

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

AUGUST 27, 1887.

The Trade in Liquors.

THE EXAMINER contended a week ago that the Scott Act is openly and defiantly violated in Charlottetown, and that the consumption of liquor has lately been on the increase; and asked—in view of an approaching Scott Act election,—what the upholders of the Scott Act proposed to do about it.

The reply is (1) that THE EXAMINER has gone over to the side of the illicit liquor dealers, and (2) that drunkenness in this city is not on the increase.

We can afford to treat the charge that THE EXAMINER has gone over to the liquor dealers, with contempt. Nor need we again point out that the community cannot get rid of its responsibility for the evil of the liquor traffic by merely voting for a prohibitory law which does not prohibit; by accepting the Scott Act, and failing to enforce it. We may, however, cite, in support of THE EXAMINER'S view of the matter, the opinion of Sir Leonard Tilley—who, certainly, has not gone over to the illicit liquor dealers—that in a county where the Scott Act is the law, and it is not enforced, "the cause of temperance has been damaged rather than benefited."

As to the statement that liquor drinking is on the increase, no proof has been given that it is not true; but THE EXAMINER is challenged to prove it. It would be difficult to produce all the drunken men who have staggered about the streets of Charlottetown in the past few months, and demonstrate that the number is larger than that of those who staggered about the streets during the same period of last year, or the same period of three or four years ago. We can, however, produce the statistics afforded by the Customs and Excise Department. But even these are not wholly satisfactory; for no account is taken in the Departments of the large and increasing quantities of liquors imported duty paid from Halifax, Montreal and other Canadian ports, or of the large and increasing quantities of liquors manufactured in distilleries and breweries at Halifax, Belleville and other Canadian towns, and brought here. But the official statistics prove clearly that a very large liquor traffic is being carried on with this Province.

Thus, the Inland Revenue Department shows that in 1885-6, 5,192 gallons of spirits were warehoused here, of which 2,783 gallons were entered for duty, while in 1886-7, 7,206 gallons of spirits were warehoused, of which 5,045 were entered for duty. Mark the large increase in this item.

Again, the same Department shows that, in 1885-6, 95,433 pounds of malt were, in this Province, manufactured into 26,550 gallons of ale; and in 1886-7, 119,607 pounds of malt were manufactured into 38,300 gallons of brewed ale. Mark again the large, undoubted increase.

Turning to the customs returns, we find that since the first of July last, 3693 gallons were entered for consumption ex warehouse. Think of it, a Scott Act town consuming nearly 4000 gallons of imported spirits in a little more than a month.

During the month of February 1886, there were entered ex warehouse, in anticipation of a change of tariff, 36,546 gallons of alcoholic liquors, valued at 36,000. The whole of this—or almost the whole—was consumed in the fiscal year 1886-7—in addition to 24,026 gallons entered for consumption during that same year. Sixty thousand gallons of imported spirits entered for consumption at Charlottetown during one year,—and the Scott Act in full swing!

But this is not all. There is reason for believing that the greater part of the importation was adulterated, making probably 120,000 gallons.

Of the ale and strong liquors imported here in steamers, schooners, etc., from Montreal and Halifax, we can, of course give no definite statistics. It is estimated that over one-half the ale consumed here is obtained in this way, and at least a fourth of the spirits. During a single month of last year there were brought in from one Canadian town in one steamer, 100 cases 20 puncheons, 44 barrels, 15 hogsheds and one cask of intoxicating liquors. This will afford some idea of the quantity of intoxicants consumed here of which no record is taken by our customs or excise officials.

We have not stated that our people, man for man, consume more liquor now than they did in the olden time. We believe that as a whole, they have reached a higher plane in respect to drunkenness than they occupied years ago. The agitation against the liquor traffic, the efforts of clergymen, teachers, editors, temperance societies, have not been without good results. But we do state and maintain that the Scott Act does not restrain those who are still in the bondage of drink from gratifying their depraved appetites to the full; and, judging by what we see on the streets, by statistics obtained at the public offices, and by what we know of the course of the semi-surreptitious traffic carried on by means of steamers, schooners, etc., we think we are fully justified in our statement that liquor drinking in this city has lately been on the increase, and in demanding "what our temperance men are going to do about it!"

Down With Them.

THEY say there is a law on the statute book of the Province compelling farmers to cut down the thistles and weeds growing on the roadside, opposite their farms. Why is it not put into operation? The quantity of thistles and other bad weeds noticeable in our grain fields and along our roads is anything but creditable to the farmers. No small loss is occasioned by thistles in the wheat crop, alone, every year; and still, no measures are taken to get clear of the pest. For the sake of tidiness, itself, one would think war would be waged against these intruders. The farmer who allows his lanes and fence lines to grow up in daisies, thistles or other obnoxious seeders, has not a keen eye to his interests or reputation. As an instance of the carelessness of our farmers on this point, it is only necessary to call the attention of the passer-by to the spread of a dirty, yellow weed along the highway leading from Tignish to Alberton. This weed is styled the *baughlan*, and it is said that the seed of it came over from the Old Country in a bed tick. One swing of the scythe would have saved the country from this pest when first it showed itself, but now its yellow head ornaments the roadsides for miles around the starting point, and bids fair to make conquest of the whole country in short. Out with these objectionable weeds before the seeding time, and let us see the fair face of our wheat fields without spot or blemish.

The Subway.

A GREAT deal was said at Cape Traverse about Free Trade and Commercial Union with the States. But very little, indeed, was said about the proposed Subway. Free Trade with the States would undoubtedly be a great boon; but the value of the boon to this Province would be increased threefold at least if we had easy and continuous communication with the Mainland. The Grit orators, are, however, silent about the Subway. Mr. Davies has to be very cautious to what he says about it. But after it has been obtained by his opponents, then he will, as in the case of the additional subsidy of \$20,000 a year, be ready to claim the credit.

"The Mother's Star."

A neatly printed pamphlet, entitled "Mother's Star or Circus' Eva," has been placed on our table. The author, Rev. D. D. Moore, of this city, evinces a great deal of skill as a story-teller in the twenty-six pages of his pamphlet. He describes the fall of a young girl who had left her country home on the death of her mother. In her wanderings there was ever one star that seemed to her the spirit of her departed mother. She joined a circus and afterwards drifted into the worst quarters of St. John. Her mother's star, however, was never wholly lost sight of, and by its light she ultimately was led to a better life. Mr. Moore vouches for the truth of his story, which, he says, is written as an incentive to Christian workers.

Gzowski Engineer Competition, 1887.

THE competition this year for the Gzowski Cup in connection with the annual inspection of the Engineers is as follows:—General idea.—In an expedition into an enemy's country, a company of Engineers has been left behind on the line of communication for the purpose of constructing and subsequently guarding a bridge across a considerable stream. There are none of the enemy's forces in the neighborhood, but the country is in a disturbed state and the spare population are decidedly hostile.

The Company is left to its own resources about six hours before nightfall, and in this time it has to construct its encampment and the necessary defences in order to be ready to commence work on the bridge the following morning at day break. The work for the competition will be the construction of the encampment and the defences which may be judged necessary for it. No notice being taken of the imaginary stream and bridge.

Attention is specially directed to the following points:—(a) The nature of the site. (b) The water supply. (c) The cooking and sanitary arrangements. (d) The arrangements for obtaining shelter from the weather. N. B.—No use whatever to be made of tents or existing buildings. (e) The size and arrangement of the camp and its defence.

The Garden Province.

We are pleased to notice such paragraphs as the following which we clip from the *Moncton Transcript*:—"Councillor Doyle, who returned from P. E. Island on Tuesday, expresses himself as delighted with the appearance of the country, so far as he saw it, particularly the surrounding of Summerside and Charlottetown. The crops everywhere presented a splendid appearance, indicating that there would be an abundance for man and beast in that Province, and a large surplus to spare for less fortunate communities. He understands now why P. E. Island is called 'the garden of the St. Lawrence,' and like a good many other people does not understand why, with such fine farming facilities, at home, the young men of that highly favored Province ever think of going to the prairies of the West or North West; and why so many young men prefer the uncertainty of mercantile occupation to the almost absolute certainty of success in farming, if prosecuted with discretion and diligence. Mr. H. H. Ayer, who has also visited the Island, speaks in most glowing terms of the character of the country along the line of the Island railway, notwithstanding that there, as well as elsewhere, the road usually lies through comparatively the poorest lands. He was charmed with the whole appearance of the Province.

COL. DR. INGERSOLL is to visit St. John shortly.

Varia.

I observe in a New York paper, which is most rabid against England, that the editor has made a discovery over which he gloats in great pride, viz: that St. George, the patron saint of England, was George of Cappadocia, the turbulent Arian Bishop of Alexandria, torn to pieces by the populace in 360, and revered as a saint by the Arian heretics. Our contemporary is entirely wrong, and has been misled by Gibbon in "The Decline and Fall," (vol. ii. 323) who is no great authority upon matters of this kind.

That St. George is a veritable character is beyond all reasonable doubt, and there seems no reason to deny that he was born in Armenia, and was beheaded in Diocletian's persecution, by order of Datianus, April 23, 303. St. Jerome (331-420) mentions him in one of his martyrologies; in the next century there were many churches to his honor. St. Gregory (540-604) has in his Sacramentary a "Preface for St. George's Day," and the Venerable Bede (672-735) in his martyrology says, "At last St. George truly finished his martyrdom by decapitation, although the guests of his passion are numbered among the apocryphal writings."

In regard to his connection with England, Ashmole, in his "History of the Order of the Garter," says that King Arthur in the sixth century placed the picture of St. George on his banners; and Selden tells us he was patron saint of England in the Saxon times. It is quite certain that the Council of Oxford in 1222, commanded his festival to be observed in England as a holiday of lesser rank, and in 1330 he was adopted as the patron of the Order of the Garter.

The Dragon slain by St. George is simply a common allegory to express the triumph of the christian hero over evil, which St. John the Evangelist beheld under the image of a dragon. Similarly St. Michael, St. Margaret, St. Silvester and St. Martha are all depicted as slaying dragons; the Saviour and the Blessed Virgin as treading them under their feet. Even John Bunyan avails himself of the same figure, when he makes Christian encounter Apollyon and prevail against him.

I have been asked wherein the Socialists differ from the followers of Henry George. That a difference does exist may be assumed from the fact that the former were ejected from the Labor Party, which lately held its convention in the United States. They both desire to rob honest people of what belongs to them, but they differ somewhat in their manner of doing it. The Socialists have heretofore been regarded as theorists from the time that Robert Owen, in 1814, published his theory of the wretched condition of society, and as a remedy advocated a community of property and the abolition of all rank in society. The Socialists and the Georgites are now engaged in bitterly denouncing one another; but the difference between them is evidently microscopic.

In France General Boulanger has been posing before his countrymen as a man of blood. M. Ferry in a speech at Epinal spoke of the General as a "St. Arnaud de cafe concert," without mentioning him by name. This epithet, which is more or less unintelligible to English ears, General Boulanger has resented hotly, so much so that he sent a challenge to the ex-Premier to fight a duel. It has ended in smoke—not the smoke of pistols, be it added—for the seconds were unable to come to terms. The representatives of the General wished to make the duel a real encounter, which should not be considered as having satisfied honor until blood had been drawn. M. Ferry's seconds, however, insisted upon the stage duel which is so popular in France, and which probably alone has saved this remnant of barbarism from a deserved and dishonored end. Neither side being willing to give way, the affair is at an end; but General Boulanger appears before his admirers as a valiant officer with whom no one dares take liberties, while in the eyes of his detractors he assumes the character of a blood-thirsty swashbuckler who imposes conditions which he knows will not be accepted.

I have often been surprised at the manner in which a great many people apply the term "fresco painting" to work which is of an entirely different character, and which does not call for anything like the talent required to paint frescoes. Fresco painting, proper, is a method of ornamenting the walls and ceilings of buildings by painting designs in colors ground in water, and mixed with lime, upon the freshly laid plaster. The outline designs serve to give copies upon tracing paper, and these being attached to the wall in portions of convenient size, the outline is transferred to the wet plaster by going over the lines with a sharp point. The preparation of the wall is an especial care. Before the last coating (called by Italians *intonaco*) dries, the design must be transferred to it, and the painting completed; consequently only small portions of a fresco can be executed at one time. The joinings between the works of one day and that of the next are made to coincide with lines in the composition or take place in the shadows. Mineral colors are almost exclusively used. Besides this process, called by the Italians *buon fresco*, or the true fresco, the early masters had other methods, the most important of which was the *fresco secco*, or dry fresco, so called because the plastering was re-moistened before the color was applied, where by the artist was enabled to quit his work at pleasure. In this manner were probably executed all the so-called ancient frescoes.

In a new method introduced in Germany and called the *Stereochromie*, the painting is fixed by a silica solution, so that it becomes as hard as stone. The work, too, may be left and resumed at any time. Among the earliest fresco paintings are those in the church of St. Francis, in Assisi, which were begun in the 13th century, by Giunta, of Pisa, and continued during the next century and a half by other painters of note. Next in date are the decorations of the Campo Santo, in Pisa, the walls of which employed some of the chief masters of fresco in the 14th and 15th centuries. The great names of the 15th century are Pietro della Francesca, Masolino, Filippo Lippi, Fra Angelico da Fiesole, Massaccio, and Ghirlandajo. Luca Signorelli, Andrea Mantegna, Francesco Francia, Perugino, the master of Raphael, Fra Bartolommeo, and some others belong partly to this century and partly to the next, which witnessed at once the culmi-

ation of the art of fresco painting, and its corruption and decline.

The three most illustrious painters of this latter era were Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michael Angelo. Leonardo's chief work is the well-known "Last Supper," executed for the refectory of the Convent of Sta. Maria delle Grazie, at Milan, of which only the mouldering remains are now visible. Of Michael Angelo's frescoes the most famous are the series on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Nearly every distinguished painter of the age practiced fresco painting; but the art rapidly deteriorated and, after the middle of the 17th century, no work in fresco of more than moderate merit was executed in Italy. The present century has witnessed a revival of fresco painting in Europe, particularly in Germany. In England Cope, Dyce, Ward, Maclise, Herbert, Watts and others executed many large frescoes in the new houses of parliament; but, in the opinion of eminent native artists, the process is unsuited to the genius of the English school, and no completed frescoes exist in England equal to the works by the same painters executed in oil. The only examples of fresco painting in America worthy of mention are in the National Capitol at Washington, and they are of little artistic value.

Starvation and Cannibalism.

A Winnipeg despatch to the Halifax Herald says: "Letters have been received here from Messrs. Colin Fraser and Charles Stewart, dated Fort Chipewyan, July 5th. They were thirty days getting there from the landing, about three times as long as they should have been, owing to lack of knowledge of the river, but by being careful they had no mishap. The flies were terrific. The country around Chipewyan is rocky, sometimes covered with moss or timber. Starvation last winter caused several cases of cannibalism. One old woman now at Chipewyan admits having killed and eaten a whole family last winter at Little Red River. Starvation and cannibalism is reported from Mackenzie River.

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NOW landing, on Queen's Wharf, 200 Bwgs Liverpool SALT. Will be sold low while landing. Apply to W. W. CLARKE. Ch'town, Aug. 27, 1887—1wk eod.

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Tuition given on the instrument individually—not in class. Dancla's conservatory method used. Age preferred—twelve to sixteen years. There is an Orchestral Class in connection for those that are sufficiently advanced, free of charge. For particulars apply to H. W. Vinnicombe, Fitzroy Street, near St. James' Church. Orders for notes tuning left at C. P. Fletcher's, will be attended to promptly. N. B.—I have two fine old Violins for Sale. August 20, 1887.

The City Schools

WILL be Re-opened, after the Midsummer Vacation, on Monday, 29th August, Inst., AT 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

It is particularly requested that all intending pupils be in attendance at the Schools on that day in order that they may be graded into their proper departments, and commence the work of their grades. ISAAC OXENHAM, Secretary of School Board. Ch'town, August 22nd, 1887—31 eod.

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Silk Hats, Hard Felt Hats, Soft Felt Hats, Tweed Hats, Fore-and-Aft Caps, OPENED TO-DAY AT THE

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Ch'town, August 25, 87—dy wy—pat

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MESSES. A. WHITE & SON: I have much pleasure in giving my unqualified approval of the Gurney Hot-water Boiler placed in my house two years ago. It has given me great satisfaction, and I can recommend it to any one wanting a thoroughly good heating apparatus. I have used hard coal in it until lately, when I changed to soft, and find it quite as satisfactory. I intend to use the soft coal in future. Yours truly, C. D. RANKIN, Charlottetown.

Estimates furnished on application.

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Ch'town, August 25, 1887—1mo 2aw pat

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Ch'town, August 8, 1887.—dy & wky