

The Evening Telegram

ST. JOHN'S, FEBRUARY 9, 1888.

WAR AND POLITICS!

Evidently We Must Have Both.

It is stated that our universally esteemed fellow-citizen, J. Outerbridge, Esq., the Boulanger of the present war movement here, has yielded to the imperative demand of his countrymen and consented to become a candidate for St. John's East at the next general elections. Hero and patriot as he is, Mr. Outerbridge can no longer gaze with indifference upon the scene which Newfoundland presents to his sensitive sight to-day—the scene of a once flourishing colony ground down under the heel of a remorseless politico-mercantile tyranny. Well, he certainly takes with him to the conflict our best benediction, and as his record so far is as “pure as the beautiful snow,” we don't see why he shouldn't win unfading laurels in both departments.

The Duke of Wellington was pre-eminently successful in the cabinet as well as on the tented field. Why, then, shouldn't Citizen Outerbridge achieve undying fame in like manner? Then, again, he may draw inspiration from the career of Lord Clive. The latter was once a book-keeper in the employ of the East India Company, but, by the mere force and power of his genius, he managed to ascend promotion's ladder until he became the vice-regal ruler of a great and gorgeous empire. Our peace-at-any-price party may declaim as much as they like on the present war policy; but we would have them remember that

War is honorable
In those who do their native rights maintain;
In those whose swords an iron barrier are
Between the lawless spoiler and the weak.

Talk about the “cock's shrill clarion and the echoing horn.” Pshaw! 'Tis not a circumstance compared with the bugle's martial strains, the clank of arms and the waving of “warlike plumes.” Furthermore, is it not a fact that, at this very moment, “a naval force is being organized at Cherbourg to protect the interests of French fishermen on the Great Banks and the coast of Newfoundland?” It is a fact, they say, and the opinion everywhere prevails that France has made up her mind to entirely disregard the Newfoundland Bait Act.

All things considered, then, is it not our duty to respond at once to the call to arms which the gallant Mr. Outerbridge is now sounding throughout the land? Why, of course it does, and prudence admonishes us not to wait till the “foe's in sight in dread array,” but to prepare immediately for the approaching campaign. Mr. Outerbridge hangs out “the ledger and cross-pens,” and, pointing with “index finger” thereto, exclaims: “By this sign conquer!” Let us be valiant, then, and follow him to victory or to death. We cannot be too heroic, especially

In these distracted times, when each man dreads
The bloody stratagem of busy heads.

THE OPERA “SORCERER.”

The opera “Sorcerer,” at the Star of the Sea Hall last night, attracted a very large audience, every available seat being occupied, so that the sum realized must have been quite handsome. The performance on the whole was excellent; but it is thought that the choruses lacked that volume of male voices which were heard on a former occasion. Some of the principals who were well up in their parts—particularly Mr. Flannery—acquitted themselves in real professional style; in fact, it would be difficult to surpass them on the stage. It must be said that the “Sorcerer” is nearly the oldest of Gilbert & Sullivan's operas, and although a comic piece, there is really very little humour in it, as compared with the “Mikado,” which seemed to have pleased everybody who saw it performed here. It is hoped that it will not be long, seeing the talent that Mr. Hutton has at his command, before the public will be enabled to enjoy another operatic treat.

OUR BONAVISTA BAY FRIENDS.

A BONAVISTA BAY correspondent, writing under date of the 16th ultimo, says:—“Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to notice the first concert given in Brooklyn. The proceeds were handed to the Rev. A. A. Bryant to help fence the Church of England Cemetery. It was a great success. Mr. D. Stares had charge of the programme, and managed the affair in a highly satisfactory manner. The building was well filled and every one seemed delighted. The ladies who took part in the concert—Mrs. Annie Howe, Miss Lucretia and Miss Selena Marshall—were greeted with great applause, while the comic songs by Mr. M. D. Stares and Mr. Thomas and Alberto Stares, brought down showers of applause from the audience, which showed that the entire programme was appreciated. At the close the whole audience joined in singing the National Anthem, thus manifesting their loyalty to our most gracious and beloved Queen.”

A PROTEST FROM THE BAY.

Harbor Grace Objects to the Volunteer Movement.

WHAT THE “STANDARD” SAYS ABOUT IT.

REFERRING to the volunteer movement here, the Harbor Grace Standard of Saturday last remarks as follows:—“We merely had space last week to allude very briefly to the fact that a movement was on foot in St. John's for the formation of a volunteer rifle corps in that city; and that a meeting with this object in view had been convened in the Commercial Rooms. We had not time to refer to the other fact, viz., that at this gathering of the leading citizens, including several members of the Legislature, two resolutions had been proposed and carried—one to the effect that ‘it was advisable to form a corps in St. John's,’ the other that ‘a delegation be appointed to wait on the Executive to solicit assistance for starting the volunteer movement.’ Now, to the first of these resolutions not the least objection can fairly be taken. No one would think of denying to St. John's the privilege of forming a volunteer rifle or any other kind of corps. That is her proud prerogative. No one would wish to prohibit her citizens from exercising to the full their love of martial and military displays. There surely can be no harm in that. A rifle corps is, no doubt, an excellent thing in its way, and would afford a means of recreation to especially the young men of the capital. But what practical utility would such be to the colony as a whole? Not the least. To the other resolution much solid, reasonable objection can be taken. And properly so, we think. For to solicit assistance from the Executive in support of any object such as the formation of a volunteer rifle corps for the benefit simply of the people of St. John's themselves, were, during the most prosperous times, an insult to every outport constituency in the island. But during times like the present, how must such a procedure be regarded? To use the public funds of the country—now—for any such purpose as the above is an outrage, and should not be tolerated for one moment. The lavishness of so many thousands of the general revenue last summer on the Jubilee celebration was bad enough in all conscience—was, in point of fact, money worse than thrown away—money which could and should have been put to a far better purpose than that. Surely, that were enough to waste in less than one short twelve months. Our readers will remember that we did not fail, when the matter of the outlay on the celebration was first proposed, to utter an indignant protest against it, and to dissent in toto from the expenditure of the public funds of the colony for any object such as that. We do the same now in the matter of the movement ‘to solicit assistance from the Executive for starting the volunteer movement.’ Such we regard as utterly indefensible. We would take the liberty of respectfully suggesting to the Government, therefore, their plain, palpable duty in the premises. In our opinion, it is this, viz., not to grant one cent from the public funds for any object such as the above. The general revenue, these times, can be devoted to a better purpose than starting volunteer rifle corps, laudable and all as these may be in their way. What all sensible persons will say is this, viz., that if St. John's wants the benefit of a Volunteer Rifle Corps, let its citizens pay for the luxury like men, and not expect the general revenue to bear any part of the cost. We do not venture to question the object the promoters of the present movement have in view. It possibly may be all right in its way. But here, too, there is room for difference of opinion. Of this more anon. What we question here and now is this, viz., the method which the friends of the volunteer movement seek to adopt in order to give shape and form to their pet project; this we regard as a bad, a wholly inexcusable one. Any portion of the general revenue allocated for any such object is, we submit, a perversion of the public funds of the colony from their legitimate purpose, for a thing whose usefulness or need will not be generally admitted by sensible men here, in St. John's, or elsewhere. For this reason we emphatically protest against it. We shall return to this subject next week.”

MR. THOMAS MURPHY MISSING.

A GREAT deal of apprehension for the safety of Mr. Thomas J. Murphy, Water Street, has prevailed in town to-day, and large numbers of his friends have gone in search of him. It has been learned that he hired a horse and sleigh at the livery stable yesterday, and in the afternoon was seen driving out on the Torbay Road by a farm hand, who was engaged at the time in hauling bog from Williams' Pond. On the farmer's next return to the pond, toward evening, he observed the horse and sleigh at a stand-still, but he could perceive no sign of the driver anywhere. The man brought the team with him when returning

home and afterwards took it out to the livery stable, where it was identified as being the same which Mr. Murphy had engaged. His family were at once notified. Several relations and friends organised a search-party and proceeded to the spot where the horse and sleigh were found. They spent all night looking for him, but up to noon to-day nothing had been heard from them that they were successful. Business troubles has been preying upon Mr. Murphy's mind lately, and he complained very much of sleeplessness and mental worry. If, in a fit of aberration, he left the sleigh and wandered into the woods his tracks could easily be discovered, for there has been no snow-fall since he left, and he could be traced across the moors. It may be that he journeyed along the road on foot toward some distant settlement, and if that be so he may be in a place of safety, though his whereabouts would, for some time, probably remain unknown. This morning the constabulary were sent to join in the search. It should be mentioned that the missing man's coat and hat were found, the former in the sleigh, the latter at some little distance from where the sleigh was abandoned.

THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—A good deal of comment, favorable and otherwise, is being excited just now over the attempt to revive the volunteer movement here, and for my part I scarcely see the necessity for making so “much ado about nothing.” If “the boys” want to amuse themselves playing at soldiers, why, let them do so. It is better for them to be spending their spare time in the drill-shed than in the grogshop or the gambling saloon. We all know that youths must expend their energies on something, and if they can at the same time set themselves up in good form, and with a soldierly bearing, not much harm can be done to anyone. If we could have our old forts remantled and our old garrisons repaired and manned at a small expense to the colony, the mere exercise would do some good. Anything is better than idleness, or that listless vacuity of mind and body which is unhappily the chief characteristic of the youth of this community for the greater part of the year. I know a card club in this city, the ordinary stakes of which are five dollars a point; and do you mean to tell me that young men might not be far better employed than in muddling their brains over the card-table, or robbing their employers for the means to do so. Why, sir, it is almost enough to make Satan indulge in a sardonic grin, to see the grizzled employer at home at night poring over his ledger or day-book to try and make both ends meet, while the gay clerk is at the same moment gambling away the contents of the till over brandy and water and games of “seven-up.”

At a future time I may possibly tell you what I know about these festive goings-on. Meantime, let me say, Mr. Editor, that when the man in authority is dishonest, or when the employer is engaged in robbing the public treasury, he must not be surprised if his clerk is also robbing him. Dishonesty in the fountain-head breeds dishonesty right through the piece, while the opposite quality has a tendency in the opposite direction. I once remember reading an anecdote of the present Emperor of Germany, who is very strict in matters of personal etiquette, called “The One Button.” One day while the Emperor was closeted with a distinguished general, he heard a regiment of Guards approaching and immediately commenced to button up his tunic. The general expressed surprise that he (the Emperor) should think it necessary to stand on ceremony with his own guards. “My soldiers,” replied his majesty, “have never seen me with my coat unbuttoned, and I do not intend that they ever shall. For, let me tell you, it is the one button, left unbuttoned, that is the ruin of the army!”

Yours truly,
PRIMUM INTER PARES.
St. John's, Feb. 8, 1888.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

MR. CHARLES H. HUTCHINGS was admitted to membership in the Law Society yesterday.

THE lowest and the highest temperature of the air within the past twenty-four hours was 18° and 30°.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—“One of the People”—Your communication will appear to-morrow. “Quick March”—We want the real name of the writer. “Justice”—Your remarks are a good deal too personal, especially in their reference to Mr. Winter and the Barcelona exhibition.

THE barquentine *Silver Sea*, Captain Day, was towed in here this morning from Cape Broyle harbor, a quantity of string ice along the shore and a head wind preventing the passage of the vessel under sail. She is from Cadiz with salt. The brigantine seen from Cape Race yesterday afternoon has not yet been in sight.

THE COLONY'S STAPLE INDUSTRY.

Artificial Assistance to Our Fisheries.

III.—WHAT PISCICULTURE CAN DO FOR NEWFOUNDLAND.

OUR lobster fishery is one capable of great expansion by hatching and procreation. The lobster is not at all migratory, and this fact is to our advantage. The time is near at hand when legislation on this fishery shall become imperative. In 1885 the net value of our lobster catch was \$82,000. In the custom returns for 1886 it leaped up to \$145,491 or 75 per cent. in twelve months as an increase. In 1887 the value of the produce of this fishery was \$209,671. In P. E. Island, which has not one-tenth the coast, island, islet, rock and shoal facilities we have, this fishery alone in 1885 netted \$250,000. There is then in it for us at least \$1,000,000 annually. In Canada and the Maritime Provinces this fish is protected during certain seasons, and the capture of a fish under eleven inches subjects the fisherman to a penalty.

In this colony we have many useful fishery laws on our statute book, but owing to the want of a fishery bureau they remain there unenforced, unpromulgated and useless. For instance, our law regulating the size of mesh in codtraps, which is flagrantly violated in every settlement throughout the country. Our bait law, which will practically come into operation next summer, owing to the absence of such an institution, will remain a dead letter. The time has come when legislation on our fisheries is absolutely necessary and that legislation must be enforced through the proper channel—a fish bureau. In the Dominion those laws are strictly enforced in the following manner: Over every 100 or 150 miles of coast, lake and river there is placed an overseer with copies of all fishery laws and with full instructions from the fishery department how to act in all cases of violation. He is supplied with blank forms which he has to fill up and send in, giving accurate returns of all fish caught in his section. Not alone what is exported, but also what is consumed is ascertained in this way, and the real value of the year's fishery made known. In Newfoundland we can but know the value of fish exports. Under the overseer and subject to his instructions, are five or six wardens who have copies of the laws and who look out for their enforcement and all violations within a stretch of from fifteen to thirty miles. The overseers are paid from \$100 to \$150 a year, and the wardens about \$20. This money goes usually into the hands of school teachers and practical fishermen. In Nova Scotia this service costs about \$25,000. This includes hatching, fishways and all the work of the department. If we were to strike off \$20,000 from the \$60,000 police expenditure, we could have just as good a system and would be getting much more value for our money. In a few years it would pay for itself by what it would cut off from the \$200,000 or one-fifth of our revenue poor grant. All the species of fish caught in the Dominion could be introduced here. To give a list of these is unnecessary, but they can be found in the Dominion Fishery Report for 1886.

Our Fishery Bureau would have to collect all the scientific information obtainable of the different food fishes found in our waters, and of the food fishes of other countries that might be successfully introduced and climatised. The latest modern appliance for fishing in use in other lands would be, through its agency, introduced here. There is no necessity for sending abroad for a scientific help to the department, for there is nothing connected with pisciculture but a man of a practical turn of mind and a grammar school education could master in twelve months. A dozen pamphlets and reports with plates in them of the way these matters are managed in other countries will teach all that can be learned upon the subject. Such a man, with a dozen active and intelligent young fishermen in the different hatteries throughout the country, and with the necessary number of overseers and wardens, could manage easily the whole machinery of the department. If our large lakes were filled with valuable food fishes in the interior of the country, they, with the aid of a railway, would help very considerably the colonization of whatever agricultural lands we possess. Before concluding, there is a matter connected with our herring fishery which is worthy of notice. In Newfoundland, if the herring do not “strike in” on the coast, there is no fishery. Yet, as regular as the sun is in his courses through the heavens, so regular are the herring in their movements through the Straits and down the Labrador in the Spring of every year to the pastures and spawning grounds of the North, coming back over the same ground in the Fall. This fish, from the middle of September up to the last of October, is in the prime condition. If purse seining for the deep sea were adopted, there would be a certainty of a large herring fishery each year,

and a fishery too that would be carried on after the cod-fishery was over. Here is a splendid opening for our bankers after they have “wound up” their fishing for cod. I cannot say whether caplin has sufficient of nutriment to warrant its being put up as sardines in cans; but if it has the necessary nutriment, a great deal of money would be turned over to the labor of this country in preparing it for market. If our herring fishery were properly worked, even with the present labor and appliances that could be brought to it, the produce would be worth a million dollars annually. (Concluded to-morrow.)

THAT SILVER WEDDING PRESENT.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—It does appear, in view of the prostrated condition of the operative classes of this colony, as if the hint contained in the following extracts from *London Truth* is especially applicable to our circumstances. If we have any largesses to give, better far to devote them to feeding the hungry and clothing the naked within our gates, of whom there are, I fear, tens of thousands—poor fishermen and their families needing such assistance. Were the island in a flourishing condition, as may be the case after the next fishery season, then all could cooperate in subscribing to a suitable gift to their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales being especially popular in this colony since he paid it a visit in 1860. Were he indeed to know that we were straining a point in order to get up a testimonial to him, he would hardly feel complimented, considering the poverty-stricken circumstances of so many people and the forced character of the offering.

Yours truly, MEMO.

“A number of silly, servile geese who call themselves the ‘personal friends’ of the Princess of Wales, are rushing about pestering people for contributions towards a ‘silver wedding’ present to her Royal Highness, and so indefatigable have been the exertions of the promoters of this nonsense that about £4,000 has been collected which is to be expended in jewellery, of which the Princess already possesses enough to stock a large shop.

“I have no doubt that both the Prince and Princess will be perfectly overwhelmed with ‘silver wedding’ gifts, for the enthusiastic donors will look upon the money thus expended as bread cast upon the waters to be found after [few] days in the shape of Marlborough House invitations and similar ‘gratifications’ which are so much in request among the herd of society simpletons.”

LOCAL VARIETIES.

THE *Silvia*, Captain Beavis, has arrived at Parnambuco.

THE coastal steamer *Curlew* arrived at Channel at 4.30 o'clock this morning.

A DENSE fog in the ciffing set in this afternoon, and drift ice has been forced in the harbor by the S.E. wind.

At the regular meeting of Brookfield Lodge, of the Independent Order of Good Templars, held at Brookfield Good Templar Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 8th, the following officers were elected and installed by Bro. Wm. Cook, Lodge Deputy, for the ensuing quarter:—

- Chief Templar: Bro. Robert Hughes, elected.
- Vice Templar: Bro. Wm. Crocker, elected.
- Secretary: Bro. A. Crocker, elected.
- Fin. Secy: Sister Lizzie Cowan, elected.
- Treasurer: Sister Martha Hendry, re-elected.
- Chaplain: Sister Agnes Cowan, elected.
- Marshal: Sister Jessie Hendry, elected.
- Guard: Bro. Peter Cowan, elected.
- Sentinel: Bro. Benjamin Squires, elected.
- Ass't. Secy: Sister Maria Cowan, appointed.
- Deputy Marshal: Sister Lizzie Cook, re-appointed.
- Past Chief Templar: Bro. I. C. Morris, elected.

This lodge is in a healthy condition, in numbers and finance. The new hall is now finished and reflects great credit on the members, the most of whom are in the morning of life. With the noble mission of “templary” before them, their object can be truly said to be good.

SUPREME COURT.

(POST TERMINAL SITTINGS.)

Baine and Others, Toronto versus McPherson.

Special case submitted for opinion and decision of Mr. Justice Pinsent, D.C.L. In this case the right of property (a safe) remained in the plaintiffs under the peculiar agreement, upon which it was ordered until the conditions thereof were fulfilled, and did not pass to the Mortgagee or the Trustee, under the Insolvency of Parsons & Peach. The judgment must therefore be for the plaintiffs, the defendant, however, having the option of returning the safe or paying the balance due thereon. Mr. Greene for plaintiffs; Mr. McNeilly, Q.C., for defendant.

Studdy vs. Eales.

An action for the recovery of damages for trespass on plaintiff's farming land; defendant pleading that the piece of land in dispute forms part of his property. Plaintiff proved that it was included in his bill of sale. Judgment for plaintiff with sixty dollars damages.

DIED.

At Upper Island Cove, on Sunday, the 5th inst., after a short illness, Julia, relict of the late James Drover, aged 83 years.

Last evening, of paralysis, after a brief illness, Henry Duder, aged 67 years. Funeral from his late residence, Devon Cottage, Old Portugal Cove Road, on Saturday next, at 8 p.m.; friends and relatives will please accept this the only intimation.