

MR. BLAKE'S retirement from the McKenzie Cabinet, has been the cause of much speculation. The Premier paid a tribute to the memory of the departed Minister, and bemoaned the precarious condition of the great man's health. It was believed that sickness had made such devastating inroads on Mr. Blake's constitutions that he would be compelled to abandon not only the Cabinet, but the Parliament, and seek, in milder latitudes, repose and strength.

Let there be no mistaking the signs of the times. Mr. Blake is just sick enough to play a part, and well enough to be ready for any emergency which may arise. Conscious of the weakened condition of the Cabinet and aware of the desire for changes which exists within the Reform ranks, he has freed himself from governmental entanglements and thrown out his bids for the first position. But the nature of his game is known. Between Mr. Blake and Mr. Brown there has never been a cordial feeling; at times they have openly assailed each other. Mr. Brown does not hesitate to declare Mr. Blake unfit to lead a Party—and in this we do not think he is far wrong—and Mr. Blake in return talks of the base ingratitude of Mr. Brown. A cordial rivalry exists between them. If Mr. Blake dares to show his head above water, Mr. Brown is ready to push it down. There must be no such insubordination in the ranks. Indeed Mr. Brown will himself go into the Government rather than permit this Aurore politician, who would not remain in a Reform Government of his making, to take the reins into his own hands. We are inclined to think that Mr. Blake has miscalculated his strength now as he has before. There is a burning desire among the Government followers in Parliament for great changes in its personnel. There will be some changes, we are inclined to think, before the election takes place, but they will not be in the way of Mr. Blake's ambition. He deserves no consideration. Fickle, disloyal to his party, as a Minister selfishly bound to his own Department, and indifferent to the fate of his colleagues, cold, imperious, truculent—he possesses no strength which will cause the party to rush to him in a time of distress. They will have to put up with Messrs. McKenzie and Brown; and while we would not in the slightest degree shrink from fighting Mr. Blake in conjunction with them, they are the men who are mainly responsible for the Government of the past five years, and they are the men we desire to face in open combat. We look to a square issue of both men and principles and prepared to face it in fair and manly fight, with no fear whatever as to the result.

The Civic Report.

A VERY comprehensive and carefully got up Report of the City of Charlottetown has been issued by the Mayor. A great number of comparative tables of outlay and income are given, also reports from the different committees, and some exceedingly quaint and curious extracts from the minutes. We give the following passages respecting a supply of water for the City, as good water appears to be the most urgent want at present:—

The sixty-one Pumps and Wells of the city have been maintained in an efficient condition, at a cost of \$1,101.35.

It is to be regretted that so much money should have to be spent, to provide water, which scientific men have declared to be "unfit for human use."

Under these circumstances, the subject of providing the city, with a copious supply of pure water, demands your earnest consideration.

The question appears to have frequently engaged the attention of "the City Council," but more especially was this the case in 1870, when the services of Mr. Charles W. Fairbanks, an Engineer of ability, were secured to examine and report upon the subject.

His report is dated 17th December. When presented, it was considered "able and satisfactory," and the thanks of the City Council, were accordingly voted.

The survey, with plan and report, cost £235 (\$905.30).

Mr. Fairbanks unhesitatingly recommended that the supply be drawn from Winter River, about 3 1/2 miles from the city.

He says "I can see no good reason why Charlottetown should not have Water Works of a very superior construction, and at a very moderate cost."

He estimated the cost at \$100,000, which is equal to an expenditure of \$6,000.

He says "the Water Works of every City should be the property of the people," and he might have added, the people of every City should insist upon an abundant supply of good water being provided for them, seeing that, as he states, "the City suffers from many diseases which a good supply of water will prevent."

It is apparent that if a system of Drains and Sewers in the City could be flushed with water, it would, as Mr. Fairbanks remarks, "carry away the impurities which cannot otherwise be removed."

To these great and important considerations, he adds other advantages, as follows:— "Fire Plugs will be most effective" and "Insurance on property will be reduced." "The Streets will be watered from the Fire Plugs." "Fountains," at which to water horses, would be erected at convenient places in the streets, and he hopes "the day is not distant when a good bath can be had."

There can be no doubt that manufacturing industries are stimulated "in cities having plenty of pure water."

Steamers and other vessels in the Harbor require, and are always willing to pay, to be fully supplied.

The Government Railway Works always

need a large supply, and when the advantages, as in this case, are manifest, the authorities are willing to pay handsomely for the service, as well as for the protection afforded.

On the 24th December, 1872, Professor S. D. Hayes, the State Assayer for Massachusetts, to whom sealed samples, in bottles duly numbered, were sent, reported, that the water from Winter River is "a good water of average quality," that Spring Park water is "inferior to it," and that the "City pump water" is "very impure and unwholesome."

Referring to the Artesian Well, Mr. Fairbanks says: "Many think that water is to be had by the simple process of boring into the soft sandstone rocks, or making what is called an Artesian Well."

"I have taken much pains to inform myself on this subject, and when on my way here, met with the much lamented C. Hartly, Esq., a gentleman whose untimely death is a loss to science. He was employed on the Geological Survey for the Dominion Government for some time in Nova Scotia, and, as he had visited this Island, we, on consultation, came to the conclusion that, as the strata of the rock here was horizontal, water for a supply to a City was impracticable, and my examinations since made, confirm that opinion."

This testimony was considered conclusive, but, as many persons thought differently, the City Council determined to test the matter, and accordingly in November, 1876, entered into a contract with Mr. James Harris of St. John, N. B., to bore for water beyond "Mount Edward."

The Contractor soon after commenced, and continued at intervals to prosecute the work until November last, when his men left the Island without notice, having to all appearances abandoned the work.

There was paid on account of this contract, \$5.00.

As the Contractor has not fulfilled his agreement, I recommend that it be cancelled.

With regard to Spring Park water, Mr. Fairbanks says: "Spring Park is, say ten (10) feet above the tide level, and although it may be, at this date, good water, the time is not distant when even the small supply derived from it will become almost as bad as the water in the City wells, so that, in fact, the day has come when the Capital of the Island must draw an ample supply from Winter River."

He further says: "Water is now sold in this City for one penny, currency, per three gallons, at the doors of those who can pay for it, and many persons send for water to Spring Park, while water is sold in New York for one cent per hundred gallons."

During the autumn of 1877, the City Council authorized the erection, at Spring Park, of a Tank, to be filled by means of a Steam Pump, operated in the Factory of Messrs. McKinnon & Fraser, to whom they authorized a payment of fifty (50) cents per day, for pumping.

The Tank which has since been erected, and has a capacity of 12,935 imperial gallons, was put in operation early in January of this year. It cost \$1,037.14, beside \$250, for the Steam Pump, the payment for which latter is not yet due.

Before the erection of this Tank, the water was taken from the spring by means of an ordinary wooden pump, and it frequently happened that fifteen to twenty teams were waiting their turn to fill.

At the present time water can be supplied, without labor, at the rate of one hundred (100) gallons per minute.

The effect has been, that watermen have multiplied, and the number of other persons seeking water at this spring has increased, so that last month the quantity delivered per day averaged not less than nine thousand (9,000) gallons. On Saturdays and Mondays the quantity supplied reached 17,000 gallons per day.

Nine thousand gallons per day at one penny per bucket of three gallons is equal to £12.10 (\$40.55) per day, or for 313 days \$12,692.15, which represents the least amount the citizens of Charlottetown pay directly for the water now taken from Spring Park; add to this, \$1,107.35 paid for keeping the Pumps and Wells in order, and say \$313, for operating and repairing Spring Park Tank, and you have \$14,112.50, as the direct annual cost to the citizens, of the present insufficient supply of bad water for the poor, and good water for those who can afford to pay for it.

To this should be added the difference between the premiums paid for fire risks at the present time, and the amount which would be paid, if there was a good supply of water.

The amount of insurance existing on buildings and contents, is \$2,569,304.

Having recently obtained this information from the agents in this city, I am in a position to state that, if there was a good system of water works, the annual premiums now paid on that amount, would be reduced by \$9,845.

The insurance agents further state, that \$2,569,304 is much less than one half the value of the burnable property in the city, and that, therefore, the owners of property carry risks which represent an annual saving in premiums of much more than \$9,345 additional.

In short— Water from Spring Park now costs the citizen \$12,692 15 Pumping and Repairs to Tank, say 313 00 Keeping the Pumps and Wells in order 1,107 35

Additional Fire Risks:— On Policies running 9,845 00 On Properties not insured (at least) 9,845 00

Total \$33,802 50

which, at six per cent., is the interest on \$564,375, the cost of the present CHARLOTTETOWN WATER WORKS.

In the face of these facts will it be said that the citizens of Charlottetown cannot afford to construct Water Works, when, for less than one third the annual amount for which they thus tax themselves, they could not only be abundantly supplied with good Water in their houses and on the streets, but would have the satisfaction of knowing that the poor, and those who cannot pay for it, would be relieved from the necessity of using water "unfit for human use."

The sanitary condition of the city depends so much upon the water supply, that if I need only say, the medical men affirm there is a constant increase in the number of cases of fever, including typhoid in its worst form, and that, in the great majority of instances, the cause can be traced to insufficient drainage, and the use of bad water.

On the low lands, in some parts of the City, during the summer months, there are pools of stagnant water, which emit unhealthy vapours. Some of these places can be filled, but the great remedy is an abundant supply of water.

Mr. Earle's Concert

THE programme for the above entertainment, which took place on Tuesday evening, was of a very choice description, and well calculated to gratify the lovers of classical music. There was in it an aspiration, at all events, after higher and better things than we have been ordinarily accustomed to here; and for this, Mr. Earle deserves the thanks of the public. To the Charlottetown Amateur Orchestral Club were assigned three numbers, which were well rendered, more especially the two selections from Donizetti. We observe, with pleasure, the progress of the Club, and feel confident that, with perseverance, they will, in a short time, be able to delight, still more, their audiences with really good performances. The Club needs more members. This, however, cannot be accomplished in a hurry, as the training of recruits is not a task to be accomplished easily or hastily. The three choruses of the programme were fairly rendered—they were, however, lacking somewhat in force and precision. "Under the shady green wood tree," was the best effort of the chorus. Mattei's Galop, for flute, violin, cornet and piano, although artistically interpreted did not find that favor with the audience, which was so warmly bestowed on the "Trio" for flute, violin and piano, from Martha. This was, indeed, a choice morceau, given with great delicacy and appreciation. The Pilgrims Chorus, from Tannhauser, arranged as a Violin Solo, would, we fear, fail to recommend itself to a mixed modern audience, however artistically performed. It may possibly find more general admirers in the future. The air and Rondo, from Pleyel, a flute solo, was well performed. The only piano solo on the programme was a fantasia from "Robert Le Diable"—played by Mr. Earle with much spirit, although he must have been tired, having previously played the accompaniment to seventeen pieces. The song "Dreaming still Dreaming," was pleasantly rendered. "Ye pretty Birds" was executed by a lady gifted with a voice, not, perhaps, powerful, but of great sweetness and flexibility. The audience called for its repetition. "The Village Blacksmith" was sung to a harmonium accompaniment. The passage where the "Old Hundred" is introduced gained by the arrangement. The ever welcome Bass Cavatina, from Sonnambula was delivered in excellent style—the only drawback to its excellence being the harsh English words which have been clumsily crushed in to suit the melody. The old Trio "Dane Durden" was on the programme, but was not brought forward, Mr. Beer supplying the number by singing "I'm Afloat." It would be unfair not to notice among the song-singers Master Ernest Earle, who received a rapturous encore.

The attendance was not so large as the excellence of the programme seemed to warrant. The fact, however, that there was on the same evening another Concert in the Reform Club, may account for the thin attendance at Mr. Earle's entertainment.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the Union Bank of P. E. Island. The following is the STATEMENT.

LIABILITIES. Notes in circulation \$233,925 83 Deposits bearing Interest 277,330 27 Deposits not bearing Interest 109,682 69 Balances due to other Banks 11,413 61

Liabilities to the Public 632,352 40 Capital paid up 162,222 22 Reserve Fund 65,000 00 Dividends unpaid 2,494 02 Reserve for Interest on Deposit Receipts, &c. 6,962 58 Net Profits on hand 5,532 77

ASSETS. Specie and Dominion (Legal Tender) Notes \$70,479 71 Notes of, and Cheques on, other Banks 27,265 76 Balances due from other Banks 86,609 73 Bills of Exchange 39,734 66

Assets immediately available 224,089 91 Notes Discounted, Loans, and other Assets 619,037 98 Bank Premises in Charlottetown and Summerside 31,436 10

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT. To Dividend No. 25 \$7,300 00 " Dividend No. 27 8,111 11 " Amount transferred to Reserve Fund 20,000 00 " Balance on hand 5,532 77

By Balance from last year \$4,049 28 " Net ordinary profits for year, after providing for bad and doubtful debts 36,894 60 \$40,943 88

GEORGE MACLEOD, Cashier.

To Dorsey & Jost's Debtors!

TO ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO US, We hereby give notice that after the Tenth Day of March next they will be liable to law expenses for the collection of their accounts.

We would rather not adopt the above course, but we have payments to make, and must positively collect our outstanding accounts.

DORSEY & JOST.

Ch'town, Feb. 12, 1878. — 3taw ne ar till mar. 10

SPRING GOODS!

Ex S. S. Northern Light,

—AT THE—

London House

WILL

BE SHOWN ON MONDAY, the 4th March,

200 PATTERNS

CANADIAN TWEEDS,

West of England and Scotch Makes.

—ALSO—

BLACK & BLUE BROADCLOTHS,

Worsted & Fancy COATINGS!

SINGLE GARMENTS and SUITS made up in the best styles and at the shortest notice.

OUR

TAILORING DEPARTMENT A GREAT SUCCESS.

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT

Men's and Boys' Hats,

We offer SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS in House Furnishing Goods—

DAMASKS, REPPS, CRETONNES, MOREENS, ETC.

SHEETINGS, PILLOW COTTON, WINDOW HOLLAND, White & Grey CALICO, ETC.

CARPETINGS, HEARTH RUGS, MATTS & MATTING, FLOOR OIL CLOTH, ETC.

A CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF

Paper Hangings!

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

March 2—1m 2aw

LECTURE.

THE ninth Lecture of the course in connection with the Y. M. C. Association will be delivered on

Friday Evening, March 8th,

—BY— REV. J. M. MACLEOD.

SUBJECT:

"Harmony Between Natural Science and Revelation."

Lecture to commence at eight o'clock. Admission 10 cents; ladies 5 cents.

JOHN MACLEOD, Sec'y.

March 7—3i

TAILOR'S NOTICE.

JOHN BELL wishes to inform the public that during the present dull times he is prepared to make up to order Gentlemen's and Boys' Clothing at a reduction from former prices of twenty-five per cent. Please give him a call and bring your cloth and trimmings.

Fitzroy Street (West), March 7, '78—th & sat pat fri & tu ft

THE COUNTY MEETING,

ADVERTISED to take place at Georgetown this day, is postponed until TUESDAY next, the 12th March, at two o'clock in the afternoon, then to take place at the Court House in Georgetown.

MICHAEL McCORMACK, Sheriff.

Sheriff's Office, King's County, } March 7, 1878. } dy pat 3i

BUTTER! BUTTER!

A FEW Tubs good Home Made BUTTER—not imported,—made by some of our best Butter-makers—can be had on application to JAMES BARRETT, Dorchester Street, Ch'town, Mar. 1, 1878—tf

Anniversary Service.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the P. E. Island Auxiliary Bible Society will be held (D. V.) in the Hall of the Y. M. C. A., Charlottetown, on MONDAY, the 11th inst. Besides the usual programme, some choice pieces will be sung at intervals during the evening. Chair taken at 8 o'clock, p. m.

DONALD McNEILL, Secretary.

March 4, 1879—t meeting.

Tenders for Poor House.

TENDERS, marked "Tenders for Poor House," will be received at the Poor House, until SATURDAY, 9th March, from persons willing to furnish the following supplies:—

- FISH, KEOSENE OIL, SOAP, HOMESPUN CLOTH, FLANNEL, UNBLEACHED COTTON, WHITE WINCEY, SHIRTS and DRAWERS, HATS and CAPS,

Also for performing the following services: TAILOR'S WORK, SHOEMAKER'S, UNDETKAKER'S

All necessary information can be obtained at the Poor House from the master. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

GEORGE W. HODGSON, Sec'y Commissioners.

Ch'town, Feb. 25—dy pat 3taw till 9th

ADDRESSES

Messrs. Palmer and Longworth

in the case of the QUEEN vs. MARTIN CARROLL, for Riot, are now on sale in the Bookstores, in Pamphlet form.

PRICE, 3 CENTS.

Ch'town, Feb. 19, 1878.

OUR GREAT

CLEARANCE SALE

WILL CONTINUE AT

Further Reduced Prices.

Several Lots of that

BANKRUPT STOCK!

still on hand, will be sold at HALF PRICE.

Remnants at half Price!

WOOLLEN & FUR GOODS

AT COST.

GREAT BARGAINS IN CLOTHING!

for Men and Boys.

ROBERT ORR & CO.

Charlottetown, Jan. 8, 1878.