

the case of Adeline Patti, now pending, the petition has likewise been presented by the party against whom the separation was decreed, the proceedings for separation having been taken by the Marquis de Caux. According to the divorce law, it is competent for either party, after a legal separation of more than three years, to apply for a divorce, but it seems that the Court can refuse to the party against whom the separation has been decreed if it judges right to do so.

The Piegan Indians of northwestern Montana, whose suffering by starvation has recently been reported, have been on the road to destruction ever since the advance of civilization reached them in 1855. They were called the Sakliff Nation, or People of the Plains, twenty years ago, numbered 12,000 souls, were brave and warlike, but generally well behaved, and had one of the most perfect systems of government ever known among North American red men. The nation was composed of several tribes, all subject to one council, and all speaking the same language, and each tribe was subdivided into bands, with a somewhat elaborate system of chiefs and medicine men. They worshipped the sun, and had a custom of sacrificing a young girl to it every year. When the white men came, however, the red ones adopted their vices, and committed so many outrages that a military expedition went to punish them and did its work so effectually as to cripple the tribe for all time.

#### THE GLEANER.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1884.

#### THE LICENSE ACT.

Our Ottawa correspondent telegraphs that the Council for the Provinces on the argument of the License Act expected a unanimous decision of the Court in their favor. So far as the Judges expressed their opinions on the argument they all pointed to this conclusion. The Council for the Dominion Government appeared to recognize this fact and were endeavoring chiefly to save those clauses relating to wholesale licenses, and Sections 32 and 47, which provide for permissive prohibition. Our correspondent thought it not unlikely that the whole Act, with all its machinery for the appointment of Commissioners and Inspectors would have to go. At least, there appeared a fair prospect of such a decision.

If the contention of the Provinces is successful only in part, it will be a tremendous blow to Sir John Macdonald; while if the Act is declared to be entirely unconstitutional it will completely shatter his reputation, and prove him absolutely unfit to remain First Minister. We of course withhold any comments until the decision of the Court has been received; but we feel justified in anticipating at least, an important victory for provincial rights.

#### THE COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.

A parent of one of the pupils attending the Collegiate School in this city has handed us a copy of curriculum of the 1st class, which we publish to give the taxpayers and the public generally an idea of the principles upon which that school is conducted. The programme of studies for the week is as follows:—

**Monday**—Latin, Geometry, Arithmetic, Botany and Spelling.  
**Tuesday**—History, Algebra, Latin, English Literature and Grammar.  
**Wednesday**—Geometry, Arithmetic, Latin, Geography and Algebra.  
**Thursday**—English Literature, Geometry, Greek, French and Grammar.  
**Friday**—Arithmetic, Latin, French, Reading, Spelling and Greek.

This is worthy of analysis. An hour a week is devoted to each of the following studies:—Geography, Botany, Reading, Spelling and Greek.

Two hours a week to each of the following:—Grammar, History, English Literature and Algebra.

Three hours a week to each of the following:—Geometry and Arithmetic.  
And four hours a week to Latin.  
We ask the parents of boys if this division of the week's work is satisfactory to them. Boys enter this first class at quite an early age, yet they receive no instruction in writing, and in three such important branches of education as Geography, reading and spelling, all the instruction which each one gets is what he can receive in that portion of an hour which the teacher of thirty or forty pupils can devote to him. Can anything be more absurd than to give more time to Latin than to Arithmetic, and as much as is devoted to Geography, Spelling and Grammar, and to ignore Bookkeeping, Mechanics and English Composition? This curriculum is framed expressly to slight studies of practical

value, in order that prominence may be given to those which enable a youth to take a good standing at the University matriculation; but when it is remembered how small a proportion of the boys who go to the Collegiate School enter the University it will be admitted that the principle upon which the time is apportioned between the studies is altogether wrong. Out of the twenty-five hours, supposed to be devoted each week to instruction, fourteen are occupied with subjects of not the slightest practical utility to the majority of the pupils. We do not object to some attention being given in this class to Latin, Algebra and Geometry, but we claim it is a great mistake to make them the most prominent studies; and we regard the time given to Greek, French and English Literature as practically thrown away, or worse than thrown away. For pupils who do not intend to go through college the study of Greek is merely work wasted, and French, as it is taught in the schools, is of no practical utility. A careful examination of the above programme of studies will convince anyone that more than one half the time spent by the great majority of boys in the first class at the Collegiate school is lost, in order that the half dozen or so who go up to the University may take high marks at their first examination. The result of such a system of teaching is to turn out upon the community a lot of youths, well-grounded in nothing, writing an execrable hand, and deficient in every practical branch of education.

Another matter has been brought under our notice. Pupils go to the Collegiate School at 9 o'clock. At 11 o'clock they are dismissed for a twenty minutes recess, resuming their work at 11.20, and sometimes not until 11.30 and being dismissed for dinner at sharp noon. That is to say the morning session is from two hours and thirty minutes to two hours and forty minutes long. The afternoon session begins after a recess of two hours or a half hour recess in a three hours session is preposterous, and it practically unfits the minds of the pupils for the remainder of the morning session, so that in point of fact the morning session may be said to be only two hours long.

It is high time that this Collegiate School was made the subject of a thorough investigation, and of such changes as will make it, what it is not now, an efficient and valuable feature of our city school system.

#### A FEW WORDS WITH A FRIENDLY CRITIC.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *Maple Leaf*, thinks *THE GLEANER* is the most to blame for the "noise and grumbling" which it says is to be found about the present Chief Superintendent of Schools. This may be so. It may be that if *THE GLEANER* had entered into the discussion sooner and at an earlier day exposed the hollow and insincerity of the teachers' complaints there would have been very much less "noise and grumbling" than there has been. We deemed it better policy to permit the politicians in their platitudes and gushing periods before attempting to bring the question in the arena of sober, intelligent discussion; we regret that our astute and able contemporary thinks that in so doing we were guilty of an error in judgment, and are really responsible for what it very properly calls the "noise and grumbling." But we may remind our contemporary that had we entered into the discussion earlier, and by exposing the groundless character of the teachers' complaints brought them to an end two months ago, as they have been brought to an end now, we might have laid ourselves open to a charge of "an act of suppression," which our contemporary thinks is "certainly not the line to follow"—an opinion which we most cordially endorse.

Again our contemporary appears to be of the opinion that *THE GLEANER* "intimated war." Now we regret to say that it does our neighbor *The Capital* and its school teacher-editor, a great, but we are sure an unintentional injustice. It was that gentleman who "intimated war." He it was who urged the teachers to rebellion. He it was who wanted them to throw off their yoke, and having turned out the present Administration, secure the patronage of the public departments for Mr. Cropley's book store. In reply to this heroic advice *THE GLEANER* simply suggested that the teacher-editor should cross the Rubicon himself, a suggestion which he has shown no disposition to follow, but which has had the effect of leading him to postpone the rebellion indefinitely. We have said that our contemporary's slight upon the *Capital* was unintentional, and we can well believe it, as we have yet to see the individual who

deliberately reads a *Capital* editorial, unless as a sort of intellectual penance.

But whoever is responsible for this discussion of the school law and regulations, of this we Leg to assure our contemporary: that *THE GLEANER* proposes to show in the fullest possible way how utterly groundless all the "noise and grumbling" really is, and to demonstrate, as it is confident it will be able to do, that the recent changes have been for the benefit of the of the educational system; and we are sure that our Albert contemporary will agree with us that in so doing we are not laying ourselves open to the charge of choking off discussion or "intimating war."

#### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

*THE GLEANER* has offended the sensibilities of several teachers, who write to the papers, by its use of expressions "not strictly classical." This makes us feel very badly. They particularly object to the word "quelled." Now we said "quelled" because we meant "quelled," and it is a real good old fashioned Anglo-Saxon word, and met the case so well that we could not, even out of regard for the feeling of the authors and admirers of such "classical" productions as that paper of Jones', throw it aside.

#### GLEANINGS.

**A Good Budget of News from all Parts of the Province.**

The Agricultural Fair at Grand Falls, will be held on Oct. 15th.

Rev. W. J. Swafeld is entertaining audiences in Albert County, on the fairs of the Bible.

A new ship is in course of construction at the yard of G. S. Turner, Harvey Bank, Albert Co., which will register 1900 tons.

The corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church of Moncton was laid on Tuesday afternoon.

A Mrs. Elerson, of Albert Co., suffering from dropsy, has had 80 gallons of water taken from her by tapping during the past two years.

A find of copper is reported on the premises of Daniel Cleveland, Lake road, Albert, on twenty rods from his house. An assay of a sample sent away gave 70 per cent. of copper.

The *St. Croix Courier* says that Mr. M. L. Young will sever his connection with the St. Stephen school staff this week and resume his medical studies in New York. His school will be taken by Mr. W. F. Ganong, a recent graduate of the University.

Dr. D. M. Daley, a dentist of Danforth, Maine, recently eloped with Lucy Morse, the fourteen year old daughter of A. P. Morse, one of the hotel proprietors of that place. The couple went to Woodstock, N. B., where they were married; and it is understood they are now in Princeton, Me.

A singular circumstance occurred at Doherty Creek last week. An old lady, Mrs. Wilkinson, aged 88 years became somewhat demented of late, occasionally wandered about the house at night, and on Wednesday morning was missed from her bed. On search being made she was found in a chest dead. She had removed the contents (a quantity of bed clothes) from the chest and got in, the chest standing against the wall, the lid had fallen down and shut her in, where she died from suffocation.—*Sackville Post*.

Mr. Adam B. Limond, who resides on Dominion street was arrested on Wednesday evening by Mr. Macdonald on a warrant charging him with having maliciously published a defamatory libel concerning a young lady in Moncton, knowing the same to be false. The statute makes this offence a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$400 and imprisonment. Mr. Limond was taken to the police station and the investigation was fixed for Friday next at 10 o'clock. Bail was furnished by the accused to the amount of \$250. Mr. B. Barry Smith appeared for the prosecution.—*Transcript*.

#### New Advertisements.

**House and Lot AT GIBSON, FOR SALE.**

*THE GLEANER* offers FOR SALE, the LOT, HOUSE AND PREMISES at present occupied by Mr. Macdonald, situated in a healthy locality, just below the "Church Hall" and near the School House, in Gibson. The lot is 60 feet by 170. The Buildings have lately been put in good repair. There is a good Barn on the lot.

For terms and particulars apply on the premises, to JOHN BLACK, Barrister, Queen Street, Fredericton.

Sept. 27, 1884.—1m

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English, Scotch, and

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**MELTON'S IN ALL SHADES.**

The above Goods will be made up in the most fashionable styles at very short notice, at VERY LOWEST PRICES FOR CASH.

HATS, CAPS, SHIRTS, TIES, BRACES, UNDERCLOTHING, &c., very cheap.

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JUST RECEIVED:—

110 DOZ. Milk Pans, 35 doz. Rockingham

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Meakin's White Granite.

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