

THE STAR

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THE STAR.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25th, 1875.

The following telegram has been received, and handed to us for publication:

HALIFAX, March 22,

To—Prussian arrived—all well. Messrs. Barlock, Bryden, Baird, Balmer, Carvill, F.ew, Irving, Longwill, Paterson, Pippy, and Simpson, passengers.

Parties [not subscribers] who may receive a copy of the Star and a desire of supporting it, will please notify us as soon as possible. It will be the aim of the proprietor to make the paper as interesting as possible by publishing all local matters that may be of benefit to the public.

WITHIN the remembrance of many of our oldest inhabitants scarcely has it ever fallen to the lot of this country, to pass through a winter, of such incessant severity, as has been the case during the winter which is now closing upon us. The unusual scarcity of fuel has added considerably to the sufferings of the poor. It is, however, very gratifying to every member of this community that we have in our midst, so many charitable institutions, composed of orderly and considerate men, whose object and aim are not of a selfish and personal nature, but are prompted by a spirit of self-denial and regard for the sufferings and privations of their fellow-men, whom Providence has placed in situations of poverty and distress.

Amongst these several institutions we believe there is none that has done more good in the town, and among the poorer classes generally, than the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This noble institution was established under the direction of His Lordship DR. CARFAGNINI, some year or two ago, and since its organization many are to be found who with thankful and grateful hearts call for blessings on its originators; its helping hand is extended indiscriminately, irrespective of class or creed, to all who are objects of need; and the facilities which the managers of this institution have offered to the 'Widows and Orphans' in the way of employment are such as will tend to instill into those youths habits of economy and industry which will tell with effect on their after life and intercourse with the world. We say that the thanks of the whole community are due to those gentlemen who, at a great deal of personal inconvenience and trouble, established this Society; and who are untiring in their united efforts to relieve the distress and better the condition of their fellow-men.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR,

Sir,—An account of the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, by the Conception Bay Benevolent Irish Society was published in the "Standard," of Saturday last, over the signature "Lucan," but as the apparent timidity or natural modesty shown by the writer in underrating the grand display made by that body on the above day has given rise to general dissatisfaction among the friends of that "Venerable Institution," I beg leave that you will afford me space in your valuable journal to correct the mis-statements made by "Lucan."

The report referred to states that the procession numbered 150 members. O extraordinary modesty! O shameful suppression of facts! O "Lucan" your habitual timidity on this occasion amounts to cowardice!

The procession, the most magnificent I ever beheld, extended from the Custom House to Kerry Lane, a distance of a mile, and must necessarily comprise not fewer than 500 members, including the Amazons by whom it was accompanied.

The green flag a "real gem" is stated to have cost the paltry sum of only thirty pounds monstrous "Lucan" why the material cost fifty pounds. I consider "Lucan's" description of the members comprising this ancient body uncomplimentary in the extreme; they are neither so gross in person nor so rough in manners as he represents them, on the contrary, they are, as active as pretty, and their politeness is proportionate to their education; however, these are only minor points. Their object is charity, "unostentatious" charity. When they give alms it is not with a "trumpet sounding before them," but in accordance with that injunction of the Gospel, "Let not thy left hand know what thy right doth." Trusting that these remarks will allay the dissatisfaction caused by the errors in "Lucan's" report.

I remain, Yours, &c.,

ONE OF THE TRUE STOCK.

The Lady Mary, Capt. Rex, arrived here yesterday from New York to Messrs. Harvey & Co., having on board seven of the men who boarded the wrecked schooner Violetta from St. Mary's, thirteen others having reached Harbor Grace per brig Trusty, Capt. Hennessy.

From information received by our Reporter from Capt. Rex confirmed by a personal interview which we have had with James Barry, we give the following correct statement of the affair from the beginning. On Tuesday, March 2, thirty four men belonging to St. Mary's and neighborhood left Cape English on the ice with the intention of boarding the abandoned schooner Violetta. Thirteen of these men were prevented from reaching the vessel, the ice having opened. They turned and hurried towards the shore, but found themselves cut off there also by a wide reach of water, the wind having blown fresh from the shore since they had left it. Finding it impossible to reach land, they retraced their steps in hopes that they might yet be enabled to board the vessel. In endeavouring to do this they sufficed a great deal in swimming, and dragging themselves through the water from pan to pan. Some of them were drowned, and the remainder died from exposure. The names of those thus lost are as follows: James Whelan, Michael Vail and son, George Rowsell and son, Thomas Bowen and son, Michael Barry, Joseph Grace, Michael Power, Patrick Dobbin, Patrick Layden, and John Power, — 13.

Seventeen men reached the Violetta safely, and were driven off with the ice. Some of them were nine days on board, the vessel during that time having been carried 100 miles to the S. E. of Cape St. Mary's, and back again to within 50 miles of the land. There were no provisions on board except about half a barrel of flour, which the men scraped up with their hands from the hold. Some sum was found on board also, but as some of the men exhibited a disposition to "drink and drown sorrow," the wiser ones left it unoverboard.

Four men yet remained on the ice. These were the four brothers Barry—one of whom, Michael Barry died from exhaustion. The other three were picked up on the 6th instant by Capt. Spencer of the George Fogg, and on the 11th this vessel drifted to the neighbourhood of the Violetta when all hands went on board the George Fogg, and were treated most kindly by Captain Spencer, of whom they speak in the highest terms. On the 16th the Lady Mary, Capt. Rex was sighted and soon drifted near the George Fogg. Capt. Spencer, who was bound for Barbadoes, asked Capt. Rex, to take the men on board, but being destitute of fuel and other necessities, the latter could only take seven, who reached here in his vessel yesterday. The names of these seven are: Richard Connors, Edward Mowlan, Jno. Sancoix, Daniel White, John Murray, Thomas Hoyle, and James Barry.

The brig Trusty, Capt. Hennessy, came in eight next day, and the remaining thirteen men were transferred to that vessel and arrived here yesterday. The names of these are—James Tobin, Wm. Routen, Thos. Mooney, Andrew Mooney, John Barry, Thos. Barry, James Peddie, John Fawer, James Grace, Patrick Tobin, Michael Tobin, Benjamin Sancoix, and James Murray.

The whole number of men are there-fore accounted for as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Count. Rows include: Died on the ice from exposure (10), Drowned (3), Arrived per Lady Mary (7), Trusty (13), and a total of 33.

On the 18th Feb. two men from the barque Era went on board the Lady Mary for provisions. Capt. Rex gave them a plentiful supply, when they informed him that two more men were coming to meet them. In a short time a thick snow drift came on, and after a few hours one of the last two men arrived on board, having on his way missed the two who had returned to the Era. This man informed Capt. Rex that his comrade (John McDonald of St. John's) was perishing on the ice. Taking brandy and other restoratives with him, and three of his men, Capt. Rex proceeded in search of McDonald, and after some time found him—dead. The Capt put up marks in the neighbourhood of the body, so as to be enabled to find it next day, but could not afterwards discover the locality. On returning to his vessel Capt. Rex was himself very nearly lost. There is no certainty that the first two men reached the Era safely on their return but it is hoped they did.

Capt. Rex deserves every thanks for the dangers and privations to which he subjected himself. His exertions deserve the recognition of the Government, as also do the humanity and kindness of Captains Spencer and Hennessy. The rescued men will of course receive those supplies of clothing of which they stand so much in need.—Chronicle.

JIM DOBBIN COMMISSION.

The Editor of the Morning Chronicle in a late number handles without gloves, ex-Commissioner Robinson's excuses for suppression of the evidence. We regret that a Judge of the Supreme Court should have placed himself in such an unworthy and contemptible position.

He should never have allowed self-interest to have led him into the acceptance of a position which by the exercise of a little common sense and the knowledge derived from experience, he should have felt, would more than probably have been used for venal purposes.

The temptation to build up by extraordinary services a claim upon the favor of the Government by doing extra judicial duty, was no doubt too strong for the Judge. We think that the success which seems to have personally attended his efforts has been dearly bought—bought at the sacrifice of self-respect and of public esteem.

The whole design of the Government in inducing a Judge to associate himself with a Commission, in other respects composed of political partisans was mean and contemptible in the extreme and its subsequent conduct in connection with it was yet worse.

For all that appears (and without counting the permanent burthen upon the Colony of the Judges increase of salary a sum double the amount involved in the Hercules charge has been expended in discovering nothing that was not just as fully known before and which might have been much more becomingly and more effectively dealt with by the Legislature.

The commission has signally failed with regard to any other charge, and has not attempted to report a single instance of alleged malfeasance that the Government would dare to deal with—beyond this, that the Commission has been made the tool to circulate for election purposes whole-ale charges of "coal thieving" and such like, which neither the Government nor the Commission dares now to substantiate by evidence.

If there be "thieves" the Government has either adopted them into its own fold or failed to prosecute and the position is simply this—that any Government desirous of backing the character of its opponents will have in future only to appoint a so called "Royal Commission" composed of its creatures, to define the character of everybody connected with the opposite party and use its reports, at the public expense, as the vile expedients of an unprincipled election contest—the alleged evidence of all this slander being withheld and suppressed.

This is a practice somewhat novel in the history of Governments supposed to be based upon the principles and regulated after the manner of the British constitution.

We have not time just now to note the numerous occasions upon which, through the columns of the Government press, the proceedings of the Commission in question were thus used—that they were so from the outset: must have been perfectly well known to Commissioner Robinson and his colleagues, and by way of example we give an extract from the paper of which the proprietor is the Colonial Secretary, with which the Commissioners were in constant communication. The Newfoundland of the 20th October has the following:—"We don't yet learn whether or not the 'coal grabbers' meditate any raid on Trinity. We don't know that their name and fame, through the Royal Commission have circulated with more extensive freedom there than elsewhere, but perhaps they themselves are better informed." Go ahead Mr. Little with the good work you have begun, force the evidence out of them! You owe it to yourself you owe it to the five or six and twenty candidates who were defamed and defeated partly through the dirty work of this Commission, you owe it to the supporters of your Party everywhere, you owe it to the public and to the public service, that individual

who have brought an evil name upon you, and who are said to have swindled the public by "coal grabbing" and "coal thieving" and other means, should not be detected on y, as it is said they have been, but that their names should be known and that they should be punished and politics and the public service purged of them,—and if false charges have been made it is due to the defamed that the defamers should be brought to justice.

As the matter stands it is a piece of low political charlatanism and there has been no fraud the subject of the Commissioner's enquiry equal to the fraud of appointing such a Commission, using it for such purposes spending so much of the public money upon it and then compounding all the felonies; and possibly worse, the making use by the Government of the accused for the purpose of defaming others with the understanding of impunity. We shall probably have something to say about the peculiarity of the time and occasion upon which Commissioner Robinson resigned his office and left Messrs. Fox and Goodfellow to go on, when they shortly dropped the business too, with an apology for a fifth report.—Courier, March 20.



LONDON, March, 16.

Bismarck in Diet yesterday said that the maxim that more obedience was due to God than man did not certainly mean that more obedience was due to the Pope misguidedly by the Jesuits than to the king. The government was doing its duty to protect German freedom of mind from Rome.

It is stated that confidential exchanges are taking place between Italy and Germany about a successor to Pius.

NEW YORK, 17.

The Change incorporation bill has been passed in the legislative council of New Brunswick by two majority.

LONDON, 18.

Spain demanded extradition from Germany of Don Alfonso brother to Don Carlos, charging him with offences against the common law.

St. Patrick's Day celebrated by usual festivities throughout Ireland.

The King of Burmah and Lord Northbrook are disputing about boundaries. The King will hold out and troops are being sent to British Burmah to bring the King to his senses.

PORT HASTINGS, 20.—The local government brought down Cape Breton railway policy on Thursday. To any company building a road from New Glasgow to Louisburg, is offered from the Dominion government the present road from Truro to Pictou—worth one million dollars; from the local government five thousand dollars for every mile built in Cape Breton and 200,000 acres of land, \$5000 will be granted for a steam ferry across the Strait of Canso.

LONDON, 19.—Spain requests Austria not to allow Don Alfonso to reside in Austrian territory.

In Prussian Landtag main clauses of the Bill, withdrawing state grants from Roman Catholic bishops, were passed by an overwhelming majority.

NEW YORK, 19.—Gold 113.

FREDERICTON, N.B. 19.—Hon. Mr. Willis gave notice of a resolution embodying the necessity of maritime Union, and authorizing the House to negotiate with Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island to hold a convention for that purpose.

LONDON, 20.

John Mitchell is dead. The Times says that the Prince of Wales will go to India the next cold season.

The annual University race was won by Oxford by 10 lengths. Cambridge started bad, Oxford kept the lead from Hammersmith bridge.

NEW YORK, 21.—Gold 115

LONDON, 21.—Thirty-thousand Irishmen held a mass meeting in Hyde Park, adopted resolutions demanding the release of the Fenian prisoners, condemned coercion of law in Ireland; and condoled with Mitchell's family.

The Carlists have been defeated by General Compa's 900 prisoners captured. Castellar has resigned the professorship of University, owing to re-estabishment of exclusive use of text books prescribed during Isabella's reign.

NEW YORK, 22.—Gold 114.

Amongst the distressing incidents of the late disaster at St. Mary's we learn that a man named Bowen who was on board one of Messrs. J. & W. Stewart's steamers going to the ice, hearing that his father and brother were amongst the missing men, gave up his berth and returned home. On the following day he went into the woods for firewood, and on his return across Holyrood Pond he burst a blood vessel and died almost immediately. His mother had been down amongst the people of Holyrood seeking some assistance and on returning she fell in her dead son lying across his load of wood. In her grief she was obliged to take off the wood and lift her son's body on the slide which the poor woman had then to haul home, there being no help at hand.—Newfoundlander.

James Tobin one of the rescued St. Mary's men states that had it not been for the remains of two barrels of flour put on board the Violetta by Michael Lundregan on Peter's River at great risk of life, when the vessel was six miles from Lundregan's house those on board would have starved, as there were no provisions on board.—(Ibid.)

LOCALS.

Paul Pry is once more at large making the air ring with his hideous cries.

We anxiously await to hear of the first arrival from the Seal fishery.

It appears that some of our "thorough-breds" have been exercising themselves in different parts of the town.

The street boys are very quiet and inoffensive at present. Police are making very few captures.

A considerable number of old Seals were seen off the Grates Cove, a few days ago and some were captured.

About forty sail of vessels were seen off St. John's, stuck in the ice and drifting the southward.

One of our heavy swells' very rich committed a breach of the peace one day last week.

Telegram has been received announcing the arrival of the "Newfoundland" at Halifax.

The Brig "William," Pike, master, from New York, to Messrs. John Munn & Co., put into Bay Bulls, yesterday.

The Regular Meeting of the Total Abstinence and Benefit Society has been postponed until Thursday, 1st April.

The Assembly is closed, to enable the members to spend the Easter holidays, in the bosom of their families. Our member looks hale and hearty.

Lovers of music would do well to encourage the magnificent String Band, practising nightly in Mr. Kennedy's work-shop. Our reporter was treated to a grand Violin Solo, by Billy Beach, on Monday last.

On Tuesday last, a poor woman named Elizabeth Hussey, belonging to the "Tits" left town for home. It seems she was in company with a man named James, and as night came on the cowardly rascal abandoned her, she being in a very weak state. On yesterday and today, diligent searches were made to recover her remains, but without success. The affair is being investigated.

Three of the 'Starrigan' worthies held a 'palaver' on the side walk. We despatched our reporter to the locality in search of an item. He learned that two of the number were trying to prevail on their 'music hero,' to deliver a lecture. He intimated to them his readiness to comply with their wishes, and commissioned the tall individual to issue the usual notice. We hear that the lecture will be delivered on Easter Monday.—Subject, "(Ith)ology." Our readers, therefore, may look for a full account in our next.

Our reporter has handed us a short review of the Festival which came off in the Masonic Hall last week. He received an invitation to the meeting from a friend. After some preliminary arrangements had been completed in the way of tea and cake, the chair was taken by John Munn, Esq., who addressed the children at some length in his usual affable style. A hymn was then sung by the children; next followed some recitations by some of the more advanced pupils, which were executed in a surprising manner, and reflect great credit on the trainers of those youthful elevationists. Sheriff Bemister, Rev. C. Ludner, and Judge Bennett, also addressed the children; and Mr. Ohman fulfilled the pleasant duty of thanking the ladies. We cannot close this brief review of the entertainment without awarding those ladies and gentlemen who composed the choir, that honor and eulogism which they have justly merited for themselves. Never within our reporter's remembrance has he had the inexpressable delight in listening to such soul inspiring music as was poured forth in such melodious strains of harmony. He felt as if his inward soul would burst its fetters and soar away on wings of sweetest joy, in fact, he was so much overcome and enraptured by this vocal demonstration as to prevent him from giving his views until the present time. In order that our readers may better form a faint idea of the grandeur, and magnificent display which was shown by this company of vocal artists, we beg to acquaint them that this said company of vocalists had undergone a severe course of training under the leadership of two professionals since Christmas, up until the last moment—day and night—with scarcely any intermission whatever. The pieces acquired and rendered with such glorious effect on the occasion in question consisted of two anthems,