

House of Assembly.

FRIDAY, April 2.

Mr. Henderson alluded to the necessity of complying with the prayer of a petition from certain of his constituents, asking for a sum of money to improve the shipping wharf known as Aitken's Wharf. Mea and horses were in danger of being washed off that wharf at shipping seasons, for want of a small expenditure. It was well known to Hon. members that there was no public wharf at Montague Bridge, the want of which caused that bridge to be very much injured. As to the ferry, or Peters' wharf, a public meeting was held by the people interested in that matter, at which he and his colleague were present, and the decision of the whole meeting (excepting one or two dissenting voices) was, that the old wharf should be repaired, and not that a new site taken. Why the Government should have decided against the views of the people in that matter, he knew not, but he felt confident some under influence had been used.

Mr. Prowse supported the remarks made by his hon. colleague, and said that the desire of the people, expressed at the public meeting alluded to, was, with one or at most two exceptions, to extend and improve Peters' wharf. If the Government intended, as he understood, to procure a site for a new wharf at the end of the sand beach, a breastwork would have to be built and a right of way purchased at no small expense. It was also the opinion of good judges that a wharf on such an exposed site could not stand against the action of the sea, and that also the ice, in breaking up, would press against that wharf, rendering it liable to be carried off however well supported.

The Attorney General said that it would be the province of the Board of Works to settle all such difficulties as existed touching the building and repairing of wharves, with which it was impossible for the Government to be fully cognisant. There was no official grant provided for Aitken's wharf, but £150 were provided for the purpose of entering into contract for a new wharf at the site alluded to by the hon. member (Mr. Prowse), and £50 were voted for cutting the road asked for at High-bank. Those sums were in addition to such allowance as the members for the district could spare from their general appropriations.

Mr. Laird presented a bill to amend the act relating to weights and measures. He said the alterations sought for were to provide for the buying or selling of potatoes or turnips by weight or measure, and that the weight, per bushel, of such articles should be specified.

The bill to empower the government to expend thirty thousand pounds in the purchase of lands was read a second time and agreed to.

House in committee, to consider the advisability of placing at the disposal of the government the sum of five thousand pounds, for building a new post office and public building in Charlottetown.

The Attorney General said the resolution before the committee involved the expenditure of a large sum of money, and should call forth a discussion. He adverted to the inefficient state of the present post office, and said that the Government felt that they would be considered guilty of a neglect of duty if they did not take steps towards the securing a more suitable place for the post office and customs department. He also spoke of the insecure condition, in case of fire, of the prophetic and registry offices, where the valuable records of the colony were kept.

Tuesd. 3, April 6.

House in Committee on the Bill to amend the Law relating to Felony.

Hon. Mr. Haviland, introducer of the Bill, explained the amendments contemplated to be made on the Statute touching the prevention of the crimes referred to. The utmost extent to which parties guilty of inflicting injuries on any person or persons, could be punished was two years imprisonment, which was altogether inadequate when the crimes committed were of an aggravated character.

The bill provides that if any person shall unlawfully or maliciously administer poison, or shall attempt to take life by drowning, suffocating, or strangling, or shall shoot at any person, or by drawing a trigger or in any other manner attempt to discharge any kind of loaded arms on any person, or shall attempt to stab, cut, or wound, or maim, or disfigure, or disable, or to kill, or maim, or disfigure, or disable, or to injure, or shall maliciously, by the explosion of gunpowder or any other explosive substance, destroy or damage the whole or any part of any dwelling house or any other building with intent to endanger the life of any person, shall be, by the provisions of said Bill, guilty of felony, and shall be liable to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding twenty-one years, and also if a male, to be once, twice or three publicly or privately whipped, if the Court before whom such offender shall be tried shall think fit in addition to such sentence of imprisonment. The Bill also provides that every person convicted of manslaughter shall be liable to be imprisoned with or without hard labor, for any term not exceeding twenty-one years. And also that any material witness in a case punishable by death, shall be required to enter into recognisance to appear in the Court and give evidence in such cases, and in default of giving such recognisance the Judge of said Court may commit such witness to Jail until said trial shall be finally ended.

Hon. Attorney General supported the amendment submitted by the Hon. Mr. Haviland, and also submitted the additional amendments thereto, touching the retention and recognisance of witnesses in cases of an important nature, involving punishment by death.

After some remarks on the necessity of preventing sailors from carrying knives when on shore, the Bill, as amended, was reported agreed to.

Mr. Sinclair, chairman of the Committee appointed to report on Salmon culture, presented the report of said Committee, to the effect that from substantial information received from settlers on banks of rivers, Salmon frequented several of those rivers which formed suitable spawning grounds; that from the fact that Salmon were chased and destroyed during spawning season, by parties setting nets, and spearing by torch light, the said fish were scattered and destroyed, and prevented from spawning and accumulating in our rivers; that if Salmon fishing were properly protected during Spawning Season, it would soon be so improved as to become a useful and profitable source of wealth to the Colony. The Committee concluded their report by recommending the passing of an Act for more fully protecting our Salmon fisheries.

Said report was adopted, and a Committee appointed to bring in a Bill in conformity therewith.

EXECUTION OF DOWEY.

(From the Patriot, April 10.)

On Tuesday last, George Dowe, who was convicted, at the last Hilary Term of the Supreme Court, of the murder of John Cullen, suffered the extreme penalty of the law. During his imprisonment, the Protestant clergymen of the city, and several ladies and gentlemen, were unremitting in ministering to his spiritual wants, and no people could have been kinder and more attentive to the prisoner, than were Mr. Harvie and his family. On Monday, he commenced writing a history of his life, which he completed on the morning of his death. He arranged all his worldly affairs with the most minute attention as to details. He packed up his clothes and put them and the balance of his wages carefully in his trunk for his wife and mother, to each of whom he wrote an affectionate farewell letter. He desired to be remembered to some old friends in Dublin, whom he named, and consoled his poor mother with the assurance that though in a few hours she would have no son on earth, she would have one in heaven, where he hoped they would meet to part no more. In his devotions he never failed to pray earnestly for the welfare of Mrs. Cullen and the children whom his hand had deprived of a father. On Monday night the Rev. Mr. Panther (Episcopalian) was with him from 8 o'clock to 11, and the Rev. Messrs. Pope and Perkins (Presbyterian) remained for upwards of an hour more. After they left him, he slept well until daylight, when he got up, and, at the usual hour, ate a hearty breakfast. Between 11 and 12 o'clock he took a lunch. The Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, Rector of St. Paul's, together with the Rev. Messrs. Pope and Perkins also visited the prisoner early on Tuesday morning. Just before leaving the jail, one of these gentlemen, overcome with grief, was unable to restrain his emotions, Dowe took a pocket handkerchief, wiped the tears from his face, and said, "Do not weep for me, for I shall shortly be in a better world." At 12 he emerged, baredheaded, from his cell, and leaning upon Mr. Fitzgerald's arm, walked towards the scaffold, which he mounted with a firm and elastic step. Seated on a chair, he began at once to read the history of his life, which he did in a clear and unflinching tone, until he came to speak of his mother, when a slight tremor in his voice was perceptible. No man on the scaffold was more tranquil and self-possessed than the prisoner. He displayed no unmanly fear; no tear moistened his cheek; no murmur escaped his lips; while his conduct was in all respects free from anything like bravado, or assumed indifference to his fate. On the contrary, he was calm and resigned, and so far as man can judge, met his death with the hope and fortitude of a sinner and penitent Christian who felt in his happy experience that God had pardoned his sins. On the scaffold Mr. Fitzgerald offered up a solemn and appropriate prayer, in which the culprit joined, after which he himself fervently and aloud prayed for some minutes. He then bade farewell to the Rev. Messrs. Fitzgerald, Pope and Perkins, and to the sheriff, prison Doctor, jailer, the hangman (who was masked) and all present. When the noose was adjusted, the unfortunate man stepped smartly forward to the drop. The bolt was withdrawn, but the rope breaking, he fell to the ground, a distance of fifteen feet. He was picked up immediately, and carried back to jail, where he remained for an hour, while a new rope was being procured. During the interval, though he must have suffered great pain, he uttered not a whisper of complaint, but devoted himself to prayer and praise to God. Under the impression at first, like many in the crowd, that the requirements of the law had been complied with, he exclaimed that was an interposition of Providence, and concluded that he was not to be executed after all; but when carried out again to the scaffold, he never murmured or repined. And now another mishap occurred. The cleft to which the rope was fastened, gave way, and the prisoner, who was almost unconscious, a second time reached the ground from which he had to be drawn up by the executioner and his assistants. He died without a struggle, his hands clasped in front of his body, and his wife and mother's photograph pinned to his breast. When life was extinct, he was cut down, put in a coffin, and placed in his cell until 8 o'clock on Wednesday morning, when he was interred in the Protestant burying ground. Several persons attended the funeral, and the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald read the burial service at the grave.

The sketch of his life, which Dowe read to the assembled crowd, fills eight closely written pages. It is all in his own handwriting, and the spelling and grammatical construction conclusively prove that the production is altogether his own. Though lacking scholarly finish, it bears the impress of a clear and vigorous intellect. As the sketch is intended for publication in tract form, we do not wish to injure its sale by reproducing it verbatim. Our readers must, therefore, for the present, be content with a general outline of the prisoner's dying statement, according to his own account he was born in Montreal; his father died when he was a mere lad; his mother resides in Dublin, where, after eight years absence, he visited her last summer, and made the acquaintance of a very respectable young woman, whom he married a fortnight before he left Liverpool for P. E. Island. He was always of a wild and reckless disposition, and from his youth upward, impatient of parental control, to which he attributes the errors of his after years. When old enough, he was sent to learn a trade, but of liking his situation, he ran away. He worked in a factory for a while, and shipped on board a steamer. Leaving her, he sailed from Boston to Charlottetown for three or four years. He then went to London, and from thence he made a voyage to the Mediterranean. After that, he sailed between Liverpool, New York and New Orleans. At the commencement of the American war, he shipped on board a Northern man-of-war, in which he acted in the capacity of master-at-arms. Having received his discharge from the United States Naval service, he came to P. E. Island, where he made the acquaintance of Flora McQuarrie. As a sailor, at sea or in port, there was no sin of which he was not guilty. He knew and cared very little for religion. Having described the places which sea-faring men visit when on shore, and the dens of infamy which abound in Liverpool, London, New York, Boston and New Orleans, he besought his friends to shun taverns and houses of ill-fame. These haunts lead many to destructions. He spoke of the time when he was a young, smart ship steward, and if any of his hearers recognized him, he hoped they would avoid the obscene songs and ribald jests in which they once joined him. But, said he, you my friends being neither drunkards nor murderers, may not require my advice. I was never a drunkard; and until lately, I was not a murderer. He then referred to his gay and thoughtless shipmates, who left here just fall in the Clara Novella, and were all in a moment summoned. It may be, unprepared, to meet their God, while he, as great a sinner, was allowed time to repent. It is not mentioned in the sketch of his life, but he related to one of his hearers, how he had been providentially saved from being drowned several years ago. He signed articles in Halifax, and received part of his run money. He went to the Bank to change some notes, and before he got back they had landed his box and put to sea. In ten days, the vessel and all hands were lost. He also spoke of the night of the murder. He had been at McQuarrie's, and taken some drink. It affected his head, and he was in a state of jealousy, and provoked by insults of which he was the subject thought nothing at any other time, he drew the fatal knife, which entered between the fourth and fifth ribs. The devil directed into

the man's heart, and made him (Dowe) a murderer. He expressed his deep regret for the deed he had committed. He took a new moral life, and was prepared to give the only reparation in his power by making up his own life in return. He also alluded to his acquaintance with Flora McQuarrie. He kept her company last fall without telling her he was married. After she discovered this fact, and he was arrested, Miss McQuarrie, from a feeling of revenge, testified against him, and if she had told all she knew, it would, in his opinion, have reduced his crime to manslaughter. But he freely forgave her, and hoped God would forgive her, too. He spoke of his feelings in prison, and said that after his conviction, he thought of doing away with himself, but by God's help, he was enabled to abandon the wicked idea. Having addressed a solemn warning to parents and children, to young men and girls, as to their duties and responsibilities, he thanked the Judge, Jury and crown officers, for their courtesy and kindness to him, to the jailer and his family; to the constables who attended him since his sentence; to the ministers of religion who took so deep an interest in his spiritual and temporal welfare; and to his attorneys, for their advocacy of his case in court, and for their exertions to save his life, he acknowledged his sincere and heartfelt obligations.

The spectators began to assemble in the Jail yard about 10 o'clock. There were from 1000 to 1500 persons present; among them were a number of women who would have showed more good sense and feeling had they remained at home mending their business. The conduct of the people, however, orderly, and we saw nothing approaching rowdiness or glibation on the ground. A detachment of 20 men from the Irish Rifles, Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward Companies, under Capt. McIntyre, were drawn up in line in front of the gallows, and acted with the precision and firmness of regular soldiers. When, under a momentary impulse, a cry of rescue was raised, the volunteers faced right about bayonets, and prevented a rash being made.

A good deal of blame having been sought to be cast upon the authorities here, for not exercising the prerogative of mercy in the prisoner's behalf, and different and conflicting versions of Earl Granville's Despatches being in circulation, we therefore think it our duty to lay these documents before the public. The first was in reply to Dowe's appeal to Her Majesty for a commutation of his sentence. It is dated Sackville, 5th March, and reads thus:—

Pardon from the prisoner Dowe for commutation of sentence laid before the Queen, but Her Majesty could not be advised to interfere with the due course of law.

EARL GRANVILLE, London. Subsequently another petition, signed by several Ministers of the Gospel, four of the jurors who tried the case, five members of the bar, a majority of both branches of the Legislature, and about four hundred others, was presented to His Honor the Administrator, who, conceiving justly, as we think, that the foregoing despatch from Earl Granville left him no discretion in the matter, declined to comply with the prayer of the petitioners. A telegram was immediately forwarded to Mr. Bright, acquainting him with these facts, and asking him to get the prisoner respited until the last mentioned petition could be forwarded to the Queen, to which the Colonial Ministers replied as follows:—

After consultation, I see no ground for interfering with the ordinary course of law. EARL GRANVILLE, Colonial Office, April 3, 12 at night.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "GIFT COMPANY" EXPOSED.

NEW YORK, March 24, 1869.

Mr. Editor: By a copy of the Journal which I received yesterday, I see that the wonderful "Gift Enterprise" bubble has burst, and the expectations of those who were cherishing the idea of becoming suddenly rich, by a favorable turn of the wheel of fortune, have been cruelly dashed to the earth, and the problem is solved, which before seemed inexplicable, and which no one would have dreamed of. The "Gift Enterprise" was a company organized in New York, and not only incur no loss, but by some success not known to the uninitiated, make a good living by the "speciality."

Impelled partly by curiosity, and partly by a profound sympathy for the victims whose prospects were thus blighted, I determined to visit Parker, Moore & Co., 195 Broadway, and state the grievances of a large number of my countrymen, and ask for redress. But on arriving at the location referred to, I was not much surprised to find that no such firm was doing business there; neither could I find the names in the City Directory. There are, however, a number of cheap jewelry stores there, where the unwary are daily swindled out of their greenbacks, something after the fashion which some of your readers already know. I am informed that this is a notorious place, the "firms" changing their "style and name" as often as occasion demands, and I have no doubt that the quondam managers of the "Gift Enterprise" are now lurking under some other assumed name, and probably "astounding the natives" with their financial calculations, in some other section of the globe; and as "all the fools ain't dead yet," we infer that P. M. & Co. will flourish for some time to come.

I then went to the Herald office to ascertain if the complimentary notice which was quoted in their advertisement was genuine or not. I was informed by one of the editors of the Herald that it was a base fraud, and that they never referred to that or any other gift enterprise company, except to denounce them as infamous scoundrels, and to warn the public against them. I also went to the Tribune office, with the same result, and on reference to their files, I saw that the Weekly Tribune was not published at all on the date from which the alleged extract was taken, that is, is not a monthly paper, but a daily one, and the cunning of the knave, to avoid any action against them.

Experience is sometimes a good teacher, and when a good lesson can be purchased for the nominal sum of 25 cents, it may not have been over dear, if it would forever convince the scholar that there is no sudden way of becoming rich, for wealth, and everything else worth having, must be won by honest endeavor and patient striving in our respective callings, wherever our lot may be cast. No firm could afford to pay Broadway rents by the "Gift Enterprise" plan, as it would have to take some short-cut to wealth. As reasonable people expect him to minutely examine the goods and prices of a merchant who advertised to sell cheaper than his neighbors; or, on a hotel being started in some remote place, at which "the very best of liquors" were said to be "always on hand," expect the editor to make it his business to go and examine their quality before admitting the hotel keepers' card to his paper; or, on his falling to do this, to hold him accountable for the evil results, and to denounce individuals who imbibed some "tangle-foot," which proved to be "no better than it might be."

I will just say, by way of winding up, that no one who ever invests any of his hard-

earned money in swindling "enterprises" of whatever kind, will richly deserve the loss of the money he so carelessly invests, and will also be held morally responsible for contributing to the support of a crowd of charlatans and thieves, who are too lazy to work for an honest livelihood.

TYFO.

Mr. Editor:— I believe that I will but give utterance to the opinion of the solid and respectable men of Prince Edward Island, when I state that those Annexation sheets, the Charlottetown North Star and the Summerside Progress, are a disgrace to our country. I am happy to be expected to suffice the counterpane of the catalogue of papers taken by certain of the literary institutions of Charlottetown. In other societies where it is still retained, the Editor would be highly flattered could he see the withering annotations written upon his contemptible paper. And if it were not impossible for one who has reduced himself to the position of a panderer to the American nation, to blush, a perceptible crimson might be expected to suffuse the counterpane of any Annexation editor, were he permitted to enter good society long enough to hear its opinion of him.

Such base and extraordinary attempts as have lately been put forth by the Summerside Progress to undermine the loyalty of this good Colony, and to tamper with the sound understanding of its people, are impertinent and intolerable. Weak, superficial eulogies of the American public, have been served up with whitewash sauce, ad nauseum. A country where the off-scourings of European countries have congregated in a vast sink of corruption, where the vilest men are exalted, and where the most malignant and insensate hatred of everything British prevails, is continually thrust by Messrs. Kirwan and Ross upon the attention of Prince Edward Island as a country worthy of her choice. Such direct and studied insults to the good sense of the people, merit severe rebuke. This country begs to assure the mob of America, through its two agents and representatives, that whatever its executive and judiciary department, dependent, as it is, on the will of the mob, is permeated with unbridled corruption. Murder is seldom punished, and a mob of ruffians, armed with the deadliest weapons, can rule for days any great town in the Union. The morals of the Senate, a body which ought to be the most dignified in the nation, may be understood by the following extract from the Chicago Herald, a paper which has long advocated the cause of the now ruling party, and is forced to expose the depravity of its public men:—

"I propose to call their attention to another subject, to another abuse, to which is left open to the religious sentiment of the country, they might attend. Immediately outside the left hand entrance to the senate, looking from the Vice-President's desk toward the main doorway of the chamber, is an elegant apartment. It is handsomely gilded and frescoed; elegant carpets cover the floor; luxurious arm chairs and lounges are numerous, and everything invites to repose and quiet abandon. It is the reception room of the Senate. It is easy of access from the chamber. This room is notoriously the greatest assignation place in Washington. They are attired in the most costly furbies, diamonds and lace, and the latest fashions. Senators do not hesitate to come from their seats and the work of legislation at their bidding. The officers of the Senate know them, or if they do not, they ought to; but instead of being debaters, they are allowed to go to play their vocations in the very Capitol of the nation. I do not say that all the ladies who go there are of this character—but I do say that in the course of a single day more than a score of this class of people are to be found in that room."

In the last issue of the Progress is an extract from the New York Sun, entitled "More reasons why the British Provinces should join the United States." This article is characterized by the usual superficial sneering style of the American mob editors. Doubtless, in the opinion of Mr. Kirwan, it contains "cogent and unanswerable" reasons for our separation from the British Empire. One of its propositions is, that England cannot defend her Colonies in case of a war with the Yankees. Now, in all human probability, England will maintain her Empire intact as long, and a little longer, than the unwieldy Republic will succeed in propping together its loose and crumbling proportions. The rancorous hatred which exists between the North and South, between the Republican and Democratic parties of the country, is perfectly inconceivable to one who is familiar with the leading papers of America. Already the South, writing in the brutal grasp of the North, is acknowledging that "English tyranny would be better than this!" The first note of the English war clarion will be the signal for another desperate struggle in the South. And if the fierce gallantry of the South is just enough for the sickly, sentimental, and just-buffed-butcher-motors, soldiers of Yankeeedom, they may reckon that the sterner spirit of the British Northmen of these Provinces is not very much excited over the threatening, blustering articles of the New York Sun. Enough, then, of this eternal rhodomontade concerning the American nation. If it be a matter of war, we are not careful to answer Messrs. Kirwan, Derby and Co., any further than to hint to such of them as have taken up their residence among us, that the first breath of war between the two countries will, in all probability, somewhat circumscribe their liberties.

YOUNG P. E. ISLAND. April 6th, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR:— As the subject of Light Houses has been brought before the notice of the public, over the signature of "A Sea-Captain," a few hints from another "experienced" seaman may be of some service to the public.

First, all the lights placed around the Island are first and white lights, when at least one-half of them should be of different kinds. Vessels coming in from sea on the North Side, find it very difficult to distinguish Malpeque and Cascumpec lights from the lights of American fishermen, as their lights are very large and brilliant, and even they find it very difficult to distinguish the North Cape light from theirs. Now I would mention a few matters of most importance, and where I consider they are most required. In the first place, Malpeque should have a red light, Cascumpec a white flash-light, North Cape a five-minutes revolving white light, and if over there should be a light placed on the West Cape, it ought to be a red one, then I will say my light money with satisfaction, so that it may be easily distinguished from Richibucto Head light. The Block light should be red, and the East Point light should be red. Now, if the lights of the Island were of the several kinds, and arranged as this letter requires, it would be more satisfaction for vessels to pay one shilling instead of six-pence per ton; but even if the lights were thus arranged, I consider six-pence per ton to be an exorbitant charge, for vessels go to New Brunswick or Nova Scotia, all they have to pay is two cents per ton. I feel confident that if the Hon. Mr. Howland would inquire of the several lights, as to whether there should be a revolving light placed on the North Cape, they would all ag-

ree in the affirmative. I might refer to several of the other lights around the Island, but as I consider that those I have referred to will suffice on my part, for the present, I will leave the others to be noticed by other seamen belonging to the Island. I cannot but feel indebted to Mr. McMillan, Member for Summerside, for introducing the matter into the House of Assembly, and also to those who spoke favorably on the matter.

Yours, &c.,

A MARINER.

Stanley Bridge, New London, April 6, '69.

Port Hill Debating Society.

On Wednesday evening last, Mr. Thomas H. Pope delivered a Lecture on "Agriculture," in which some good and valuable hints were thrown out to our Island farmers. The audience was not quite so numerous as at the previous lectures, owing to the bad state of the roads; but those who were absent missed a treat of no ordinary kind. Mr. Pope showed by the delivery of his lecture, that he had given due attention to the subject. All who heard, felt a desire and a sincere wish to hear such another lecture. Hugh A. Ramsay, Esq., proposed, and Mr. J. W. Richards seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Pope, which was carried by acclamation.

THOS. MURPHY, Sec'y.

Port Hill, April 9, 1869.

LECTURE.—According to announcement, a Lecture was delivered at the Granville School House on Wednesday evening, the 7th inst., by A. G. C. McIntosh, Teacher, to a large and respectable audience. Subject—"Intemperance a source of prolific crimes." At the close of the lecture, which occupied nearly two hours, a vote of thanks was accorded to the learned lecturer for the able manner in which he treated the subject.—Com.

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1869.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents as a guaranty of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

NEWS SUMMARY.

THE news from Home is unimportant. The debate upon the Irish Church Bill closed on the night of the 23rd March. The majority for Government was slightly larger than had been expected, counting up 118. The third reading of the Brazilian Slave trade Bill, and some formal business, completed the labors of Parliament until after the Easter recess. Meanwhile, very high runs the feeling for and against the great Disestablishment Bill. On one side it is argued, justice to Ireland demands that it become law. On the other, and not without reason, it is said that while "Gladstone's robbery" might not do much injury to the rich, it would prove a curse to poor sections and rural districts, where the people would be utterly unable, by voluntary efforts, to support a religious establishment. Semi-heathenism, in many parts of Ireland among the poor, is accordingly predicted, or at best the establishment of missionary operations, such as are being carried out among Hottentots and Indians. The voluntary system has many advantages, and it has also many disadvantages; witness the half-starved condition of many clergymen in America.

Strange mismanagement has occurred in the matter of the Atlantic Mail contracts with Messrs. Cunard and Iman. These expired on the 2nd April present, and owing to the Easter adjournment, no prompt and satisfactory action can be taken. The advocates of free trade are meanwhile maintaining that the ordinary traffic and postages are sufficient to maintain the mail steamers. The question of ocean penny postage would be involved in this arrangement, and we see that Mr. McIver, though he would be very glad to see the cheap postage experiment tried, yet declined, on the part of the Cunard Company, to have it tried at their expense. Retrenchment on the part of the British Government, in the matter of Ocean Mail Service, appears to us a penny-wise and pound-foolish idea. In case of complications suddenly arising with America, the value of regular subsidized Royal Mail Steamers would be incalculable.

A special meeting of the Hudson's Bay Company was held on the 24th ult., to consider proposals of Earl Granville, in reference to the transfer of the Company's territory to the Dominion of Canada. The chief points are the payment of £300,000 security for the maintenance of trade, and the right to obtain one-twentieth part of the saleable lands of the country. This would be about 8,000,000 acres, the whole of the "Fertile Belt" of the North-west Territory being calculated at 160,000,000 acres. This is an age of progress. Petty rights, when obstructing vast interests and philanthropic enterprises, are being gently edged out of the way. Witness the late Electoral Reform in England, the firm, quiet tone of the Home Authorities towards the Repealers of Nova Scotia, and the gradual emancipation of our Island lands from proprietary thral. The anxiety of the Mother Country for the welfare and future progress of her North American son, may be learned from the correspondence of the Government on the Hudson Bay Company question. Sir Frederick Rogers, on behalf of Downing Street, says:—"It is no small matter that it would enable Her Majesty's Government at once to annex to the Dominion the whole of British America proper, except the Colony of British Columbia."

Some short time ago, the Great Luxembourg Railway Company entered upon a negotiation to transfer its line to the Eastern Railway Company of France. This excited alarm in Belgium, and a bill was hastily passed to enable the Government to veto such transactions. This gave great offence in France, but fortunately the difficulty has been arranged. The only "war" was that between the French and Belgian journals, which abuse each other as soundly as if they were members of the Prince Edward Island press.

From the American Republic we have scanty gleanings. Rather curious are the remarks of the press on Annexation matters. The Boston Pilot says:—"The thirst for more territory appears to be on the increase; and our leading politicians

seem to think that we can digest, in our capacious stomach, an illimitable number of adjacent islands and outlying territory. They are as greedy as gluttons, and as ravenous as wolves, for Canada, Nova Scotia, and Sonora, as well as for Cuba, San Domingo, Porto Rico, and other of the Antilles group, in the Gulf of Mexico.—They never reflect that a nation is a good deal like a huge oak, that, with all its strength, is liable to be broken down when the branches are too wide-spread, and too heavy for the parent stem."

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

In another part of to-day's paper will be found the Legislative Summary up to the 6th instant. On the 7th, the report of the Committee on the Pauper Scales was submitted and agreed to. A Bill to amend the Unfortunate Debtor's Act was submitted and read. The amendment makes the amount of liabilities, in order to claim the protection of the court, £300 instead of £100; and also extends the time of notice to be given to 6 months. The Bill authorising the Government to raise £10,000 for public works was agreed to. Part of that sum is to be expended in erecting public buildings in Charlottetown, and the balance for public improvements throughout the country. It ought to be equally divided between Prince and King's Counties. The Bill to incorporate the New Glasgow Temperance Hall Company was introduced. The amendment to the Capital Punishment Act went through its final stage. Hon. Mr. Hensley submitted a resolution adding to the Land Assessment rates throughout the Island to the extent of an additional tax of one-half more than that now levied by law. He also submitted a Resolution to the effect that the Revenue Bill of last year be continued for the current year, with an alteration to the effect that 11 per cent ad valorem duty be charged on every £100 currency, value on all goods heretofore liable to ten per cent only. He also suggested the propriety of reducing the duty on wine. Mr. Howland directed attention to the necessity of causing Kerosene Oil to be inspected and tested when imported. This will be like the flour inspection act—a humbug. House in committee of supply, and the usual allowance granted to the Legislatures. Hon. Mr. Haviland remarked upon the horrible shock which thrilled through the heart of the community in consequence of the inhuman and barbarous treatment suffered by the unfortunate criminal Dowe, caused by the careless and inefficient manner in which the officers having charge of the execution had conducted the proceedings. Attorney General said that an investigation would be made.

On Thursday the 8th, Mr. Howland presented a copy of the Warrant Book for the past year. A Bill sent down from the Council to establish at Casumpec an office for the registry of Bills of Sale, received the three months hoist. The remainder of the day was occupied in discussing an amendment made to the Unfortunate Debtor's Act. On Saturday the Revenue Act occupied the attention of the House.

It is expected that the House will be prorogued the end of this week.

When the Bill passed by the Legislature providing for the Governor's salary, came up in the Legislative Council for a second reading on Thursday last, a motion to reduce the amount to £1,200 sterling, was carried by a majority of 7 to 3. A lively debate took place. The Assembly on Friday refused to entertain a second suggestion from the Council, and the Council by a vote of 7 to 5 refused to reconsider the question. A caucus meeting of the Government was held but without any effect. The Council remained firm in their vote up to Monday last, but whether they have since "caved in" or not, we have not heard. If the Council does not give way, the bill for this session will be lost.

Since writing the above, we learn that the Bill was thrown out. Parties sending us Advertisements will please mark on the copy the number of insertions they may wish them to receive. All persons in the country, who have no account opened with us, sending notices will please enclose the money to ensure insertion. Our advertising rates are 4s. 6d. per square for the first insertion, and 1s. 3d. for each continuation after, if no special agreement is made.

The snow on the roads has nearly all disappeared. In a few days travelling with wagons will be better than sleighs. There is scarcely any frost in the ground this spring. Several persons, we observe, have already commenced garden operations. It is high time the hot beds were made. We will feel obliged to those of our subscribers who are in arrears, if they will at once send us some money to enable us to purchase our spring supply of paper. Our paper bill is a heavy one, and when we furnish the news regularly, the least we can expect is enough to purchase the material. We do not like dunning our subscribers, they do not all need it, but we cannot help it some times. Send in your Dollars and Dimes.

The Quarterly Session of the Grand Division of Sons of Temperance will meet at Margate on the 19th inst., at 5 o'clock, p. m. Horse thieves, in Tennessee, are now lynched by drowning, like cats, with a stone tied to the neck.

By reference to our Advertising columns it will be seen that the "City Hardware Store" formerly owned by Mr. Starbird, and more recently by Messrs. McEwen and Butrick, has changed hands. The business is now carried on by Wm. Bourke, John Gillan, & Co., at the old stand, on Queen Street, in Charlottetown. We have no doubt but that the new firm will be able to give every satisfaction to the old customers and new ones too, who may patronize them. Mr. Gillan is a Mechanic and fully understands the quality of most of the Hardware used by the trade. We wish them every success.

A Photograph of the "situation" can be seen at our Book Store.

BENEVOLENT IRISH SOCIETY.—At the Annual Meeting of the above Society, held at St. Andrew's Hall, on the 10th March last, the following gentlemen were appointed Officers for the ensuing year, viz:—

Patron, Hon. D. Brennan (re-elected.) President, James Reddin, Esq. 1st Vice do., Mr. J. A. McKenna, 2d Vice do., " John Gahan, Treasurer, Martin Hogan, Secretary, John S. O'Neill.

Committee of Charity, — Mr. James F. White, Chairman; Messrs. Michael Kelly, H. G. McIntyre, Daniel Griffith, Francis MacGory. Standard Bearer, — Messrs. P. Duffy, M. Kelly, and A. Sullivan. — Ez.