

THE DAILY EXAMINER. MARCH 10, 1884.

Remedy for Fires.

The following practical tests recently published in a Philadelphia journal, will afford food for thought just now, when public attention is centred on this important subject:

"Make property owners first responsible (as in France) for fires occurring in their premises, unless proven to have been unavoidable or accidental and not attributed to criminal carelessness."

"Have enacted more rigid and practical building laws, and have them enforced for the protection of life and property."

"Transform our Fire Departments into non-partisan organizations, and no longer make them political hospitals for broken down wire-pullers, and thus elevate and improve the standing of our national fire service."

"Labor without ceasing until the water in all large cities (and small ones too) is fully equal to all reasonable demands."

"Practice common sense for self protection."

The advice is worthy of consideration. In respect to the Fire Department the remarks are not applicable to our case, as our volunteer brigade is composed of brave and self-sacrificing men who would be a credit to any city. It only requires improved appliances to make it one of the most efficient Fire Departments in the Dominion.

Water is, without doubt, the most important element to the solution of the question; but as the matter has already been discussed at a public meeting and referred to a committee of influential citizens for consideration, we shall defer further comments on the subject until they make their report and formulate some scheme.

The enactment of proper building laws should receive the immediate attention of the City Council, and we urge upon them the necessity of moving in the matter while the Legislature is in session, so as to obtain power to enforce such by-laws.

Provincial Legislature—House of Assembly.

The first division took place on Saturday on the motion to adopt the report of the Committee on tenders for printing the Journals. The Opposition moved no amendment, but they divided against the original motion. If the vote had been carried against the adoption of the report, the consequence would be no Journal of the proceedings. It surely must be some of the ignoramuses of the Opposition that cried out "No." But it is a wonder that such old Parliamentaries as Messrs. Perry and Sinclair did not know better than to go forth. It appears that there are so many of the Opposition aspiring to be leaders, that they do not pay any attention to their constitutional leader, Mr. Perry. However the report was adopted 15 to 10, and the Journal will be printed.

The Poet Laureate.

Two or three months ago Alfred Tennyson published a poem in America for which he received the handsome little sum of \$1,000. His theme was "Spring." It contained only eight short and silly verses. The poem was the veriest rubbish—it did not contain one original idea. Better poems have been written by school boys, who were never heard of outside their own settlements. If received anonymously in any newspaper or magazine office, it would be thrown indignantly into the waste basket. This shows the value of a reputation.

Tennyson's place in literature was gained early in his career by reason of two or three charming poems, which were so unlike everything that preceded or that has followed them, that it is hard to realize that the same hand had penned them all. Tennyson's productions, for the last ten years, have been failures. He has written nothing since 1870 which justifies his claim to poetic greatness. Longfellow and Bryant both lived to a good old age and they rounded out their literary labors majestically. The nearer they approached the unseen world, the grander and sweeter became their songs. Some of their latest poems were the richest in imagery, and the most radiant in description. In their later years, they wrote with the hand of a master. If there was wickedness in any of their productions it was at the beginning and not at the close of their lives. They died without a coronet, but they left a prouder title to distinction—one that will shine with increasing lustre as the years that are yet unborn continue to roll by.

Tennyson has been recently elevated to the peerage. This honor, if it may be called an honor, comes at a time when his greatness as a poet exists only in the recollections of men who refuse to permit the rhymes of his later years to obliterate their appreciation of his more praiseworthy work of a generation ago. Tennyson belongs to the peerage of Britain by the act of human hands. But if he belongs to the "peerage of the immortals," it will be by right of his "Idylls of the King," "Enoch Arden," "Maud," "the May Queen," and "Locksley Hall"—the productions of his earliest years. He will be remembered kindly as the sweet singer of Victoria's earlier reign, long after the honor conferred on him by the British peerage shall have been forgotten. How trifling and evanescent are all merely human honors compared with the far grander ones of the mind and the heart. It is better to go to the grave as Longfellow and Bryant went, wearing the crown of their divine art, than to pass thither as Tenny-

son seems doomed to do, tricked with the trumpery of an earthly peerage, and bearing no fulfillment of the bright promises of his early manhood. Tennyson, therefore, was a far grander man in his youth and his power, than he is now in his age and his seat among the peers of England. In other words, Tennyson the Poet is a far greater man than Tennyson the lord.—COM.

Editorial Notes.

—Every little while we hear through the press of great activity in the work on the Panama Canal. It is probable, however, that what has already been accomplished has not entirely met the expectations of those who are interested in the completion of this great work. There are many natural obstacles to be overcome, some of them no doubt very perplexing ones to the engineers in charge. The liability to freshets in Chagres River is of this kind, but it is thought that this difficulty has been surmounted and that the work will now move forward more rapidly. The announcement that the Canal will be opened for traffic by 1888, although somewhat premature, may serve to awaken greater interest in the scheme generally as well as a bait to attract capital to the undertaking.

Items from Souris.

The first genuine winter snowstorms, have paid us a visit at last. They were fully expected as a necessary accompaniment to this time of the year. Old residents say that the winter has been, on the whole, one of the very finest, roads generally good, storms of short duration, and many really pleasant days. The changes of temperature have certainly been quick and sudden, resulting to many in a plentiful crop of toothaches, neuralgia, and severe colds; the natural consequence of one day being ever so far away down below zero, and the next smilingly warm like genial spring—such is this world in all things—ever changing.

One of the pleasant ways to pass the winter evenings is in enjoying the "sociables," gotten up to pass away an hour or two in merry greetings, and happy intercourse. They are enjoyable alike to both old and young, good for both body and mind. Every fortnight some good lady opens her house for this meeting of friends, and they meet and part, only to long to meet again. Our Methodist friends intend the erection of a parsonage in connection with their work here, and the "sociable" is one very good way of helping them to accomplish their desires. Parsons, as a rule, are just built about the same as other mortals—at least that is the notion Christian people have—and congregations honor themselves in making their Parsons as comfortable as possible. Indeed Souris maintains a creditable position in this respect; every congregation loves and respects their own minister, and everybody likes every other bodies minister, and everybody likes their own minister the best—a touch of human nature, agreeable alike to both Priests and Parsons, and quite in accordance with true Christian sentiment. We wish our Methodist friends true success in every respect in their labors to erect a suitable dwelling for their clergymen.

The Baptist denomination are progressing favorably in their efforts to raise for themselves a suitable house of worship. The contract will soon be given, and the plan of the building indicates quite an improvement in our local architecture.

Some of us are much amused at the productions signed "Guy de Montgomerie." The last arrival from the "metropolis" of the world declares them to be "a veritable strange! dooood strange! incomprehensibly strange!" Your correspondent ranks among the "ignorant, indeed," as to the pedigree of the gentleman—whenever he may be. His "lineage" is an interesting item. We should pay every respect to the scion of a noble house, which dates its existence "beyond the days of the Holy Wars." We are not just told how far beyond. A friendly son of Erin gives it as his opinion that, no doubt, the "lineage" is a very ancient one; and says, "I wouldn't wonder a bit but he is some relation to Howly Moses, or a lineal descendant of Balaam's Ass." Of course the idea is preposterous; but we await further developments. "P. B. P." is a "weeay gwee" cuss, too. Yet people differ in opinion about them. *Quid homines, tot sententia.*

The beautiful snow postponed the meeting of our local Court. The appointments of Inspector and sub-Inspector under the new License Law, have occasioned much comment. A meeting of the King's County Branch of the Dominion Temperance Alliance took place at St. Peter's last Wednesday. Spirited addresses were delivered, good resolutions passed, and not the least doubt of it, good results will follow. We all know that King's County temperance workers, both priests and people, are thoroughly in earnest.

Your Parliamentary correspondence from the pen of the much esteemed and able editor of THE EXAMINER, attracts considerable attention, and meets with much favorable comment here. The news that over 2,000 rebels "licked the dust" in Egypt at the bidding of the English soldiers, created quite a sensation. Some enthusiastic souls felt like lighting bonfires.

The solemn season of Lent is upon us, and the Catholic world bows to lessons of holy penitence. It is a "holly of hollies" in the lives of many, when men and women draw nearer to a "tried and tempted Redeemer," as the Christian world has ever done since the dawn of Gospel truth. Could all the Lenten seasons of the Christian centuries pass before us, how they would thrill us with their holy joys, and subdue us with their sacred sorrows. O'er all the world, in every land, and every clime, all peoples of the earth, join in penitential prayer and song.

"O bountiful Creator, Hear the prayers, which with an humble fear, Before thy throne, this Sacred Lent, We pour from hearts with sorrow rent. And the prayers cease not, and the spirit of the song dies not. He who came off victorious after forty days of trial, and became more than conqueror over death

and the grave, hears the faintest whisper, and the Angels and Saints rejoice, for there is great joy in their presence. During our Lent "the prayers cease not, and the spirit of the song dies not," again it ascends on high:—

"Whilst we by fast our flesh restrain, Permit us not to sin again; Oh, may our hearts, from vices free, For ever live and burn for Thee!"

And millions and tens of millions of Christians sing it, and thousands and tens of thousands of altars pray it, and Heaven hears it, and the eternal mansions pour forth their myriad throng, and from Throne to portal, a psalm of matchless glory—heaven's music—rolls along the golden streets, echoes o'er the crystal seas, reverberates from the jasper walls, peals from "the towers of glory," and bursts through the gates of pearl, on its way to earth. There is "a communion of saints"; we join in praise. The Resurrection Morn brings triumphant hallelujahs! All is Glory; Glory for the sinner, Glory for the Church, Glory in Heaven; then Lent is over, the forty day's Lent, but its work is stamped "ETERNAL."

The next meeting of the local branch of the Dominion Temperance Alliance takes place on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., in the Agricultural Hall. Speakers, and many friends from a distance, are expected. A large audience is requested. See advertisement.

LANCASTER.

Souris, March 7th, 1884.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Bank of P. E. Island.

DEAR SIR,—The unfortunate depositors are doomed to further disappointment, by the recent injunction placed upon the assets of the Old Bank. It appears that the Crown is a shield for Governments—General and Provincial. The definition of Dr. Johnson that patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel, can be modified; and now we find the Crown is the last refuge to shield Governments against all wrongs. This refuge, or, as it is commonly termed, the prerogatives of the Crown, are of various kinds. Let us see in what respect by right the Government should now take precedence of other creditors. The King's prerogatives are either direct or incidental. The direct have reference to the King's political person, considered merely by itself, without reference to any other extrinsic circumstances, as sending ambassadors, creating peers, making war, and peace. Hence the direct prerogatives are of three kinds: (1) his royal character; (2) his royal authority; (3) his royal income. His incidental prerogatives bear always relation to something else distinct from the King's person, and are indeed only exceptions in favor of the Crown to those general rules that are established for the rest of the community. The law ascribes to the King: 1st, the attribute of sovereignty or pre-eminence; 2nd, in his political capacity the attribute of perfection; 3rd, his perpetuity. The subjects of the Crown are not destitute of a remedy in case the Crown should invade their rights. The law has provided a remedy in cases of both private injury and public oppression. If any person has in point of property a just demand upon the King, he must petition him in his Court of Chancery where his Chancellor will administer right as a matter of grace. It is a maxim of the law that the King can do no wrong, and this is the shield of Governments under the Crown. The next point to be looked at is the King's fiscal prerogatives. These are defined to be either ordinary or extraordinary. His ordinary revenues have either subsisted time out of mind, or else have been granted by Parliament by way of purchase, or exchange for some of the King's revenues as were found inconvenient to the subject. The most of the laws for assessing, limiting and restraining the royal prerogative have been made within the compass of little more than a century past, from the Petition of Right 3, car. 1, to be present, so that the powers of the Crown are, to all appearance, greatly curtailed and diminished since the reign of King James the First, particularly by the abolition of the Star Chamber and High Commission Courts in the reign of Charles the First, and since the revolution by the strong and emphatical words in which our liberties are asserted in the Bill of Rights and Act of Settlement. The Dominion Government's deposits must be among the Crown's extraordinary fiscal prerogatives—extraordinary because the amount is more than unusually large, and extraordinary because the Government should have ascertained the solvency of the Bank of P. E. Island before they allowed their money to be placed upon deposit there. The Directors of this Bank had to make returns to the Government, and if they made fraudulent returns it was the duty of the Dominion Government to protect the property and persons of other depositors as well as their own. Has this been done? Not if the Government now means to act big dog and pounce upon the remains of this rotten old bank and not leave a solitary rib of the stinking carcass for the poor old widows, maidens and orphans who had their all in this "Old Bank." How do the directors get? They appear to be the most high-spirited and elevated Christians in the land. They occupy positions of trust and power, and from what we see in the Registry Office they appear to be flush with money and quite unconcerned about the sufferers injured by their gross negligence and mismanagement. The Government of this Dominion should not take or claim any advantage over the other creditors, because they are to blame in not watching and looking into the financial aspect of the Bank. Our representatives in Parliament should raise their voices against this act, and as the Crown is said to be the fountain of honor, privilege and justice, surely they will consider the claims of the other unfortunate creditors and refrain from taking their money to make up for past negligence.

The depositors should have acted unitedly from the first and pull together—instead of doing so, the heavy depositors rather sided with the directors, and helped to shield them, and frowned with indifference upon the efforts of poor people who have been endeavoring to obtain justice and redress for their grievances. The very fact that the directors have retained nearly all the lawyers in Charlottetown goes to prove that they deliberately prepared to place obstacles in the way of the ordinary depositors. The heavy depositors remaining aloof and knowing that a vigorous

prosecution required more money than was at the disposal of the poorer depositors, they felt secure; and no doubt they now feel secure and glad to see the Dominion Government take all. But a day of retribution will come, and justice, though slow, will surely come, and tyrants and oppressors will yet meet their doom. So the depositors should yet put their shoulders to the wheel and prepare for the coming action against the directors.

Yours truly, A. DEPOSITOR. P. E. Island, March 6, 1884.

A Public Nuisance!

SIR,—None other community than ours would, for so long a time, have tolerated the nuisance that is to be met with at our church doors on Sabbath days. A half-witted individual, apparently as much of a knave as he is a fool, is allowed to stand on the sidewalk as the congregation retire and abuse and denounce them in the strongest terms, and in the most vociferous manner. The S'pendiary Magistrate, it is understood, advised Ministers, whose churches were annoyed in this way, to have recourse to the police. Will the City Marshall be good enough to have his force so distributed at twelve o'clock on each Lord's day as to take the creature into custody on a repetition of the offence, and, if a fit subject for the asylum, let him be sent to Falconwood. Otherwise let him learn in durance vile, that there is a law to preserve the sanctity of the Sabbath, and the peace of church-going citizens.

WORSHIPPER.

IceHummock Again Heard From.

AN AWFUL STATE OF AFFAIRS.

[By Telegraph.] CAPE TORMENTINE, March 10. One hundred and thirty-four bags mails and twenty-five passengers, and a large lot of luggage there; and a big number of mail bags and ten passengers at Cape Traverse. With the assistance of a steamer all this delay would have been obviated. With these winds there is nothing to hinder the "Northern Light" from running up and landing a hand, which she could very effectually do.

ICE HUMMOCK.

COME ONE! COME ALL!

Souris Temperance Alliance.

A PUBLIC MEETING

will be held in the Agricultural Hall, Chapel Street,

Wednesday Next, 12th March.

The meeting will be addressed by prominent temperance workers from a distance. Hour of meeting—7 3/4 p. m. By order of the Committee.

D. F. McDONALD, P. P., President.

Souris, March 10.

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE.

TO be sold by AUCTION, on the premises, on

Friday, the 4th of April next,

AT TWELVE O'CLOCK,

if not previously disposed of by private sale, all that plot of land situated on Kent Street, the former site of the "North American Hotel," measuring forty-two feet on Kent Street and extending back 160 feet, together with all the stone, etc., in the cellars thereon. This affords a good opportunity for any person wishing to invest in a hotel, it having been used for such for the last forty years. Terms easy and made known at sale.

WILLIAM DODD, Auctioneer.

Ch'town, March 10.—21 wly 11 esc

IMPORTED SEED WHEAT

ALREADY RECEIVED, 500 bushels White Russian, and to arrive by "Northern Light," 1,000 bushels White Russian and 500 bushels White and Red Fife. Full particulars and prices are given in my "CULTIVATORS' GUIDE AND SEED CATALOGUE" for 1884 (ready 20th March), which is a book of thirty-two large pages, with forty-five illustrations of the choicest FLOWERS and VEGETABLES, and directions for culture of nearly 250 varieties of FLOWERS, VEGETABLES and AGRICULTURAL SEEDS. I have the largest and best Stock of Seeds ever offered for sale in Prince Edward Island. My "Cultivators' Guide" tells how to get and grow them. Send on your name and post office address, and I will send you a copy, free. Address,

George Carter, Sec'dman, Ch'town, March 10.

LOBSTER FACTORY FOR SALE.

AT South Side East Point, Good fishing ground, plenty room and good fishermen. Fished only two years. Will sell or rent very low. Good plant. Enquire of

JAMES MCGREGOR, Bothwell P. O. March 10—11 pd

FOR SALE.

50 loads Kindling Wood, 200 cords Hardwood, 200 cords Softwood, 6,000 Longers.

Apply to JOSEPH MAHAR, Cumberland Street. Ch'town, March 8—11

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF ENGLAND.

ESTABLISHED A. D. 1836.

Invested Funds, \$30,632,000; of which ONE MILLION DOLLARS is invested in Canada.

General Reserve and Fire Re-Insurance Fund, SEVEN MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

This Company will now do a general business in the City and Province. Risks taken daily by

R. R. FITZGERALD,

Ch'town, March 10, 1884.—1m eod

AG'NT.

W. & A. BROWN & CO.

—HAVE—

RESUMED BUSINESS

FOR THE PRESENT, IN THE

Store formerly occupied by H. A. Harvie,

QUEEN STREET,

NEARLY OPPOSITE WATSON'S DRUG STORE,

Ch'town, March 6, 1884.—dy wly

DESBRISAY & ANGUS,

AGENTS OF THE

QUEEN AND AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COMPANIES,

While thanking the Citizens of Charlottetown for their past patronage, and assistance during the late fire, have to announce that they have taken the office in

Stevenson's Building,

CORNER QUEEN AND SYDNEY STREETS,

Where they are prepared to do business.

Ch'town, Feb. 23, 1884.

GREAT SALE OF New Cottons.

We have just opened a large Stock of

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN PRINTS, NEW SPRING STYLES,

Received Before the Advance in Duty.

We have an immense stock of

GREY AND WHITE COTTONS,

Purchased when the Cotton market was at the lowest point of depression.

Fleecy Cottons, sheeting Cottons, Pillow Cottons,

TABLE LINEN AND NAPKINS,

Towels and Towelling,

TAPESTRY, SCOTCH AND BRUSSELS CARPETS,

And other House Furnishing Goods.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CHOICE TEAS, VERY CHEAP!

By the Chest, Half-Chest, and Quarter-Chest. Also, in Packages of 5, 10, 15 and 20 pounds.

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Ch'town, Feb. 11, 1884.