

from the British brig of war Plumper, which was wrecked some thirty-seven years ago, and were pretty successful in raising a considerable amount of silver dollars, iron, &c.

The Examiner.

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1850.

MORE ABOUT THE SHERIFFS.

The following letter was communicated to Mr. Benjamin Davies on Saturday last:

Charlottetown, 4th May, 1850. SIR—I have this day received a command from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to call upon you for the payment of the sum of £20, being a fine incurred by you for refusing to serve as High Sheriff of Queen's County for the current year; and in the event of your refusing or neglecting to pay such fine, to take the usual steps for the recovery thereof.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient Servant, R. HONGSON, Attorney General. To Benjamin Davies Esq., Charlottetown.

It appears from the above letter that the Lieutenant Governor is determined upon exercising his authority to the utmost against any of the majority of the Assembly who may come within his reach! We are aware it will be said, he is acting only within the law. Granted—but would Sir Donald Campbell seek to enforce the payment of the £20 fine if one of the opposite party stood in Mr. Davies's position? We must be permitted to say we do not think he would. Mr. Davies will not, we opine, so quietly submit to the "command" of the Lieut. Governor, as his Excellency may expect him to do. Why should he? Indeed the attempt to force upon Mr. Davies the office of Sheriff was a manifest infringement on the privileges of the House of Assembly. The proclamation, calling the Legislature together, was out before Mr. Davies was nominated to the Sheriffalty, and had he accepted the office, it is probable he would be required to perambulate the County in serving Writs, Summonses, Subpoenas, &c. &c., when he should be guarding the interests of his constituents in the House of Assembly. It is a breach of the privileges of the House to subpoena a member as a witness, in any case, during the sitting of the Legislature; and yet it appears to be deemed no breach of privilege to attempt to make a member a server of writs, or fine him £20 if he refuse to take that employment! We hope and believe that Sir Donald, in this instance, at least, will not be at full liberty to gratify his resentment against the majority of the Assembly in the person of one of its members.

Since the letter addressed to Mr. Davies by the Attorney General was put into our hands, we received the following communication from a highly intelligent correspondent, in reference to that letter:

MR. WHELAN; Having seen a letter by the Attorney General to Mr. Davies, of the 4th May, 1850, requiring him to pay a fine of £20 for non-acceptance of the Office of Sheriffship, I have to observe, that in 1843 the Sheriffship of Prince County was offered to the late Honorable P. S. McNutt, and he was allowed to decline accepting without payment of fine, merely on the allegation that he meant to be absent for the Summer; and it was then offered to another member of the Legislature, who might have got off without fine, as was currently reported at that time. The accepting, when it was said he might have evaded the Office, damaged his popularity. How far he would really have been excused from the fine, I cannot say,—but it is undeniable that Mr. McNutt was the first pricked off, and if they fined the second they must have fined the first.

A CORRESPONDENT.

We may observe, in addition to the above statement of "A Correspondent," that similar cases occurred many years ago, as we have been informed, with respect to the late Mr. Charles Wright and the Hon. Mr. Worrell declining the Sheriffalty.

PRÆTORIAN MAGNANIMITY.

NONE but a contracted mind would condescend to an act of petty revenge, and a more striking proof of such littleness of mind could hardly be adduced than that furnished by the Lieutenant Governor in his refusal to order, or permit the raising of the upper mast of the Signal Telegraph. The paltry sum of ten shillings would have covered the whole expense, and all vessels entering our Harbour would, as heretofore, be reported in due time. It is said that the Governor refuses on the

plea that no funds have been provided for that purpose by the Legislature, but this is a most unworthy excuse, since no sum was ever voted for that express purpose and never asked for in the Estimates; and monies are continually dropping in, arising from fines and forfeitures, which are at His Excellency's disposal.

The inconvenience principally affects Charlottetown, which has hitherto been completely under the sway of that party which the Governor affects to uphold; and therefore his own friends, if he be fortunate enough to have any, are the more likely to feel the annoyance.

The health and safety of the inhabitants of this Town, which are thus improperly trifled with, depend much upon the regular interchange of those signals; but under the present management of affairs, those dreadful scourges, cholera, small-pox, and typhus fever, are liable to be introduced here at our very wharves, without any attempt at prevention; and should such an unhappy event occur, who would envy the Governor's position? How would his apology be received at the Colonial Office, if sickness and death were thus introduced into the place?—that he had not ten shillings of the public money to expend upon such a necessary service, especially when the startling fact would stare him in the face, that one or two of our Merchants had offered to put the signal post in proper order free of expense, and that he had churlishly and obstinately refused his assent to their proposal.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

STEAMER NIAGARA FROM ENGLAND.

The Mail Steamer Rose, arrived from Pictou yesterday morning, bringing another English Mail, which reached Halifax, per Steamship Niagara, on Tuesday morning last, in 9 1-2 days from Liverpool. The news is still unimportant. Her Majesty, it is said, gave birth to a Princess just as the Niagara sailed, the intelligence being communicated to Liverpool by Telegraph.

ENGLAND.

During the week closed there has not been any improvement in commercial affairs. Arrivals of produce have been less numerous, the markets have assumed a steadier appearance, and the value of most articles has been better sustained. Buyers are cautious in their operations. A large business has been done in cotton at barely one eighth of a penny advance since the sailing of the last steamer. The demand for timber had increased and stocks were being rapidly reduced. Only two vessels, 766 tons, from British America arrived during the past month. St. John Pine Timber has been sold at 17d. to 18d.; and from the yard 101 logs in division at 18 1/2 to 20 1/2d. Halifax deals have brought £7 10s. per standard.

The Australian Colonies Bill has excited a lengthened discussion in the Commons. The amount of self-government awarded has been frittered down to the smallest minimum.—The subject of the agricultural distress has engaged the attention of the Peers. Mr. Labouchere has withdrawn his marine bills. Rumours prevail that Sir Robert Peel will again take office. It is quite certain that no man but Peel can deal with the affairs of the Empire at this particular juncture.

ANTICIPATED CHANGES IN THE CABINET.—The London Correspondent of the Dublin Freeman's Journal, in a communication dated Tuesday evening, writes as follows:

"There is a good deal of excitement to night in and about the House of Commons, consequent in a rumour which has gained almost universal credence, that immediately after the Queen's accouchement, which is hourly expected, Sir James Graham will be honoured with her Majesty's command to take a seat in the Cabinet. Lord John Russell goes to the Upper house.—Lord Palmerston resigns the Foreign Secretaryship.—Lord Clarendon accepts the office. Sir Charles Wood vacates the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer. The first and last rumour flew about the Stock Exchange to-day like wild fire, and I have personal knowledge of the fact that large investments were made by well-informed capitalists, members of the house of Commons, in almost certain expectation that the funds would rise two per cent. at least, in the event of Sir James's acceptance of office, and Sir Charles's retirement from a position which he has characterized by the most ridiculous bungling."

IRELAND.

Already the merchants and citizens of Belfast have raised a fund of £500 for the purposes of the exhibition of 1851.

THE LATE STORM.—By the official returns made by the Dublin police in four divisions of the metropolis, it appears that the estimated loss in glass, chimnies, gardens, &c., occasioned by the recent storm, is £21,383-9s. 4.—The number of panes of glass demolished is £294,302.

ROME.

The Pope's return to Rome has been celebrated with extraordinary rejoicings. The People of Chili have sent his Holiness a loaf of gold valued at £6,000 sterling, it has been landed at Civita Vecchia.

GERMANY.

A meeting of all the Princes of the Prussian League is spoken of as likely to take place at Gotha next week. Prince Albert is mentioned as one of its members.

GREECE.

The Greek question remains unsettled, and the commerce of Greece is suffering severely from the interruption.

CATCH HIM!—We found the following conundrums on our table yesterday. We wish we could catch the author of them, he would no doubt prove to be a fellow who has suddenly escaped from the Lunatic Asylum, or one of those small wits who hover about the Islander office, and who, if they are not mad, are the very thing to being so, as may be easily known by the diseased state of their wits. Such conundrums as the following must, surely, have been intended for the Islander:

"What place in Scotland does Sir Donald Campbell's prohibition to erect the Signal Staff remind you of? Done-Staff-nage. (Dunstaffnage.)"

"In what language should we describe his Excellency's refusal to allow the Signal Staff to be erected by private subscription? A flagrant stretch of authority."

"Why does his Excellency deserve the censure of the Ladies? Because he is opposed to the regular coming and going of the males. (Males.)"

MARRIED.

On the 18th inst., at St. Ann's, Kew, by the Rev. John Houghton Ward, A. M.; and at St. Elizabeth's, Catholic Chapel, Richmond, by the Rev. J. G. Wehham, Chaplain, James Reddin, Esq., of P. E. Island, to Louisa Anna, youngest daughter of John Matthews, Esq., of Kew Green, England.

DIED.

At Murray Harbour, on the 5th inst., Mary Le Messurier, aged 71 years.

At Halifax, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., at half-past ten o'clock, Isabella, consort of the Hon. H. H. Cogswell, aged 71 years.

Steamer from Bedeque to Canada.

THE Steamer "WESTERN MILLER" will call at Green's Wharf, Summer-side, Bedeque, on her return from Halifax. She intends leaving Halifax on the 14th inst., and will call at Bedeque on the 17th inst. Application to be made to J. WEAVERBERG, Esq., for Freight or Passage to Quebec, Montreal, or any Port on Lake Ontario.

WILLIAM PURDY, Commander. Summer-side Bedeque, May 11, 1850. P. S. Freight and Passage moderate.

FOR BOSTON DIRECT.

THE splendid Schooner Resident, Don Le Rougetele, Master, can accommodate six Cabin Passengers, will positively sail on Tuesday morning next. Apply to E. C. CALL, or the Captain on board at Queen Street Wharf.

THE new clipper Schooner Good Intent, Swain, Master, will succeed the above, and sail on SUNDAY the 19th instant. For further particulars apply to

KENNETH MACKENZIE, JOHN C. MACDONALD, or E. C. CALL. May 10, 1850.

Seeds! Seeds!! Seeds!!!

FOR Sale at SKINNER'S MEDICAL WAREHOUSE & large assortment of

GARDEN AND FLOUR SEEDS.

JUST ARRIVED, and warranted Fresh, a greater variety of

FLOUR SEEDS than ever has been offered to the public. May 11. Gaz.

CONCERT.

THE Charlottetown Band will give a CONCERT at the National School Room, on next Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock. A variety of entirely new and popular Pieces of Music have been selected with great care for this occasion; and it is confidently hoped that pleasure and satisfaction will be afforded to all who favour the Band with their presence.—Admission, 1s. 6d.; Children 9d.

JAMES KIELY, Conductor. May 11.