

DIGBY ELECTION.

Defeat of the Minister of Militia.

Is the defeat of the Minister of Militia, the Government have sustained another very heavy blow. It seems that they were quite confident of Vail's success; and calculated upon the influence of their expected victory in Digby to help them in the more questionable contest between Jones and Richey. For, notwithstanding all their prate about simultaneous elections, they arranged that the election in Digby should take place before the election in Halifax.

But "the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-glee;" and any influence which the Digby election may have, will all be against the Government, and in favor of their opponents. The defeat of Jones may now be regarded as certain.

The peculiar power of a Minister of the Crown—a power which Grit Ministers unscrupulously use—may have given rise to the vain hope that Vail would regain the seat he had forfeited by his violation of the law. But the people of Digby acted like men honest and true. They refused to be either bribed or threatened—they refused to listen to the voice of the charmer by whom they had so often been deceived. The appearance of Vail among them at this time seeking their suffrages, was a practical proof of the utter vanity of Grit "purity," Grit truth, Grit honor, and Grit principles of Reform. Here was the man who, three years ago, they elected to elevate the standard of public morality and reform the corruptions of Parliament, asking them to pardon him for breaking the law to secure the Purity and Independence of Parliament, and to place him once more in a position to enjoy the honors and emoluments he had forfeited. How could the honest, straightforward electors of Digby do otherwise than spurn and reject such a man?

The defeat of Vail being an accomplished fact, the defeat of Jones follows in due course.

Wycliffe.

The lecture delivered on the above subject in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, on Friday evening last, was largely attended. It was listened to with marked attention by the appreciative audience. At the outset the lecturer briefly described the state of England toward the end of the reign of Edward III. He said, at that time, luxury and pride characterized the higher classes, while the lower orders were involved in misery. Vice abounded among all ranks, and there was general discontent. The glories of Edward's reign, built up by his conquests in France, had faded. The civil wars of preceding years had desolated the land, and the bands of society were relaxed. But, during Edward's reign, men and money had been drawn from the country to carry on foreign hostilities. By these hostilities the Barons had become rich, the people poor; and the country, consequently, impoverished. These sufferings, perhaps, with the dawn of liberty, led to insurrections in the early part of the following reign. Besides this, the people were ignorant; there was mental darkness. Those who called themselves ministers of the gospel thought more of fleecing the flock than of feeding it. They kept from them the truths of the Gospel, and sought to be revered as superior beings to their fellow-men. Notwithstanding the glimmer cast over the country by the martial deeds of Edward and his son, the Black Prince, England lay prostrate, bleeding and suffering. "Suffering is the path by which both nations and persons thrust out the golden grains of progress." Some master spirit rises, and seems to lead men's opinions—the opinions of which he is the exponent. The power of such a man depends much upon the agreement of his own views with the pulse of the times. John Wycliffe was such a man. He was in perfect sympathy with the nation which he led. He was born in the North-riding of Yorkshire, on the banks of the river Tce, in the year 1324. Little is known of his early years. His parents destined him for the church, and at sixteen he entered Oxford and subsequently removed to Merton, the most celebrated College of the University at that time. Here he became the student of students, and came under the influence of Bradwardin, who held the first rank among scholars, and who was closing his career at the time Wycliffe entered. While listening one day to the Scriptures, the words struck his ears, "It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy." He became the opponent of the palladian and struggled against a mere religion of externals. Besides the accomplishments of of the day, he became well versed in Holy Scripture, and was known as the Evangelic Doctor. The lecturer brought to notice the fearful pestilence that appeared in Asia, traversed the globe, ravaged Europe, and in the year 1350 touched the shores of England. By it 100,000 citizens of London perished and half the nation was stricken. To Wycliffe the plague sounded like the clarion of soul he came forth to take up the sword for England's liberty and strike heavily until death stayed his hand. The lecturer then went back a century and described the resistance of King John to Pope

Innocent, who was about subordinating John's rights and powers to his authority. After much resistance from King John, Innocent smote England with an interdict, which was followed two years later by the excommunication of King John. An interview, however, ended in John becoming a feudal lord of Innocent and his successors. The Lecture says: There is no moment of profounder humiliation than this in the annals of England. England's King lays England's Crown at the feet of a foreign potentate. Henceforth the Bishop of Rome is virtually King of England." But the English nation did not bear this yoke well. She had never quietly submitted to the temporal or ecclesiastical instruction of Rome. The proud Norman Barons had not fought and become great, to be enslaved by any foreign potentate. And when Urban demanded of Edward that he should pay 1,000 marks for permission to wear his crown, Edward assembled Parliament; and, when the question was discussed by the Barons, it was decided that the bargain of King John was null and void. "The hands of the Barons touched the hilts of their swords, and Urban found that the old Lion of Crey was not John Lackland. Wycliffe attended this Parliament. Here is the reply of England to a foreign potentate: "For as much as neither King John nor any other king could bring his realm and kingdom into such thralldom and subjection but by common assent of Parliament, which was not given; therefore, that which he did was against the oath at his coronation, besides many other causes. If, therefore, the people should attempt anything against the king, by process or other matters, the king, with all his subjects, should, with all their force and power, resist the same." Thus was seen the falsity of the temporal supremacy. Soon was seen the falsity of the spiritual supremacy. Wycliffe had mainly contributed to bring about this state of feeling. He had been the teacher of Barons and Commons; and propounded the law of liberty. And now England was to be rid of such irritating and insolent demands.

WYCLIFFE'S CONTEST WITH THE FRIARS.

The lecturer pictured the ways of the hermits in early times. These, he said, devoted themselves to a life of solitude and, in his opinion, laziness. They renounced the world, and took upon themselves the vows of poverty and obedience, and did a work by exemplifying, a kind of holiness. But history tells us that these men became debauched—so much so that, according to Papal writers—they were in the year 1100, the approach of Christianity. To reform these, the Franciscan and Dominicans were instituted about the year 1216. The lecturer described the founder of the Franciscans, as growing up a debauched youth, and who, after a severe illness, rose up engrossed with the idea that holiness and virtue consisted in poverty. He received a commission from Rome, and went forth to the work he had in hand. Dominic, the founder of the Dominicans, looked upon fiery zeal as holiness, and was recognized by Rome. Hence the Franciscan and Dominicans. To be short, the Franciscans were Methodists, and the Dominicans were Presbyterians—they were always fighting among one another. However they became more corrupt in forty years, than the old monks did in four hundred. They attacked the laws and privileges of Oxford. People would not send their sons, and the students sank from 30,000 to 6,000. Wycliffe girded himself for a stroke at them. He found them selling pardons for money. He charged them with fifty thousand errors, and broke on them with: "Ye are not redeemed with corruptible things, such as silver or gold, but by the precious Blood of Christ." But the grievance continued. Parliament addressed the King a remonstrance; and, in 1373, four commissioners were sent to Gregory XI. But they could obtain no redress. A royal commission found one-half the clergy foreigners, and immense sums were drawn from the kingdom. Another step was resolved upon to obtain redress. Wycliffe stands the second name on the commission to wait on the Pope. The result satisfied no one in England, and Wycliffe sounded again the cry for freedom, and came upon the Pope with the charge of simony. A bill of indictment was drawn against the Papal usurpation. In that document was set forth their miseries. It was Wycliffe breathed into the Commons of England "Freedom for the subjects of an independent realm." The monks and friars knew whose hand was at the plough, and the whole glut of them set on him. The Oxford professor had taught many things contrary to the received opinion: 1st. "That the Pope had no more power than an ordinary priest to excommunicate and absolve men." "That Christ has given no temporal lordship to the Pope, and no supremacy over kings," etc., etc. Here was enough to condemn him twice over. Bulls were drafted, calling him to trial, and if he did not appear, to condemn him on every point. Wycliffe appeared for trial at Paul's, but the council broke up before any conclusion was arrived at. Edward died in 1377, and a child of two years succeeded him. A new parliament was assembled, and Wycliffe was called to its councils. The Pope's were now Frenchmen, in sympathy with England's enemies, and England's gold went to England's enemies. The alms were withdrawn by England. The Bulls arrived and the Bishops were ready for the game. Wycliffe defended the right of the nation to dispose of its own property in defiance of them. He was summoned to appear before Judgment. He did so. The people stood by Wycliffe, and a messenger from the Queen arrived forbidding the Bishops to pass sentence on him. So ended the Bulls. What a change from the day of King John. Wycliffe was dead, and doubtless would have been condemned; but for Papal schism. Growing old and harassed by daily strife, he fell sick. Now the time had come for the friars. As he lay on his bed delegates from the four orders gathered around him. They asked from him a confession of his sorrows, of his regret for the way he had smitten them. He listened,

and rising on his bed, said: "I shall not die, but live and declare the evil deeds of the friars." It was enough. They went to their friarism and Wycliffe to health. He came forth from his bed, and in four years translated the Latin Bible into English. The work was well done, and he was called the Father of English Prose. England now had a light which could not be put out. It was Wycliffe who taught freedom. It was he who gave to England the book that cannot live in peace where despotism reigns. The Bishops were struck with consternation. They had thought the movement transient, but here was a preacher who could not die. A moral edict was promulgated. He fought the battle alone. "You call me a heretic because I have translated the Bible into the common tongue of the people. Did not the Holy Ghost give the Word of God with mother tongue of the nation to whom it was written?" He continued the battle, and now strikes the great dogma of Transubstantiation. The lecturer then, after a few remarks upon this dogma, its introduction into England, etc., says Wycliffe posted at Oxford twelve propositions denying the dogma. A council was summoned, and he was condemned. He was expounding to his students, when delegates waited upon him with his condemnation. He appealed to the King and Parliament. But the bishops were beforehand—they accused him to the King. But the Parliament had repealed the edict which the priests and King had passed. He now retires to Litterwich. Shortly after, he was summoned to Rome; but, on the last Sunday of 1384, as he was consecrating the bread, he received a shock of a maul and died. Thirty-one years after his death he was cited to the Council of Constance. Being thirty-one years dead, he was not able to appear; so sentence was passed upon his bones. Found guilty of heresy, his bones were to be taken up and burned. The lecturer then gave a brief outline of his character, and attacked the historians that have not treated him favorably, and said that Collier was an unsafe guide as an English historian. Wycliffe, he said, was the father of English Reformation; he showed his age religion and liberty, and in trying to reform the church he took advantage of every legitimate means. Some people call running out of the church reforming it. In this he was greater than Luther or Calvin. He showed what can be done against tyranny by one man if the sentiment of the people be with him. His death left the cause without a leader. Truth and liberty was good for England. "It is good for us. England stood the might of her majesty when she flung this, her charter of freedom, to the winds. No foreign person, prelate, state, or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence, or authority in this realm of England whatsoever." The law enforced against those who should read Wycliffe's Bibles was very rigorous, and as follows: "They should forfeit land, cattle, body, life and goods from their heirs forever, and so be condemned for heretics to God, enemies to the Crown, and most arrant traitors to the land. They could have no sanctuary, no ground within the realm."

WYCLIFFE'S BONES.

About forty years after Wycliffe's death and burial, their was a solemn gathering of priests and others in Litterworth Churchyard; their were also men with picks and shovels, and they opened the grave of Litterworth's former pastor. They dug down till they came to the half-rotten coffin. This they opened, and then they saw a little heap of decayed flesh and mouldering bones. They roughly removed this heap. Then they made a fire and cast into it all they found in the coffin. As soon as they found that the fire had done its work, they gathered up its ashes and the half consumed bones, and carried them all to a little stream close by, called the Swift, and the little Swift might well be proud of its glorious burden that day—conveyed then to the Avon the Severn to the Severn, the Severn to the sea. And to-day the bones of John Wycliffe are wash against the shores of Nova Scotia.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions or statements of Correspondents.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

DEAR SIR,—I pencil those few lines to let you know that I wish to become a correspondent to your excellent little daily paper, and I shall contribute to its columns if you will be pleased to insert my letters. I have been a subscriber to the EXAMINER since its publication as a daily, and would like to be a correspondent to it. But before commencing I ask leave of you, and would desire you to answer this through the DAILY EXAMINER. Wishing you and your valuable little sheet abundant success and a brilliant career in the newspaper world, I remain, Sir, Yours truly, OBSERVER. Charlottetown, Jan. 21, 1878.

[Correspondence on public affairs, from any source, will receive our prompt attention.]

Halifax has a Babies' Home, which appears to be a very excellent institution. It appears, from the Secretary's report, that there were, during the year, 88 babies under the committee's care. Eleven had been adopted; 17 had died; 35 are in the Home now, and the balance are again under the care of their own parents. The receipts were \$2,985, and the expenditure \$2,894. Several of the speakers at the annual meeting the other day thought that one effect of the institution was to diminish the number of cases of infanticide.

The incomes of the leading surgeons in London are enormous. Sir Henry Thompson performs the operation of lithotomy ninety times a year on an average. His fees range from 200 to 500 guineas, and amount to about \$150,000 per annum. Paris eats a thousand horses a month.

New Advertisements.

REMEMBER

We are the Agents for the Cast Steel Single-ply Springs, which stood the test so well last season.

Buy no other Single Ply Springs but ARMSTRONG'S PATENT!

60 PAIRS IN STOCK, all sizes, to carry from 160 to 850 lbs.

All Warranted! and sold at Manufacturers' prices.

SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

W. E. DAWSON & CO. Jan. 18—2aw pat 3w

DR. H. A. PARKER, SURGEON DENTIST, (LATE OF OTTAWA).

Office. . . . St. Lawrence Hotel. Office Hours: 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. Jan. 12, '78—10i eod

OUR STOCK

CARRIAGE BUILDERS IS VERY COMPLETE.

Over 50 Tons Bar Iron, 40 Bales, Fire Steel, 200 Elliptic Carriage Springs, 110 sets AXLES.

ASSORTED SIZES, from 1 to 1 1/2 inch, and a very large Stock of

CARRIAGE & MILL BOLTS, RING BOLTS, STEP PADS, &c. which we offer to cash and prompt paying customers at better prices than ever before.

W. E. DAWSON & CO. Jan. 18—2aw at 2i

Wanted, Immediately,

A Housekeeper & Cook—A woman of experience and of good moral character will find a good situation and good pay. Apply immediately to

E. D. STAIR, Intelligence Office. Jan. 18—1w

A N Apprentice to learn the Cabinet-making business. A steady, lively boy wanted. E. D. STAIR, Cabinet Maker. Jan. 18—1w

Buy the American X C SARRIN B. WHEELS

BAND HUB WHEELS, For Sale at W. E. DAWSON & CO'S.

A GOOD LOT OF AMERICAN WOOD STOCK,

Rims, Spokes, Shafts, Etc.

A FEW SHEET-IRON BODIES, with seat all complete, at Manufacturers' prices, at W. E. DAWSON & CO'S. Jan. 18—2aw at 3i

RARE CHANGE.

GREAT BARGAINS in high turned and Box Sleighs. Carriage and Sleigh repairing and Painting solicited. Charges moderate, at PETER H. TRAINOR'S, Kent St., opposite the Rocklin House. Ch'town, Jan. 17, 1877.—4i

NORTH STAR COFFEE AND LUNCH ROOMS

OYSTER SALOON.

MRS. E. COOMBS, SUCCESSOR TO J. CARROL.

MEALS served at all hours of the day and evening, at reduced rates. OYSTERS sent to all parts of the City at the very low price of

30 CENTS PER QUART! Also for sale by the Barrel, Bushel, or Peck to suit purchasers. Ch'town, Jan. 14, 1878.—2 aw

New Advertisements.

PINE BOARDS

30,000 FEET PINE BOARDS. For Sale by F. S. HANFORD & CO. Ch'town, Jan. 13—3i

THREE STAR BRANDY.

30 CASES Three Star BRANDY, For Sale by JAMES BYRNE, Great George Street. January 20—5i

HERRING! HERRING!

WE have on hand a choice lot of HERRING—Barrels and Half-Barrels. Also a large quantity of CODFISH, which we will sell cheap. W. P. COLWILL. Ch'town, Jan. 21—3i

TENDERS.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, Charlottetown, Jan. 20, 1878. SEALED TENDERS will be received at this Office, until noon of the 31st day of January next, from persons willing to contract for furnishing and putting up from 400 to 600 Street Signs. Pattern to be seen at the Mayor's Office. The Council will not be bound to accept the lowest or any Tender. By order, WM. B. MORRISON, City Clerk. Jan. 21—2aw t 31st pres 2w

GROCERY

Provision Store!

Cor. Great George & Kent Sts. THE Subscriber wishes to inform his friends and the public generally that he still keeps on hand a choice assortment of Groceries and Provisions, AT HIS OLD STAND, and will be pleased to have them call and inspect for themselves.

ON HAND, 10 CHESTS CONGOU TEA, ("New Season")

1,000 Lbs. Canadian Cheese, 10 Casks American Kerosene Oil, (120° test; 35 cts. per gal.)

20 BARRELS SUGAR (all kinds),

100 Bbls. Sup. Extra Flour, 3 Puns. Very Choice

MOLASSES, 20 doz. Pickles, 20 doz. Assorted Jams, 20 boxes Dessert Prunes, 100 Tins Sardines.

TINS PEACHES, PINEAPPLES, STRAWBERRIES, TOMATOES, NEW RAISINS, ZANTE CURRANTS, DRIED APPLES, STEWING PRUNES, 300 QUARTS CRANBERRIES, GREEN CRAPES.

300 LBS. SMOKED HALIBUT, 25 QTLs. CODFISH, 100 BOXES DIGBY HERRING. and all goods usually found in a First-Class Grocery Store.

FAMILIES SUPPLIED BY THE MONTH.

DONALD NICHOLSON, Jan. 16, 1878—y

COAL! COAL! ROUND & NUT at W. W. CLARKE'S. Ch'town, Jan. 5—4w 2aw

FOR SALE—A few second-hand Kerosene Oil Lamps, cheap, at EXAMINER OFFICE. Nov. 27—

Woodenware. BROOMS, Buckets, Tubs, Washboards, Clothes Pins. HASZARD BROS.

Sleigh Shoeing Iron. TWENTY Bbls. 1 1/2 x 3 Refined Iron, Cut and Clinch Nails and Spikes. For sale by HASZARD BROS.

Smoked Halibut, &c. 40 boxes SMOKED HALIBUT, 20 bundles DRIED POLLOCK. For sale by HASZARD BROS. December 14, 1877.