

The Evening Telegram.

ST. JOHN'S, JANUARY 15, 1888.

THE RIFLE IN BERMUDA.

Greatest Shooting Tournament on Record.

LETTERS FROM LIEUT. DUNDAS.

Competition for Valuable Prizes.

BOTH BRANCHES OF THE SERVICE TAKE PART.

Many Laurels Won by 'Emerald's' Team.

VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Lively Time Expected Next Summer.

By advices from Bermuda we learn that the Naval and Military authorities there have recently treated themselves and the people generally to one of the greatest rifle tournaments on record in that part of Her Majesty's dominions. Practice and preparation for the event had been going on for some time previous to the contest, and, as a result, when it took place, nothing was wanting that could in any way add to the interest and éclat of the occasion.

We are mainly indebted for our information hereunto to letters received from Lieutenant Dundas, of H.M.S. *Emerald*, whose gallant team carried off most of the laurels offered for competition. The Lieutenant opens one of his letters by informing us of the death of Lieutenant Boldero. He says: "His case was hopeless from the first. We all feel it very much." Then Lieut. D., with characteristic good will, observes: "I hope you have had a pleasant Christmas up at St. John's. Mine has been a very satisfactory one."

Immediately following this seasonable greeting, we are furnished with details of the matches. In the Lieutenant's own words, "It was a grand meeting, supported by all our fleet and all the garrison and civilians." The firing took place at Warwick Camp, and lasted three days, during which the following prizes were won by the parties herein named:—

1st—Team Match, 200, 500 and 600 yards; seventeen teams competed, six men in each. First prize—£18 sterling—awarded to *Emerald's* team. A silver cup for the highest individual score in the above match was won by Lieutenant Dundas.

2nd—The Championship of Bermuda—a silver cup—won by Mr. Isaacs, of *Emerald*; seven shots at 800 yards; score, thirty points.

3rd—All-Comers—200 yards. First prize, a silver medal, won by Mr. Vincent of the *Emerald*.

4th—All-Comers—500 yards. Second prize, a carriage clock, won by Mr. Marchant, H.M.S. *Emerald*.

5th—Army and Navy Officers, 200 yards. First prize, a beer mug, won by Mr. Marchant of the *Emerald*.

6th—Army and Navy Officers, 500 yards. First prize, a gold watch, won by Lieutenant Dundas, of *Emerald*.

7th—Petty Officers of the Navy and Sergeants of the Army, 200 yards. Second prize, £3, Mr. Isaacs; third prize, £2, Mr. Atkins, both of *Emerald*.

8th—Revolver Match, 450 entries. Fourth prize, a silver match box, won by Lieutenant Dundas.

Here are the names of the *Emerald's* team. All of them are well known, especially by those of our Newfoundland Rifle Association who have met them at Nagle's Hill range:—Lieutenant Dundas, Captain; Messrs. Marchant, Isaacs, Pickett, Vincent, and Moxom.

This team did brilliant work in winning the first match as well as the championship against the soldiers, as it is the latter's own range, and they practice on it all the year round. The teams from the other ships of the fleet were very unfortunate, and but few prizes were won by them.

Besides the contests more particularly alluded to, there were other events, in all of which one or more of the *Emerald's* team participated and won prizes varying from five shillings to a pound. Of course there were great rejoicings when they returned to the ship with all their prizes and the championship. Mr. Isaacs, we are told, shot beautifully, although it was late in the afternoon and the light was bad. His score was 5 8 3 4 5 5 5—30. Eight hundred yards is a long range, and it takes a keen eye and steady nerves to make such a record at so great a distance from the target.

One of our correspondents—also a member of the *Emerald's* team—closes his letter by saying:—"Remember me to Mr. Martin, Captain of the St. John's team last season, and tell him that we will let him taste 'a drop' out of the champion cup when we return north again. It has been filled with every

possible liquor, and has been handed round once too often, I fear, already."

We do not know what our local "sharpshooters" will think of the *Emerald's* great success on this occasion. Certainly it will be flattering to them to know that they have already, more than once, defeated a team that has just beaten "all creation" down in Bermuda; but shouldn't be surprised if they felt a little shaky over the prospect of meeting the victors at the butts on the *Emerald's* arrival next Spring.

Any way, the coming summer promises to be a pretty lively one here in "military" circles. As most of our readers are aware, a volunteer movement has been started, in the success of which the Governor takes a very deep interest. All classes of the community, we believe, coincide with His Excellency's wishes, and no doubt preliminary steps, in the way of organization, will be taken as soon as the spring business shall have been disposed of. We understand that all necessary assistance will be rendered by the Imperial authorities, as well as by our local Government, in making the movement a success. In a subsequent issue we shall have some special reference to this interesting and important matter.

KILLED ON THE RAILWAY TRACK.

A Great Deal of Dissatisfaction.

A RELIABLE correspondent writes us from Topsail to the effect that "a great deal of dissatisfaction prevails" there in consequence of losses recently sustained in that neighborhood by the destruction of cattle on the railway track. Since the 1st instant, we are told, no less than four fine cows have been killed—one the property of a man named Scott, of the Gulleys, the others belonging to a Mr. Taylor of Topsail. The three last mentioned were destroyed in one day, and the owner thus deprived in a few hours of the chief means of supporting himself and family. This is really too bad, and must have a very discouraging effect on people along the South Shore of Conception Bay who are trying to do anything in the way of stock-raising. At the Agricultural Show, last fall, much was said by His Excellency the Governor and His Honor Mr. Justice Pihens about the advisability of making special efforts to induce the people to engage in agricultural pursuits and the keeping of cattle. Now, we ask, what is the use of trying to encourage these industries while the Legislature refuses or neglects to enact such laws as are absolutely necessary to protect the property of those who are thus employed. Between the ferocious dog on the one hand, and the almost equally destructive locomotive on the other, it is a poor chance the farmer has to keep sheep, or cattle either, in the aforesaid neighborhood. At present no compensation is allowed for losses incurred in the way and manner set forth; and, as a result, the number of cattle along the shore is rapidly diminishing and people are trying to get out of the business altogether.

UP AND UP GOES COPPER.

THE following extract shows that the value of copper in the United States has advanced in proportion to the boom in the same metal in the English market. It bodes ill for the peace of Europe, the present war preparations being the direct cause of the enhanced prices; for copper is an indispensable material in the manufacture of cartridges since the introduction of breech-loaders. When an article of commerce is so materially and suddenly affected in value, one, too, that ordinarily fluctuates but little, it argues that the manufacture of war-munitions is taking place on a big scale:—"Copper on the Metal Exchange had another rise yesterday, in sympathy with a further advance of \$2 a ton in London. The advance here was 30 and 50 cents a 100 pounds, and 500,000 pounds of Lake Superior were sold at 17.60@17.65 cents for December, 17.70 @ 17.80 cents for January, and 18 cents for March delivery. There was a continued crazy speculation in copper stocks, and 3,200 shares were sold, including Dana at 65@75, Washington at 70@80, Winthrop at 50@60, Beivavick at \$2.75, Allouez at 1.85@1.87, Ridgewood at \$1.50, Hanover at 75, and National at \$3."

A CORRESPONDENT wants to know "what has become of the Receiver General, as he is seldom to be found in his office at the Custom House?" Well, between, drawing his salary and spending it, we believe he is kept pretty busy.

DEVOTEES of dancing cannot complain of any dearth of their favorite amusement of the present winter; on Tuesdays and Thursdays there will be dancing assemblies in the Star of the Sea Hall under the management of Mr. J. Whitten, who is well known for making these festive affairs occasions of general enjoyment.

The Present State of Newfoundland

CONFEDERATION.

(Continued.)

In a social light it is a creature like Frankenstein's that our system has conjured up amongst us. Nay, even physically and intellectually the poverty-stricken portion of our population is fast assimilating itself to the creature of the legend, and asserts the same entire but thankless dependence on those whom it looks upon as the authors of a miserable existence. This portion of the community we have not only to provide for, but to think for. 'Twere a mockery to ask them what they think of Confederation. 'Twere a cruelty to advise them to oppose it. Of those who are not reduced to a state quite so degraded, the greater part are destitute and miserable. Little they know who sit by their firesides, or take observations from a window in Water Street, of the swift decay that prostrates them like straw before the sickle of the reaper. Seldom they behold those rotten tenements, that a year's wind and damp at most will sweep unheeded to the earth; and where will be their occupants? The greater number in comfort at last in the grave—the rest wanderers in more prosperous lands, and adding their mite of daily toil to the activity that makes nations great. This is too truly our condition, and to procure the necessary remedy requires not alone the exercise of intelligence but of humanity. The question of Confederation is for us not a merely political question—it is first of all a question of charity; and it is not alone the right, but the duty, of any one who thinks the Union of these Provinces will benefit this country, to speak his convictions.

This country is in a state of premature decay, and in its own institutions it contains no remedy for the evil; therefore some change is necessary, some infusion of vital power from without. This much all must admit—but will Confederation be the proper change, and provide the proper remedy? I think there can be no doubt of it. It is not in the nature of things that such a condition as ours should be allowed to continue, when superior intelligence and superior resources are brought to bear upon it. Our miserable state would, if known, enlist the sympathies and the aid of the stranger—how much more so of those whose own best interest would be the advancement of our people.

It is not unknown to History that peoples have been crushed and doomed to wretchedness by rulers whose duty and interest it was to protect and encourage them, but that is the history of the past—the history of feudal arrogance or of bloody conquest, and it applies not to coalitions voluntarily formed on the basis of reason and for the common weal without any dire discrepancies of religion, race, customs or institutions. And even where such discrepancies exist, the spirit of the present age is to unite and harmonize them, if possible; if not, to suffer and conciliate.

Though European coalitions must differ from those formed on this side of the Atlantic, having more old and deep-rooted difficulties to contend with, yet even there the genius of the age prevails. If unions commence there in conquest, they are succeeded at once, or as soon as possible, by a common participation of the benefits of freedom and civilization between victors and vanquished. It is not pretended that Prussia will persecute the North German Provinces; Austria gives free institutions to Hungary, and in fact so all-powerful is the instinct of justice, peace, and progress, at the present day, that England is ready to lay the axe to the very root of her constitution rather than behold it heavy with the fruit of oppression and injustice. It is idle to talk of penal laws, extermination, or "bleached bones," at the present day. Such things are not possible anywhere, least of all in these new regions, where freedom seems indigenous, and where the only danger is that it may luxuriate into rankness. We have here before our eyes the model of the great Western Republic; and though there may be difference of opinion regarding her institutions and their stability, one thing is certain, that she regards every portion of her vast territory as her very self, and with a zealous and impartial hand extends her protection and bounty and civilizing influences to the remotest regions of her empire. The form of its Government will slightly differ—but upon this great model Confederation will be established;—it could not otherwise exist or prosper.

To prove that in point of fact Canada intends to govern upon liberal and progressive principles, to initiate a rule totally different from the ancient systems of conquest and spoliation, it is sufficient to know that the very first clause in her programme proclaims to all dependencies freedom of religion, of education, of trade; but upon these and upon other practical benefits that must result to us from Union, I shall address you hereafter.

AN OUTSIDER.

NOTE FROM MR. MURRAY.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in informing you that the letter of enquiry kindly inserted in the columns of your paper lately, having reference to the ancestors of Mr. John Guest, now of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, has elicited a reply from some of Mr. Guest's remaining relatives here, which reply I am transmitting to Mr. Guest by the present mail. This reply comes from a descendant of the original John Guest, residing at Torbay, named Thomas Eustace, and one of three brothers of that name. The researches of Mr. Eustace are briefly summed up in the following words:—"I have ascertained that your grandfather was a book-keeper at the time of his death, when his wife (my father's aunt) and my great-aunt (your grandmother) sold off all their effects and went to some part of Nova Scotia, since which we have lost all trace of them until now."

I have to thank you, Mr. Editor, for the courtesy of inserting these documents in the EVENING TELEGRAM, through which publicity the efforts of Mr. Guest have been so successful in re-establishing the chain of communication with his family connections here; and in thus taking leave of the subject for the present, I cannot but express my regret that, even at this late day, no effective steps have yet been taken in this colony by which genealogical records may be kept in a public, official and systematic way. As we may fairly assume that the colony has now a definite future before it, I think no further time should be lost in supplying this lack of vital statistics,—the last, but not the least, distinguishing mark of civilization. Your obedient servant,

JAMES MURRAY.

St. John's, Jan. 16th, 1888.

AGRICULTURE.

THE above subject many of your readers must feel interested in, for it should assuredly take the first place in the minds of every patriotic Newfoundland, as well as all those who have, so far, made this land their home. In these days of emigration, many that are now leaving, with or without families, surely would prefer remaining in their native land; so let those who remain with us work steadily and honestly to gain for their country that position she ought to occupy, by striving to make her take her place with the active world around us. At the same time we should be leaving no stone unturned to gain for our children and children's children homes which they can in no wise be forced to leave, be the Fishery good or bad. Let us efface the "one-eyed" position we are in at present, so ably put to us in His Excellency's speech at Harbor Grace, and move shoulder to shoulder against the odds which await us. We cannot disguise from ourselves they are heavy, yet what matters it so long as we hold fast every inch we gain? Most battles have proved that a well handled and organized force have gained victories over opponents vastly superior in numbers; be it so with us. Let us take the plough first and by-and-by the sword, if necessary. In these days every soldier is or ought to be taught to use the spade; but not the sort of spade so constantly seen in use in gardens here and in out harbor settlements, which must be a relic of old Ireland, long since discarded there; or that apology for a spade or shovel so general under the "able-bodied pauper relief system," which consists of a heart-shaped bit of iron at one end, about the same size as the man's heart is at the other; a will should be added to the man and more inches to the metal. Reward would surely follow honest labor in good wages and happier homes.

A movement was made in the right direction on Saturday last, Jan. 14th. A few farmers met in Mr. Sclater's office, which he very kindly placed at their disposal, to consider whether they should drop the interest so largely taken by them of late in the promotion of Agriculture; or would they form themselves into an "Agricultural Society." The latter course was unanimously agreed to, and a committee was at once elected to prepare the way for a general meeting of all who wish to form such a society. The business to follow being the election of officers and other progressive work. Due notice will be given of this meeting and a large attendance is most desirable.—Com.

THE WINTER IN NORTHERN ITALY.

DETAILS are continually arriving by telegraph from all parts of the North respecting the fatalities caused by the appalling heaviness of the snowfall and the remarkable rigour of the winter. Extreme cold prevails at Florence, where the railway service has been partially suspended in consequence of the depth of the snow at Florence, Parma, Forli, Faenza, Ravenna, Ferrara, and Bologna. The roofs of very many of the houses have sunk under the weight of snow, a large number of lives being lost, and whole families being occasionally killed. In some cases walls have given way with fatal consequences. At many of the towns mentioned the trains have been snowed-up for four days. There has been no postal communication between the North and South of the peninsula. A telegram from Milan reports equally disastrous occurrences. At Venice, Pavia, and other towns roofs have fallen under the weight of the snow, there being several people killed and many wounded. At Bologna nearly all the public buildings have suffered. For three days the service of trains of the Adriatic line has been suspended.

By Telegraph

TERRIFIC COLLIERY EXPLOSION

Opening of the Prussian Diet.

EX-PRESIDENT GREY ILL.

Terrible Shipping Disaster.

HALIFAX, N.S., Jan. 16.

Two terrific explosions occurred in the coal mines of Picqou county yesterday; no lives were lost, the men having left their quarters an hour previously. The occurrence throws three hundred out of employment.

The Prussian Diet was opened on Saturday; the Royal Speech expresses hope of the recovery of the Crown Prince. The finances are favorable beyond expectation, and the State will increase the pay of the clergy, also the teachers in public schools, and will aid railways.

Ex-President Grey has experienced a shock of apoplexy and is confined to bed.

The steamer *Britannia*, from the Mediterranean to New York, is supposed to be lost with eight hundred steerage passengers.

The S.S. *Sarmation*, with English mails, arrived here yesterday.

Harrison, Governor of Manitoba, has resigned.

(Special to the Evening Telegram.)

CAPE RACE, This Evening.

Wind S.S.W., blowing a fresh breeze and raining. The S.S. *Portia* passed inward at 10 a.m. to-day.

Arrival of the S.S. "Assyrian."

THE steamer *Assyrian*, some three days overdue from Liverpool, set at rest all doubts and anxieties on her account by her arrival here at twelve o'clock last night. Her detention was due to a continual succession of westerly and southerly winds, which chief officer Bulley reports to have been very heavy and to have thrown up a mountainous head sea materially retarding the ship's progress. On Tuesday of last week the vessel passed through a violent storm, which was head on to the ship, and sent seas flying over her decks. On Saturday last, when a snow-storm from the S.W. raged here, she experienced a high northerly wind, accompanied with snow and hail-squalls. She met no further delay after sighting our coast, which occurred at nine o'clock last night, the weather being quite clear, and made port without much difficulty. She has three hundred tons of freight for our business men, and she takes three hundred barrels of herring to the Baltimore market. Her passengers are: From Liverpool—Mrs. W. Hardie, Miss E. Gallagher, Messrs. T. J. Forsyth, W. Harvie. For Halifax—Miss H. Hartley, Rev. J. H. Wood, Messrs. J. F. O'Brien, L. Patterson, G. Makinson, C. H. Alken, G. E. Morry, J. W. Phillips, E. Sinnott, A. W. Shaffner, twelve in steerage.

LOCAL VARIETIES.

THE steamer *Assyrian* is to sail about six o'clock this evening.

But one foreign sailing arrival since Saturday—the *Donna Maria*, with a cargo of salt, from Figueira.

THE steamer *Falcon*, from the Northward, arrived this afternoon. Amongst her passengers are Messrs. Rolls, Linfield, Farze and Kent.

The English mails are not particularly large, this trip; they number twenty-three bags of letters and newspapers and three cases of postal parcels.

BIRTH.

On Sunday, the 15th instant, the wife of Richard B. Peters, of a daughter.

DIED.

On Sunday morning, after a short illness, Philip Farrell, of Boggy Hall, Topsail road, aged 66 years, a native of Kneelogy, County Tipperary, Ireland. His funeral will take place on Tuesday, at 1.30 o'clock.

On Sunday morning, after a long illness, of consumption, Nora, beloved wife of Ebenezer R. Knight, aged 33 years, leaving a husband and four children to mourn their sad loss. Funeral to-morrow (Tuesday) at 2.30 o'clock, from her late residence, Forest road; friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend without further notice.

This morning, Mary Maria, aged 19 years, only daughter of Tryphena and Elias Abbott, of Wadhams Island, Notre Dame Bay. Funeral to-morrow (Tuesday) at 2.30 p.m., from the residence of Mr. R. H. Whiteley, Hamilton street; friends please attend without further notice.

On Sunday, 15th inst., Branscombe Langmead, infant son of William and Mary Ann Proves, aged 4 months. At Ferryland, on 28th December, John, second son of Joseph and the late Mary Delahunty, aged 29 years; deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

Last evening, after a long and painful illness, Arthur Neilson, only child of Chas. and Providence Andressen, aged 1 year and 2 months.

"This early bud will bloom in Paradise."

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ENTERED.

Jan. 16—*Assyrian*, Bentley, Liverpool, 11 dys, Shea & Co—20 qtr-casks, 6 octaves wine, 52 casks, 112 brls sugar, 111 bxs oranges, 219 kegs butterine, 548 bxs raisins, 120 pkgs brandy, 276 pkgs tea, 8 bags, 10 casks coffee, 60 bags onions, 8 brls stout, 3 puns rum, 20 casks, 10 cases geneva, 14 casks whiskey, general cargo. *Donna Maria*, LeMarquand, Elgueira, 24 dys, W H Mare, Sou & Co—95 tons salt.

CLEARED.

Jan. 16—*Assyrian*, Bentley, Halifax, Shea & Co—300 brls herring, inward cargo.

FOR SALE: A HORSE: A BARGAIN will be given if applied for immediately. For full particulars apply at this office. Jan 18, 81

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