

The Daily Examiner

FEBRUARY 23, 1885.

Flour Duties.

The millers of Canada want to have the flour duty raised to a dollar a barrel. Their request should not be granted. They already enjoy in the Canadian markets an advantage of fifty cents a barrel, and that ought to be enough. They say that the proposed increase of duty will make no difference to Canadian consumers. But what they say must be taken with a grain of salt. Sir John Macdonald has, we are glad to see, not been persuaded by the arguments of the millers. This is what he is reported to have said in reply to them—

"Sir John Macdonald thanked the deputations for the information they had given the Government on this question. Although the Government primarily managed the affairs of the country they were only the servants of the people, as represented in Parliament, and it depended altogether, or principally, upon the will of the people's representatives as to what course the Government should take on any particular question. Parliament was composed of representatives from many Provinces, and he fancied it would be found that when this question came to be considered in the House of Commons there would be considerable apprehension felt in those parts of the Dominion where wheat is not produced; that an increase in the flour duty would increase the price to the consumer. The Maritime Provinces, for instance, and a portion of the Province of Quebec, did not produce sufficient wheat for their own consumption, and he feared that representatives from these provinces would feel apprehensive on the subject. He was glad to hear from Mr. Ogilvie that the millers did not anticipate an increase in flour; that the competition in Canada between themselves would be sufficient to keep down prices. If the Government could be assured that such would be the case, one of the greatest difficulties would be removed; but he could not help thinking that an increase in the duty put upon American flour would bring an increase in the price of flour sold in Canada.

Sir John Macdonald has taken the right ground; and we hope that if our representatives are consulted by the millers, either directly or indirectly, or if the question comes before Parliament, they will refuse to support the addition of a single cent to the duty on flour.

Public Libraries.

As the question of free public Libraries is now engaging the attention of the citizens of Charlottetown, the following facts which we extract from the Encyclopaedia Britannica, may not be uninteresting:—

"The Astor Library, in New York, was founded by a bequest of John Jacob Astor, whose example was followed successively by his son and grandson. The library was opened to the public in 1854, and at the end of 1880 the collection due to their joint benefaction, contained 192,549 volumes. It consists of a careful selection of the most valuable books upon all subjects. It is a library of reference, for which purpose it is freely open, and the books are not lent out. It is a working library for studious persons, and such persons, on a proper introduction, are allowed to pursue their studies in the alcoves. In 1880, the number of general readers was 45,670, and the number of visits to the alcoves was 7,961. The total endowment is over \$1,100,000. There is a printed catalogue for about half the library, with a printed index of subjects, and a similar catalogue for the rest is in preparation.

"The Lenox Library was established by Mr. James Lenox, in 1870, when a body of trustees was incorporated by an Act of the Legislature. In addition to the funds intended for the library building and endowment, amounting to \$1,247,000, the private collection of books which Mr. Lenox has long been accumulating is extremely valuable. Though it does not rank high in point of mere numbers, it is exceedingly rich in early books on America, in Bibles, in Shakespeare and in Elizabethan poetry.

"The Peabody Institute at Baltimore, was established by Mr. George Peabody in 1857, and contains a reference library, open to all comers, numbering about 72,000 volumes. The institute has an endowment of \$1,000,000, which, however, has to support, besides the library, a conservatory of music, an art gallery and courses of popular lectures.

"The largest legacy yet made for a public library, has recently fallen to the citizens of Chicago, in the Newberry bequest of over \$2,000,000, for the founding of a free public library in the north division of Chicago."

When the committee appointed by the Literary and Scientific Association on Friday evening last, came to apply for contributions for the purpose of establishing a public library in this city, it is to be hoped the public spirited munificence of the persons referred to in the above extract, will afford a noble example to the men of means in our midst, and that their countenance and support will not be wanting in behalf of so laudable an object as that for which the committee has been appointed.

When it is considered that even the town of Reykjavik, Iceland, with a population of only 900, has one library (College L. Hist., Phil) containing 9000 volumes, open to members, and another, containing 30,800 volumes, open to all in the same town, surely Charlottetown will no longer rest satisfied without its public library.

The congregation of Mount Herbert and Clinton intend holding their usual Donation Party on Wednesday, the 25th inst., in the Mount Herbert Church. There will be an entertainment in connection with it, to commence at half-past 7 o'clock p. m., consisting of Sacred Songs, Readings and Recitations. Only four or five miles from the city.

British Parliament.

THE SUDAN QUESTION.

London despatches of the 19th says: Parliament opened at four o'clock this evening. The police allowed no person to pass the gates until able to show he had a right to enter. Gladstone, upon entering the Commons was loudly cheered. In the House of Lords, the Government was at once assailed by the Conservatives with a bombardment of questions concerning its intentions in the Sudan. Earl Granville, Minister of Foreign Affairs, replied. He frankly stated the Government had left it entirely to Gen. Wolsley to decide whether the British forces should proceed to attack Khartoum at once or delay the attack until later. Granville further admitted the Government believed Wolsley would decide upon a postponement of aggressive operations.

Lord Salisbury, the Conservative leader, said everybody should be made to feel the Government would properly meet the present grave juncture in the public affairs of England. He said the statement made by Granville was one it became the Lords to reflect upon.

Earl Granville said the Government had hoped to be able to soon present papers to Parliament to show a complete settlement of Egypt's financial affairs had been arrived at, but just when the Government is expecting to hear of a meeting between the British troops in advance under the leadership of Col. Sir Chas. Wilson and Gen. Gordon, the dreadful news arrived that what military strength and famine had failed to succeed in doing, had been accomplished by treachery, and that one of the greatest and most gallant of soldiers was no more. Lord Salisbury responded as follows: "If the country is not satisfied with the Government's explanation it will visit a bitter censure upon those answerable for so fruitless a policy. We do not propose to anticipate the discussion which must inevitably come later on, but we must hope that England will not retire from Egypt leaving no record of our presence there except mischief done and the bones of our soldiers."

In the House of Commons Northcote gave notice of motion of inquiry respecting the Government's Egyptian policy. The Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for War, said the War Office had received a despatch, stating Col. Buller had evacuated Gubat, and would probably retire to Merawi or Korti.

Gladstone, replying to certain interrogations about the Government's conduct in Egypt, replied in much the same tone as Granville in the House of Lords. He added, however, that the present situation did not allow the Government to make overtures to El Mahdi, because such overtures might defeat their own object. Gladstone stated that the policy of the Government, to evacuate Egypt eventually, remained unchanged. He had done what he could for Gen. Gordon and was not to be held responsible for his death.

Northcote gave notice he would move on the earliest day possible, that a humble address be presented to Her Majesty, representing that the course pursued by the present Liberal Government in regard to Egypt and the Sudan had involved a great sacrifice of valuable lives and heavy expenses without any beneficial results (cheers), rendering it imperatively necessary to the interests of the British empire and the Egyptian people that the Government should distinctly recognize and take decided measures to fulfil the responsibility now incumbent upon them to ensure a good stable Government in Egypt and in those portions of the Sudan necessary for Egypt's security.

Doings at Ottawa.

A correspondent writes:—Your Island representatives, McDonald, Hackett and Jenkins, are not unmindful of the interests of your plucky little Island. On the 9th inst. Mr. McDonald (King's) made a motion in connection with the subject of winter mail service between your Province and the mainland. Besides the mover, Messrs. Wood, of Westmoreland, Landry, of Kent, Hackett and Jenkins, spoke to the motion. Their remarks were clear and to the point. Mr. Hackett specially alluding, in feeling words, to the late disaster at the Capes. It is thought here that the discussion of the matter just now, while the accident at the Capes is fresh in the minds of our legislators, will lead to something being done to remedy a grievance of which, all hands admit, your people very justly complain.

Mr. McDonald has also another notice on the paper in reference to the Weights and Measures Act. The general feeling seems to be in favor of having the weighing of potatoes, and edible roots generally, made compulsory.

It is believed that this would be much more satisfactory to farmers than to have it optional as to whether roots are sold by measure or by weight. What action the government may take in the matter, I am not at present prepared to say. Mr. Daley, M. P. for Halifax, son of a former governor of your province, has been appointed deputy speaker, for which he will receive \$2,000 a year.

The temperance people here are looking for some amendment to the Scott Act, with the view of making it more workable. The friends of temperance on your Island have not, it appears, given intimation of their wanting any changes made. Perhaps they may do so yet. The changes are not very radical ones. By way of opposition, it is said, Mr. Kranz is going to make a motion about compensation to the distillers. On this motion, the liquor interest, it is thought, will concentrate all its forces. Quite a number of Toronto men are in Ottawa now pulling the wires, and lobbying now in the interests of the liquor dealers. The temperance men of the House will require to be on the alert, else the liquor advocates may steal a march on them.

There was a grand ball at Rideau Hall on the 11th. The annual number of Ministerial dinners are to come off soon, as a matter of course.

Sir John is as lively and jaunty as ever. I never saw him look better than he does at present. To the great disappointment of the Brit party he appears good for another decade yet. Long may he reign I say. More anon."

S. P. CONROY & Co., Souris East, are closing their stock at cost to make room for Spring Importations. (Feb. 4 & 5)

Is Faith to be Kept?

(From the Montreal Herald)

It is no wonder that the people of Prince Edward Island complain that faith has not been kept with them by the Dominion in the matter of mail communication. Up to last night there was no mail from the Island Province for eight days. For one whole week the only communication between the Island and the rest of the world was by a Telegraph cable. This is certainly not keeping up constant communication for mails and passengers by steamer between the Island and the Mainland, as the Dominion is bound by treaty to do. The inefficiency of the service is certainly a disgrace to the Government. The obstacles which nature has placed between the Island and the continent in the winter time are certainly great, but they are far from insurmountable, and it must be confessed that very little indeed is being done by the Government to overcome them. The mails are carried by private contract. The contractors get the merest pittance for risking their lives and encountering great hardships in carrying out in a very imperfect manner the treaty obligations of the Dominion.

It must be remembered that the passage is not often made in less than five hours of hard, continuous toil, and it sometimes takes eight or ten hours—and all this for twelve dollars.

The Dominion Government should have taken charge of the business long ago. They should not have suffered a service which they are bound in common honesty to make efficient, to be carried on in the miserable and miserably way described. * * When it is considered that the faith of the people of Canada is pledged to keep up mail communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland in winter as well as in summer, it might be supposed that their Government would, without hesitation or delay, take every practicable means and spare no reasonable expense to carry out its treaty obligations. That it has not done so, the evidence adduced in this article is sufficient proof. No one will contend that the means of conveying the mails and passengers across the Strait, described by Captain Irving, are sufficient. And everyone connected with the Island knows that its inhabitants every winter suffer hardship, loss and inconvenience for the want of that efficient communication with the mainland which the Dominion is bound to furnish.

Public Libraries

P. R. BOWERS, Esq., read his promised paper on Public Libraries before the Literary and Scientific Society, last Friday evening, in the Y. M. C. A. Parlor. The paper was prepared with the literary taste and acumen which usually characterize Mr. Bowers' efforts. It dealt with books, libraries and learning, from the earliest days down to the present time, and gave a highly interesting array of facts, statistics, and cogent comments, as it proceeded. The principal object of the paper was to encourage the establishment of a public library in Charlottetown, and to point out the present sad condition of the Legislative Library, and to offer valuable suggestions in the matter of rendering the books remaining in the Library available for public use, and also hints as to the best manner of augmenting the rather scanty number of volumes. Mr. Bowers, in a humorous, caustic manner, showed that many valuable works or parts of works had disappeared from the Legislative Library. Judge Alley (to whose efforts to establish an Historical Society in Charlottetown the paper alluded) gave a graphic statement of the reasons why the attempt to establish the Society here was a failure, depicted the deplorable state of the Library, showed its uselessness to the community as it is now conducted, suggested several needed changes, and proposed that the Society appoint a committee to consider plans to improve the present condition of the Library, wait on the Government in the matter, and report proceedings and conclusions at a subsequent session of the Literary and Scientific Society. The Judge proposed that His Worship Mayor Beer (who was present, and also bore testimony as to the disgraceful state of the Library) should be made Chairman of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. James McDonald, but as Mayor Beer declined serving, by reason of being a member of the House of Assembly, Judge Alley accepted the Chairmanship, his colleagues being Messrs. P. R. Bowers, Alex. McKinnon, James Byrne and J. S. McDonald. A vote of thanks to Mr. Bowers for his timely and valuable paper was moved by Dr. Leeming, seconded by John Newson, Esq., and carried, to which Mr. Bowers happily responded. It may be stated that all the speakers, including A. McNeill, Esq., exonerated the present Librarian and his predecessors from blame in the matter of the missing books and the mutilation of journals, etc., and attributed the deplorable condition of affairs to the vicious system where the library is conducted. It may also be said that during the discussion very plain language was used, and that if certain gentlemen of the House of Assembly, (former members included) find their ears tingling, they will at once examine their book-shelves, and gather up and return those volumes bearing the legend "Legislative Library" to their rightful place and position. In many instances the failure to return volumes is clear sheer neglect and carelessness on the part of those who retain them, and in cases where parties deliberately withhold the books, their abstraction must be classed as theft pure and simple.—Cox.

The Liquor License Act, 1883.

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of License Commissioners for the District of Queen's County, will be held at the Chief Inspector's office, corner of Great George and King Streets, in Charlottetown, On THURSDAY, the TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF MARCH Next, A. D. 1885, at the hour of Eleven o'clock, in the forenoon, for the purpose of taking into consideration all applications for certificates for such licenses as are authorized to be granted in this License District by the Liquor License Act, 1883, or by the Act 47 Victoria, Chapter 32, intitled "An Act to amend the Liquor License Act, 1883."

By order of the Board, ROBERT H. CRAWFORD, Chief Inspector of Licenses for Queen's Co. Ch'town, Feb. 23, 1885—2aw wkiy tldate

TO CASH BUYERS!

SPECIAL LINES IN DRY GOODS

LONDON HOUSE

Spring Importations

Scotch, Brussels and Tapestry Carpets at very Low Prices.

SCOTCH CARPETS WORTH	95 Cents for	70 Cents
" " " "	100 " " "	78 " "
" " " "	118 " " "	92 " "
TAPESTRY CARPETS FROM	40 CENTS UPWARDS	
BRUSSELS " " "	85 " " "	

Loom Table Linens at 16c., 18c., 20c., and upwards.

Special Lines in Cotton Towels at 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, and upwards.

Special Lines in Linen Towels at 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, and upwards.

BLEACHED AND UNBLEACHED SHEETINGS, PILLOW COTTONS, BEDTICKS, SHIRTINGS, ETC.

REMNANTS IN DRESS GOODS!

A LOT OF WINCEYS SELLING VERY CHEAP.

Black Cashmeres (42-inches) 28 Cents and Upwards.

REMNANTS IN TWEEDS, DOESKINS AND OTHER CLOTHS.

REMNANTS IN FLANNELS, &c.

The balance of the 3,000 pieces White and Grey Cottons, advertized in December last, at the same prices then offered, notwithstanding the market has advanced from 15 per cent. to 17½ per cent.

In Lots No. 1, 24 inches, at	3 Cents.
" " 2, 30 " "	5 " "
" " 3, 34 " "	6 " "
" " 4, 35 " "	7 " "
" " 5, 36 " "	8 " "
" " 6, 36 " "	9 " "
" " 7, 36 " "	10 " "
" " 8, 36 " "	12 " to 25 Cents.

BALANCE OF MEN'S AND BOYS' OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS AT COST.

A LOT OF MEN'S UNDERCLOTHING AT A BARGAIN FROM 32 CENTS TO 65 CENTS.

WHITE AND COLORED COTTON WARPS, (BEST MAKES.)

Choice TEAS in half-chests and packages of 5, 10, 15, and 20 pounds—Wholesale and Retail.

Ch'town, Feb. 20—2aw wkiy 2mb5

NOTICE.

A PUBLIC Meeting will be held at Cape Traverse, on Monday, the 2nd March, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of considering the necessity of building a break-water and dredging the channel; also, other matters. The Commissioner of Public Works is invited to attend; also our local representatives. By order of the committee. ALEX. STRANG, Secretary. Ch'town, Feb. 21, 1885.

Molasses! Molasses!

THE Subscriber offers FOR SALE, TO THE TRADE, 150 PUNS, CHOICE BARBADOES MOLASSES.

—ALSO— A Quantity of Tierces and Barrels OWEN CONNOLLY. Ch'town, Feb. 20—cod wkiy tl 1stAp

"LOVE OF COUNTRY." HON. DONALD FERGUSON WILL DELIVER A LECTURE ON THE ABOVE SUBJECT, ON MONDAY EVENING NEXT, 23rd of FEBRUARY, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE Benevolent Irish Society, —IN THEIR— Hall, Prince Street. Proceeds to be devoted to Charity. Doors open at 7.30. Lecture at 8. Admission 10 cents. JOHN HENNESSY, Secretary. Ch'town, Feb. 17, 1885—4i cod wkiy

Y. M. C. A. Tuesday Ev'g, February 24th. SERGT. JOHN ALLAN. Late of H. M. 16th and 20th Regiments of Infantry, has kindly consented to relate Reminiscences of Active Service, (Russian War & Indian Mutiny, 1854-56.) The lecturer will wear the uniform of his Regiment. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock by Col. Beer. Admission, 10 cents. Col. Beer requests that members of the militia who attend appear in uniform, and that the officers occupy seats on the platform. Ch'town, Feb. 20, 1885—3i f&m pat smts

SALT, SALT, SALT. IN STORE: 5,000 Bags of Liverpool Salt. 2,000 do Fishery do. PEAKE BROS & CO. Ch'town, Feb. 14, 1885.

On Consignment. Iron, Tin Plates, Pig Lead and Ingots Tin. 20 Tons Round Iron, sizes ½, ¾, 1 and 1 ½ inch. 150 Boxes of Tin Plates, suitable for lobster packers. 2 Pigs Lead. 2 Ingots of Tin. PEAKE BROS. & CO. Ch'town, Feb. 14, 1885.

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c. LOST—On Saturday last, a hunting coat Watch. The finder will please leave it at the EXAMINER office. feb 23

LOST—On Friday, the 20th inst., a Plan. The finder will be rewarded by leaving it at the EXAMINER office. feb 24

LOST—Between Southport and McKinnon's Tannery, a Satchel. The finder will be rewarded by leaving it at the EXAMINER office. feb 21 2i pd

FOR SALE—A Wauzer "C" Sewing Machine, nearly new, in first rate order; cost \$45, will be sold at a bargain. Enquire at this office. feb 19 10i

WANTED—A smart Dining room Boy; reference required. Also, a good Cook for an hotel. Apply at this office. feb 14 3i cod

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.—A Nurserymaid to take charge of two children, aged 5 and 7; one with some experience preferred. Apply to Mrs. George Macleod. feb 13

FOR SALE.—One very fine Berkshire Boar Pig, 12 months old. feb 11