

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

DECEMBER 28, 1883.

Editorial Notes.

—Mr. Kennedy's paper on whiskey, published in another column, is well worth reading. It is not a temperance lecture; and so persons who dislike temperance lectures may read it with pleasure and profit.

—Polling in Prince County on the question, "Shall the operation of the Canada Temperance Act, 1878, be discontinued?" will take place on Thursday, the 7th February next. The poll will continue open from 9 o'clock in the forenoon till 5 in the afternoon. The result will be declared in the Court House at Summerside on the Tuesday following the polling. W. G. Strong, Esq., High Sheriff of the County, is the Returning Officer.

"The elique organ is 'in complete discord' with Mr. Laird and 'in complete harmony' with its quondam friend, Dr. Jenkins, in regard to the exhibition. This should teach the public a lesson respecting family quarrels between THE EXAMINER and the members of the ring. Though they wage war even to the knife among themselves for spoils and position, they are as a unit in a game of grab."

Really the Patriot should be a little more definite. Will it kindly explain what relationship exists between Dr. Jenkins' unfortunate appeal to Ottawa and the Dominion Exhibition, and let the public know why THE EXAMINER, having protested against the first, should not be in harmony with Dr. Jenkins respecting the last? In our opinion, Mr. Brecken, Mr. Davies, or Mr. Laird might think as Dr. Jenkins thinks about the Exhibition without being suspected of taking part with him in a game of grab.

"We would respectfully suggest to our esteemed contemporaries THE EXAMINER and Patriot, now that the time for forming good resolutions is almost upon us, that they give credit to those journals from which they copy in future. It is none of our funeral, only in the respect that we often get confused over diversities of opinions in both papers, whereas if they credited the extracts to the proper parties, we could understand and be content."

—The Herald would stand higher in the community and show forth the fruits of the spirit which reigns at Christmas in a more fitting way if it mused its own business, or at least refrained from attempts to promote its own interests by trying to injure the characters of its contemporaries. The inconsequential reason given by the Herald for this mean attack upon the Patriot and THE EXAMINER, and the confused manner in which it is expressed, prove that motive of the Herald is malicious, and that its literary finish is fine.—"We often get confused over diversities of opinions in both papers!"

—The Monetary Times reviews the Canadian Bank statement for November, and says:—

"These facts will go far to re-assure those who are inclined to take a desponding view of the position of the country generally. There is really no ground for general despondency. Canada has many and various interests now, and some of them are in a wholesome and sound condition. The various branches of our importing trade are healthy as a whole, payments from the interior continue remarkably good. Bills are well met at the banks. Few renewals are asked; purchases are made prudently; credit is given with remarkable caution. Neither in the wholesale or retail trade is there any general reason for complaint."

This is the conclusion calmly drawn by an independent financial authority; and it may well be set against the incoherent ravings of the Opposition Press. The Monetary Times also publishes several additional replies to the question: How have you found business? Here are two or three:—

H. A. Patterson & Co., lumber and coal dealers in Chatham, Ont., write:—"We have found business very good, the country will benefit by the check it has received caused by a tightness in money, but the fact is there is an abundance of money but a want of confidence, caused by over-production and reckless speculation."

The Halifax shipping firm of T. A. S. DeWolf & Son, writes in good spirits:—"Business continues encouraging. Remittances prompt, and few losses."

The Doherty Manufacturing Co., of Sarnia say,—"Our trade has been equal to our expectations, and payments on the whole prompt. We find lately however a slackening in business."

The following is from W. & C. Silver, wholesale dry goods merchants in Halifax:—"Notwithstanding some local drawbacks, business has been fair during the season. A law for the equitable distribution of assets would increase confidence in the future."

The reply of Messrs. Brown, Balfour & Co., of Hamilton, as to the year's business is that it has been very fairly satisfactory, although at present quiet. Payments have kept up surprisingly, and even now, in the face of dulness and the reiterated cry of "hard times" which of course helps to put a damper upon the country traders' spirits, payments are being well met.

This is the evidence of practical men of business, and is a good answer to the croakers.

PAUL BELANGER, inspector of cars on the Intercolonial Railway (Quebec division), is the father of thirty-three children. He has been twice married, his first wife having been the mother of nineteen children, his second of six, and the third, so far, has presented him with eight. The last two are twins and were baptized last week. Mr. Belanger is 60 years of age.

For throat and lung difficulties, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, when seasonably taken, is a certain specific. [See 24 wly 21]

WHISKEY.

MR. KENNEDY made a few introductory remarks, and said:—

Mr. James G. Blaine, Secretary of State under the late lamented President Garfield, in a letter to a Philadelphia editor, has put forth a novel proposition which is attracting attention. The design of his scheme is to do away with local or direct taxation. He proposes to make "whiskey" pay the bills, and supports his suggestion with a strong and adroit array of arguments and facts. I may here say that by our cousins across the border the word "whiskey" is used as a generic term to denote all kinds of spirituous and malt liquors, in much the same manner as the word "rum" is used on this side the line. As Artemus Ward would say, whiskey is the most numerous of all drinks in the United States, as the enormous crops of rye and corn of the country furnish an immense amount of material for unlimited manufacture of the delectable fluid, and hence the agglomerate term "whiskey." On this side the border there was a time when good Old Jamaica was the prevailing "irrigant" used by a thirsty population, and thus the generic term "rum" came to be used. There are those amongst us yet who still mourn those mellow days when pure Santa Cruz or Jamaica were exclusively used to put men under the table, but that was before the time when burning fluid and fuel-oil compounds were dispensed to the thirsty over surreptitious bars.

Mr. Blaine proposes that the entire revenue from spirituous and malt liquors shall be divided among the several States according to population, and to continue it permanently as a part of their regular annual revenue. I quote from Mr. Blaine's letter:—

"It is under the State Governments that taxation is felt most severely. The National Government has the benefit of easy, because indirect, forms of taxation. It is the direct tax that is felt to be oppressive. At the beginning of the war the National Government levied a direct tax of \$20,000,000 upon the States—about sixty-six cents per capita on the whole population. It frightened the people, and the effect was so depressing that all kinds of composition and adjustment were invented to avoid payment. But concurrently with the fright occasioned by the direct tax, hundreds of millions were raised in a single year by customs and by excise without a word of protest or a sense of hardship."

"Our State and municipal taxation is direct. It comes upon the property with crushing force. There are few communities in the United States that pay so little as one per cent. per annum on the actual value of their real property. There are many communities that pay more than two per cent on the actual value. The houses, the farms, the factories, the stores, the shops, all feel it as a heavy burden—a burden unrelieved by any form of indirect taxation. Why, therefore, should not the States be permitted to have the tax on spirits for their own benefit if the National Government does not need it? The National and State Governments, as I think I have shown, cannot safely share the same revenue, but if the National Government has no longer need of the tax on spirits, why should not the entire amount which it yields annually be paid over to the States? Could it be regarded as wise statesmanship to continue the heavy, oppressive direct tax on all property under the State Governments and at the same time command a hurtful luxury like spirits to go free? That would be a folly which no other Government on the globe could by any possibility commit. The tax on spirits oppresses no one. It is paid only by the consumer, and the most extreme advocate of temperance cannot maintain that taxing the article increases its consumption."

"The amount yielded by the tax on spirituous and malt liquors last year was over \$86,000,000. On the basis of the census of 1880 it would pay about \$1.75 per capita to all the people. The tendency would be to increase rather than diminish this ratio as time wore on. Illicit distilleries would disappear when every State and every town should come to realize that it was being defrauded of its own revenue by permitting or winking at the violation of law. On the basis of \$1.75 per head the relief to the States would be very great. I append a table showing what each State would receive on the basis of the present revenue. In considering the question, as I have very carefully for several months past, I have possibly overlooked objections which others may suggest. But the more I have reflected upon it the more evident it has become to my mind that it is wiser to tax whiskey than to tax farms and home-steads and shops, and that it would be an act of incalculable folly to remit the \$86,000,000 instead of giving it to the States for the relief of oppressive local taxation."

This proposal of Mr. Blaine's was brought out as a substitute for what is called the "Pennsylvania plan" to distribute the surplus revenue of the United States among the different States according to population. It is needless for me to say that the surplus revenue of the United States for 1881-2 was in round numbers \$150,000,000. The surplus revenue for 1882-3 is between \$30,000,000 and \$100,000,000, notwithstanding that the change in the tariff last winter reduced the amount some \$70,000,000. The Pennsylvania plan for distributing the surplus revenue has for some time been discussed in the press. Mr. Blaine in offering his substitute points out the fact that the annual amounts received by the separate States through the Pennsylvania plan would fluctuate, and could not be depended on as a permanent source of income to the States. It would certainly vary largely, and oftentimes cease altogether, whereas the whiskey tax would be permanent, and increase annually. The advocates of the Pennsylvania plan point to a precedent. In 1836 the surplus revenue of the United States was distributed among the several States of the Union, according to population. The authorities of the State of Maine divided the State's share per capita among the people of the State. Each individual share, however, was so small that ridicule was brought upon the whole matter of distribution. And right here is where debate on this subject may begin. In the event of Mr. Blaine's plan being adopted, would the Dominion be justified in following the example set by the United States in the matter in question? Or are there any here who would advocate the "Pennsylvania plan," that the revenue surpluses be annually divided among the several Provinces of the Confederation, according to population. In the matter of dividing the whiskey tax, I would say that we are of the same kind and kin as the people over the border; and endowed with the same aspirations and appetites, and we possibly, to use a slang phrase, "put our selves outside" of as much of the compound-denominated "rum" or "whiskey" per head as our neighbors. If the General

Government distributed the amount of the tax on spirituous and malt liquors among the Provinces in proportion to population, Charlottetown would probably receive enough to relieve the inhabitants of all or the greater portion of their local taxes. Then the "occupations" of those two redoubtable champions of the two sides of the people's cause, Mr. William Murphy, and Mr. John Tanton "would be gone." No more would the walls of the Market Hall or the City Council Chamber resound with eloquent passages on the difference between one and a quarter and one and an eighth. Excellent side-walks would be laid to each citizen's door. No more pitfalls to entrap the unwary pedestrian. Ladner's patent would be consigned to oblivion; and the city would, no doubt, receive a supply of water—that element so abhorred by some, and the delight of others—from some other source than direct from the heavens, or the preambulate, ing water-cart.

I am afraid there is one drawback to this delightful picture. The cause of temperance might suffer. Citizens, overjoyed at finding that whiskey was paying their municipal taxes, might encourage those who drank some to drink more, and as an inducement might furnish the lemons. I will close by quoting an eminent newspaper authority, which says, in advocating Mr. Blaine's proposition: "Finally, it puts before the nation this pregnant question. Shall we tax houses and lands in preference to whiskey; shall we abolish the tax on liquors, of which no man need pay one cent unless he chooses; or shall we abolish all direct taxes for State and county purposes."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

"Discontent" Concerning the Mails.

Sir,—Your editorial of last evening on the "Winter Mail Service" expresses my opinion on the subject exactly. The only fault I have to find with the editorial is that it was not half severe enough. No man in his sober senses could ever expect the "Northern Light" to make daily return trips when the Straits are blocked up with ice in mid-winter; but when, as at present, there is a clear sheet of open water between Georgetown and Pictou, we certainly have a right to expect it. The question naturally arises, where does the fault lie? Is it with the Dominion Government or with Captain Finlayson? If with the former, such representations should be made as would ensure the matter being put right. According to the Agent of Marine and Fisheries at Charlottetown, Capt. Finlayson had orders to make daily return trips so long as it was practicable. Whether or not he has obeyed these orders, is a question for the Department to decide. I believe the reason given for the non-return of the steamer on Wednesday was that she had to tow a barque from Georgetown to Pictou. Since when, may I ask, have Dominion Government steamers turned tug-boats? Are all mail and passenger arrangements to be upset in order that the "Northern Light" may take the place of the "Henry Aitken" or "Frank C. Batt"? We are a long suffering community, but even the worm will turn when trodden upon, and the "powers that be" may some day awake to the fact that they are carrying matters with altogether too high a hand. Some steps should be taken publicly in the matter, and I have no doubt, if it was properly represented, more trouble would be taken in carrying out the Terms of Confederation, and in giving us daily communication with the mainland. Thanking you for the space you have kindly given me,

I remain,
Yours truly,
DISCONTENT.

A Drowning in Despair.

The steamer "Grantully" landed at Dover, England, on the 23rd, one passenger the chief engineer and fifteen men who were rescued with great difficulty from the burning steamer "St. Augustin" in the Bay of Biscay, last Sunday. A heavy sea was running at the time, rendering futile all efforts to get boats alongside the vessel, and the rescued men were hauled on board the "Grantully" with lines and buoys. They were the last to leave the ship. The second mate shot himself and a sailor stabbed himself during the fire, through flight.

The survivors of the steamer "St. Augustin" rescued by the steamer "John Williamson," report that the scene on board the "St. Augustin" and during the fire were perfectly appalling. Something fell from aloft cutting off one of the captain's legs. At his own request a heavy weight was tied around his waist and he was thrown into the sea. Several sailors drowned themselves in despair. The fire spread with such rapidity that everybody on board became panic-stricken. The "John Williamson" rescued six men, including the second engineer, with the life boat, which was smashed by the sea as they were drawn on board. Other persons were seen on the burning vessel and several bodies were seen in the water.

OUR "STANDING ARMY."—The total strength of the infantry, cavalry and gunnery schools of Canada will be 750, including "A" and "B" batteries. The infantry recruits will number 300, gentry 100, and cavalry 40. The schools will hardly be open for instruction until several months later, so as to give time for a proper training of the recruits. The period of service is three years, and the pay 40¢ per day. Rations and barrack accommodation for the men and non-commissioned officers rate as high as \$1 per diem, according to their grade. An extra allowance is also provided for good conduct, amounting to 2¢ per diem for the first year, 3¢ for the second, and 4¢ for the third. The rations are liberal, consisting of 1 pound of bread, 1 pound of beef, 1 pound of potatoes, 1 ounce of barley, 3 ounces of rice, 2 ounces of cheese, 1 1/2 ounces of tea, 2 ounces of sugar, 1 1/2 ounces of salt, 1 3/8 ounces pepper, with regulation fuel, light and medical attendance.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.—The Post Office Savings Bank statement for November shows an increase in the deposits over October of \$129,760. There was at the end of November \$12,578,338 to the credit of the depositors; compared with November of last year, the deposits have increased \$1,972,600. And still some people will say the workmen are saving nothing.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE WEEKLY EXAMINER, the Cheapest and Best Newspaper published on P.E.I. Island. Only \$1 per year.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS!

Grand Show of Silver-Plated Ware.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS IN BRACELETS.

We have all the samples of a Manufacturers' Agent, and offer at Reduced Prices.

Children's Misses' Ladies' and Gents' Rings, all styles and all prices; Fine Gold and Silver Locket and Chains, Initial Pins and Studs, Fancy Pencils, Patent Watch Keys, Silver Thumbles, Scarf Pins.

Decorated and Mounted Vases, Satin Lined Jewel Cases, Novel Napkin Rings, Ink Stands, Thermometers, Card Trays, Biscuit Boxes, Cream and Sugar Dishes, Tea Sets, Salvers, Spoon Holders, Pickle Dishes, Cruets.

Just received, the largest stock of Silver Necklets and Locketts in the city.

Gold and Silver Watches, Spectacles, Fancy and Useful Clocks,

and a great many other articles which, if given for PRESENTS are likely to remind one of the giver a lifetime.

Having enlarged and filled up our store, we can show goods to better advantage and give better satisfaction. We will be happy to show you whether you buy or not. Call early at

E. W. TAYLOR'S.

Ch'town, Dec. 27, 1883.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!

—FOR—

Xmas and New Year's Gifts,

—AT—

G. H. TAYLOR'S!

NEW PATTERNS in Silver Ware, Gold Locketts and Necklets, Colored Gold Sets, Gold-Plated Brooches, Ear-rings, etc.

Bargains in Silver Jewelry, as I am closing out this line of Goods.

North Side Queen Square, Charlottetown.

Ch'town, Dec. 19, 1883.—6i wed fri sat wly li

THE CHARLOTTETOWN

FLOUR, FEED AND PROVISION, STORE,

South Side Queen Square, near Queen Street,

HAVE to announce that they have on hand the following goods, which they are prepared to sell at reasonable prices and in quantities to suit purchasers:

Flour (Superior Extra, Strong Bakers' and Patent)

OATMEAL, CORNMEAL, BRAN, SHORTS, OATS,

CRUSHED FEED, either Oats and Barley or Oats, Barley and Corn. APPLES, which will be sold by the barrel or by the pound, at rates very little over barrel prices.

Ch'town, Dec. 18, 1883.

SIGN OF THE ELEPHANT.

W. R. BOREHAM has now on hand the LARGEST AND BEST STOCK OF

BOOTS, SHOES, SLIPPERS, OVERSHOES & RUBBERS,

ever shown by him. His motto is a good article at a moderate price.

LADIES' AND GENTS' FINE GOODS, a specialty.

A nice lot of LADIES' AND GENTS' FANCY SLIPPERS for the Holidays.

Try BOREHAM for a pair of GOOD BOOTS.

W. R. BOREHAM,

North Side Queen Square.

Ch'town, Dec. 10, 1883.—mo we fr 2m

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

GREAT SALE OF

MEN'S & BOYS' CLOTHING,

—AT—

J. B. MACDONALD'S.

Men's Warm Reefers,	\$3.00
Men's Heavy Warm Reefers,	4.00
Men's Heavy Warm Reefers,	5.00
Men's Extra Heavy Reefers,	6.00

OVERCOATS. OVERCOATS.

Men's Warm Overcoats,	\$4.00
Men's Heavy Warm Overcoats,	5.25
Men's Extra Warm Overcoats,	6.75
Men's Extra Warm Overcoats,	8.60
Men's Superior Custom Made Overcoats,	10.00

Men's Heavy Warm Ulster Coats,	\$5.00
Men's Extra Heavy Ulster Coats,	6.50
Men's Very Heavy,	\$8.00, \$9.00, \$10.00

Boys' Clothing, in great variety and at reduced prices, during the Holidays. Men's and Boys' Warm Underclothing, very cheap. Fur and Cloth Caps, the cheapest to be had. Come one and all to the popular cheap store.

J. B. MACDONALD'S,

Ch'town, Dec. 10, 1883.—2aw wly hor pros

Queen Street,

V. M. C. A.

LECTURE COURSE.

THE Fourth Lecture of the Winter Course, before the Young Men's Christian Association, will be delivered by

L. H. DAVIES, ESQ., M.P.

—BY THE—

Y. M. C. A. HALL,

Thursday Ev'ng, January 3rd,

SUBJECT—"GREAT MEN IN COUNCIL."

Chair to be taken at eight o'clock. Admission ten cents.

HENRY SMITH, Secretary.

Ch'town, Dec 27

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE

THE Subscribers offer for sale by private contract that valuable farm and Business Stand belonging to the Estate of the late Edward Roberson, situate at Belfast, Lot 57.

The farm consists of one hundred acres, about sixty of which are cultivated with a growth of hardwood unequalled in the Province.

There is on the premises, a Dwelling House, Store, Warehouse, large Barn, Horse and Cow Stable, Coach House and other out-buildings, all in good repair.

This property offers great inducements to intending purchasers.

Terms easy and mode known on application to either of the undersigned.

An undoubted title will be given.

GEO. DAVIES, Trustee

ALEX. CAMERON, and Executors

F. L. HASZARD, late E. Roberson.

Ch'town, Dec. 27, 1883.—6i wed wly 2i

STOLEN

FROM the Store of BREMNER BROS., about one week ago, a Volume of MRS. BROWNING'S POEMS, full bound, color Brown, (1st Volume), price \$1; Also, on Christmas Eve, some Fringed Christmas Cards, 3 in particular—Satin Print, padded and perfumed—1 with Child's Head, and 2 with Flowers. A Reward will be given to any one who will give such information as will lead to the discovery of the sneak thief(s).

BREMNER BROS.

Dec. 26, 1883.—3in pat

CHOICE TEAS, VERY CHEAP,

—AT THE—

LONDON HOUSE,

—BY THE—

Chest, Half-Chest and Quarter-Chest,

ALS IN PACKAGES OF

5, 10, 5 AND 26 POUNDS.

Ch'town, Dec. 21, 1883.—1m wed wly

CURLING.

A MEETING of gentlemen interested in forming a Curling Club will be held at the Bank in House, on Saturday evening next. Chair will be taken at eight o'clock. All interested in the "Roar'n' Game" are invited to attend.

Ch'town, Dec. 24.

LONDON HOUSE.

During December we will clear the balance of our Stock of Ladies' Saques and Mantles at a large discount.

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Ch'town, Dec. 10, 1883.—wed 2w wly 3i

SOLE LEATHER.

375 Sides Logan's No. 1 and No. 2, AT BOTTOM PRICES.

FENTON T. NEWBERY.

Dec. 19, 1883.—pat 3i. wly pat hcr j 3

ADVERTISE in the DAILY EXAMINER

Rates moderate.

WANTS, LOST, FOUND, &c.

WANTED.—A Carriage Blacksmith and a Carriage Painter to go to Halifax. To the right parties steady employment and good wages will be given. Address: H. W. L., Dartmouth, N. S., P. O. Box 99. [dec 28 3i]

WANTED TO PURCHASE.—A pair of medium sized Snowshoes (second hand) Apply at this office. [dec 27]

WANTED.—To Lease for a term of years, a Cottage, centrally located. Enquire at this office. [dec 21 4i]

TO LET.—Warehouses to let on Lord's Wharf. Apply to W. W. CLARKE. [dec 20]

TO LET.—Part of House opposite Railway Station. Enquire at this office. [dec 19]

BOARDERS.—Mrs. Robert Rodd, has removed to the house of Mr. C. Hearty, Euston Street, where she can accommodate a number of Boarders, on reasonable terms. [dec 19]