

THE DAILY EXAMINER. NOVEMBER 20, 1889.

Land Office Defalcations.

Nearly a year ago, the Commissioner of Public Lands discovered that a sum of money had been taken out of the cash in the Lands Office. By means of a cheque, not entered upon the books, which had been used to balance the cash, he had little difficulty in tracing the defalcation to the official then recently deceased, viz., the late Robert A. Strong.

The Commissioner notified the family and sureties of the defauling official; about \$700 of the money taken has been returned; and the Government holds ample security for the balance. Expert accountants are now engaged upon the books; and not a single dollar of it need be lost to the Province.

In view of these facts, and in pity for the unfortunate family of the deceased defaulter, the Commissioner and the Government said nothing more about the matter than the public interests absolutely required.

But the secret gradually leaked out. A few leading members of the Opposition party got hold of it. It brought joy to them. Hungry and thirsty after office, anxious to oust the Government, eager to vent their spite upon one who has fairly beaten them in the political field, they were not to be deterred by feelings of pity for the living or respect for the dead.

With a wealth of false and exaggerated rhetoric possessed by but one or two men in this community, an effort has been made, through the medium of the Patriot, to make the public believe that the Hon. Donald Ferguson, himself, is the guilty man. For his kindly consideration towards an innocent and highly respectable widow and family, suffering that which is worse than loss by death, Mr. Ferguson has been assailed, at a most critical time in the career of the Government, with a rancor that people would call hellish, if it were not political.

The simple facts of the case have been briefly and frankly stated in the above paragraphs. Now, let us see what the Patriot says about it. It says, in the first place, that "we, of course, have no means of knowledge as to who the guilty party or parties are."

The Patriot had precisely the same "means of knowledge" concerning "the guilty party" that it had concerning the fact of the defalcations. The report about the defalcations which has lately been going the rounds included the name of "the guilty party."

In point of fact, the writer of the Patriot's article knew the name of "the guilty party" just as well and just as accurately as he knew that "thousands of dollars" had "been done away with."

The Patriot's article is, therefore, begun in falsehood,—a falsehood deliberately and carefully formulated for the purpose of accomplishing the political ruin of a man whom the writer knew to be innocent. Can anything meaner, more contemptible, or (short of absolute legal criminality) more cruelly criminal be imagined.

Then, the Patriot proceeds to arraign Mr. Ferguson for neglect of duty—as if the most careful, the most attentive and watchful men have not been cheated by accomplished and artful embezzlers who scruple not to tamper with the books of account; as if such acts as those of which the Land Office has, in this case, been the victim, are not constantly occurring in banks and counting-houses over which the supervision is constant, and in which the system of bookkeeping is perfect!

The Patriot proceeds to declare that the system of bookkeeping in the Land Office is not maintained as it was when the Hon. Joseph Pope was in office. It is exactly the same. The same books of account are kept now, as were kept then. True, the system of bookkeeping may not be so scientific as it might be. The fact that it was established in the year 1876, when the Opposition were in office, would argue that it is not the best system in the world. But, such as it is, it has been faithfully adhered to, and the system of audit established at the same time, has been carefully maintained.

That the frauds—which extend over a long period of years—were not sooner discovered is due to the fact that they were carefully and artfully kept outside the audit, and that nothing occurred until after the death of the defaulter to direct attention to them.

Attorney General's office when, in 1877, Mr. L. H. Davies was spending the summer earning big fees at Halifax,—and paying those whom he employed to do his duty here out of the public purse.

There is, indeed, one point upon which (as the event has proved) the Commissioner exhibited weakness: he kept the matter of the defalcations secret. If, in spite of the entreaties of the defauling official's relatives, he had at once published the facts and asked for an investigation of his accounts, he would not now be open to the attacks of the heartless and hungry office-seekers, who scruple not, on the ground of a dead man's sin, to attempt his ruin and the confusion of the Government which they have so long fought in vain to overthrow. But all men who have hearts will appreciate the position he was in, and will respect his motive, if they cannot admire his action. To bring disgrace upon the head of a sorrowing widow and upon a name that has been held in the highest respect throughout this Province, were surely not the act of a kindly man. He was assured that every dollar that had been taken would be returned. The interests of the public did not require the exposure. The defaulter had passed to the dread tribunal before which all must stand; he was beyond the reach of the arm of human justice. Therefore, the Commissioner of Public Lands kept the secret. The Oppositionists, to work their purposes, told part of the truth about it; the publication of the whole truth is now absolutely necessary.

We are much mistaken if, in the contemplation of the whole truth, the Commissioner of Public Lands is not completely exonerated by public opinion, while those who have so foully and heartlessly sought to effect his ruin, in order that they may secure a party triumph, are indignantly condemned.

Forty Fishermen Lost

FROM THE GLOUCESTER FLEET LAST YEAR.

As usual at the close of the mackereling season and the beginning of the winter-haddock fishery, which marks the commencement of what may be considered the beginning of a new fishing year, we present below our annual recapitulation of the loss of life and property in the Gloucester fisheries during the past year. The number of Gloucester fishing vessels lost during the year was 14, the same number as last year, viz: 2 in the Bank fishery, 5 in the herring trade, 3 on Georges, and four in the shore fisheries. Their aggregate tonnage was 853 tons, and their value with outfits about \$60,000, on which there was \$50,054 insurance. Three vessels were lost with all their crews, of thirty-eight men, all told. The number of men washed overboard, capsized or missing in dories, etc., and who have died at sea, was 32, making the total loss of life 70, against 63 the previous year. The tonnage of the fourteen vessels lost last year was 910, their value with outfits about \$63,000, and the insurance \$54,127. Lives lost 63. In 1887 thirteen vessels were lost, aggregating 853 tons, representing a value with outfits of \$62,950; on which there was an insurance of \$51,445; lives lost 34. In 1886 the number of vessels lost was 26; tonnage, 1751; value, \$152,909; insurance \$119,231; lives lost, 136. It is a curious fact that of the large number of men who have gone astray in the fog on the Banks from Gloucester vessels, during the past year, something over forty in number, only one dory's crew, John Fay and Thos. Thompson, of the esch. Ben Hur, were never heard from, all the others being picked up or succeeding in reaching the shore. Of the 70 lives lost, 24 belonged to the Maritime Provinces or Newfoundland.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

An Elector's Opinion.

SIR,—I observe that "Another Observer," in a late number of the Patriot, tries to give a sectarian complexion to the quarrel that took place at the Revision Court between himself and Mr. John McLean. "At the last Dominion election," he says, "he received only twenty-five Protestant votes to the over eight hundred Catholic votes cast for him in this district. In balloting how does he know who voted for or against him? But even if his assertion were true, what has he got to say about it? Why, that he "does not" (we quote his own words) blame the people for this; he blames three or four bigoted Tory partisans in Souris for the result of this vote."

Now, sir, we have no hesitation in saying that this is a most infamous libel upon electors of the district. The Protestants of this part of the Island have minds of their own, and are not led by the nose, as the Dr. insinuates, by anyone in Souris or elsewhere. They supported the Catholic candidates in both local and Dominion elections as squarely and honestly as they did the Protestant candidates. They are neither bigots nor the followers of bigots. They live in peace and harmony with their Catholic neighbors. And the same may be said of the Catholic portion of the community. In politics, up this way, religious matters are rigidly excluded, and the result is that there is no part of P. E. Island where there is more good feeling between Protestants and Catholics than exists in this district. If some electors—Catholics as well as Protestants—who formerly supported the Liberal party, have changed their political views within the last few years, the Dr. must not attribute the change to religious bigotry, but rather to the bungling of his party leaders—and in this district especially to his own abusive tongue and pen.

Yours truly, ELECTOR. North Lake, Nov. 18, 1889.

THE MACKEREL CATCH.—The Halifax Herald says: Large catches of mackerel were reported from along shore yesterday. Nine seines full were reported to be gathered in the vicinity of Spring Cove.

A Terrible Warning.

AN OLD MAN FALLS DOWN STAIRS AND KILLS HIMSELF WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

An old man named Thomas Godfrey, who lived alone on the Lower Spring Park Road, fell down the stairs of his residence yesterday morning, and died from the effects almost instantly. He had been drinking hard for about two weeks, and at the time of the disaster was delirious.

An inquest was held by Dr. Conroy this morning. The jury was composed of Edward Davy (foreman) John Hertz, Chas. Hooper, Geo. Foster, John Harris, Michael Hennessey and N. Campbell. The witnesses examined were James Godfrey, one of the two sons of the deceased, Mrs. Martha Glover, who lives next door to the deceased, and acting Marshal Cameron. The evidence showed that the deceased had been drinking hard for about two weeks, and that he was under the influence of liquor when last seen alive. James Godfrey, a son of the deceased, works with Mr. George Simmonds. He boards with Mr. Simmonds, but sleeps at his father's residence. He and his father slept in the one room up stairs, but not in the same bed. All through Monday night the old man was delirious. The son could not keep him in bed. He would get up and walk about the room holding the blanket in his hands and talking in a nonsensical manner. The son thought he was suffering from the effects of the liquor he had drunk. When the son left for his work on Tuesday morning about five o'clock the old man was still acting badly about the room. When he returned to the house after six o'clock that evening, he lit the lamp to go up stairs to see how he was getting along. When he opened the door to go up he found the body of his father doubled up at the foot of the stairs—dead. The old man had nothing on but a shirt and a pair of trousers. A flask containing about two glasses of rum was found hidden under the tick of his bed. Mrs. Glover heard loud talking in Godfrey's house during Monday night. The noise kept her awake all night. She heard no cross words or anything like an altercation. The old man appeared to be doing the talking. About 6 o'clock in the morning she heard a noise as if of some person falling. She knew the old man had been drinking, and supposed he had fallen out of the bed. She tried to get into his house to see what was the matter, but could not do so. There was no evidence to show where the deceased got his liquor, nor did his son James ever see any with him. The latter never saw the flask found in his father's bed until it was shown at the inquest, and had no suspicion that it was there. Acting Marshal Cameron's testimony was to the effect that the deceased dropped into the police station for a few moments on Monday afternoon, and that he was then under the influence of liquor, but was capable of taking care of himself.

The jury returned the following verdict: "That the deceased, Thomas Godfrey, came to his death from a fall down the stairs in his own house, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor."

"The Elizabethan Vikings."

REV. A. ROBERTSON, of New Glasgow, N. S., lectured on the above subject in St. James' Hall last evening. There was a very good audience present. Mr. H. C. MacDonald, President of the society under whose auspices the lecture was delivered, occupied the chair. The lecture was well written and very clearly and distinctly read. After describing the position of the country in learning and literature in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and touching upon the discovery of the Western Continent, the lecturer told of the unequal contests that took place between England and Spain at that time, and of the destruction of the Spanish Armada. He closed his discourse with the thrilling narrative of the unequal battle between one English ship—the Revenge—and the Spanish fleet numbering fifty ships, dwelling pathetically upon the death of Sir Richard Granville, who commanded the Revenge. The lecturer took the life of Sir Walter Raleigh as the centre of his story, making his chief conferees—the vikings of that day—revolve about him. The rev. gentleman was tendered a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks at the close of his discourse.

AUCTION SALE

OF A House and Lot on Sydney Street, in Charlottetown.

THE undersigned is instructed by the Executors of the Estate of the late George Braze, deceased, to sell by Auction, on the premises, in Charlottetown,

On Friday, 29th November, AT 12 O'CLOCK, NOON,

All that Dwelling House and piece of Land on Sydney Street, Charlottetown, formerly owned and occupied as a residence by the late George Braze, having a front of 53 feet on Sydney Street, and extending back 80 feet, and is part of Town Lot Number Seven, in the Second Hundred of Town Lots.

The House is in good condition, and the property is a valuable one. For particulars as to title, etc., apply at the office of Stewart & MacNeill, Solicitors, Charlottetown.

ROBERT BEARSTO, Auctioneer.

S. S. "WILLIAM." FOR CHARTER.

THE ABOVE STEAMER is now open for charter. Will be due here from Montreal on 14th inst. Apply to R. McMILLAN.

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Bags! Bags!

5,000 GBAIN AND POTATO BAGS. For sale by HONORE HAZARD

AUCTION.

I AM instructed by Mr. William Burhoe to sell by Auction,

On Wednesday, 27th November, inst., AT 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.,

On the Premises, Charlottetown Royalty, (Malpeque Road), 2 miles from the city, that superior Farm formerly occupied by Mr. Henry Smith, comprising 44 acres of the very best land, 35 of which are cleared and in a very high state of cultivation, 3 more ready for stumping, and the balance in bush. Large two-story Dwelling House, finished throughout; large Barn, with commodious Base Stable and Root Cellar; good Horse Stable and Granary, good Well, etc.

Also, that very desirable Farm nearly opposite, known as the "Hermitage Farm," formerly occupied by Mr. Robert McLaren, comprising 43 acres of excellent land, 37 of which are cleared and in the highest state of cultivation, the balance ready for stumping. A never-failing stream of water runs along the margin of this property, accessible for watering stock from every field, and the bed of which is inexhaustible with mud of a very fertilizing description.

ALSO—The whole of the Stock, Crop, Farm Implements, Household Furniture, etc., as follows:—

STOCK—1 superior Brood Mare, 5 years old (with foal by Honest Lincoln), 1 do., 13 years old (with foal by a young Barriette), 1 Horse, 11 years old; 1 do., 6 years old; 1 do., 4 years old; 1 fine Cart Horse, 31 years old; 1 Foal, 4 superior Milch Cows, 2 Jersey Grade Heifers (1 year old), 2 Jersey Grade Heifer Calves, 2 Jersey Grade Bull Calves, 1 superior Guernsey Bull (1 1/2 years old), 2 young Pigs, 50 Hens.

CROP—40 bushels Wheat, 25 bushels Barley, 300 bushels Oats, 630 bushels Potatoes, 1,000 bushels Turnips, 20 tons Hay, a large quantity of Straw.

IMPLEMENTS—1 Maxwell Reaper, 1 Wheel Rake, 1 Seeder and Harrows combined, 1 Spring Tooth Cultivator, 1 Straw Cutter, 2 Carts, 2 Trucks, 1 Basin Wagon, 1 Express do., 3 Wood Sleighs, 1 Box Sleigh, 1 Driving Sleigh, 1 set Harness, 2 Imported Ploughs, 1 Moulding Plough, 1 Horse Hoe, 1 set Harrows, 1 Hay Fork and Tackle, 4 sets Cart Harness, 2 sets Carriage do., 1 set Double do., 2 sets Back Bands and Traces, 1 set Swings, Forks, Shovels, Hoes, etc.

FURNITURE—1 Parlor Set, 1 Bedroom Set, 2 Room Stoves, etc.

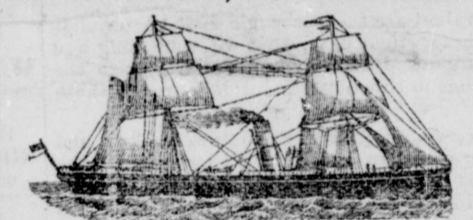
TERMS—For Real Estate, liberal and made known at sale. For movable property, all sums under \$7 cash on delivery; over that amount, 12 months' credit on approved joint notes.

If the day be very unfavorable, sale will be held on first fine day following.

J. McWILLIAMS, Auctioneer. Charlottetown Royalty, Nov. 9th, 1889. nov20—ly & wky pat

LAST TRIP OF THE SEASON.

For St. John's, Newfoundland.



THE S. S. "COBAN" for St. John's, Newfoundland, will be due at Charlottetown on FRIDAY, 23rd November, and will carry Cattle and sheep on deck. For Freight or Passage apply to nov19—2ms PEAKE BROS. & CO., Agents.

AUCTION SALE

Horses, Cows, Pigs, &c.

I WILL SELL BY AUCTION, at my Farm, Keppoch, Lot 48,

On Monday, 2nd December,

AT 11 O'CLOCK, A. M., ALL MY STOCK AND CROP,

—CONSISTING OF—

1 Mare (11 years), 1 do. (11 years, by Abdallah), 1 do. (5 years, by Messenger), 1 do. (3 years, by Harry), 1 Horse (Abel), 2 Horses (2 1/2 years, Percheron), 1 Administrator Colt, dam by Abdallah, 1 Barriette Filly, 6 Jersey Cows (registered), 2 Grade Jersey Cows, 4 Heifers, 1 Jersey Bull (4 years, registered), 1 Bull (2 years, registered), 16 Pigs, 50 tons Hay, 2 barrels Oats, lot Straw, Potatoes and Turnips, 1 English Basket Wagon, 2 Dog Carts (by McPhail), 1 Double Vis-a-vis.

Terms made known at sale. WILLIAM WELSH.

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Lyceum, Charlottetown.

THURSDAY EVENING, NOV. 21st.

Boston Comedy Company,

H. PRICE WEBBER, Manager,

Supporting the Favorite Actress,

EDWINA GREY,

will appear as above. Opening Bill:

AURORA FLOYD, And the always welcome Farce,

THE ROUGH DIAMOND. Admission, 25 cents. Reserved Seats, 35 cents. Tickets for sale at usual place. Doors open at 7.15. Overture at 8. nov19

DRESSMAKING.

ALICE O'BRIEN, just returned from New York, wishes to notify her customers that she has taken Rooms on the corner of Prince and Dorchester Streets. Ladies wanting to learn my perfect system of Dress Cutting and Draping (French bias) in the latest styles, can be taught. We invite the ladies of Charlottetown, and those who come to our city, to call. We have commodious rooms, and can accommodate fifty pupils and as many more visitors. Address: 104 St. George Street, Nov 19

ALL OUR FALL AND WINTER GOODS HAVE ARRIVED

Another Windfall.

—FOR— JAS. PATON & CO'S Customers.

Black Silk Warp Henriettas, AT AMAZING PRICES.

OUR BUYER, when in England, was fortunate in securing the following Black Silk Warp Henriettas at one-third less than the regular prices.

THINK OF THIS: Usual Price, 85c., \$1 and \$1.25. Now, 65c., 75c. and 90c. per yd.

COLORED DRESS GOODS.

Never before have we offered such inducements. Prices positively startling. You need not go with your old dress when you can buy a full dress length of 12 yards, nice striped goods, for \$1.25. The double width Dress Goods, in many of the latest shades, at 30c. per yard, is a decided bargain. The beautiful lot of new figured Dress Goods, all double width, in terms, myrtle, garnet, drab, navy and black, at 40c. and 50c. per yard, would be cheap at 60c. and 70c.; and the double width all-wool Amsons, at 40c. per yard, is the best value in the city. A beautiful lot of Plaid Goods very cheap.

An Extraordinary Bargain!

One and a half yards wide, all-wool Myrtle Dress Serge. Regular price, \$1.25. Now, 80c. per yard.

CRETONNES.

Just a few pieces double width, Turkish pattern, very suitable for Curtains, and only 25c. per yard. The double width Printed Dimity we are offering at 25c. per yard is worth 40c.

Mantle and Ulster Cloths

COME AND SEE! Come and see the astonishing Ulster Cloth we are selling for \$1.25, regular price, \$1.65; and our 90c. Myrtle Ulster Cloth, usually sold at \$1.35.

YARNS,

In SCOTCH and other makes, all shades, low prices.

Important to Ladies.

New Dolmans, Neat and Stylish Jackets. A job lot of Jackets clearing out at \$2.25. Some very handsome Dolmans at low prices.

LADIES' UNDERWEAR.

VESTS, CORSETS, HOSIERY. See the value we are giving in Black Cashmere Hosiery.

FURS.

FUR CAPES, BOAS, MUFFS, CAPS, and the cheapest GOAT ROBES in the city. ASTRACAN COATS and JACKETS.

Little Boys' Reefers, Overcoats and Suits. Men's Overcoats and Reefers.

A very special lot of OVERCOATS, worth \$7, bought at a bargain. We will give our customers the full benefit of this lot and sell them for \$1.75. Don't miss seeing this lot.

Wool Shawls and Knitted Goods.

MEN'S UNDERCLOTHING at wonderful low prices. MEN'S BLUE SERGESHIRTS, good quality. Grey Flannel Shirts.

CARPETS.

PATON & CO'S CARPET DEPARTMENT is the largest and best on the Island. We have laid out a lot of short lengths that we are clearing out at half price.

CURTAIN POLES, BLINDS with spring rollers. Great Bargains in Curtains. A very special lot worth \$3.50, now \$2.50. Another lot worth \$1.75, now \$1.25.

Every day we have BARGAINS of one kind or another. COME AND SEE US, as we don't press you to buy.

JAS. PATON & CO., MARKET SQUARE.