THE EXAMINER

IS PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY, FORENOON, BY THE

Examiner Printing & Publishing Co

OFFICE:

Corner Queen and King Streets.

TERMS—Per Annum, $1.62, if paid within the year—$1.82, postage paid; $2 if not paid within the year.

CLUB RATES.

THE EXAMINER will be forwarded to Clubs at the following rates per year—payment strictly in advance:—

5 copies one address,	$ 7.00
10 " " "	12.00
15 " " "	17.00
20 " " "	20.00

Clubs may be made up at any time, but not for a shorter period than one year.

ADVERTISEMENTS—

Until further notice, Advertisements will be inserted at the following rates:—

1 square, one insertion,	$1.00
Each Continuation,	00.25
Special Notices, "per line,"	00.12

ACCOUNTS RENDERED for subscriptions, 1st December, in each year; for standing advertisements etc., 1st June, and 1st December, in each year; for transient advertisements—when ordered out.

ALL LETTERS sent by mail should be addressed "Examiner Printing and Publishing Company," Lock Drawer, 72, POST OFFICE, Charlottetown.

The Examiner.

Ch'town, January 12, 1874.

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

To agitate for the redress of grievances; to agitate for the introduction of reforms,—this is the constitutional privilege of a free people. The month of January will be "a time for agitation." It will be well if the discussions at public meetings and in the press are about subjects which really concern the electors of this Province; well if the "Pacific Railway Slander," and the "letter-stealing scandals,—the "defection of Laird," and "corruption of Pope"—are not the all-absorbing topics; well if the particular reforms required by the people receive the consideration they deserve. The people want,—

1. More regular and more frequent communication with the mainland;
2. A final settlement of the Land Question;
3. Liberal legislation on the School Question, so that justice may be done,—alike to Secularists and to the friends of religious education,—so that the free schools of the Province may be made more effective and more consonant with the sentiments of a religious community;
4. To know, for certain, whether the coal and iron beneath the red sandstone of this Island may be made available;
5. More lighthouses on our coast; for the greater safety of seamen and fishermen;
6. The entrances of harbors on the north side dredged, so that vessels of large tonnage may enter.
7. In addition, we learn that the people of the south desire a branch railway to Belfast; and that the people of the north want a branch railway to Rustico, New Glasgow and New London.

Some of these wants it is the duty of the Dominion Government to allay; some, the local authorities should settle. But the people should agitate for all. And now is the time. Each party is now eager to receive power from the people; and each party is in a position to carry the measures, whether Dominion or Local, required by the people. Therefore, let the people agitate, organize, combine; let them ascertain which party will most readily introduce the reforms they need; and, to that party give their support. The time is most opportune. Let it not be lost. "It is an ill-wind which blows no-body good." The dissolution of the Dominion Parliament may be productive of good to the people of Prince Edward Island, if they are but true to themselves. Then, let petty jealousies and local squabbles give place to united efforts; and let the reforms we require be carried. There is no need to fear the bankruptcy of the Colony now, for the cost of the most expensive works will be shared by the people of the whole Dominion.

Respecting the first want on the list we have recently expressed our opinion pretty freely. We consider it to be the most pressing of the seven. During the early spring and early winter months, we should not be altogether isolated;—we should not be from the civilized world "quite shut out." We *should* have a steamer to carry mails, passengers and freight to and from the mainland when ice in the straits prevents the *St. Lawrence* and the *Princess of Wales* from running. The neglect of our Local Government and Local Legislature—pointed out by a correspondent in the last EXAMINER—should now be remedied. The people should take the matter in hand. They should declare that they will submit to isolation no longer. Some politicians may tell them that the Dominion Government is bound by the terms of union to keep up regular communication between this Island and the mainland. Let electors not be lulled into inactivity by such a statement. It is true, the Dominion Government is bound, by the terms of union, to redress this grievance But will they do it unless the people agitate the matter? No. Its members will be so absorbed with political scandals, and so diverted from the true interests of the country by the importunity of office seekers, that promises to this little province will be forgotten,—if the people neglect to remind them of their duty. Our advice is this: At every public meeting held during the election campaign have a resolution, couched in the following words, or words of like effect, introduced and carried:—

"*Resolved*, That the electors present at this meeting hereby earnestly request the representatives of Queen's (King's or Prince, as the case may be) County in Dominion Parliament, to press upon the general Government an immediate fulfilment of the terms of union respecting steam communication between this Province and the Mainland."

Such a resolution, carried by the united voice of the electors, and backed up by a memorial when Parliament meets, would, we think, have the desired effect. Besides it would be an assurance to steamship companies that the people are really in earnest; that they now mean business; that they are sick and tired of the "*How not to do it" Policy*; and that they would heartily support, with their patronage, any body of men who would furnish steamers to perform the service required, and give them an ocular demonstration of HOW TO DO IT.

THE LAND QUESTION is a local matter Still it should not be lost sight of during the present election campaign; for the simple reason that so favorable an opportunity will not again be afforded for its discussion. We presume (if the people express a determination to have the "vexed question" finally settled) the Local Government will take immediate steps towards ascertaining whether the remaining proprietors are willing to sell their lands; and, if so, at what price. Then, if the answer is favorable,—if the proprietors are willing, and their prices not exorbitant,—a measure providing for the application of the $800,000 allowed for the purchase of lands by the Dominion Government to the purpose for which it is intended, will be prepared and submitted to the Legislature at its next sitting. If, on the contrary the proprietors are unwilling to sell their lands, or if the prices they ask are exorbitant, then a measure compelling them to receive a fair money value for their holdings will be introduced and passed. This, we think, is the practical way to settle the matter; this, we have little doubt, is the way which will,—if the people declare that two hundred and eighty thousand acres of land is too large a tract to remain under leasehold—be adopted by the administration.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION will, we hope, be approached in the spirit of charity and justice. That it must be approached is certain. His Lordship, the Catholic Bishop of this Province, has, we understand, issued a pastoral in which he exhorts his people to support no politician who will not consent to a settlement of the School Question on the basis of the Education Act now in force in Ontario. If Catholics attend to the injunctions of their Bishop, the school grievance must now come up for consideration; for every politician on the Island needs the support of Catholics. And we *do* hope that it will be settled without an appeal to the denominational prejudices of our people. In our opinion, there is no necessity for any such an appeal,—no necessity even to materially alter the School law at present in force. It is only necessary to introduce a clause providing that wherever secular education is imparted, in a school with the average attendance required by the present law, that education shall be paid for by the State—irrespective of the religious instruction by which it is accompanied. Such an amendment would, we feel sure be acceptable to those who cannot, for conscience, sake send their children to purely secular schools, It would carry out the principle—acknowledged by all to be the true one—that the State should pay for secular education imparted to the young; it would relieve Catholics from the double burden of paying a school tax for which they receive no return, and wholly maintaining schools to which they can, with clear conciences, send their young children, for whose spiritual instruction they are responsible to their God; and it would not interfere with either the rights or beliefs of the Secularists—those who think that instruction in religion should only be communicated by parents, pastors, and teachers of Sunday schools—because the law would still protect them and provide secular schools to which they might still send their children.

OUR COAL MEASURES—can they be made available? is certainly an interest question. A trial would, we believe, be well worth the necessary expense. A discussion of the question by those specially interested, and a memorial, presented to the Legislature when it meets, might result in the expenditure of a sum of money for the purpose of boring for coal and water, and settling this question for ever.

The other wants on our list should be discussed. That it would be well to have more lighthonses on our coast; deeper entrances to our harbors on the north side; and railway for the accommodation of those of our farmers and merchants, who will receive little benefit from the line now in course of construction, is acknowledged. Then let the intelligence and enterprise of those specially interested be exerted. The columns of the EXAMINER are open to any discussion which may give rise to the practical improvements indicated.

MASONIC.—At the Regular Communication of St, John's Lodge, No. 397, E.R., holden St. John's Day, the following Brethren were duly installed by Rev. P.M. Murray as officers for the present Masonic year:

Bro. Philip McLaren, W.M.
" Alexander McDougall, S.W.
" David Small, J.W.
" W. J. Fraser, Treasurer.
" Boswall Macgowan, Sec'y.
" Ven. Archdeacon Read, Chap.
" W. H. McLaren, S.D.
" Hector McDougall, J.D.
" D. D. McKinnon, O.S.
" P. R. Blatch, I.S.
" Donald McKenzie, I.G.
" Thomas Sheidow, Tyler.
" John Ross, Marshal.
" N.P. Stramberg, Organist.

The Brethern of St. John's Lodge then presented to P. M. John G. J. Weldon a handsome Electro plate Tea Service accompanied by an address expressive of their esteem and regard for him as a Man and a Mason, to which Brother Weldon suitably responded. After the close of the Lodge the Brethren partook of a collation provided by the new officers.—*News.*

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for December has been received The contents are as follows—

The Parisians, Book 12. International Vanities, No. 1, Ceremonial. Phidias and the Elgin Marble. A Story of the rock. The Conservative Party and National Education. The Count De Chambord and Conservatism. International Vanities bids fair to be attrative to most readers. The Story of the Rock will attract those fond of light Reading. The beginning of the year is a good time to subscribe.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

THE friends of religious education are gaining ground. The tide has apparently set in their favor on both sides of the water. In England, the most influential Protestants of the realm are advocating the maintenance of religious instruction in public schools. In Nova Scotia a leader of Protestant opinion recently expressed his belief that a law which places the teaching of religion under a disability 'does not give satisfaction.'

At a public meeting held in London, on the 6th November, the Earl of Shaftsbury—the foremost Protestant of all England—proposed the following resolution:

"That special exertions are required at the present time to maintain Scriptural instruction in Board Schools, and to counteract the attempt to reduce our primary schools to be places of mere secular training, by which Christianity would be dishonored, and our national well-being impaired."

And in supporting the resolution, the noble [Protestant] Earl confessed that he

"Sympathized with the Roman Catholics on this matter; they must insist upon a distinctive teaching on religious matters. They desired something definite and distinctive; distinctive on the great truths of the Gospel, on which the Scripture teaching rested. They did not want the morality of Greece, Rome, Budhism, or the Koran. They wanted the great and saving doctrines of the Gospel, under which so large a proportion of the world had lived and died. Otherwise they would be brought in the course of time to the morality of Strauss, Spinosa and John Stuart Mill. They must be earnest in their determination to resist this, They had come on a time unlike anything that had preceded it. Wild opinions were rampant, all the domestic ties were loosened, filial obedience was very slight, and parental authority nothing at all. In politics, in morals, in religion, all were convulsed. And was this a time to give up the Bible, our only guide, to cast our ballast overboard, and leave the rudder to itself."

The Bishop of London, who presided at the meeting in which the resolutions quoted passed unanimously, said:

"This meeting was meant to be an assertion that denominational schools—the schools where the consciences of all should be treated on fair and equal terms—should be respected and maintained. (Cheers.) He used the word 'denominational' and not 'Church' schools because the meeting was not held in support of creed or party, but of principle—(loud cheers)—and was asserting the right of all schools enjoying distinct religious education to be treated on an equality with others in which no distinct religious education was given. As a Churchman he should be glad to have all the children taught Church principles; but, unfortunately, partly by the faults of our forefathers, we were divided; and what the Church contended for was that the truths in the Bible should be taught to the children of those who did not object to the teaching. (Cheers.) The position he took was that to endeavor to destroy or supersede such denominational schools by non-religious State schools, or to place them, unintentionally it might be, at a disadvantage, was a violation of the rights of conscience.

The Rev. George M. Grant,—whom everybody in these Lower Provinces knows to be one of the ablest minister of the Established Church of Scotland, the other day, said—speaking of religious instruction in Government schools—

"Is it not a burning question now in Nova Scotia, but it may become so at any moment, because the present state of matters does not give satisfaction to either side in the long standing controversy. I content myself with saying that the solution come to in Ontario after years of struggle appears to me the fairest and therefore the wisest;—best for education and religion, for Protestant and Romanist, for that peace and mutual good-will which are indispensable to progress and patriotism.'.

To the friends of religious education on this Island the recent utterances of the *Patriot* on the school question must have been highly gratifying. The *Patriot*—as all know—has been, for many years, the devoted champion of the secularists; the uncompromising opponent of those who believe that children should be educated in schools where religious instruction is imparted. Now, however, it s constrained to admit that Catholics are aggrieved in this matter. Now it thinks that the demands of Catholics, and other friends of religious education, deserve, at least, consideration.

THE MEETING AT FORT AUGUSTUS.

At a meeting, of the inhabitants of Fort Augustus and vicinity, held at Webster's Corner, on Thursday evening, 8th inst., the following resolutions were put and carried:—

Whereas, a large portion of the lands of this Island are still owned by proprietors, who have hitherto declined to sell the fee simple thereof.

And Whereas, by the terms of Union of this Island with the Dominion, the Canadian Government has guaranteed the payment of eight hundred thousand dollars ($800,000,) to be expended in the purchase of said lands.

And Whereas, the total abolition of the leasehold system would promote the welfare and best interests of the people of this Colony.

And Whereas, a great number of Writs have been issued against tenants on Lot twenty-two [22], and other Townships, to enforce the payment of arrears of rent, thereby subjecting them to immense hardships and expense.

Therefore Resolved, that in the opinion of this meeting the Legislature should be called immediately for the purpose of passing a law to compel the proprietors to sell their lands at a fair and reasonable valuation, to be ascertained by a competent and impartial tribunal.

Resolved, that this meeting regards with disapproval any interference by middle-men to prevent the emancipation of the tenants from proprietary bondage.

Resolved, that this meeting requests the active co-operation of all persons interested in the welfare of the tenantry in their efforts to abolish the leasehold system.

Resolved, that a copy of the foregoing resolutions be presented to our Representatives in both branches of the Local Legislature, to His Honor the Administrator of the Government, and that a duplicate copy thereof be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada.

The people of Fort Augustus have done well. The Land Question should be agitated. But it should be agitated in a fair and temperate way,—else, we may be well assured, it will not accomplish the result desired. To call a meeting of the Legislature immediately for the purpose of passing a measure forcing the proprietors to sell their lands, as desired by the meeting, would, we submit, be precipitate action—likely to end only in the discomfiture of tenants. For, if a law compelling proprietors to sell, is passed, without first consulting them, and ascertaining their demands, they will have fair grounds upon which to base a petition to the Governor General for its disallowance. It is not worth while to treat proprietors with unnecessay discourtesy, and we hope the Government will not treat them so.

WRECK OF THE S. ROBERT LOWE.—The body of Captain Tidmarsh, who went down in the wreck of the "Robert Lowe," was washed ashore, brought to St. John's, Nfl. and interred with Masonic ceremonies, as he was a member of one of the Masonic Lodges there. Some of thier bodies came ashore and were interred at St Mary's.

A man who gives his children habits of industry provides better for them than by giving them a fortune.

QUESTION OF THE DAY.

"THEY say there is to be no election." Nearly every 'street greeting,' for the past two days has been accompanied by this expression. The report is, not without reason, creating a great commotion among politicians here. The Order in Council under the authority of which this Province was admitted into and became part of the Dominion, provides for the FIRST ELECTION (to be held within three months after the date of union) in the following words:—

"And in accordance with the terms of the said Addresses relating to the Electoral Districts for which the time within which, and the laws and provisions under which the *first election of members to serve in the House of Commons of Canada for such Electoral Districts* shall be held, it is hereby further ordered and declared that Prince County shall constitute one District, to be designated Prince County District, and return two members, that Queen's County shall constitute one District, to be designated Queen's County District, and return two members; that King's County shall constitute one District, to be designated King's County District, and return two members; that the first election of members to serve in the House of Commons of Canada for such Electoral Districts shall be held within three calendar months from the day of the admission of the said Island into the Union or Dominion of Canada; that all laws, which at the date of this Order in Council relating to the qualification of any person to be elected or sit or vote as a member of the House of Assembly of said Island, and relating to the qualifications or disqualifications of voters, and to the oaths to be taken by voters., and to Returning Officers and Poll Clerks and their powers and duties, and relating to Polling Divisions within the said Island, and relating to the proceedings at elections and to the period during which such elections may be continued, and relating to the trial of controverted elections and the proceedings incidental thereto, and relating to the vacating of seats of members and to the execution of new writs in case of any seat being vacated OTHERWISE THAN BY DISSOLUTION, and to all other matters connected with or incidental to elections of members to serve in the House of Assembly of the said Island, shall apply to elections of members to serve in the House of Commons for the Electoral Districts situate in the said Island of Prince Edward."

No provision has yet been made for a second election, and therefore, if the literal meaning of the Order quoted is adhered to, there can be no election of members to represent this Province in the Dominion Commons, until after Parliament meets. Evidently, however, it was not the intention of the Privy Council that the Province should be disfranchised and if it were not for the express words,—

"And to the execution of new writs in case of any seat being vacated otherwise than by a dissolution,"

we should be inclined to think that the order would be interpreted rather according to the intention of those who issued it, than according to its literal meaning. The British Government did not, doubtless, imagine that the McKenzie party would so soon have assumed power, or that such a statesman as David Laird would represent this Province in the McKenzie Cabinet, or they would have made provision for an election here, even though the seats of our representatives were vacated by a dissolution. We have heretofore directed the attention of our readers to the striking contrast in administrative ability between the present Government and its predecessor. The neglect to provide for a second Dominion election in this Island, will bring the contrast directly home to their minds. The Government now have the alternative left of allowing the elections to proceed under the writs already issued, and having them confirmed by Parliament when it meets. This alternative will probably be adopted. But even if it is, a difficulty remains; for it is questionable whether a Parliament in which one of the Provinces is wholly unrepresented is a legal Parliament.

THE NEW ELECTION LAWS.

The forthcoming general elections will have to be run on a somewhat different plan to those formerly run. Two Acts have been passed by the Parliament of Canada, which have to some extent modified the condition of election affairs. 1st, *An act to make temporary provision for the election of members to serve in the House of Commons*, assented to 23rd May, 1873; and 2nd, *An act to make better provision respecting election petitions and matters relating to controverted elections of members of the House of Commons.*

The first named Act is to continue in force till the end of the next session of Parliament. It provides, so far as Nova Scotia is concerned, 1st, That the qualifications and disqualifications of persons to be elected, or to sit or vote as members of the House of Assembly, the voters at elections of such members, the oaths to be taken by voters, and the powers and duties of Returning officers, and generally the proceedings at, and incident to, such elections, shall continue the same as they were on the 1st day of July, A.D: 1867—that is as they were before Confederation.

2nd. That the Governor in Council make a tariff of fees, costs and expenses to be paid and allowed by the Dominion Government to the Returning officers employed in the elections.

3rd. It provides a very stringent law against bribery and corruption, as follows:

Sec. 18. "No candidate at any election shall, directly or indirectly, employ any means of corruption by giving any sum of money, office, place, employment, gratuity, reward, or any bond, bill or note or conveyance of land or any promise of the same; nor shall he, either by himself or his authorized agent, for that purpose threaten any elector with losing any office, salary, income or advantage, with the intent to corrupt or bribe any elector to vote for such candidate, or to keep back any elector from voting for any other candidate; nor shall he open and support, or cause to be opened and supported at his cost and charges, any house of public entertainment for the accommodation of the electors; and if any representative returned to the House of Commons is proved guilty, before the proper tribunal, of using any of the above means to procure his election, his election shall be thereby declared void and he shall be incapable of being a candidate or being elected or returned during that Parliament."

The "proper Tribunal" referred to in the above clause, is provided in the second Act at first mentioned. This act came into force on November 1st 1873. It provides for an "Election Court," to consist in Nova Scotia, of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this Province—said Court to be held at Halifax; provided the Lieut.-Governor shall, by order made by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the Province authorise and require such Judges to perform the duties by the Act assigned to them. If the Executive Council refuse to give the Judges the necessary order of authorization the Governor General may appoint not less than three, nor more than five persons, being Barristers of not less than ten years' standing, to be Judges for the purposes of the Act, any one of whom can any election petition, and three of whom may hold an Election Court.

Parties running elections will need to be posted up in the details of this Act relative to the presentation of petitions, etc. We have given merely the outline of the machinery. The Act amounts to reducing the controverted election of a member to an ordinary suit in the Supreme Court. You may sue for that as you would sue for a sum of money due you.—*Halifax Reporter.*

THE CANADIAN ROUTE TO THE WEST AND NORTH-WEST.

[*From the New York World.*]

The River St. Lawrence being a natural outlet to the great lakes, might be expected to afford the easiest passage for vessels from the Atlantic Ocean to these inland seas. But capital, population, climate and other causes have long given to the more artificial water highways of New York an almost unchallenged pre-eminence. The Canadians, however, are waking up to their natural advantages and mean to challenge a division of Western trade. The truth is there is and will ever be more than enough for all the routes natural and artificial which at present exist, or are ever likely to be created. By the St. Lawrence route a vessel of considerable tonnage can, by entering the Gulf of St. Lawrence, find easy floating for a distance of at least 2,000 miles excepting two or three obstructions, all of which have been partially overcome. The first obstruction is the rapids near Montreal, which are avoided by means of canals through which the vessels on their upward trips pass around them. The second obstruction is the Niagara Falls, between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, about 1,000 miles inland. This obstruction is overcome by the Welland Canal, after which there is clear sailing for 1,000 miles more, terminating at Chicago or Duluth, two natural receptacles for the land products of the West and Northwest.

The first improvement to the St. Lawrence route was the construction of the canals around the rapids. The total length of these canals is forty-one miles and their depth is ten feet. There are twenty-seven locks, each 200 feet long, by 45 feet wide, with a total lockage "lift" of 204¾ feet. The plan of the Government, which is soon to be carried out, includes the enlargement of these canals so as to pass vessels of 1,200 tons The Welland Canal, between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, was built by Upper Canada on a small, inexpensive scale. In its present condition it is able to pass vessels of 400 tons It is 28 miles long and 10 feet deep. There are 27 locks 150 by 26½ feet with an aggregate "lift" of 330 feet. It takes 20 hours for steam and 50 hours for sail vessels to pass through it. In 1872 1,250,000 tons of freight passed through this canal, and during the same time 3,087,212 tons were carried on the Erie Canal Two or three years hence the enlargement of the Welland Canal will be completed, and it will then be able to pass from 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 tons, or more than all the canals and railroads of this State combined to carry in their present condition. The estimated cost of the whole improvements to the Welland Canal is $14,000,000. The canal is to be 13 feet deep and 100 feet wide on the bottom, having side slopes 2 to 1 in clay. The locks will be 270 feet in length between quoins, 45 feet wide, and 12 feet deep over the mitre sills. From Thorold, at the head of the old system of locks, the new channel is to diverge and make a circuit past St. Catherines, emerging at Port Dalhousie, on Lake Ontario. Thus the canal will have two outlets on Lake Ontario, with two sets of locks, the old and the new. Heretofore it has often been necessary to lighten the cargoes of vessels coming down from the lakes before passing through the Welland Canal, as any vessel drawing more than ten feet of water could not enter the locks. Many thousands of bushels of grain were taken from the vessels every day and carried across to the other shore by the Welland Railway, where they were shipped again on board the propellers and schooners.

The greater portion of the traffic through the Welland Canal turns out of the Canadian channel as soon as it enters Lake Ontario, and finds its way to New York by the Oswego Canal. The enlargement of the former will doubtless increase the business of the latter. But the increased traffic of the Oswego and Erie canals in consequence of the enlarged Welland will also increase the use of the St. Lawrence route; and should the Welland and St. Lawrence canals be made to do a business of twenty millions of tons in one season, the capacity of this channel would surpass that of all the trunk railways of the United States for the same length of time. The time required to reach Quebec from Chicago by the lakes, canal, and river, is eight days against fifteen days to New York via the Erie Canal, and the cost of transportation is cheaper in proportion. From Chicago to Quebec is 1,421 miles, and from Quebec to Liverpool is 3,160 miles. From Chicago to New York via the lakes and Erie Canal 1,411 miles, and from New York to Liverpool is 3,470 miles. Supposing two cargoes of wheat to leave Chicago together for Liverpool, one via Canada and the other via New York, the one taking the northern route would arrive at Quebec in eight days with 3,160 miles of its voyage still to perform, while the one taking the other course would reach New York seven days later with 2,470 miles of its journey unperformed. The trade of Montreal in the productions of the West is rapidly increasing. In 1872 the receipts of grain at that city amounted to 17,628,353 bushels against 12,378,823 in 1870, and the average movement of grain by that route during the four years ending 1859 was less than 5,000,000 bushels.

SHIP CANAL BUILDING IN CANADA.

The plans of the Canadian Government for improving their water route from the Atlantic to the West are, after opening the natural or St. Lawrence channel to vessels of sufficient size, to shorten that channel by cutting off the corners, for example, by a ship canal connecting the Ottawa River with Lake Huron. thus shortening the distance from Chicago to Montreal by 368 miles. The first survey for this important undertaking was made by Walter Shanley in 1858. The route as laid out by him was as follows: Starting from Montreal, the course of the Ottawa River is followed up to the junction of the Matawan, one of the tributaries. The route then turns off into the Matawan, and follows that stream to its headwaters, which is Trout Lake, and from Trout Lake by canal to Lake Nipissing, only a few miles. The route then passes through Lake Nipissing to its outlet, the French River, which it follows down into Georgian Bay and thence into Lake Huron. In 1860 another survey was made by Mr. Clark, who confirmed the route selected by the first engineer, excepting the plan for connecting Trout Lake with Lake Nipissing. The distance from Lake Huron to Montreal by this route is only 431 miles, 30 miles of which would be by canal. There would be 64 locks with a lift of 665¼ feet, ten feet more than the Erie Canal has. The estimated cost, the work being equal in dimensions to the St. Lawrence canals, is $12,057,680, or, according to the plan of 1858, $24,900,000. There would be 401 miles of lake and river navigation and 30 miles of canal navigation. The canals are calculated to pass vessels of 1,000 tons, and the navigation season is equal to from 210 to 220 days, or about three weeks less than the season for the Erie Canal. This extensive line of interior waters, with short land portages, formed for many years the route fo the vessels engaged in the Hudson Bay Company's and Northwest Company's trade. It would open up an immense country and increase the lumber trade of the Ottawa district, which already amounts to 500,000,000 feet per year. This route, as will be seen by a glance at the map, is in almost a direct line with the Northern Pacific Railroad, and would shorten the distance across the continent by that line at least 250 miles.

The Toronto and Georgian Bay Ship Canal is another undertaking proposed by the Canadians. The route of this canal is from the City of Toronto, on Lake Ontario, through to Georgian Bay, which is the inlet to Lake Huron. The distance is only 100 miles, twenty-three of which, through Lake Simcoe, is open navigation. The level of this lake is 470 feet above Lake Ontario, and 139 feet above Lake Huron. The route from Lako Ontario to Lake Simcoe commences at the mouth of Humber River, about five miles west of Toronto, ascending that river in a northerly direction, crossing by a canal the dividing ridge which separates it from the Holland river, and thence on the same level to Lake Simcoe. A canal from the other side of Lake Simcoe to connect with the Nottawasauga River would complete the navigable course to Georgian Bay. The proposed size of the locks is 265 feet long by 55 feet wide, with 12 feet lift. The estimated cost of the work is $22,000,000 or upwards. The cutting in crossing the ridge from the Humber to the Holland River, extending ten miles averages ninety feet, and the cutting from Lake Simcoe to the Nottawasauga River, will have an average depth of fifty feet. The distance from Chicago to Liverpool by this route as compared with that via Buffalo is 837 miles less, and 428 miles less than the Welland Canal route to Quebec.

The Bay Verte ship canal, is another improvement proposed by the Canadian Government. It is intended to make a new outlet from the St. Lawrence through the Straits of Northumberland and Bay of Fundy, instead of going through the Gulf. which is often rendered dangerous by the fogs. It is believed furthermore, that the opening of this channel would largely augment the trade of Canada with the West Indies and South America, as the distance to all points south would be lessened by from 300 to 430 miles. It would also enable the Lower Provinces to receive their breadstuffs direct from the west by direct shipment from the upper lakes, returning cargoes to the west of sugar, coffee and other products brought from the south. The canal would make Halifax the harbor of entrance to the St. Lawrence, and besides conducting the shipping away from the fogs of the Gulf, would enable it to avoid the stormy coasts of Newfoundland.

It is claimed by the Canadian authorities that the food imported from the West into New England—equal in quantity to that which is imported to foreign countries—can be delivered by the St. Lawrence route and the Gulf and the coast vessels cheaper than by the New York Canals These are a few of the splendid projects which are occupying the minds of enthusiastic Canadians.

DANCING.

The season of entertainments has now well set in amongst ourselves, and that being the case, and dancing occupying so large a place in our manner of enjoying ourselves, it will not be out of place that we should make some remarks thereon, struck in a key suitable to the gravity and importance of the subject. The love of dancing has manifested itself in all races, though some have carried it to a perfection of which others seem to be quite incapable. The Greeks elevated it to the region of æsthetics, and gave it a muse entirely to itself. It has been defined as 'the art of expressing the sentiments of the mind, or the passions, by measured steps or bounds, made in cadence by regulated motion of the figure, and by graceful gestures, all performed to the sound of musical instruments, or of the voice." This is a somewhat clumsy definition, but it gives us the three distinguishing notes of dancing—expression, grace, and harmony. Modern dancing has passed away from the traditions which made it pantomimie, and we should be puzzled if asked to interpret the phase of life which is indicated by a waltz. But in the early days of dancing expression was attended to, and now among barbarous peoples the dance is a prime interpreter of the passions. The Greeks, as we have said, made it an art, and through it loved to paint the passion of love, of rage, of revenge and valor. At Athens, we read that when the dance of the Furies was performed in the theatre, the beholders were filled with terror, and veteran warriors grew pale. Dancing was even used in religious ceremonies, and Plato reduced the dances of the Ancients to the three—the military, the domestic, and the mediatorial. The Gymnopedic, invented by the Spartans, incited to courage their children, who danced it singing the poems of Thales and other inspiring writers. The Enoplian Pyrrhic dance was performed by young men armed *cap-a-pie*, and who executed all the movements for attack and defence. In Africa, amongst the Fantees, as the correspondents at the seat of war testify, the war dance is a favorite pastime and a necessary prelude to an attack. Indeed, all barbarous peoples are great dancers, and naturally; for their capacity for expression by word and their power of reflection being small, they have naturally to fall back more on other resources. M. Gallini, the traveller, says of these same people on the Gold Coast, that their love of dancing was so great that they would rise from their meals or leave their hardest labor to dance if any one played a flute or a fiddle. In the time of Aristotle, the manly dance invented by Pyrrhus, had already begun to degenerate, and the young men used thyrsi instead of pikes, and lighted torches instead of javelins. The Romans, during the best days of the Republic, rather despised dances, and never had the war dance at all, a circumstance which would accord with what we know of their regulated courage and deliberate valor. Yet once dancing was introduced, it seized on the imaginations of the Roman people quite as much it had on the quicker parts of the Athenians.

There is a time for everything, as we were told on the highest authority, and there certainly is a time to dance and a time to give up the practice of the enlightened art. Yet the gravest characters in history have danced. Theseus, when he returned from Crete, we learn, invented a dance in which he himself took part, and footed it at the head of a numerous and splendid band, round the altar of Apollo. Amongst the Jews it was evidently a means of expressing religious joy, and even in modern times, in Limoges, the people used to dance round in the choir of the church singing to their patron saint—'St. Michael pray for us and we will dance in honor of you. Socrates seemed to have regretted that he did not learn to dance when he was young, and expressed his regret in the most practical and emphatic way by commencing to learn. Homer praises Merion for his Terpsichoreen skill; and until within a hundred years back, every Christmas the judges met in the hall of the Middle Temple and danced round a sea coal fire—an annual performance which was honored by the presence of so great and grave a persen as Clarendon, and so gay a King as Charles II. Yet the spirit of one time is not the spirit of another, and after all has been said, the proposition that dancing is most suitable for the years of gay youth, will, perhaps, be generally agreed to. There is something incongruous in grave and reverend seigneurs hopping round a room, or going through the masquerade seriousness of a quadrille. To begin with, unless with professed dancers, after a short time the man's form becomes slightly unwieldy for purposes of airy movement, and it would be difficult not to laugh if we saw an elephant aping the light graces of a butterfly. The female form being more graceful in outline, as long as it lasts—and it often lasts until old age—is never out of place in dancing. and if ladies, after a certain period, give it up, other causes than physical unfitness are at work.

Whatever is done at all should be well done. From the time of Addison to that of Thackeray, the social satirists have complained of the awkward manner in which the English dance, and this, as well as other matters, they do better in France. We probably owe it to our British parentage that our dancing does certainly fall short of perfection. At public and private balls a few ladies are actually found who dance badly—but nearly all the men dance with a roughness, a want of grace, an absence of harmony of movement, which we know from the best witnesses in the world is distressing to their partners, and it is painful to the onlookers. Some would seem to require an entire highway to themselves, and go round the room, as it were, on seven legs, which is five more than is at all necessary; others jump as if they were the sport of galvanic shocks, wearing, at the same time, a terrified expression of countenance, as though a spectre was looking at them over the left shoulder of their partner. The legs of others go like the two fore-feet of a young dog in the water before it has learned to swim, and others do not give their partners room; while a few utterly fail to keep time. The last we would remind of the advice given by the *Spectator* to Mr. John Trott, who wrote to say that he was a great lover of dancing, but could not perform as well as some others, and that unkind people laughed at him. 'If,' says the gentle humorist, 'Mr. Trott is awkward and out of time, he has a right to dance, let who will laugh. But if he has no ear he will interrupt others, and I am of opinion he should stand still.' As to those who are not Mr. Trotts, but who are yet, as we have said, a little short of perfection, they should certainly improve themselves. The people of the United States, both men and women, are said to dance with ease and grace, without which it is scarcely dignified for a man to dance at all. Both men and women should remember that it is a graceful art, and should practice it under the abiding consciousness that it is the eloquence of motion Every movement should be an embodied melody, there should be the sweep of the swallow; and the poise of the sea gull.

But though we should like to have those who practice this art acqnit themselves well, we cannot forget that there will always be persons who, either from an indisposition or an incapacity, must stand aside. Now these poor people are sometimes not the worst or most stupid people in the world. Alfieri had an innate aversion to what he calls "this frivolous art," and Lord Byron, having a club foot, was driven to fall back on other poetry besides the poetry of motion. Hesiod says the gods have bestowed fortitude on some men, and on other a disposition for dancing—a great compliment to dancing, but one that leads us to remark that those who are gifted with fortitude are probably as interesting objects as those who have received the lighter grace—indeed we do not know that we should not prefer Hector to Paris any day. Some ladies of great intelligence—one lady for instance, who is, we believe, one of the foremost writers in the world, would never dance—cannot or will not perform. Now for these poor outcasts some provision should be made, in Paris such a thing as a "wallflower" is unknown, and equally rare is the spectral gentleman who draws out the whole evening admiring the dancers, or snatching stray bits of conversation with young ladies during the intervals; or when they happen to be a little tired, or not engaged. An evening should be arranged with due mindfulness of the fact that there are other means of enjoyment besides through the heels. In Paris, room after room is thrown open. Dancing obtains here something else is going on there, in this room we have chess, in that charades. Such an arrangement would be doubly useful. Dancing like any other social pleasure, may be run into dissipation, and thus may militate against strength of thought. If it engrosses the mind too much, it cannot fail to weaken it and disturd its balance, and it must be confessed the sort of small talk generally snatched in the course of a dance is terrifying, by reason of the simplicity of its inanity. Some young ladies lay it down as a rule that they will not dance after they have married—a rule of which it may be said that it is not good husbandry to waste so much time about what cannot be done only during a few years of life, and that it is very like the resolve of the toper to give up alcohol after a certain date fixed well in advance. What we have said may be summed up in a sentence. If you dance, try to dance well, and whether you dance well or ill, remember it is but the light spray fringing the ocean of life with its power, and depth, and beauty, its seriousness and mighty claims on duty and endeavour.—*Toronto Globe.*

The recent death of The O'Grady, in the County of Limerick, Ireland, removes the chief of one of those ancient clans of Ireland, which claim a Milesian descent far more venerable and illustrious than that of any of the members of the Irish Peerage except perhaps the O'Briens, representatives as they are of the "Princes" and "Kings" of Thomond. He was born in the year 1816 and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he took his usual degrees, and was called to the Irish bar in 1840. He married in 1841, Anne Grogan, daughter of Mr Thomas De Rinze, of Clohemon Hall, county Wexford, by whome he had, with other children, a son, Thomas De Conrey, who now becomes "The O'Grady."

PHOSPHATES are Nature's great fertilizers and restoratives. They are equally essential to the growth of the Animal and Vegetable Kingdom. Under their use grass, herb and tree, bone, muscle and nerve, attain a full and complete development. Every intelligent farmer employs them to fertilize the soil, and every scientific physician prescribes them to energize and vitalize the human system. Of these valuable medicinal agents the most elegant and agreable is DR. WHEELER'S COMPOUND ELIXIR OF PHOSPHATES AND CALISAYA. By taking it for a few weeks CHRONIC WASTING DISEASES of a Scrofulous, Consumptive or Venereal character rapidly improve, the whole constitution becoming renovated and purified, and all the organs restored to a vigorous action, Sold by all druggists.—4in

Success in life depends upon the heroic self with which one sets out in life.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

100 AGENTS WANTED—Male and Female, for the "Transmission of Life," and the "Physical Life of Woman." both by Dr. Napheys. Agent's profits, $150 to $250 a month. Testimonials from most eminent Divines, Physicians and Editors in America. Immense sales everywhere. Send for Terms and Circulars to C. W. MITCHELL, St. John, N. B
Jan. 12, 1873.—5l

MASONIC TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT!

THE ANNUAL TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT in connection with St. John's Lodge will be held in the

MARKET HALL,
ON
Wednesday, January 21st.

TEA ON THE TABLES AT 6 O'CLOCK, SHARP.

The committee will spare no pains to make the Tea and Entertainment the best of the season.

Tickets, 50 cents; to be obtained at the Drug Stores of W. R. Watson, Esq., and Dr. Dodd. Also from the following Committee:—

JOHN FRASER, JOHN COLLINS,
P. R. BLATCH, L. M. POOLE,
W. H. AITKEN, A. N. LARGE.
WM. MCLAREN, Sec. of Com
Jan. 12, 1874.—city pa to 21st.

TRADE SALE!

At Subscribers' Saleroom
At ELEVEN o'clock, on
Thursday, January 15th,

500 Bbls. Extra FLOUR,
200 Sides SOLE LEATHER,
60 Chests TEA,
5 Hhds. SUGAR,
20 Puns. MOLASSES, deliverable in Geo'town,
10 Boxes TOBACCO,
40 Casks KEROSENE OIL,
200 Bbls. HERRING, barrel and bulk,
300 Quintals CODFISH,
100 do HAKE,
25 Dozen BROOMS,
50 Boxes CONFECTIONERY,
5 Half-barrels SCOTCH MIXTURES,
50 Boxes Assorted BISCUIT,
25 Bbls. do do
25 Boxes AXES,
20 Tins CASTOR OIL,
20 do MUSTARD,
30 Dozen Mixed PICKLES,
50 Boxes SOAP,
10 Qr. Casks GIN,
6 do do BRANDY,
25 Cases SCOTCH WHISKEY,
25 do BRANDY,
4 Qr. Casks Scotch WHISKEY,
5 do Extra Pale and Brown SHERRY,
5 do Sandyman & Son's PORT,
1 Cask Old Jamaica RUM,
50 Reams WRAPPING PAPER,
20 Boxes CLOTHES PINS,
12 Gross Boxes BLUE,

TOGETHER WITH LARGE LOT
CUTLERY, HARDWARE, CLOTHS AND WINCEY,
which will be closed without reserve.
HYNDMAN BROS.
Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1874.

MANILLA

SPRING ORDERS 1874.

We again bring to the notice of importers, the manufactures of the

Canada Cordage Company

as being the Cheapest and Best that can be imported. Large orders were filled by us last season which have given purchasers entire satisfaction, and we now solicit orders for Spring, 1874, for all sizes Manilla, 6 thread to ship's hawsers. Also, tarred hemp, ratline, and all other kinds of Cordage.

A small lot of each size always in Stock.
CARVELL BROS., Agents.
Ch'town, Jan. 12, 1874. 4in

MONTREAL Marine Assurance Company.

Capital and Cash Assets over $1,000,000

The above Offices being of UNDOUBTED STANDING, guarantee perfect security and prompt payment of losses.
FENTON T. NEWBERY,
Agent for Prince Edward Island.
Jan. 12, 1874.—1y

Valuable Freehold Property FOR SALE.

THE undersigned offers for Sale, a Valuable and attractive Freehold Property, consisting of Fifty Acres, one half clear and in a high state of cultivation; the other half covered with an excellent growth of fairly mixed Hard and Soft wood, suitable for most purposes.

The Property fronts on Launching Road, at Head of Mitchell River, Lot 54, and there is on it a handsome and commodious two-storey dwelling House and Barn.

Terms easy. For further particulars apply to
JAMES LEDWELL, Cardigan Bridge.
Jan. 12, 1874.—3m pd

FOR SALE!

Valuable Freehold Property, at Alberton.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Friday the Twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon at the Sheriff's office, in Summerside, under and by virtue of a power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the second day of January, in the year of our Lord on thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, and made between Willian Reid Sheen of the one part, and Samuel Haslam of the other part, all that tract piece and parcel of land situate in Alberton, in Prince County, in Prince Edward Island, bounded as follows that is to say: commencing at a stake in the south-west corner of land owned by Edward Wallace; thence running south sixty-five feet; thence east two chains and fifty-eight links; thence north sixty-six feet; thence west to point of commencement, containing one quarter of an acre a little more or less, together with all the buildings situated thereon.
SAMUEL HASLAM.
By WILLIAM HASLAM, his Att'y.
Jan. 7th 1874 sj till sale

ABSOLUTE DIVORCES OBTAINED FROM COURT of different States for desertion &c. No publicity required. No charge until divorce granted. Address
M. HOUSE, Attorney, 194 Broadway.
New York, December 12, 1873. 6mo

Famous Brands!

IN Old Newfoundland and other ports; Superior Brown, Golden and Pale Sherries; Maderia (southside]; Burgundy; Champagnes; Clarets; Brandies; Whiskeys, &c.
The purest and best ever imported.
AT
"*ITALIAN WAREHOUSE.*"
Dec. 29, 1873.—1m

RAISINS.

200 BOXES, fresh and good,
AT
"*ITALIAN WAREHOUSE*"
Dec. 29, 1873.—1m

Charlottetown Skating Rink,

SEASON OF 1874.

	1st	2d	3d
Shareholder's Ticket	$3	$2.50	$1.75
Non Shareholder's do	5	4.00	3.00
Lady's do,	2	2.25	2.00
Monthly Tickets, $2.			
Promenade do.,		1.50.	

Three shares entitles the holder to obtain a Shareholder's Ticket.
Band nights, Monday and Thursdays.
Public admitted Monday evenings only, admission 25 cents.
W. W. CLARKE, Sec'y.
Dec. 29, 1873.—3l