

**The Daily Examiner**

FEBRUARY 24, 1885.

**Boston Fish Bureau Report for 1884.**

We are indebted to Messrs. Edward T. Russell & Co., Commission Merchants, Boston, for a copy of the above report. The mechanical execution of the report is to be commended; and the matter is arranged in a short concise and comprehensive manner, reflecting credit upon the Secretary of the Bureau, Mr. F. F. Burgess, who evidently has made the whole fish business of the country, and that of Massachusetts and Maine, a specialty.

The report says that the year which has just closed, has proved one of general depression in all lines of trade, and a low range of values has been the rule, and fish and the fish trade has proved no exception; and that while the fishermen, and those interested with them, have met with more or less losses, the distributors or dealers have enjoyed a fairly successful season. The quantities moved have been large, and the low prices have encouraged consumption, and reduced the stocks on hand, so as to leave the trade fairly in hand for the coming season. It also says: "Beginning with large and successful southern herring fisheries, we have had it followed by the most successful mackerel and codfish fisheries, as regards yield or product, that have ever been recorded. While the foregoing is true as pertains to the work of our New England fishermen, and in some lines to those of Nova Scotia, the Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries, may be considered as partial failures." The early catch of mackerel for the year was a fairly paying one. The size was medium and small, not more than one-quarter of the fish taken being of good size, and the run of small fish extended not only through American waters but along the Nova Scotia shores, the only points yielding large and fat fish being Prince Edward Island and the Bay Fisheries. Unfortunately for us, our boat or shore fisheries were almost a total failure, yet it seems that the most of the really good fish came from our waters. It is evident, from the prices for fat fish given in the Report, that if our catch had been an average one, our fishermen would have made a good season's fishing, instead of a poor one, as was actually the case. We quote:—"The catch on the Nova Scotia shores and Prince Edward Island has been much smaller than that of last year; first receipts from the Island were on August 2, fish of good size, selling at \$11. The general run of the fish from the Island has been fair in size, and they have ruled from \$8 to \$12 for unculled; \$8 to \$11.50 for No. 3's; \$10 to \$14 for No. 2's; and \$13 to \$17 for No. 1's during the season. No stock has been carried over. Nova Scotia mackerel have been more like those taken by our own fishermen, as regards size and condition."

The prices realized for mackerel caught in American and Nova Scotia waters ruled far below those taken in our waters, and the statement that none of our stock has been carried over is significant.

The catch of mackerel for 1884 was the largest ever known, the number of inspected barrels landed in Maine and Massachusetts being 478,076. In 1883 it was 226,685 barrels; in 1882, 378,863; in 1881, 391,657; in 1880, 349,674.

The total catch of cod and other ground fish landed in 1884 was 1,001,303 quintals; in 1883, 1,061,698 quintals; in 1882, 998,904 quintals; in 1881, 775,927 quintals; in 1880, 646,426 quintals. At the beginning of the year prices of cod ranged from \$3.50 for large dry fish, and \$3 for medium, \$3.25 for large pickled, \$2.50 for medium per quintal, but at the close of the season the same grades were selling for \$2.50 for large dry, and \$2 for medium. The receipts of Labrador herring was only 2,000 barrels as against upwards of 25,000 in 1883.

Calling attention to the fact that the Washington ten-year fishing treaty expires on July 1, 1885, the report further says: "We hope that some arrangement will be made by Congress, if possible, which will be agreeable to all parties interested and affected." After July 1st, the duty on fish products imported into the United States will be as follows:—Mackerel, one cent a pound; herring, pickled or salted, one-half cent a pound; salmon, pickled, one cent a pound; other fish pickled in barrels, one cent a pound; fish not in barrels, whether fresh, smoked, dried, salted or pickled, not especially enumerated or provided for, fifty cents per one hundred pounds; salmon and all other fish prepared or preserved, twenty-five per cent. ad valorem. Oils, cod liver, crude or refined seal, whale and fish oils, twenty-five per cent.

Gloucester is still far in advance of all other ports in the number of mackerel and cod-fishing vessels sent out, and in the consequent number of men engaged and the output of fish. The Gloucester mackerel fleet for 1884 numbered 170 vessels against 191 sent out from all other New England ports. The total number of the crews of the Gloucester mackerel fleet was 2,770, and her share of the total catch was 189,923 sea-packed barrels, or 170,929 inspected barrels of mackerel. Her fleet of cod fishermen numbered 303 vessels, manned by 8,666 men, and the

number of quintals landed 553,063, being more than one-half the total catch.

In 1883, June 30th, the number of cod and mackerel fishing vessels belonging to Maine was 784; New Hampshire, 35; Massachusetts, 879; Rhode Island, 109; Connecticut, 127; New York, 211; New Jersey, 4; Maryland, 34; Virginia, 36; North Carolina, 6; Florida, 11; Alabama, 6; California, 7.

The Report furnishes many useful and interesting tables of statistics which space forbids us even to summarise; and amongst the others is one giving the total number of barrels of mackerel inspected in Massachusetts from the year 1809 down to 1884. In 1809 the number inspected was 8,825; in 1812, the year of the last war with Britain, the number fell to 1,339; in 1819, it was 100,000; in 1825, it had run up to 254,384; in 1831 to 383,500; and down to 50,000 in 1840; then up to 329,000 in 1851, and to 307,486 in 1884.

Notwithstanding the hopes expressed in the Report that some arrangement will be entered into by the parties interested in the Washington Treaty, "which will be agreeable," we are sorry to find that fishermen, outfitters, and all in authority in the United States, seem determined to oppose the renewal of the terms of the fishing treaty, which will expire in July next. At a recent influential meeting held in Massachusetts, it was stated that it cost the fishermen of the United States one cent a pound more to catch fish than it cost Provincialists, and it was determined to ask Congress to put the duty of one cent a pound on all fish.

In view of the fact that in some seasons, at least, the best mackerel comes from our waters, American fishermen will be aggressive, as in the past, and follow the fish inside the three-mile line. Seizures must necessarily follow, complications arise, and the disputes may become serious, especially as the "headlands" question has not been definitely settled, and the actual limits of the three-mile line defined. Uncle Sam's fishermen might as well, first as last, understand that we shall maintain and defend our rights in the fisheries, and that they will encroach upon them at their peril.

**Love of Country.**

HON. D. FERGUSON'S LECTURE.

This lecture was delivered last evening before a good audience—including His Honor Lieutenant-Governor McDonald, and Mrs. McDonald—sembled under the auspices of the Benevolent Irish Society, W. C. Des Brisay, Esq., occupying the chair. It is, we think, the best literary effort the Hon. Mr. Ferguson has made public. The further the lecturer proceeded the more interesting the lecture became, and the warmer and more frequent was the applause. The lecture is adorned with many of the best poetic gems in our language. The true poets of all ages and nations were and are full of patriotic fire—poetry and love of country are very closely related—and in the treatment of no other subject, except "woman," could poetic quotations be used so tastefully and so happily. Mr. Ferguson considered at large the causes which promote and nourish the noble principle of love of country; the protection a country affords, the power and prestige it has, the liberty it gives. It is true that people in the most ill-favored parts of the world may be said to love their country. But it would be a folly to suppose, for instance, that the South Sea Islander, who knows no law but the will of his chief, no privilege but to live, can feel the genuine patriotism which prompted the declaration of Henry in reference to Britain:

"Gem of the ocean, Empress of the sea,  
My heart could weep in fondness over thee."

Mr. Ferguson dwelt on the many causes there are for the love which Englishmen, Irishmen, Scotchmen and Canadians have for their country. All free men are, he said, lovers of their country; but there are some, who, nevertheless, blinded and carried away by party or other prejudices disparage and injure it. Such are those editors of newspapers who publish untrue statements as to the alleged large emigration from Canada to the United States, who withhold true statements as to the flow of population from the United States into Canada, and who underrate the credit and financial ability of their country. The arena of public discussion is, Mr. Ferguson said, surely broad enough, without touching on grounds which must be regarded as decidedly unpatriotic. We have a territory extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, capable of sustaining an immense population on the latitudes in which have been nurtured the men who for centuries have controlled the destinies of mankind. Canada has a present population of five millions of hardy, self-reliant and intelligent people, inheriting no grievance, shackled by no condition unfavorable to national growth, in the enjoyment of a connection with the most powerful Empire the world has ever seen, giving the greatest security with entire exemption from the responsibilities of national defence. We have an unsurpassed railway system nearly completed, unequalled facilities for internal navigation, and a shipping interest only surpassed by Great Britain, France and the United States. Canada has to-day resources unpeopled greater than those possessed by the original thirteen American Colonies on the day they declared their independence. Can it be that the "tread of pioneers" is to be no more heard on the plains of our mighty West; that the beautiful rivers of British Columbia, Alberta, Attabaska, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan, are to be forever monopolized by the canoes of the savage, and that the busy workshops of Canada are to become as silent as the ruins of Herculaneum? Can it be that the gospel of blue ruin is the true message which the press of our Dominion is entrusted to deliver to the men of this generation? Can it be that the children of the men who

"Quelled the savage  
And who spared the tree,"  
are unequal to the task of carrying forward, in days of peace and plenty, the work which had its foundations firmly laid

in the midst of toil, danger and privation? No! Above the noise, uncertain growl of political disputation may be heard the clear, confident, ringing voice of Enterprise, inviting the men of Canada to go up and possess the magnificent heritage which God has given them. If there be a man amongst us who has no faith in the future of Canada, who has no word of cheer for the brave toilers who, in the workshop, on the dock, in the mine, or on the farm, are laboring to make our country great and prosperous, I would apply to him the words of Henry V. at the battle of Agincourt:

"He who hath no stomach to the fight,  
Let him depart. His passport shall be made,  
And crowns for convoy put into his purse.  
We would not die in that man's company."

So great is the influence of the press that it would be almost impossible to picture a venal, selfish and unpatriotic man. When considerations drawn from the "almighty dollar" are found to weigh most heavily with a man in the choice of religion, it is pretty evident that he is neither a very patriotic nor a very religious man; and so when a newspaper editor discusses national questions wholly from the standpoint of dollars and cents, no matter how loud may be his professions of patriotism, we may safely say that he is not really patriotic. Yet a free press is one of the best signs of liberty and one of the best safeguards of our free institutions. In conclusion Mr. Ferguson referred to the Bible as the most important of the fountains of liberty, and said that we ought to feel deeply thankful that we have so many refreshing fountains whence our love of country may be nourished.

Professor Caven complimented the lecturer and moved a vote of thanks. The motion was seconded by Judge Raddin, and passed unanimously.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

**Public Libraries.**

SIR.—I have just perused in THE EXAMINER, the notice of a paper read last Friday, by P. R. Bowers, Esq., before the Literary and Scientific Society of this city. I infer, from the report rendered, as well as from the generally acknowledged ability of the writer, that said paper, costing, as it must have done, much of research and careful preparation, would be specially interesting to the audience of Mr. Bowers; and doubtless, the many friends of that gentleman, outside of the Literary and Scientific Society, would also appreciate his production, were an opportunity afforded them of perusing it.

Three particular wants in regard to Charlottetown impressed me upon my coming to reside in this moderately large city. These were:—No hospital, no public library, and no letter-carriers. Thanks to His Lordship Bishop McIntyre, the first want is a thing of the past; as to the third, the day may not be far distant when, instead of the crush and the hum outside of the wicket, will be heard the postman's knock at our every door; and for the second, it is to be hoped that something practical will ensue from the valuable suggestions thrown out by Mr. Bowers, who well deserves credit, as pioneer in this one particular march of improvement.

Valuable information is also tendered by you in your reference to certain American libraries; and the closing sentence in regard to the Icelandic Library ought to be a most effective incentive to effort upon the part of an otherwise more favored people. In mostly all the towns, and in many of the villages of Great Britain, we find public libraries, and, as a natural consequence, superior mental training, especially among the poorer and middling classes. These cannot afford to purchase books, and useful as our reading rooms may be, they do not supply the want of a Public Library, from which books may be taken home and studied in the leisure hour. It is beyond anticipation to expect a bequest from some millionaire towards the founding of such an institution; nevertheless, under the energetic management of Mr. Bowers and his colleagues the scheme may effectually be carried into realization, and one other achievement be added to those which are bringing our fair city up to a standard with her more advanced neighbors.

I am, Sir,  
Yours, &c.,  
S. MACLEOD.

Ch'town, Feb. 23, 1885.

**City Matters.**

SIR.—Our new City Council is now to work, and the reforms spoken of previous to the election, the citizens expect to see carried out, viz:—

- First—A good system of waterworks for fire and domestic purposes.
- Second—Better sidewalks and streets.
- Third—Dispensing with some of the City Officials and giving those retained a little more to do by amalgamating several offices.
- Fourth—Making the salary of the City Surveyor sufficient to get the services of a competent man to fill the position. A person competent to keep accounts, draw up plans and specifications, make estimates, look strictly after all city property, and reporting to a permanent Board of Assessors all new buildings and improvements to property within the city.
- Fifth—A permanent Board of Assessors to value all taxable property and income.
- Sixth—A more equitable system of taxation than at present in vogue.

In order to carry out these reforms it will necessitate levying other taxes than those at present levied. And here comes the trouble. Who is to bear the additional burden? Our taxes per head of the population are not high. They are lower than any other city in Canada, but they are not fairly and justly levied—some are paying too much, while others go almost free. While this state of things exist, you will always hear from the overtaxed citizen, but from the other never. If our taxes were justly levied, we could raise sufficient revenue for all purposes and not a complaint would be heard. The City Council will require to raise this year a revenue of \$47,500. To do so additional taxes will be put upon the people. I would suggest an income tax, poll tax, business license tax, insurance company tax and household furniture tax. We should have an income tax, because those citizens having incomes have the ability to pay taxes; those without have no ability to pay. Then, let the

tax be in proportion to their income, commencing with income exceeding \$500. Persons whose income is under \$500 should not be taxed, because they have only enough to supply their families with the ordinary comforts of life, and as they occupy a house and pay rent they contribute indirectly through their landlord, if they do not own the property themselves. The income tax to be levied is as under:—

- Class No. 1—Incomes \$500 and up to \$700, \$5 per year taxes.
- Class No. 2—Incomes \$700 and up to \$1,000, \$10 per year taxes.
- Class No. 3—Incomes \$1,000 and up to \$1,500, \$15 per year taxes.
- Class No. 4—Incomes \$1,500 and up to \$2,000, \$20 per year taxes.
- Class No. 5—Incomes \$2,000 and up to \$3,000, \$30 per year taxes.
- Class No. 6—Incomes \$3,000 and up to \$5,000, \$45 per year taxes.
- Class No. 7—Incomes \$5,000 and up to \$10,000, \$80 per year taxes.
- Class No. 8—Incomes \$10,000 and upwards, \$100 per year taxes.

We need not go above class No. 8, as we have very few persons in this city whose incomes exceed that, and let \$100 per year be the highest income tax to be paid. This tax should not come in force until all Dominion and Local Government officials, naval and military officials, foreign officials, and all persons living within the city limits enjoying the benefits and protection of the Corporation, no matter if they draw their salaries from the Czar of Russia or the Emperor of Brazil. I don't see why I should be compelled to pay for police protection, keep up a fire department to protect the property and educate the children of Government officials. Indirectly I assist to give them good salaries, and then they turn around and ask me to do more. This state of affairs must be put a stop to, and the sooner we begin the better. To make an "Income Tax" palatable, our assessors must be sworn to keep those matters to themselves. In this small town where everybody knows everybody, and what they had for breakfast, our assessors would not have much trouble in telling what class to put Sam Jones in. For instance, they put him in class 4, which is \$1,500 to \$2,000, tax \$20. If his income did not reach that amount he could appeal (privately) to the assessors and get it reduced, or if his income exceeded the amount he was assessed for he could pay his tax and say nothing about it. A license to do business can be classed in the same way, under \$3,000 of a yearly turnover, no tax to be paid.

Class No. 1—Turnover of \$3,000, and not exceeding \$5,000, tax \$6 per year.	Class No. 2—Turnover of \$5,000, and not exceeding \$10,000, tax \$12 per year.
Class No. 3—Turnover of \$10,000, and not exceeding \$25,000, tax \$30 per year.	Class No. 4—Turnover of \$25,000, and not exceeding \$50,000, tax \$35 per year.
Class No. 5—Turnover of \$50,000, and not exceeding \$100,000, tax \$50 per year.	

The tax on household furniture should be on furniture exceeding \$600, all under that amount free, classed in the same way as income tax.

Class No. 1—Household furniture over \$600 in value and under \$1,000, \$10 per year.	Class No. 2—Household furniture over \$1,000 in value and under \$1,500, \$15 per year.
Class No. 3—Household furniture over \$1,500 in value and under \$2,000, \$20 per year.	Class No. 4—Household furniture over \$2,000 in value and upwards, \$25 per year.

The poll tax should be \$2 a head on all male citizens over 21 years of age.

On making some calculations, I find our revenue under this new system would be:

Ordinary Revenue.....	\$11,200
1 per cent. on Real Estate.....	21,000
Income Tax.....	4,500
Insurance Companies Tax.....	600
Business Licenses.....	1,500
Furniture Tax.....	2,700
Poll Tax.....	3,000
	\$47,500

This is how the citizens would be taxed under the new system, varying according to value of real estate, furniture, income, volume of business, etc.

Real estate.....	\$15 00
Poll tax.....	2 00
Total.....	\$17 00

Small Merchant

Real estate.....	\$15 00
Income tax.....	5 00
Poll tax.....	2 00
Business license.....	6 00
Total.....	\$28 00

Merchant

Real estate.....	\$100 00
Income tax.....	20 00
Poll tax.....	2 00
Furniture tax.....	10 00
Business license.....	35 00
Carriage tax.....	5 00
Total.....	\$172 00

Builder

Real Estate.....	\$25 00
Poll Tax.....	2 00
Income.....	10 00
Furniture.....	5 00
Total.....	\$42 00

Professional Man

Real Estate.....	\$40 00
Poll Tax.....	2 00
Income Tax.....	25 00
Furniture Tax.....	10 00
Carriage Tax.....	5 00
Total.....	\$82 00

And now let us hear some other citizen on this all-important topic.

**FEBRUARY 18TH, 1885**

**DECIDED TO MAKE A CHANGE IN OUR BUSINESS!**

**WILL SELL AT COST FOR 40 DAYS.**

**Will Sell Balance of Stock on hand on April 1, by Auction, of which due Notice will be Given!**

**Payment of all Accounts furnished 31st December is Requested.**

**C. ROBERTSON.**

Ch'town, Feb. 18th, 1885.

**FEBRUARY.**

**DURING THIS MONTH**

**J. B. MACDONALD**

WILL SELL THE BALANCE OF HIS WINTER STOCK AT

**STILL LOWER PRICES!**

**Bargains in Every Department.**

Remnants and Short Ends must be cleared.

Don't fail to call when shopping, as nowhere can cheaper goods be had than at

**J. B. MACDONALD'S,**

Queen Street.

Ch'town, Feb. 10, 1885—dly wkly

**LONDON HOUSE**

**Custom Tailoring Department!**

A SPLENDID RANGE OF CLOTHS IN

**Broadcloths, Worsteds, Meltons, Suitings & Light Overcoatings.**

Work done with Promptness and in the Best Styles, at the Lowest Prices.

**GEO. DAVIES & CO.**

Ch'town, Feb. 5, 1885—2 aw wkly

**Clothing & Fur Caps.**

**FUR CAPS! FUR CAPS!**

**OVERCOATS! OVERCOATS!**

All who want Overcoats and Fur Caps will do well to call on L. E. Prowse, as he has the largest and best assortment in town, and his prices are very low. Ladies' Sacques, Ulsters, Wool Squares, Wool Scarfs, &c., on a big discount. Call and see our goods and prices and we will convince you that we mean what we say.

**L. E. PROWSE,**

Sign of the BIG HAT, 74 Queen Street.

Ch'town, Dec. 27, 1884.

**CHARLOTTETOWN BOOT AND SHOE FACTORY!**

The rush for ROOTS and SHOES is to Dorsey, Goff & Co. People say they sell cheap. Their own make of Solid Leather Boots takes the lead.

**DORSEY, GOFF & CO.**

Charlottetown, Jan. 12, 1885.

**NOTICE.**

A PUBLIC Meeting will be held at Cape Traverses, on Monday, the 2nd March, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of considering the necessity of building a breakwater and dredging the channel; also, other matters. The Commissioner of Public Works is invited to attend; also our local representatives. By order of the committee.  
ALEX. STRANG,  
Secretary.  
Ch'town, Feb. 21, 1885.