

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Winter Communication.

LETTER FROM DR. JENKINS.

Sir,—In estimating the power of human energy and ingenuity to overcome the obstacles to winter navigation of the Straits, we must bear in mind the fact that hitherto no adequate effort has been made to construct a vessel for the sole purpose of ice navigation, or speaking more correctly, navigation of waters obstructed by ice.

Take the model of a sealer, modify and improve upon it, as may readily be done when building a vessel solely for ice navigation. Let her be faithfully built, give her weight, power and strength in abundance, and I venture to record the opinion that the problem of winter navigation is solved, provided she be run at the proper point; and where is the proper point? I hear many say, Well, there are many opinions, and they vary pretty much in accordance with the residence on the coast of those who hold them.

Georgetown is a most convenient port for the early part of the winter, but I think experience has shown that for midwinter it is not the point. The distance to Pictou is great, the conformation of the coast to the eastward is such that a funnel is formed which fills with ice when the wind is from the east or northeast, and owing to the obstruction formed by Pictou Island it is not so constantly on the move as it is at the western end of the straits.

Many years ago (I think in 1867) when I was a member of the Local Legislature, I got a committee appointed to inquire into the practicability of running a winter steamer. As chairman of the committee, I had all the work to do—in fact my colleagues laughed at the idea—and in procuring the necessary information for a report, I interviewed, among others, my old friend, Capt. A. Irving. In answer to my question—where would be the best point to run a steamer—he said "between the Capes." I was inclined, as many now are, to sneer in derision, and to say "there is nothing like leather." Additional knowledge and experience have shown me he was right, and I have no hesitation, for many reasons, in saying that between the Capes is the proper point.

In the first place, the distance across is so short that the whole course is in easy view from the masthead before starting—a manifest advantage—and in favorable weather several trips a day might be made which would be an immense benefit in the matter of freight. Secondly the ice is not so heavy as at the eastern end, and it is constantly on the move, and thirdly, the ice boats which would accompany the steamer would have no distance to go, and could easily make the shore if the steamer should happen to meet with ice heavy enough to obstruct her.

"Look at that ice! Was there ever a steamer built that could face it?" I have heard many say in crossing at the Capes. No! I am free to admit there never was a steamer built that could face it, but that a steamer cannot be built that can face it, I am by no means prepared to admit; on the contrary I am convinced that a steamer can be built that will, except on rare occasions, make daily trips between the Capes.

But let her run where she may, she must be built, the people of this Province will be content with no such makeshift as proposed by the Minister of Marine, and which I see by Friday's EXAMINER, seems to meet the approval of your Ottawa correspondent.

If the voice of the people be heard at Ottawa, it will say in unmistakable tones, "give us winter steam communication as agreed upon by the Terms of Union, or show us that it is not practicable by providing a steamer built expressly for the purpose, with all the power and appliances to overcome ice difficulties, that skill, ingenuity and money can secure. This, certainly, we have the most undoubted right to expect, and no half measures will satisfy us, and there should be no unnecessary delay in getting about it."

This I believe to be the feeling of the people of this Province, but, to make sure, let us hold meetings all over the Island, and give emphatic expression to our opinions.

Governments are prone to delay, and to postpone action when an outlay of money is required, the only way to get them to act is, loudly and persistently, to clamor for our rights.

I am, Sir, J. T. JENKINS.

Feb. 9, 1884.

Mr. Vinnicombe's Concert.

Sir,—For a few days past, with the rest of the music loving public of this city, I have been looking forward with pleasant anticipations for the appearance of the programme of the "great musical event of the season." Through the medium of THE EXAMINER, on Saturday evening, my fond hopes of enjoying an hour or two listening to some choice selections from the great masters were blighted. In this advanced age of science and art, musical professors should endeavor to keep pace with the times. Why, Mr. Editor, has our Orchestra Club allowed the quality of their music to degenerate? The time was when they were looked to as leading public opinion; now we see them following, and, unfortunately, following in the far distance. We know that of late Messrs. Vinnicombe and Earle have been fast friends, why then don't these two gentlemen amalgamate their musical forces and give one really good concert, similar to the one Mr. Earle has already given. Our Glee Club is a credit to the city, and will Mr. Earle kindly inform the musical public why it is that the club and other friends of Mr. Vinnicombe are debarred the pleasure of assisting at his concert?

Yours, etc., SHYLOCK.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

The Alarmed Khedive.

CAIRO, Feb. 10. The Khedive, appears to be in a deplorable condition. He is under the delusion that there is a plot on foot to poison him and sends his wife to the kitchen daily to inspect the food. El Mahdi's portrait is publicly offered for sale with the exclamation "God grant thee victory."

Police Difficulty.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 10. The prefect of police who was recently arrested on charge of being implicated in falsely accusing persons of coming counter-fits money has been released. The Councilors of State who instigated the arrest have been dismissed from office, and the public prosecutor has been arrested.

A Breach of Promise Suit.

LONDON, Feb. 9. Miss Fortescue, the actress, who has brought action against Lord Carnoyne for breach of promise, estimates the damage to her affections at £50,000.

The Situation at Sinkat.

CAIRO, Feb. 10. A gloomy view is now taken concerning the situation at Toka and Sinkat. It is reported that a convoy of provisions has entered Sinkat.

Fire.

WALCOTT, N. Y., Feb. 10. A fire this morning destroyed or damaged thirty business places and residences. There is no fire apparatus in the village. The loss aggregates \$120,000.

Going Up the Nile.

CAIRO, Jan. 10. The brigade of Egyptian battalions commanded by English officers will proceed to the first cataract of the Nile as soon as quarters are made ready for it.

Socialism.

VIENNA, Feb. 9. A Russian socialist has been arrested at Cracow. His examination shows that there is connection between Austrian and Russian socialists.

A British Commander Appointed.

CAIRO, Feb. 10. The Khedive has appointed British Admiral Hewitt, commander at Suakin, at the request of the British Government.

A Premature Report.

CAIRO, Feb. 10. The report of Gen. Gordon's arrival at Berber is premature. It is expected that he will arrive there on Tuesday.

An Admiral Recalled.

PARIS, Feb. 10. Admiral Galiber, commander of the French forces, in Madagascar, has been recalled.

Weather Bulletin.

Probabilities for the next 24 hours for the Maritime Provinces.

TORONTO, February 11—10 a. m. Moderate winds, fair colder weather.

Table with 2 columns: Temperature and Time. Rows include Highest Temperature Saturday, Lowest Temperature Saturday, Highest temperature yesterday, Lowest temperature (read at midnight), Lowest temperature (this morning), Temperature this morning, at 8 o'clock, and Temperature this afternoon, at 1 o'clock.

CARD.

DR. McSWAIN being compelled through failing health to relinquish his practice in Bel-last, wishes to convey to his many friends, his warm appreciation of their kindness and genuine friendship; and he would take this opportunity of reminding those indebted to him that an early settlement is respectfully solicited.

Eldon, Feb. 8, 1884.—wkly 21.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE WEEKLY EXAMINER. Only ONE DOLLAR a year.

Local and Other Items.

BAND at the Rink to-night. The City Council meets this evening at 7.30.

TORGANING to-night. Slide in excellent order.—JAS. A. FRASER, Secy.

We learn that the Alliance will this week issue twenty summonses against Scott Act offenders.

MR. E. W. DAWSON arrived home on Saturday night, after a business tour of Canada and the United States.

THE Mails—part English—left Cape Tormentine at 11.50 this forenoon. They have not yet arrived at Cape Traverse.

All sufferers from blood disorders can use Ayer's Sarsaparilla with the fullest assurance of happy results. [Feb 11 lw wkly]

A REGULAR MEETING of the Benevolent Irish Society will be held in St. Patrick's Hall, on Tuesday evening, 12th inst., at eight o'clock, p. m. H. FITZGERALD, Secretary.

THE Lake Erie water served up to the citizens of Cleveland gives the impression that it is intended for meat, drink, and smelling salts. It is slightly superior to Charlottetown pump water.

GOOD FOR VENDOR.—Fine and clear weather for carnival at Montreal, also for Mr. Vinnicombe's concert, to-morrow (Tuesday) evening, February 12th, at Y. M. C. A. Hall, Charlottetown—the two great events of the season.

A YOUNG man writes: "I have used Mack's Magnetic Medicine and am much pleased with the result. It has cured me after doctors and other medicines had failed." Sold in Charlottetown at Apothecaries' Hall. See advertisement in another column. [Feb 11 lw wkly]

At the Stipendiary Magistrate's Court this forenoon three drunks were disposed of. An assault case was dismissed with costs. Two Scott Act cases against William Latzer were adjourned until Monday next, a fine of \$50 for a breach of the Act was recorded against J. Carroll, and three cases against him were adjourned until Monday.

PROF. J. H. FITCHER delivered his lecture on "Uncrowned Heroism" in the Wesleyan Church, at Stanley Bridge, on Wednesday night, 6th inst.; and at Stanley Hall, on the following night, he delivered "American Humor." These lectures of Mr. Fitcher are very popular, and he is sure of a crowded house wherever he is announced. His address on "Uncrowned Heroism" surpasses all the rest, but all his lectures have a good moral tendency, and his illustrations, although mingled with fun, carry a moral from which the substantial of any community may derive pleasure and benefit.—COM.

On Thursday, 7th inst. the D. G. W. C. T. installed the following officers of Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1, for the ensuing quarter. W. C. T.—W. H. Harris. W. V.—Ada A. Wadman. W. S.—Percy Crawford. W. F. S.—John McDonald. W. C.—Geo. A. Hughes, sr. W. M.—Frank Lawson. W. G.—F. Galliger. W. S.—Thos. Mills. W. R. H. S.—Mrs. Wm. Kennedy. W. L. H. S.—Mrs. D. Bruce. W. A. S.—Annie Ferguson. W. D. M.—Alfred Duchemin. Ch'town, Feb. 11, 1884.

SOUTHERN wedding tours have become fashionable this winter, but rumor says that all the February and March couples are going to Montreal and Quebec. A bride and groom who were married recently have gone to Mexico and Cuba on their wedding tour, and the bride's trousseau includes many muslin and lawn dresses, lace gloves and parasols. She took but one fur wrap with her, to wear down on the boat, and doesn't expect to return home until summer. Another courageous Brooklyn couple have gone to Texas to live on a cattle ranch. The bride is the daughter of wealthy parents and has become so tired of fashionable life that she wants a change.—N. Y. Journal.

Stanley Bridge gives evidence of prosperity. S. H. Brown has built himself a fine new house as store and residence.

Mr. Arch. J. McLeod, formerly clerk in the store of Alex. McMillan, Esq., has opened for himself on the east side of the bridge. Mr. McLeod is a very popular young man, and is fast gaining for himself an extensive trade. All the old places of business are as lively as usual.

The wheat crop was good in this section of the Island last year, and the consequence is that the Grist Mills are all busy. One of the best appointed mills on the island is that of Edward Henry, Esq., of Granville. It is fitted up with all the modern improvements such as French Bull Stones, Lefel water wheel, revolving bolt and elevators. His mill grinds fast, turns out an excellent article of flour, and best of all, has an abundance of work to do. His cat kiln is attached to the grist mill, which is a great convenience, especially in the winter season. Mr. Henry has an abundance of water power, so that the surrounding farmers are amply accommodated in this way.

There is now a daily stage connecting Clifton, and Stanley Bridge with Bradabane—the nearest railway point to the New London country. This stage is owned, and sometimes driven, by Geo. B. McKay, Esq., of Clifton, one of the most agreeable and gentlemanly men that ever held the reins of a tandem team. His sleighs are comfortable and his horses well fed, and as anxious to get over the road as the passengers generally are. Parties having occasion to visit Stanley Bridge or Clifton, can purchase round tickets at Charlottetown to either of these points for \$1.70. This is a great convenience to the traveling public, and a marvel of cheapness. Only think of it—one dollar and seventy cents from Charlottetown to Clifton or Stanley and return! Why a man having an old horse to swap could go all the way from here to Mr. Chappell's, in Brimstone Valley, and return the next day with a spanking rooster, for a little over two dollars, and see the Devil's Punch Bowl in the bargain.—FRANK.

NEW LONDON NOTES.

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THE Ladies of St. James' Kirk INTEND HOLDING A

Good Old Time TEA AND FANCY TABLE, EARLY IN MARCH.

Further particulars will be given.

TEACHER WANTED.

A TEACHER WANTED for the Hunter River School. Male preferred. A liberal supplement given. Apply to

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Ch'town, Jan. 22, 1884.—cod wkly.

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These goods must be cleared out and Bargains Extraordinary will be given.

J. B. MACDONALD'S,

Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1884.—2aw wkly.

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D. A. BRUCE,

Dec. 20, 1883.—cod wkly

72 Queen Street, Charlottetown

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