

THE DAILY EXAMINER. DECEMBER 14, 1887.

Trade of P. E. Island.

'Tis a common saying that figures can be made to prove anything. We regret that Mr. George Macleod, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, has been at very great pains to make them show "the thing that is not," to the prejudice of this Province.

Take for example, his figuring with respect to the population. He leaves out of the calculation, altogether, the fact that Prince Edward Island is, by far, the most densely populated Province in Canada. There are in Prince Edward Island 51 persons to the square mile, to 21 in Nova Scotia, 11.6 in New Brunswick, 7.2 in Quebec, 10.53 in Ontario. That is to say Prince Edward Island is five times more thickly populated than Ontario, seven times more than Quebec, and upwards of four times more than New Brunswick. In Prince Edward Island there are only 12.5 acres of occupied land and only 2.1 acres of unoccupied land to each person; while in Ontario there are 60.5 acres of occupied land to each person, in Quebec 88.8, in New Brunswick, 54.1 in Nova Scotia, 33.7; and the acreage of unoccupied land in these other Provinces of Canada per head of the population of 1881 ranges from 18.1 to 4,407.5. It was, we submit, manifestly unfair to leave these figures out of the calculation; for it cannot reasonably be expected that a comparatively thickly peopled agricultural country will grow in population so fast as one of varied natural attractions in which the population is comparatively thin. Nor need Mr. Macleod have omitted mention of the fact that in only one of the old Provinces of Canada has the increase of population been more rapid than in Prince Edward Island. To show that the increase here was below the average, Mr. Macleod was obliged to include the new Provinces and the Territories whose white populations have been almost wholly made up within the past ten years.

Mr. Macleod's figuring respecting Charlottetown is equally unfair. In the first place his figures showing the increase of population between 1881 and 1886, are drawn, not from census returns—no census has been taken since 1881—but from a bald estimate of the City Clerk. Therefore, they should not have been taken to prove anything. In the second place, we know that there never were more houses in the town than there are now and never fewer empty ones. In fact it is questionable whether there are not rather more people in Charlottetown than—seeing that we are under a great natural disadvantage in respect to manufacturing—there ought to be for the business to be done for this small Province.

Mr. Macleod lays great stress upon the natural advantages of Prince Edward Island. No doubt these are great. But he says nothing about the disadvantages—the insular position, the ice barrier of winter, the consequent inability of our people to take advantage of the outside markets during four or five months of the year; the absence of minerals, the impossibility of having large manufactures,—and he seems to forget that the Continental Provinces possess natural advantages to attract population of which ours is destitute.

The chief cities of the other Provinces are on the highways of continental trade and travel; their markets are open the year round; many of them are near to mines and materials for manufacturing; men are easily attracted to large cities where they have wide fields in which to exert their talents. Under the stimulus of the National Policy they have, consequently, progressed in recent years "by leaps and bounds." Is it any wonder that Charlottetown has not added to her population and wealth so rapidly as they? Mr. Macleod says that Charlottetown should fairly reflect the progress of the Island. But he ought to know that it does not—that towns and villages which have sprung up along the line of the P. E. Island Railway now absorb much of the trade of those sections of the Province which Charlottetown formerly supplied.

One of the most remarkable features of Mr. Macleod's address is his bank return. By reason of wild-cat banking—not confined to the banks which went into liquidation—the people of this Province lost confidence in the chartered banks, and withdrew most of their deposits. With what result? Some of their capital is invested in manufacturing and other enterprises in the sister Provinces, and they now have \$2,130,638.44 in Dominion securities. Properly stated Mr. Macleod's bank returns should read as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Year (1876, 1880) and Amount (\$). Rows include Current account balances, Deposits on interest, Loans, and Dominion securities.

Thus, instead of a decrease, as shown by Mr. Macleod, there is really a substantial increase, even though our deposits in the Merchants' Bank of Halifax are not taken into account. And, besides, the money is now securely invested! The chartered banks are now, after involving the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars, doing business on a solid basis, and the security of the Dominion is undoubted.

Mr. Macleod quotes the Dominion returns of exports and imports during the past ten years. But these, he must know, are of no value whatever. We are year by year trading more with our own country, without making returns at the Custom Houses; and the fact that the returns of exports and imports to British and Foreign possessions show a slight falling off, is not a sign that we are not prosperous under present conditions. If we have not, in recent years, sold as much produce as we were able to sell at as high prices as we desired, the fact is largely due to good harvests and improved means of communication all over the world. Of this we are, at all events, quite certain: our people never lived in such good style as they do now,—never were, practically, so well off.

With Mr. Macleod's conclusion that this Province would be benefitted by free trade with the United States, we are in entire agreement; and we regret that his remarkable omissions in respect to the position and progress of this Province are calculated to beget suspicion that his argument is not so strong as he desires it to be thought. We must, however, give him the justice to say that he bestowed a great deal of labor upon the composition of his address. Indeed, it seems to us a pity that he tried to prove so much. If those cute Yankees should be convinced by Mr. Macleod's argument that we and other exporters of potatoes bear the burden of the duty which they levy, they will, probably, keep the duty on potatoes while the world lasts!

It will, however, be consoling to the taxpayers in this Province to learn, from an undoubted financial authority like Mr. Macleod, that there are conditions under which the exporter pays the duty, and that at least some of the duties levied in Canada may really be paid by those who send us the goods.

Life Saving Appliance.

MR. HENRY F. COOMBS, who is just now visiting Charlottetown, has left at THE EXAMINER office the model of a boat fitted with a view to the saving of life in cases of shipwreck. It is claimed that any boat can be made comparatively safe by the use of the appliances, which consist of longitudinal strips of iron at the sides to which persons who unfortunately suffer an upset may cling, or by means of which they may climb up to the keel or under favorable circumstances right a capsized boat; of air chambers at the stem and stern; and of air and water-tight lockers under the thwarts, in which provisions may be stored and kept undamaged. These are certainly great improvements on the ordinary ship's boat, and Mr. Coombs' proposal that an order should be issued for their adoption by the owners of all Canadian vessels, seems to be a good one, if the saving of life at sea is to be considered. Mr. Coombs is ready to yield up his patent right to the improvements without any recompense, if only the Government will accept his proposal. Concerning the improvements, Mr. A. M. Smith, President of the Collingwood Lake Superior line of steamers, writes: "I have examined the life saving appliances for ship's boats, invented by Mr. H. F. Coombs, of St. John, N. B., and I consider them the best and most practicable attachment for that purpose that I have seen. As far as my judgment goes, I think it would be a wise and humane action if the Government would make it compulsory on ship owners to have the attachment on all or some of their life boats."

This is a strong recommendation from a high authority.

Self Culture.

WHAT THE President of our Literary and Scientific Society says about self culture is worthy of note on the part of all citizens, and especially the young men. In this age the means of self culture are ever at hand, and most of us may, if we will, avail ourselves of them. Improving papers and books may be purchased very cheaply at the bookstores or read at the reading room. For a public library at which the best books might be had, there is, however, great need in Charlottetown, and we hope that the movement on foot to obtain one will be successful. An excellent letter on the subject will be found in THE EXAMINER of to-morrow.

—A writer in the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, who has been travelling over the Canadian Pacific, remarks: "The energy which has produced this marvel of human skill, ingenuity, and bravery in discomfiting the apparently insurmountable difficulties prepared by nature for man, is but an expression of the character which animates the people throughout the whole vast continent of British North America."

—The receipts of the Government, during the month of November, amounted to \$2,886,889, making for the first five months of the current fiscal year a total of \$14,589,840. The expenditures of the Government to the 30th November amounted to \$12,820,768, showing a surplus to that date of \$1,769,073.

The Rifle.

The sixth and last competition for the Silver Medal presented by Adjutant Morson to Nos. 3 and 4 Batteries, Garrison Artillery, was held on the Georgetown Range on Saturday, the 3rd inst. Gunner D. A. Stewart was the successful competitor, having won it twice. The following is the result of the six competitions:—

Table with 2 columns: Name and Points (Pts.). Rows include Sergt. B. N. Johnson, Gunner D. A. Stewart, E. McGregor, D. A. Stewart, Lieut. W. C. White, and Quartr. D. Robertson.

St. James' Hall.

The first of the series of lectures under the auspices of the Young Men's Literary Society in connection with St. James' Church, was given in St. James' Hall last evening. The lecturer was Rev. E. Scott, A. M., of New Glasgow, N. S., and the subject "The False Prophet Mahomet." The audience was not so large as was expected. Rev. James Caruthers, the popular pastor of St. James', presided. The lecture was exceedingly interesting and instructive, and the easy, graceful delivery of the lecturer lent additional pleasure to the discourse. The Rev. gentleman, in opening, said he would divide his discourse into four parts: (1) the state of Arabia and the Arabs before the coming of Mahomet; (2) the personal history of Mahomet; (3) the religious system of Mahomet; and (4) the progress of this system after Mahomet's death. Each of these four parts were taken up in turn and learnedly discussed. In considering the first part he showed the turbulent, unconquerable spirit of the Arab and gave some exceedingly interesting historical facts in connection with the state of affairs in Arabia up to the time of the coming of Mahomet. The second part was explanatory of the early history of the prophet. Mahomet was born at Mecca, 570 years after Christ and was of noble parentage. When he was yet young his parents died, and his relatives, with a solicitude not uncommon even at the present day, looked after the property they left with such care that when Mahomet came to get his share it was an exceedingly small one. In early life he exhibited a strong religious feeling, and eagerly devoured all the literary food at his disposal. At twenty-five he married a wealthy widow, some fifteen years older than himself. The wealth of his wife restored him to affluence, but not to his former rank and station; and he did not detract anything from his taste for religion. One day he took his wife to a cave, to which he had been in the habit of going at stated periods for spiritual consolation, and told her that while there he had been visited by the Angel Gabriel, and commanded to go forth and preach to his fellow men. His wife, who must have been more tractable than some of those of the present day, at once fell in with the ideas of her husband, and there and then became his first convert. Mahomet next succeeded in converting his relatives, and shortly afterwards had no less than ten of the chief citizens of Mecca enrolled under his banner. For some time his progress, though somewhat slow, was sure. He soon had a goodly number of followers, about one-fifth of whom, however, were women. During this time Mahomet often had special communion with the Angel Gabriel; and one night he was, so he told his followers, taken up to Heaven on a white horse, and had actually passed within two bow shots of the throne. His followers became more numerous as a result of this journey, and his power correspondingly increased. About this period of his career, the tribe of Koreish began to be jealous of his growing power, and determined to put him to death. This news coming to Mahomet's ear, he fled to Medina. At Medina he was received with open arms, and a large number of people enrolled themselves under his banner. Here he was for a number of years king as well as prophet. All he said was law. The existing laws which did not accord with his views were repealed. He told his followers that he received all his decrees from God, and they were, therefore, satisfied. During the first few years of his life at Medina Mahomet spent his time preaching and praying, but now that he had a following of some 15,000 people his manner underwent a transformation. He told his people that he had a revelation which commanded him to extend his kingdom by the sword. He promised all who would follow him to battle that they would have great happiness hereafter. This inducement had its effect, and he sallied forth. His first act was one of highway robbery. After this preliminary success his followers increased, and he started on an expedition, having for his object the capture of Mecca, his birth-place, and from which he had but a few years previously been obliged to flee for his life. The Koreish, hearing that Mahomet was advancing with 10,000 men at his back, surrendered Mecca without a blow. Mahomet did not stop with the capture of Mecca. He carried on the Gospel of the Sword with varying success until his death of fever at Medina on the 7th June, 632. The religious system of Mahomet was next discussed, and was also exceedingly interesting. The Koran, which embodies this system, contains 114 chapters, the greater number of which were probably composed by Mahomet himself. He taught his followers to believe that the Koran was written in Heaven and shown to him by the Angel Gabriel from the Seventh Heaven. Many of the chapters are peculiarly named, and their contents are peculiar also. (The Rev. lecturer here read several extracts showing the uniqueness of arrangement; giving descriptions of judgment day, future punishment and happiness, etc., which were much appreciated.) Mahomet claimed, it will be noted, not to have inaugurated any new religion, but to have reconstituted the old one which the Angel Gabriel had commanded him to perpetuate. The followers of Mahomet are firm believers in God's interchangeable foreordination. They believe that God has decreed a time and manner of dying for each man, and that anything they may do cannot hasten the consummation of God's decree. They believe also that each life taken means for the taker additional reward in Paradise; and this fact, the lecturer thought, accounted in a large measure for the eagerness with which they rush into battle, and for the periodical massacres of Christians about which we have so often read of late years. The fourth and concluding portion of the lecture consisted of a brief review of the state of Mohammedanism after the death of its founder.

A hearty vote of thanks, moved by Rev. W. R. Frame, and seconded by Rev. D. McNeill, was accorded the lecturer, to which he happily responded, after which the well-pleased audience dispersed.

The next lecture of the course will be delivered by Dr. James McLeod, on Tuesday evening, 27th inst. Subject: "The Evolution of Medicine." We hope to see a crowded house.

CLAIRVOYANCE.—Have you called on the Clairvoyant yet? Do so, then, as her stay is limited to but a few days more. Call early. O'Leary's House, Room 25.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Treat All Alike.

SIR,—In yesterday's issue of THE EXAMINER, under the heading of Stipendiary Magistrate's Court, appears a list of names for violation of the Canada Temperance Act. This is all very well when justice is dealt out to all parties alike, but when we see a favored class, as there unquestionably is at the present time, I think such a course very questionable. Yesterday, during the progress of the Scott Act trials, loads of liquors were being hauled to a party in this city under the very eyes of some prominent temperance men. Were any of those parties whose names appear in yesterday's paper to do the same thing, how quick spotters would be placed on their track; spies would be placed on guard to watch their every movement. Let the law be enforced; but treat Jew and Gentile alike. STOCKTAKER.

Dec. 12.

TO NEWLY WEDDED COUPLES.—An inducement is placed before "newly wedded couples" by a Nova Scotian weekly paper, which offers itself for one year for 50 cents, but only upon the condition that the wedding notice be sent to the paper for publication and paid for.

SALE OF PAPERS & MAGAZINES

—ON— TUESDAY, 20th INSTANT, —IN— Y. M. C. A. READING ROOM.

All Members of the Y. M. C. A. are entitled to attend this sale. All the leading English and American Magazines will be offered. An opportunity is afforded of procuring the best literature at much less than regular price. CHAS. LEIGH, Jr., Secretary. Dec. 14, 1887.

Winter Mail Service at Cape Traverse—Winters 1887-88.

TENDERS will be received at the Agency of the Marine Department, Charlottetown, up to the 31st December, inst., at 12 o'clock, noon, for the conveyance between Boat House and edge Board Ice, at Cape Traverse, of Boats, Crews, Mails, Baggage, Express and other Goods, crossing in the Government Ice-boats. Tenders to state rate per trip of three boats. Good and sufficient securities will be required for the faithful performance of the service. Information may be obtained by parties wishing to tender, upon application at the Agency, Charlottetown. A. LORD, Agent Marine Department. Ch'town, Dec. 13, 1887.—dec'4 31 eod her Jour #1

Apples, Lemons, Oranges, Onions, &c.

BY AUCTION, THURSDAY, December 15th, at 11 o'clock, 75 Barrels No. 1 New York Baldwins, 25 do N. S. Baldwins, 10 Boxes Onions, 5 Cases Lemons, 5 do Oranges, Tea, Candles, Wrapping Paper, &c., to close out consignments. A. McNEILL, Auctioneer. Dec. 12, 1887—21

BY AUCTION,

AT MY Sale-room, on THURSDAY, 15th inst., at 11 o'clock, 50 Barrels Choice Winter-keeping Apples, in Tomkins, Bishop Pippins, Baldwins, Northern Spy, Nonpareils; also a few Barrels Gravensteins. G. M. HARRIS, Auctioneer. Dec. 13, 1887.

GRAND Christmas Sale.

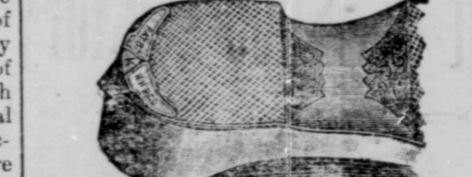
32 Cases Japanese Goods, direct from Hiogo, Japan.

BY AUCTION, MONDAY, December 19th,

At 11 o'clock, at STEVENSON'S BUILDING, QUEEN STREET,—

THE Largest and Best-selected and most Elegant Assortment in this line yet offered here, comprising Embroidered Silk Screens and other Fancy Silk Goods, Lacquered Ware in great variety, Bamboo Goods, Inlaid Work Boxes, Desks, Cabinets, &c. Porcelain, Enamelled and Bronze Ware. The whole invoice, which embraces many valuable and fancy articles, suitable for Christmas and other Presents, will be sold without reserve. Catalogues at Sale. A. McNEILL, Auctioneer. Dec. 12, 1887.—15

HAVE THE KNEEL PLATE PUT ON YOUR



RUBBERS

AND THEY WILL WEAR TWICE AS LONG.

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R. K. JOST'S, NORTH SIDE QUEEN SQUARE.

A nice assortment of Slippers for Christmas. Ch'town, Dec. 12, 1887.

60,000 Feet American and Canadian Frame Mouldings.

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We have a fine stock of Fancy, Useful and Durable Goods, very suitable for Xmas Gifts.

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Boilers on hand. Coils, etc., manufactured on the premises as required. A. HERMANS & SON. Charlottetown, November 30, 1887.—61

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G. H. HASZARD,

BROWN'S BLOCK. Dec. 2, 1887.—eod