commit it to the keeping of a savings bank. Here and there on the island you may chance across a little circle of stone in a retired nook. You need not puzzle long over it as if it were some archeological find, for it is simply the foundation of a kelp stack that has been piled up inside it, and the calcined appearance of the stones, together with the ashes around them, will immediately reveal its use to you. Far away along the windings of some distant cove you will often see the smoke of these kelp fires rolling heavily out to sea, and the kelp stacks themselves are among the common objects of the seashore, with the long trailing kelp weed drooping down their sides. These have been won with much labor from

the deep, and the yearly wage paid to the Mynish islanders by the kelp company is nearly £2,000.

Kelp is, indeed, the main source of their wealth, and many a voyage has to be taken before a ton of kelp is procured. The weed burns down to a viscous, gelatinous mass under the action of the fire and then cools down to hard and rugged blocks. The kelpers live on fish, milk, tea, bread and eggs chiefly, but seldom on butchers' meat and bacon, for the pig is really the "jintleman that pays the rent." Still, in spite of hardships, the kelpers are strong and healthy men. They would make splendid recruits for the navy, but if they leave their native rocks they find their way to the United States or our colonies.—St. James Gazette.

**After the Elopement.**

Artie—Darling, you have no idea how anxious I was while you were coming down the rope ladder. I was so afraid you had not fastened it securely above.

Susie—You needn't have been alarmed, dear. Papa tied the knot for me.—Pick Me Up.

**SIZES.**

The average cigar is from 4 to 6 inches in length.

A cable, in nautical parlance, means 120 fathoms.

The middle finger is from 3 1/2 to 4 inches in length.

The average height of the horse is about 14 hands.

The average ear is from 3 to 2 1/2 inches in length.

A demy 24mo. page is 5 inches long by 2 3/4 inches wide.

A box 23 by 15 and 24 inches deep contains a barrel of three heaped bushels.

The lion, though he stands no higher than a large mastiff, is from 6 to 8 feet in length.

The regulation length for lead pencils is 7 inches and three-eighths of an inch in thickness.

A size in shoes is one-third of an inch. A No. 12 shoe, made on an F last, is 1 1/4 inches long.

The hand of the man of average size is from 6 to 8 inches in length; that of the woman from 1 to 1 1/2 inches smaller.

The finest needles are about an inch in length. A needle for sewing with coarse thread is from 1 1/2 to 2 inches in length.

The Bengal tiger, though only 4 feet high, is from 8 to 9 feet in length. A specimen of this size will weigh 800 pounds.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST.**

The volcanoes of Vesuvius and Etna are never both active at the same time.

The famous Uncas, Cooper's "last of the Mohicans," is buried in the suburbs of Norwich, Conn.

A relic hunter stole the chair on which President McKinley sat while reviewing the Grand Army parade in Buffalo recently.

**Hood's Pills**

Stimulate the stomach, rouse the liver, cure biliousness, headache, dizziness, sour stomach, constipation, etc. Price 25 cents. Sold by all druggists. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

**Gray's Syrup of Red Spruce Gum**



For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Sore throat, etc.


KERRY, WATSON & CO., PROPRIETORS, MONTREAL.

**EPPS'S COCOA**

ENGLISH BREAKFAST COCOA  
Possesses the following Distinctive Merits:  
DELICACY OF FLAVOR.  
SUPERIORITY in QUALITY.  
GRATEFUL and COMFORTING to the NERVOUS or DYSPEPTIC.  
NUTRITIVE QUALITIES UNRIVALLED  
In Quarter-Pound Tins only.  
Prepared by JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.  
**Bottled Joy.**  
Empty bottles wanted, cheapest cash price paid for all kind of empty bottles.  
JOHN P. JOY,  
Victoria Cafe St. George St.

**Real Persons in Pictures.**  
Remarking upon Mr. Meredith's official correction of the story that his "Diana of the Crossways" was a study of Hon. Mrs. Norton, the St. James Gazette says:  
"Unfortunately these subsequent explanations of the novelists are apt to be but an ineffectual amend for the injury done by their imaginative libels. Dickens explained laboriously that Harold Skimpole was not, or rather was not altogether, his friend Leigh Hunt, but to this day the popular notion of Leigh Hunt is taken rather from Skimpole than from the original. Mme. Heger and the philanthropic institution of the Rev. Carus Wilson are known to the English world at large only in Charlotte Bronte's unflattering portraiture. Ask the novel reading man in the street who 'Dodo' was, and, though Mr. Benson's explicit denial is fresh in our memories, what answer do you get? Happily, Sidney Herbert and the cabinet secret are a piece of history, and Mrs. Norton has a most competent and effective living champion in Lord Dufferin. Yet of the hundreds of hazy readers who would never have heard of Mrs. Norton but for Mr. Meredith, how many will realize and remember that she was wholly innocent of that act of Diana of the Crossways?"

**TO THE RESCUE.**



When a Newfoundland dog plunges into the water and saves a drowning child, every one has a word of praise for the noble animal. There is a graver danger than that of drowning that menaces childhood. It is a danger from which every prospective mother may save her babe if she will only take the right care of the health of the delicate organs that bear the burdens of maternity, during the period of motherhood.

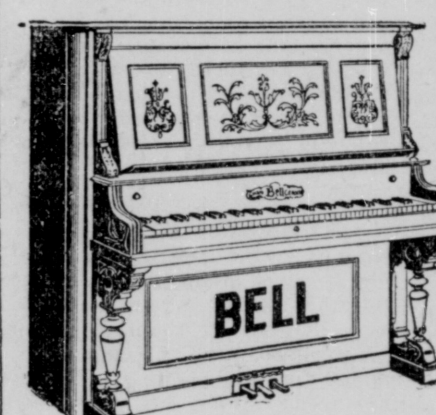
The threatening danger is that baby will be weak, puny and sickly, and come into the world with the seeds of disease and death already implanted in its little body. Health cannot be born of ill-health. The child born of a mother who is suffering from weakness and disease of the feminine organs is condemned upon the very threshold of life to suffering, disease and death. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription fits a woman for motherhood and insures a healthy baby. Thousands of women who were either childless or whose children had all died in babyhood, bless the "Favorite Prescription" for the fact that they are now the happy mothers of healthy children. The medicine dealer who says he has something "just as good" knows that he falsifies.

Mrs. Jno. H. Jones, of Peely, Luzerne Co., Pa., writes: "I was induced to buy two bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription to see if the medicine would make the coming of my baby more easy. I had seven children before and all died during birth or shortly after. I am happy to say that my eighth child (born Sunday, October 27th, 1895) is living and I suffered none at all, compared with what I had with the others."

The names, addresses and photographs of hundreds of women cured by Dr. Pierce's medicines are printed in the "People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." It is free. For a paper-covered copy send 31 one-cent stamps to cover customs and mailing only. French cloth binding 50 stamps. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Every woman needs a great medical book. Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser fills this want. It contains over 1000 pages and 300 illustrations. Several chapters are devoted to the physiology of the organs distinctly feminine.

**THE BELL LEADS.**



Fine Display of **PIANOS** AND **ORGANS** AT **FLETCHER'S** Piano Warecoms, Opera House Building.

**A WHISKY DELICACY OF RARE QUALITY**  
**"A Wee Drappie o' Pattison's Whisky?"**

The cream of Highland Whiskies, carefully blended and bottled under the supervision of the proprietors in H. M. Bonded Stores, Leith, Scotland.  
Guaranteed ten years old.  
A shipment of this rare old Whisky, THE VERY FINEST EVER BROUGHT TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, is now landing ex S. S. Roumanian from Glasgow, for the holiday trade.  
**SEND FOR A SAMPLE CASE.**  
As the stock is limited, early orders will be necessary to prevent disappointment.

**J. & T. Morris, Charlottetown**  
SOLE AGENTS FOR P. E. I.

**In Our North Window**

Will be seen some beautiful vases, and fancy chinaware, suitable for christmas presents.  
We have also a couple of splendid China Dinner Sets left which we will sell regardless of cost. Fancy goods sold at reductions for two weeks at

**T. J. MORRIS**  
Corner of Queen and Kent Sts.

**We are Fully Equipped**

For the Holiday Season with a complete stock of nice lines of Footwear.  
We have all kinds of Shoes; low Shoes, honest Shoes dancing Shoes and Temperance Shoes (that don't get tight). Slippers in great variety, Rubbers, Overshoe Gaiters, etc.

**Big Values, Low Prices, Honest Goods, Best Style**  
Will make almost any one happy. We are more than happy to think that we have pleased you in the past, and know that we can do so now better than ever.

**Weeks & Warren**

**Poultry Wanted**

300 to 500 Turkeys, Geese and Ducks, for which we will pay the highest price.

**CRANT & CO.,**  
Queen Street, Charlottetown

**Examine Our Stock of all Wool Beaver Overcoating**

All well made and first class trimmings.  
**Prices \$14, \$16, \$18 and up.**  
Those in need of a winter overcoat, should call and see these wonderful values before purchasing.

**JOHN MACLEOD & CO**  
**MERCHANT TAILORS.**

FOUND.—There was picked up yesterday afternoon, about 6 o'clock, a...

Indisputable testimony sent sealed. I invite...

CAMERON, BLOCK...

**JOHN MACLEOD & CO**