

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

NOVEMBER 25, 1889.

The 'Patriot' and the Land Office.

The discussion of the Land Office matter is kept up by the Patriot. To await the result of an investigation is no part of the Patriot's plan.

There are, however, two or three significant omissions from the list of accusations against the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Nor is it still stated that the Commissioner abandoned the keeping of a daily cash book. To use the picturesque simile of the plain-speaking Presbyterian, that lie too, has been nailed.

One of the Patriot's articles is headed "A Hypocritical Whine." It is rather pleasing than otherwise, to note that the Patriot is lapsing into abuse of THE EXAMINER; for saying "when you have a bad case abuse the opposing attorney," is applicable here.

The Patriot has a bad case which it has managed in a thoughtless and heartless way. It held the report for some weeks. Then, when the Government was in course of reconstruction, it published a highly-sensational article about the defalcations, and laid, not the Hon. Donald Ferguson only, but the late Thomas McKinlay, the late Owen Curtis, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Longworth—every member of the staff of the Land Office under the implication of guilt.

There is a last in man no charm can tame, Of lonely publishing his neighbor's shame, On eagle's wings immortal scandals fly, While virtuous actions are but born to die.

And the Patriot would have allowed the imaginations of the men and women of this Province to run riot with the character of each and every member of the Land Office staff until its purpose of accomplishing the political ruin of the Hon. Donald Ferguson had been accomplished!

It is useless for the Patriot to cry out that it holds the Commissioner "responsible for the loss." The responsibility of the Commissioner does not relieve the members of his staff from the implication which the Patriot had cast upon them—the implication which would have remained upon them but for the interference of THE EXAMINER.

And here let us say that the Patriot has persistently misrepresented the position occupied by the Commissioner of Public Lands. It is not the duty of the Hon. Mr. Ferguson to remain constantly in the office, to count all the cash that comes in and sign all the receipts that go out. If it were so, there would be no need to hold his assistants or other members of his staff under bonds; if it were so, he would have no time to represent the people in the Legislature. Still less is it his duty to act the part of a detective in respect to men who are presumably honest.

The Patriot is anxious to ascertain whether or not the Township Ledgers were audited by the Auditor. There are upwards of seventy (70) so-called "Township Ledgers," containing about six thousand open accounts and a larger number of closed accounts. The examination of these accounts is part of the work of the present Commission. It is an undertaking which no one person could carry out satisfactorily. How long each month would it take one official to check the Ledgers with the Cash Book? And then, after the work had been finished, what guarantee would there be that amounts which should have been credited were not held back? The duties of the Provincial Auditor and Clerk of the Executive Council are multitudinous and onerous. One person is doing exactly the same work as in the years 1876-77-78 and part of 79 was performed by two officials. The same audit as established by an efficient and expert accountant in 1876 has been carefully carried out by the present incumbent.

We do not, however, admit that the system of book-keeping in the Land Office is as perfect as it might be, though the Patriot has quoted the Commissioner of Public Lands as saying (in 1880) that

"there was little to suggest by way of improvement on the system introduced by Mr. Pope." The Patriot is under a misapprehension if it supposes that THE EXAMINER's defence of Mr. Ferguson is "official" and ought necessarily to square with the Commissioner's opinions. In point of fact Mr. Ferguson knew nothing about THE EXAMINER's article in reply to the Patriot's onslaught upon him until after it had been published. A representative of THE EXAMINER went to the Land Office and to the office of the Provincial Auditor, obtained information concerning the defalcations, and straightway gave it to the public. If the Patriot had adopted the same course it would not, perhaps, have made so many mistakes as it has made. It would, at all events, know that the system, whether perfect or imperfect, has been as faithfully carried out under the supervision of the present Commissioner as it was under that of his predecessor.

It would also know that every defalcation discovered before the 31st December last was made good by Mr. Strong's family on that day; and consequently that the Land Office accounts of last year were not improperly certified.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Sewage Wells.

SIR,—Dr. F. P. Taylor has seen proper to criticize my letter quoted by you from the Maritime Medical News. Had he addressed himself to the vital question of the disposal of sewage in this city, and pointed out the best methods, in his opinion, independently of what I may have thought or written on the matter, I would not feel called upon to reply. In that case I would have been quite content to await a rejoinder from your correspondent "Sanitas," who was the first to draw the public attention to the danger of using deep wells as sewers, and who showed such a thorough grasp of the whole matter involved. But seeing that my premises and deductions have been assailed, I cannot but defend them. In doing so I do not intend to enter into the subject just now, farther than to notice some of the assertions and theories of my opponent, and to expose their incorrectness and fallacy.

An assertion—"As regards the question about sinks and sewage drainage, no one would take the trouble to reply, for no one has ever made the affirmation." Early last month the subject of surface drainage was discussed before the city Board of Health and recommended!

Another assertion—"St. John is built on a rock, and has practically no ground water." St. John has "practically" ground water, and used wells as a source of supply previously to the introduction of a system of waterworks. So also has every other city in the Dominion,—not going for the present farther afield.

Another assertion—"that no other city possesses such an efficient system of natural drainage as our city." How? Why? I have shown that the sea and the water in our wells, or in other words, the ground water, are on a level; the statement of which single fact, unless Dr. Taylor can successfully controvert it, proves his assertion to be baseless as the fabric of a vision.

A theory—"They (i. e., wells) always extend to a subterranean running stream," and "you may pour in water as rapidly as you can from your house, and the surface of the water in your well will not rise." And what if does not? Suppose this tube to end in a placid pond or in gravel overlying the ground water, would not the water poured in, obeying the laws of all liquids, run away with equal rapidity? The truth is, strange though it may appear to some of your readers, the velocity of the flow of ground water is never great, and it may be, glacier-like, hardly perceptible. In some places, indeed, it is almost null. It has been asked, if this is so here, how to explain the existence of a copious and rapid stream in the eastern part of the city near the gas works. Would anyone, observing a mill-race, conclude that the water in the pond supplying it, and covering a large area, must be correspondingly rapid? An engine under full steam cannot empty Quirk's pump. The water will lower about two feet below the line of saturation, and its inexhaustibility at that point proves that it has a large drainage area, not that it taps a large stream running uninterruptedly into the sea. No one denies that there are small streamlets here and there, but they are simply links connecting ground waters of different elevations. If these streams were numerous and all flowing to the sea directly, the water would not, as it does now, remain almost stationary in any of our wells, which in itself is a proof of the extreme slowness of ground water movement. Bore a well wherever you choose in our city—may, try every square foot of its surface in succession, and the phenomenon depended upon by Dr. Taylor to prove the existence of running streams will be observed. Is there a stream under every foot of this city? The idea is absurd.

Another theory: "As to the possibility of the hypothetical gases which may form in these subterranean streams escaping through this thirty or forty feet of rock and earth all fear may be abandoned."

It has been demonstrated beyond contradiction that foul air is drawn from great depths, as well as from long distances horizontally, into houses, more especially when they are artificially heated. Dr. Taylor refers to rock and earth as if these were impervious to air and water, and says that "no power exists on or in the earth to force the water back to the surface through the thirty feet of rock and earth." Does he forget capillary attraction? As a matter of fact moisture is drawn during dry weather by the "rock and earth," (capable of holding with us from 30 to 50 per cent. of water) from the ground water to the very surface. I say this advisedly and on unimpeachable authority. When this underground water becomes virtually a vast cess-pool and surcharged with sewage emanations to what condition will our rock and earth be reduced thus attacked by two deadly foes to its purity, the one from below and working upwards, the other from the surface and working downwards? Will it not, in the course of time, become overtaxed and paralyzed?

Will the poisoned air drawn from the ground into our houses fail to do its deadly work? Another theory:—"It has been shown that the water in the deep drainage wells has nothing whatever to do with the rising and falling of the ground water." Where has this been shown? A quarter of a million gallons per day are being poured into this city from the supply well, almost the whole of which is daily added to the ground water. This large volume will have a very appreciable effect in keeping high the level of the ground water to say nothing of its pollution.

Dr. Taylor, comparing his so-called "natural system of drainage by deep wells" with sewerage, says that the former is rapid, while by the latter the "ascent to the sea must be very gradual." I have already shown that the former is slow and uncertain, while the latter is, on the contrary, both rapid and effective. I contend that every year's delay in the construction of sewerage is fraught with danger to the citizens. He maintains the contrary. Personally I am willing to leave the issue to the arbitration of time. While we both aim at the permanent welfare of the community he regards the existing state of things with comparative complacency, and I with apprehension. The whole literature of preventive medicine is arrayed on my side; for the universal verdict is "that the development of a system of sewerage must progress pari passu with that of a public water supply, and that the contrary will lead to demoralization." Dr. Taylor stands, so far as I am aware, alone in his theories—an unequal contest, surely. Therefore, believing as I do, I cannot but regret that he should have given the weight of his name and authority to strengthen local prejudices, and that he has approached this subject apparently without much consideration, certainly without his usual caution and deliberation.

J. M.
November 25, 1889.

"Fenian or no Fenian?"

(Patriot, 23rd.)
We were shown to-day a copy of a royal address presented in 1860, by our old friend, Mr. Duncan McRae, then Captain of the Scotia Volunteer Rifle Company, of Wheatley River, in behalf of his corps, to His Excellency Lieut.-Governor George Dundas. Captain McRae is just as loyal and quite as ready to fight for his Queen as he was then, nearly thirty years ago.

Personal.

Rev. Dr. Doyle, of Summerside, has returned from Baltimore, where he was attending the Catholic Congress.

Mr. A. C. Mills has severed his connection with the Truro Guardian.

The Summerside papers report the death of E. Mawley, proprietor of the Clifton House, that place, which occurred on Friday evening last after a brief illness. He leaves four daughters and one son to mourn their loss.

George L. Wilson, formerly of Chatham, N. S., is in the field as a candidate for mayor of Vancouver, B. C.

A correspondent at Philadelphia says that a young man from the Island, taking his first year's course in the medical department at Pennsylvania University, has become engaged to a handsome Italian lady of the Pan American Congress, who visited the University recently.

One of the papers in Amherst carries its personals along very close lines. It announces for instance, that a couple of ladies at Wallace, N. S., have had their hair cut!

The Chief Justice and Mrs. Sullivan honored Manager Webber with their presence at the Lyceum on Saturday evening last.

THE SEWAGE QUESTION.—We regret that Dr. Blanchard's letter, received this afternoon, is crowded out of to-day's issue. It will appear to-morrow.

Local Notices.

APPELS.—Just received, 239 barrels, chiefly Maine Baldwins, the finest lot in the city. Families supplied at reasonable prices. Inspection invited.—George Carter & Co., Grocers and Seedsmen.
No 25 3i eod.

Inspection invited—Call and see our Maine Baldwin apples. No 25 4i eod
Bran, shorts, oil-cake, cracked feed and stock food for sale in 100 lb. bags at Geo. Carter & Co's. No 25 4i eod.
350 pairs boot tops, the best quality and lowest prices in town. Also, shoefindings, sole leather, and upper leather, at the cheapest prices at the Dominion Boot and Shoe Store. no18 6i
The way of the world.—The way of the world just now is the way that leads to J. B. Macdonald's for cheap clothing and cheap goods of all kinds. nov23 3i

MARRIED.

In the Archbishop's private chapel, Montreal, on the 21st inst., by His Lordship the Right Reverend Bishop McIntyre, of Charlottetown, assisted by Rev. Allan J. Macdonald, of Fort Augustus, John Andrew Macdonald, M. D., eldest son of William Macdonald, Esq., of Panmure Island, to Nellie, daughter of the late Dr. E. Z. Boudreau, Montreal.

DIED.

At his residence, 1024 5th Street, Highlands, North Denver, Colorado, on Nov. 5th, 1889, Robert M. McPhail, in the 33rd year of his age. Deceased was a native of Charlottetown, P. E. I. He leaves a wife and two children to mourn the loss of a kind husband and good father.

At No. 1 Coburg Road, Halifax, Nov. 22d, Wm. Miller, only son of Wm. and Agnes Dennis, aged 17 months.

On the 21st inst., at Bear River Line Road, James Leggett, in the 70th year of his age. Deceased was for a number of years in the employ of the late Sir Dominic Daly, and was one of the oldest Freemasons on the Island, having joined that order on the 8th day of August, 1846.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

HOTEL DAVIES.
Nov 23—A J Craig, Pictou; J M Rutledge, Boston; Chas E Stokes, New York. 25—W Edmonds, Montreal.

OSBORNE HOUSE.
Nov 23—S C Clarke, Mt Stewart; F B Renouf, S'side; W C Kennedy, Geo'town; E M Sippell, St John; O Thibedeau, Montreal; Turner Berry, Portland, Me.

The Best Record.—For selling good quality boots, shoes and rubbers at cheapest prices, we have distanced all our competitors at the Dominion Boot and Shoe Store. nov19 6i

Lyceum, Charlottetown.

Boston Comedy Company.

H. PRICE WEBBER, Manager.

This (Monday) Evening, Nov. 25th.

The Beautiful Irish Drama,

KATHLEEN MAVOURNEEN,

And the Laughable Farce,

THE SECRET.

Change of Programme Nightly.

Admission, 25 cents. Reserved Seats, 35 cents. Tickets for sale at usual place. Doors open at 7.15. Overture at 8. nov25

New Firm.

WE have rented the premises lately occupied by Mr. J. J. Seaman, Prince Street, and will continue the same business under the firm name of HARRIS & BLAKE. We have purchased the good will of his business, and having had several years' experience, are now prepared to carry on Carriage Building in all its branches, and feel confident of keeping up the reputation of the old factory.

EDWARD HARRIS, GEORGE BLAKE.

Referring to the above, I desire to thank the public for the liberal patronage which I received while in business, and solicit for the new firm a continuance of the same.

J. J. SEAMAN.

nov25—dy 1w wky 1m

APPLES.

Wednesday, November 27th.

AT 10.30 O'CLOCK,

WE will continue our sale of RIBSTON PIPPINS, and positively close out the balance of the lot.

50 barrels Ribstons. Also—60 barrels of our own extra choice winter fruit, which we will sell from samples. Lots for the trade.

E. H. NORTON & CO.,
nov25—2i Auctioneers.

FURNITURE, &c.

BY AUCTION,

AT MY SALESROOM,

To-morrow, Tuesday, 26th inst.,

AT 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.,

New and Second-hand Parlor and Bedroom Sets, Sideboards, Hall Stands, Parlor Tables, Pictures, etc., etc.

Also—Hall and Parlor Stoves, etc.

G. M. HARRIS,
nov25 Auctioneer.

CAUTION.

I HEREBY CAUTION all persons against negotiating for the purchase of a note of mine in favor of Ronald Steele for \$250.00, as I have received no value for same.

MICHAEL STEELE.
Tracadie Cross, Nov. 25, 1889—dlj wji pd

S. S. "COILA."

SHIPERS of Flour and other freight will take notice that this Steamer will sail FROM BOSTON for this port (and Summerside, weather permitting), on

Saturday, 23rd Instant,

Leaving here FOR BOSTON on

Saturday, 30th Instant,

carrying Potatoes, Eggs, &c., at reasonable rates.

Dates of last trip will be given later.

D. FARQUHARSON & SON.

Ch'town, Nov. 18, 1889—dy 3aw wky

A COOK BOOK FREE

By mail to any lady sending us her post office address. Wells, Richardson & Co., Montreal.

Bran, Oil Cake, Shorts, &c.

NOW IN STOCK:

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF FEEDING STUFF, i.e. Bran, Shorts, Oil Cake, Batchford's Stock Food, Calf Meal, Flax Seed, Manhattan Stock Food, Poultry Feed, Crushed Oats, Crushed Oats and Barley mixed, etc. For sale low in bags of 100 lbs. each, or smaller lots if desired.

Land Plaster.

Finely ground Land Plaster is the best absorbent for stables. It should also be mixed with and sprinkled over heaps of manure in the field or barnyard. It prevents the escape of ammonia, and the heap never becomes fire-fanged. Progressive farmers should consider this fact.

For sale in barrels of about 330 lbs. each. Price on application.

GEO. CARTER & CO.,
Seedsmen and Grocers.

Charlottetown, Nov. 21, 1889.

ALL OUR FUR GOODS... Astracan Jackets, No. 1 Quality; Beaver Capes, Astracan Capes and Nutria Capes; Bous, all kinds and prices; Mitts, an immense stock; Gentlemen's Driving Gloves, Fur Caps and Mitts. DRESS GOODS—A very large range; latest novelties. Ladies' Hats and Millinery Goods, Kid Gloves, Cashmere Gloves, Hosiery, etc.; Silks and Plushes; Grey, Red and White Flannels, very cheap; Blankets and Quilts, extra value. A very large stock of Mourning Goods; Courtauld's Crapes, celebrated for elegance of finish and durability.—STANLEY BROS., Brown's Block.

AUCTION SALE

Horses, Cows, Pigs, &c.

I WILL SELL BY AUCTION, at my Farm, Keppoch, Lot 48,

On Monday, 2nd December,

AT 11 O'CLOCK, A. M.,

ALL MY STOCK AND CROP,

—CONSISTING OF—

1 Mare (11 years), 1 Go. (11 years, by Abdallah), 1 do. (5 years, by Messenger), 1 do. (3 years, by Harry), 1 Horse (Abel), 2 Horses (2 years, Percheron), 1 Administrator Colt, dam by Abdallah, 1 Barrister Filly, 6 Jersey Cows (registered), 2 Grade Jersey Cows, 4 Heifers, 1 Jersey Bull (4 years, registered), 1 Bull (2 years, registered), 16 Pigs, 50 tons Hay, 2 barrels Oats, lot Straw, Potatoes and Turnips, 1 English Basket Wagon, 2 Dog Carts (by McPhail), 1 Double Vis-a-vis.

Terms made known at sale.

WILLIAM WELSH,
nov18—tl sde

THE Musical Headquarters

OF P. E. ISLAND.

—IS AT—

FLETCHER'S.

THE "BELL" PIANOS we have recently sold to His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Carvell and others in the city have given the utmost satisfaction.

THE "BELL" ORGANS need no puffing. The fact that we have sold over Twelve Hundred (which is over double the number of that of any other make sold) on the Island, is sufficient proof of their superiority over all others.

TESTIMONIAL FROM PROF. EARLE.
CH'TOWN, P. E. I., Aug. 26th, 1888.

MR. C. P. FLETCHER.

DEAR SIR.—The many scores of Bell Organs which I have had the pleasure of testing, have given me the utmost satisfaction. They possess excellent qualities of tone and touch, and the general workmanship is first-class. Having been organist of St. Paul's for 22 years, and during all that time teaching the piano and organ to upwards of 400 persons in town and country, experience has taught me that Canada has turned out an organ which, for qualities referred to above, and durability, is hard to excel.

S. N. EARLE,
Teacher of Piano, Organ and Singing.

Always on hand, a full line of VIOLINS, ACCORDEONS, CONCERTINAS, FLUTES, and all other small musical instruments.

Best Quality Violin Strings.

Sheet Music and Music Books,

and general MUSICAL GOODS of every description.

As we buy all for cash, we can sell low.

PIANOS, ORGANS and SEWING MACHINES sold on terms to suit everybody.

JOHN WILKINSON, Agent at Alberton
T. C. P. YEO, Agent at Summerside.

C. P. FLETCHER.
Ch'town, Nov. 16, 1889—cod & wky tf

AN INTERESTING ITEM.

NEARLY all our stock of XMAS GOODS is in and opened. Our Ladies' and Gentlemen's Solid Leather Dressing and Jewel Cases were bought in Germany. The bulk of our Party Goods have been bought for cash from Silber & Fleming, London. We ask the public to call and compare these goods with the cheap trash of auction sales that may be conducted during the holidays.

REDDIN BROS.
nov21—2w dy

FOR SALE.

A SMALL-SIZE GURNEY BOILER, in good condition. Also, a good mahogany Desk, suitable for an office. Apply to

WILLIAM HEARD,
nov21—1f

AUCTION SALE

—OF A—

House and Lot on Sydney Street, in Charlottetown.

THE undersigned is instructed by the Executors of the Estate of the late George Bruce, deceased, to sell by Auction, on the premises, in Charlottetown,

On Friday, 29th November,

AT 12 O'CLOCK, NOON,

All that Dwelling House and piece of Land on Sydney Street, Charlottetown, formerly owned and occupied as a residence by the late George Bruce, having a front of 53 feet on Sydney Street, and extending back 80 feet, and is part of Town Lot Number Seven, in the Second Hundred of Town Lots.

The House is in good condition, and the property is a valuable one.

For particulars as to title, etc., apply at the office of Stewart & MacNeill, Solicitors, Charlottetown.

ROBERT BEAIRSTO,
nov20—dy eod Auctioneer.