

Charlottetown, June 12, 1877.

PARTY HACKS AND PARTY POLITICIANS.

The Press as a constitutional power has been very appropriately designated the fourth estate of the realm, but when it goes out of its proper sphere, and assumes functions which do not properly belong to it, the influence it exerts is pernicious. When it attacks private character, or its power is exerted in injuring a man in his legitimate business, it becomes a powerful engine to mischief. Hence the laws enacted in Great Britain where it enjoys the widest range of legitimate freedom, are extremely stringent, and effectually keep it within proper bounds. We noticed a striking case in the newspapers about two years ago illustrating the rigorous promptitude with which the law of libel in the old country is administered. *Public Opinion*, a most respectable London weekly, had copied from an American newspaper a short paragraph in which it was asserted that the husband of the celebrated Singer Jenny Lind was squandering her fortune. The same paragraph was also inserted in another English paper, and when the matter was brought to the knowledge of the gentleman accused, he immediately instituted an action against both papers. The editor wrote his agent offering to apologise for the wrong inadvertently done, and to pay any legal expenses already incurred, but nothing short of putting the case before a jury would satisfy the aggrieved party, and when the case was decided, a verdict for two thousand five hundred dollars and all expenses was returned against each paper. In these cases it was proved that no enemies against the injured party was cherished, that the literary item for which the charge had been served was inadvertently clipped by the sub-editors, and inserted as current gossip or news, yet the explanation did not prevent the infliction of the penalty. We read of no such cases in these Provinces. Some papers take an appalling degree of liberty with the private character and business of public men, but the evil is so common that actions for libel are comparatively rare considering the extensive ground furnished for prosecution. But it is to another feature of a certain class of newspapers that we wish at present to draw attention,—to Hacks which would defend the conduct of the leaders of the political parties to which they are attached, even were these leaders to violate some of the commandments of the decalogue, and which make it their business to approve of every public act or measure which may emanate from the men whom they delight to worship. These papers have set up an image in the form of a favourite statesman, and they not only fall down and worship it themselves, but do not hesitate to denounce as political traitors or heretics all who do not follow their own despicable example. Whilst we would thus deprecate a slavish adherence to any political party, we are not admirers of milk and water journals which are destitute of fixed principles, and trim their sails to suit their own selfish ends. Whilst we hold Liberal-Conservative principles, and will be at all times ready to fight for the true interests of the party to which we are attached, of which Sir John A. McDonald is the honored leader, we are not prepared to denounce the party who paradoxically call themselves Reformers, as a lot of unprincipled rascals who have no ability or good points. We believe the Honorable Alexander McKenzie to be a gentleman of estimable private character, and that, like his more able and accomplished opponent, Sir John A. McDonald, he is incapable of taking dishonestly a cent of the public money, for his own personal use. The grave blunders which, as the leader of the party of immaculate purity, he has committed since his elevation, have been mainly owing to the numerous hungry jackals by whom he is surrounded, and to whom, in the bewilderment incident to their perpetual howling, the poor man has been obliged to throw pieces of carrion, so that he might have inter-

vals of peace. Mr. McKenzie is a gentleman of fair ability, who would gracefully and efficiently fill the civic chair of a large city, but is utterly unfitted for the wide range of Dominion statesmanship. His mind is cast in a narrow mould, and he cannot be blamed for not possessing qualities with which nature has not endowed him. Some of his truculent worshippers will profess to feel offended at this estimate of their idol, but we believe it to be a fair one.

In the more violent of the organs of both parties, it is amusing to notice how charges of bribery and corruption are bandied about between them like a ball at a cricket match; but the truth is, as every candid man will readily admit, that both parties have done a trifle in that particular line, and that the kettle can hardly, therefore, with propriety, call the pot black. What has rendered the present Dominion government so unpopular in the country is the flaming professions of virtue with which they assumed office. The people were led to believe that a kind of political millennium was about to be inaugurated, but the brilliant illusion soon vanished, and has left a revulsion of feeling which is destined to culminate at the ensuing election in the country, consigning to the delightful privacy of domestic life the present incompetent administration—a retirement which must be very congenial to their unadulterated souls, and from which they ought never to have been permitted to emerge. What the country wants is not pedlars in political wares, but statesmen. Not only has the Premier proved himself incompetent as a statesman since his accession to office, but he has been in some cases most unfortunate in his selection of heads of departments—putting men in elevated positions for which, by education and training, they were utterly incompetent—men who might be good judges of codfish or red herrings, but of very limited natural capacity, and who, if you questioned them about the "Wealth of Nations" or any other standard political works, with which they should be as conversant as with "Jack the Giant Killer" or "Old Mother Hubbard," would betray the most woeful ignorance. From considerations of humanity, if not from any other, the country will take care to send these men back to the contracted spheres for which nature intended them.

MISREPRESENTATION.

The editor of the *Patriot* has found a mare's nest, and hastens to inform his readers. He says the *EXAMINER* is entering the thin edge of the wedge of the Protectionist policy. Although the *Patriot* prides itself upon its ability to misrepresent, and to put a construction upon an opponent's words which were not intended by the writer, yet, the trick is so transparent in Saturday night's issue, that we feel sure no one will be deceived by the rant about protection. We duty Mr. Lawson or any one else to point out one single sentence in favor of protection in our article on "Sugar Refineries." We alluded to the unpleasant fact that the industry of sugar refining in the Dominion was crushed out of existence by Grit stupidity. Our astute contemporary would have us believe that, when these refineries were flourishing, with our tariff at 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, we had protection, but now, that the tariff is 17½ per cent. *ad valorem* and the duty on raw sugars about 50 per cent., we have free trade. Verily, the *Patriot's* style of reasoning is peculiar to itself. If Mr. Lawson knows anything at all about the matter, he must know that the present administration raised the duty on raw sugar, and this act blasted what was a growing industry.

The complaint is made that our article was too heavily loaded. Perhaps we did give him too many unpleasant truths to digest at one time, but the truth must be told, whether agreeable or not to our "Reform" friend. The same kind of shots are being delivered in every part of the Dominion, and doubtless will lay out the McKenzie Government some of those days. If, instead of misrepresenting the *EXAMINER*, he were to direct his attention to finding out the reason why salaries of Dominion officials on the Island are lower than of the officials of any other part of the Dominion, he would evince a desire to see justice done to our little Colony.

MR. MACGOWAN'S LETTER.

The *New Era* of Saturday last contains a letter from A. H. B. MacGowan, giving his version of the cause of his dismissal by Judge Alley from the office of Clerk of the Court of Queen's County. Mr. MacGowan states that he had about made up his mind not to appear in print on the subject. We wish for the sake of Mr. MacGowan that he had fully decided in his mind not to make public, after his dismissal, what during the time he held office would have been considered by him too trifling a matter to mention. The public are not at all disposed to pry into the private matters of either the Judge or Clerks of any of our Courts. All that is demanded of them is that they discharge their public duties faithfully. If Mr. MacGowan is not a teetotaler, doubtless the task of carrying a jug of beer into his own office was not a very unpleasant one. If he is a teetotaler his duty was plain—viz., to refuse point blank to perform any such work. We hope that when Judge Alley replies that he will do so without showing a spirit of retaliation or revenge—a spirit which we cannot altogether acquit Mr. MacGowan of showing. We allude to this matter of the dismissal because a paragraph which we published as an item of news appears to have called forth the letter to which we have referred. Doubtless there is another side to the story.

A HUSBAND IN A TIGHT PLACE.

He is a young man who came down to Montreal from a city in Western Ontario to work at the jewellery trade. He fell in love with a respectable Montreal girl and married her, but against his mother's will, who considered the wife's family had not sufficient social standing. Yesterday she and a foster daughter came to the city on a visit to the young man, and induced him to desert his young wife and leave with them for Ontario. As he did not return home in the evening, the young wife grew nervous and fearful lest something awful had occurred to her liege lord, made a diligent search and at last struck the western train, ten minutes before it pulled out for Kingston. Sitting comfortably in the cars was her husband, backed up by his mother and his foster sister. The wife, who was accompanied by her mother, at once rushed in, and a scene took place which is beyond description. The wife, with tears, besought him not to desert her, and eventually got hold of him, while his mother, equally anxious that he shouldn't leave, grasped him as firmly on the other side. He felt he was in a tight place, and looking wildly around on the interested passengers, exclaimed: "Whichever is strongest can take me." They pulled away and his mother punctuated her jerks by remarking audibly that his wife's family had dosed him with liquor in order to get him to marry. This the wife and mother-in-law strenuously denied; they belonged they said to a temperate family. Amid the roars of the passengers, the conductor now came in and said all who hadn't tickets must get out, and the young wife and her mother accordingly had to retire. The poor deserted girl fainted in the Depot, as the train moved out, taking her young husband with it, and the policeman who raised her up saw her white face dawn tight with lines of agony. It is believed that the wife will eventually be allowed to follow her husband, whose strong-minded mother thus cruelly separated them. The names, out of respect to the feelings of all concerned, are withheld.—*Witness*

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

The fourth session of the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference will commence at the Methodist Church, Fredericton, on the 28th inst. The houses provided for the P. E. I. Ministers are as follows:—

- John S. Allen; G. M. Clark, Queen street.
- John C. Berrie; M. Coulter, Queen street.
- Henry J. Clark, Alfred Whitehead, George street.
- H. P. Cowperthwaite, A. M.; David Hatt, Brunswick street.
- T. J. Deinstadt; Mrs. A. McCausland.
- C. W. Hamilton, P. A. Logan, St. Mary's.
- J. V. Jost; Judge Wilmot, Regent street.
- A. E. LePage; A. A. Miller, King street.
- W. W. Lodge; G. A. Cliff, King street.
- Aquila Lucas; H. Y. Hoyt, Queen street.
- Joseph Seller, A. M.; Robert Willey, Brunswick street.
- F. Smallwood, Sup.; Judge Wilmot, Regent street.

The steamer *St. Lawrence*, Capt. Evans, left Summerside for Shediac on Saturday morning last with freight, mails and passengers at 9.10, arrived at 11.50 and after discharging and loading freight left for Summerside at 1.40; arrived at 4.30; left Summerside for Charlottetown, 5.30, and arrived at 10 o'clock with 449 kegs nail-106 bbls. flour.—140 miles in ten hours.

THE FALL OF ARDAHAN.

Details are at last beginning to arrive of the capture of Ardahan. The way news travels now-a-days brings us the announcement of an event long before the particulars arrive, and when these do come to hand the event is almost forgotten, or is imperfectly remembered in the flood of other events which have, since the first announcement, been reported. Ardahan was practically an outpost or defence of Kars. The Russians made several attacks upon the place and were repulsed, and this gave the Turks an easy feeling as to the strength of their defences. Finally the Russians set themselves to work in real earnest; they brought up 50,000 men, they erected nine batteries opposite the two principal entrenchments of the Turkish defence, and mounted upon them forty guns, from which they bombarded the entrenchments, beginning at 8 o'clock in the morning and keeping up the attack until 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The firing could be heard twenty miles away. Against this vigorous fire the well-directed shot from the Russian artillery dismounted their guns and left them entirely useless. Then an attack was ordered, and after a long sustained musketry fire the Turks abandoned the defences, and a large quantity of cannon, rifles and cartridges fell into the hands of the enemy. It does not really appear that bayonets were crossed in the affair at all. The Turkish garrison was only about ten thousand strong, so that the Russian force outnumbered them five to one. Notwithstanding this, however, the Turks appear to have made an effective and orderly retreat. They divided into two parties, one retreating towards Kars, the other to Ardanutch. The loss on either side was very light. The Russians admit only fifty killed and wounded. The affair was one in which numbers did the work; and thus they will continue to do so long as the war lasts. The importance of the victory to the Russians was very great, cowing to the section of the country which fell into their hands.—*Globe*.

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF CHARLOTTETOWN.

ENTERED.

June 11th.—Schr. Idare Grant, Chimique, deas; Rustic, McDonald, Buctouche, deas, &c.; Annie Duncan, Leard, Crapaud, ballast; John Bell, Kinley, Shemiogue, deas & ends; Maggie McBeth, Smith, Buctouche; Boards; Addie, Ars naut, Shediac, Lumber; Philistine Boyle, Wal ace, Stone; Gualion, Grant, Pictou, Coal; Sea Dr ft, Byrns, Richibucto, deas; Lone Star, Walton, Chimogue, deas; Ariel, Moore, Shediac, Lumber; Minnie B., Green Bay Verte, Boards; Cortroue, Brown, Pictou, Coal; Anadine, Allan, New Castle, deas and laths; Sarah, Martin, Halifax, deas; Margaret May, Morrison, Dalhousie, Shingles; General Clark, Shea, Pugwash, Stone.

CLEARED.

June 11th.—Schr. Phillistine, Boyle, Pugwash, ballast; Str. Henry Aitken, Hobbs, Pictou, ballast; I Dare, Grant, Bay Verte, ballast; Pathfinder, Campion, Souris, salt, Rustic, McDonald, Buctouche, salt; Minnie, Howlett, Grand River, mse; Marie Emma, Renox, Pictou, ballast; Lone Star, Walton, Chimique, ballast; Maggie, McDonald, River John, ballast.

Hotel Arrivals.

ROCKLIN HOUSE.

June 11th.—Foster Pickard, St. John; Thomas Croden Richibucto; Walter Simpson, Bay View; James P. Stewart, West Cape; James Barnes, Shediac; Robert Simpson, Cavendish; A. Rennau, New Perth; J. Yeaton, Halifax; A. McMillan, Wheatley River; George Ganet, New London; Charles LeFueury, Summerside; Percy Palmer, Victoria.

RANKIN HOUSE.

June 10.—Messrs. Samuel Snider, Bradford, Ont.; M. D. Chambers, Montreal; E. C. Pease, do.; P. W. Snider, Bradford.

June 11th.—G. W. Hawley, Cascumbec; T. James Dawson, Montreal; Fred Barber, England, F. H. Small and wife, St. John.

REVERE HOUSE.

June 11th.—Geo. Henderson, Truro; James Peters, Montreal; James G. Gillis, Toronto; C. Romaine, Toronto; R. N. Doherty, Kingston; G. N. Ciffin, San Jean, Cal.; W. B. Thomas, St. John; G. B. Thomas, Moncton; Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Cushing, Sailsbury; G. W. Coffin, Boston.

Personals.

E. J. Hodgson, Esq., arrived from Montreal to-day.
 FRED. SMALL, Esq., General Passenger Agent for the Maritime Province, of the Grand Trunk Railway, came in by the Boat Express last night, accompanied by his wife.
 W. H. SMITH, Dominion Steamboat Inspector, was a passenger by the "Princess of Wales" to Summerside last night.
 A. H. ABELL, Principal of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, at St. John, is again on the Island, and intends spending some time here as holidays.
 Mr. LANGMAID, of the St. John Customs, and a brother-in-law of J. R. Calhoun, Esq., M. P. P., Summerside, is visiting here.

Local and Other Items.

MAIL.—The English Mail via Halifax will arrive here this evening at 7 o'clock.

ICE CREAM, Bedeque Oysters, served up at "The Confectionery."—21

PICKLES, extra nice, for sale, by the quart or gallon, at "The Confectionery."—21

ANOTHER lot of those wonderful seven cent prints just received at Robert Young's

FRESH Bedeque Oysters, by the quart or bushel; or served up at all hours, stewed fried or raw, at "The Confectionery, Lunch Room.

DANGER.—We warn all parties of the danger of swimming at Kensington during the practice of the volunteers at that place.

BERMUDA ISLANDS.—Mr. R. J. Smith's lecture, on the above subject, in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, last evening, was attended by a large and attentive audience.

F. & M. ASSOCIATION.—The first meeting of the Farmers & Mechanics' Co-operation Association will be held in Scott Hall on the 29th inst.

By the lively appearance of some of our rowing boats when practicing every evening, good competition may be expected at the St. Patrick's T. A. Society Regatta on the 25th inst.

ASPARAGUS, Rhubarb, New Bermuda, Onions, Bananas, Pine Apples, Spanish Lemons, Oranges, &c., just received at "The Confectionery."

To-morrow, the Conductors on our Railway will appear in all the glories of summer official suits of the "Blue-black," got up in Keith & Co.'s best style.

"BAPTISMA" is the title of a little work by the Rev. John Lathern. It is a very small book, but inconceivably great in value, and will be found beneficial to those to whom it is inscribed. We may at a later date briefly review it.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the DAILY EXAMINER solicited. Terms:
 Six months, \$2 50
 Three months, 1 25
 One month, 46
 One week, 12
 Payment strictly in advance.

DISMISSED.—We learn that Messrs. Edward McKinnon and George Davison have been dismissed from service in the Registry Office owing to the dullness of business in the Department.

NOBBY.—On examining the immense stock of Diagonal, Tweeds, &c., at the store of Mr. C. E. Robertson, a person must be totally convinced of the great judgment which Mr. R. exercises in selecting his goods. He has now on hand a superior stock of clothing which he will sell at a very reasonable figure.

SUICIDE.—A sad report comes from Crapaud to-day, to the effect that a Mrs. Darrach and her child were found in the Mill Pond of Mr. Braddock Howatt, on Sunday morning, with a piece of iron fastened by a string to their bodies. Of this we received no further information than Mr. Darragh left his house on Sunday morning, at an early hour, his wife and child being in bed. An hour afterwards he returned, and on going to his room, he found it vacated. Search was made, and shortly afterwards both were found in the place above stated. Cause unknown.

It is still further reported that a woman named Irving jumped off the bridge at Crapaud with a child in her arms, and both were drowned, on Sunday.

A DARING ROBBERY.—Yesterday forenoon a robber entered an upper bedroom in the Torryburn House, kept by Mr. Chas. Goddard, and appropriated to himself a cash box containing about \$520 and three watches. The fellow was seen to come down the stairs by Mrs. Roop, and she, suspecting something wrong, gave an alarm. The robber dropped a gold watch belonging to Mrs. Goddard, and started for the woods with the rest of his booty as fast as his legs could carry him. He was pursued, and being hotly pressed, dropped the cash box. His pursuers, thinking that the money was in the box, stopped the chase for a minute, but on opening the box it was found only to contain one of the watches. By this time the thief was out of sight. He is described as a low-sized man, probably about 5 feet 3 inches in height, with no beard. He wore a gray cap.—*St. John Globe*.