

The Evening Telegram

ST. JOHN'S, FEBRUARY 7, 1888.

IT MUST NOT BE.
The Colony Can't Afford It.

I had rather see my courtiers laugh at my avarice, than my people weep at my extravagance.—Louis XII.

OUR esteemed correspondent "Pro Lege et Grege," in Saturday's TELEGRAM, points to the probability that the death of Judge Hoyles will be made the occasion of a change in the Supreme Bench here. In other words, he assumes that the Government will avail of the opportunity Sir Hugh's demise affords to pension off our universally-respected Chief Justice and appoint either Sir William White-way—who they fear as a political opponent—or the present Attorney General Winter to that important position.

Whether the Government really contemplate any such change, we are not just now in a position to determine. No doubt they would not hesitate very long, if they believed such a proceeding would improve their position in any way. But, fortunately, it is difficult at present to see how the feeble tenure of the Thorburn Administration could be strengthened by any promotion to the Bench from the Executive, as now constituted. Perfidious and all as Mr. J. S. Winter is, they cannot possibly do without him at the council board. He displays "a level head sometimes"—although not a very wise or prudent one—and that is more than can be truthfully said of other prominent members of the Government. The fact is, they could not appoint Mr. Winter, nor would they if they could. Why wouldn't they? Well, you see, reader, there was a public meeting held in the Star of the Sea Hall a year or two ago, at which resolutions were passed condemning Mr. W.'s public conduct and pronouncing him as unfit for the office of Attorney General, not to speak of the exalted position of Chief of the Supreme Bench. Some of the Government's indispensable supporters, were present at that meeting and warmly sympathized with the proceedings. How could these consent to Mr. Winter's appointment to the Chief Justiceship or any Justiceship at all? They couldn't do it, and therefore the idea has never been seriously entertained by them.

As regards Sir William White-way, we have only to say that his intention to re-enter the political arena is unaltered and unalterable. The people have asked him to become their standard-bearer once more, and to rescue poor Terra Nova from the ruin into which bold bad men in authority are leading her; and, in compliance with public sentiment, he has pledged himself to do so. Obviously, then, the party at present in power are not going to get rid of Sir William as easily as some of their predecessors managed to silence another popular public man on a previous occasion.

But there's a more important view yet to be taken of this subject. We refer to the matter of economy; and just here the question arises, Can we afford to pension Sir Frederic Carter, supposing, for the sake of argument, that His Excellency felt disposed to retire? No, we cannot. Already the colony is overburdened with taxation; thousands of our people are barely eking out a miserable existence, and as many as can get away are leaving the island by every available opportunity. In a word, our pension list is far too extravagant already. But we happen to know that Sir Frederic does not wish to retire. He is still " hale and hearty," and quite capable of doing all that's required of him. Why, the ablest judges on the Bench in the United Kingdom to-day are much older men than our Chief Justice, and we venture to say that not one of them is anxious to retire. The same may be said with respect to pretty well all the great statesmen of Europe. Here in Newfoundland we are altogether too apt to "pension off" our judges before their judicial faculties are fully developed. This is a grave mistake, and the Commonwealth suffers in consequence.

Furthermore, it is also a mistake on the part of judges themselves to retire earlier in life than is absolutely necessary. It takes a public man much longer to wear out than to rush out, and this fact is now recognized by leading physicians everywhere. Retired judges, as a rule, do not live long to enjoy their pensions. They soon feel their need of mental and physical exercise. Nervous debility and gout then step in and "life's poor play is o'er." On the other hand, it is a noteworthy fact that judges who remain in harness often attain to seventy-five and eighty years of age, while we occasionally hear of one getting "away up in the nineties."

All things considered, then, we may reasonably assume that no change will be made in the personnel of our Bench—for the present, at any rate.

The ocean-boat *Polynesian*, which sails from Halifax next Saturday, will take the passengers hence per Newfoundland to Liverpool.

LAST NIGHT'S CONCERT.

A Well-Filled Hall and a Good Programme.

THE first entertainment of Readings and Music of the Athenæum's course came off last evening and was remarkably successful. Mr. Barrett, the talented organist of St. Andrew's Choir, is to be congratulated that he organized a felicitous programme—which contained a happy admixture of pieces of music, grave and gay, adapted admirably to the tastes of a general audience, whilst his selections of choruses were the finest of any similar number of harmonies heard here. The concert was opened by Mr. John Flannery in a sentimental song—"Ever Dear"—the rendition of which was well up to the standard of his average efforts, but he positively excelled himself in a second contribution in response to an encore—"I Did It"—one of the most humorous and electrical (in its effects) of the many comic songs for which he is famed. Miss Irving followed in a pretty lyric of an amatory kind. Her voice is fresh as the dew of May, and her notes sweet and clearly defined, a voice in which lies the promise of superior accomplishments with maturer years. She was loudly applauded, but did not respond to the encore. Mr. Hepburn's song—"The Storm Fiend is the Lord of Woe"—is first of all a composition of uncommon grandeur, and his really splendid voice, never before heard to finer advantage than in this air, was mellower than usual, and displayed rather the notes of a baritone than of a bass. He certainly earned the flattering encore which greeted him and to which he replied by a repetition of another verse. Then followed a chorus; after which the Rev. Mr. Graham appeared in a reading of Longfellow's famous "King Robert of Sicily." Next came Miss Jardine, ever welcome, who has erected a throne in the hearts of lovers of song and whose presence is certain to make a success of every concert. She sang first the "Peri's Home," a pretty imaginative theme which afforded the fullest scope for her powers of elaborate vocalization, and for her encore a Scottish melody of wooing and winning. Mr. Ledingham was next heard in the spirit-stirring ballad "Where the Highland Tartans Wave," and he sang it finely; his tones have many rich, musical qualities, and our only regret is that they are heard in public so seldom. The chorus of the air was given in grand volume by the united voices of the choir. Mr. Ledingham was handsomely encored, to which he responded in another lyric in which he was equally successful as in the first. The solo by Miss Neyle was one of the sweetest strains of the evening. Her notes are very pure, distinct and mellow in quality, and her voice rich in revelations of high powers of melody which we yet hope to hear fully developed. She was warmly applauded, but did not respond to the evident desire of the audience for her reappearance. The concert was closed in fine style with the chorus "Wake, Gallant Hearts," and by the singing of the National Anthem. A large audience was present.

OUR FRIENDS IN BONAVISTA.

DEAR SIR,—An entertainment, consisting of songs, dialogues, recitations, readings and dances (old English), the latter rather a novel feature on such occasions, was given by Miss Gould, our enterprising teacher, and her pupils, in the hall of the S. U. F. to-night. The audience, considering the roughness of the weather, was rather large; and, without a dissentient voice, expressed complete satisfaction with the performers, who gave evidence of no little talent on their part, and of great care and untiring perseverance on the part of their teacher.

The Chairman (Rev. A. E. C. Bayley, R.D.), at the close of the programme expressed himself astonished, and compared the status of children intellectually, and opportunities for improvement now, with that of the "good old times," when the whole school (of seven) had but one book!!

At the request of some friends, Miss Gould has kindly consented to repeat the entertainment.

Yours, ever truly, VOX.
Bonavista, Jan. 12, 1888.

A COMPLAINT FROM SHOAL HARBOR.

DEAR SIR.—The inhabitants of Lower Shoal Harbor and the adjacent settlements would be thankful if our Postmaster General would open a Way Office at this place. Various other places of minor importance have enjoyed such a favor for a number of years. Are we to be overlooked forever and ever? Thanking you for space I remain, dear sir, yours hopefully, INHABITANT.

LOWER SHOAL HARBOR,
Random Sound, Jan. 26, 1888.

P.S.—Two foxes were captured here yesterday—one trapped, the other shot—Archibald Tilley being the lucky person this time.

THE COLONY'S STAPLE INDUSTRY.

Artificial Assistance to Our Fisheries.

II.—PISCICULTURE IN OTHER LANDS.

I HAVE the fishery reports of Canada and the United States before me, as well as extracts from several pamphlets published by the National Fish Culture Association, England, the Deutsche Fischer Verein, Germany, and the Societe d'Acclimatization, Paris, from which I glean the following important facts: In England and Germany the lake and river area, through the scientific propagation of fishes, has become more valuable than an equal area of land. The success which has attended the few hatcheries of late put up in these two countries has begotten a general desire for an extension of their benefits, and the number of these useful establishments is annually increasing. In the United States thirty-nine of the State Governments have sent in their returns—reports of the establishment of separate fishery departments—and have given the names of ninety-seven fishery commissioners. Let him who has any doubts of the benefits conferred by hatcheries in distributing fry turn up a synopsis of these exhaustive reports, and I feel confident of his speedy conversion. This synopsis will be found in appendix to the late Prof. Baird's report for 1886. A wonderful variety of fishes have been changed about from different parts of that great country, and many have been introduced from foreign lands and have been successfully acclimatized to the sea coasts, lakes and rivers of the States. In many cases species have been improved by changes to different waters. In glancing over the report of the late Professor Baird I notice that eggs and live fish were sent by the Department to England, Holland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Australia, Brazil, Chili, and Mexico, and also that the United States Commissioners received many new species of fish from these countries in return. The discovery of a rational system of oyster culture, including the collection of spat, by a new process proposed by John A. Ryder, might be of considerable importance to our Fishery Commission, now sitting, here. Considerable attention is directed to the propagation of lobsters, which, of all food fishes, migrates the least. Flatfish, for a similar reason, are much propagated. It would be useless to hazard a guess as to the number of millions of eggs hatched out during 1886, as outside of these State-aided institutions many private citizens have devoted time and capital to fish-propagation as a work of philanthropy. It is certain that some hundreds of millions of eggs were hatched out. I understand that Mr. Martin has made arrangements for the introduction of the two following valuable fish from United States waters: (1) *salmo salar* or land-locked salmon, and (2) *salmo purpuratus* or Rocky Mountain trout, which weighs from two to ten pounds, and one of which captured has been known to attain twenty-eight pounds. The successful introduction of both these fishes to our waters will be attended with good results. The fresh water herring is another fish worthy of having experiments made upon it in our waters. For disbelievers in the advantages of fish hatching I will cite the Sacramento River. In 1880 there was no fish in that river. Professor Baird erected a hatchery there in 1882. During the past year the take was 15,000,000 pounds of salmon. The fishermen received but five cents per fish and still made \$5 and \$6 a day. Again, let us glance at the white fish fishery of the Great Lakes. In '71 and '80 investigations of this important industry led to the fears of its speedy exhaustion. Sober statistics and a census of the fishery pointed that way. Artificial assistance was rendered at the rate of 50,000,000 fry a year. In 1884 all fears had passed away. The fish were more numerous and larger catches made than ever. Outside of private enterprise and by the commission alone, in two years, 341,096,000 fry were placed in the waters of the United States. In 1885 there were 173,666,083 eggs hatched out.

THE FISHERY BUREAU.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Murphy, M.H.A., kindly informs us that he is going to furnish us through your columns with an exhaustive report about the Fishery Bureau, which is quite going to "take the shine out of" the report of the Commission (whatever that may be) and, I suppose, induce all the readers of the EVENING TELEGRAM to "swallow" the Bureau.

I have no doubt Mr. Murphy may be a very clever young man, Mr. Editor, but suppose he will allow other people to enjoy their own opinion on this subject, uninfluenced by his "exhaustive" efforts. For my part I fail to see the slightest necessity for that fal-deral called a Fishery Bureau, or anything in it except the expenditure of a few sops for a number of covetous people who never seem to know when they have "enough" of the public money, joined with a few more who want to find some colorable pretext for taking a Government bribe while waiting for the sun to get round to the opposition benches. Good might no doubt be done by establishing a few fish hatcheries at the head of our principal bays, but all the necessary machinery for this exists already or can easily be set in motion by the Government without the intervention of a local fishery bureau. What do they know about fish-culture, except what they get out of books already and equally accessible to all? If any money is spent on fish-culture let it be spent directly, on the practical work, not in feeing idle lawyers and other political "hangers-on" who know as much about "fish-culture" as Mickey Free did about Ballagatish Fair.

Yours truly, PHELM O'TOOLE.
St. John's, Feb. 7, 1888.

"CORGEOUS IND!"

AN eloquent lecture on the above subject was delivered at St. John, N.B., on the 30th ultimo, by Rev. L. G. Macneil, M.A. Our second page to-day contains a lengthy synopsis of this brilliant effort, for which we are indebted to a late number of the St. John Sun. Anything from the lips or the pen of Mr. Macneil is sure to be regarded with much interest by his many warm friends here.

MR. LAWRENCE PARKER has improved his premises to such a degree by adding extensively to the width of its eastern entrance, that, insensibly, the poor baymen walk right into it when journeying up town in search of cheap flour and pork. As a result one shrewd gentleman from Port-de-Grave dubbed the said entrance, the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It's a high compliment to Mr. Parker's commercial status.

fish, \$434,349; smelt, \$432,213; trout, \$421,400; seal-skins, \$419,546; pollock, \$276,657; oysters, \$189,915; eels, \$163,621; alewives hake, sturgeon, halibut and shad, \$800,000. The total value of fishery plant, vessels, boats, nets, twine, etc., in use in the Dominion in 1886 is set down at \$6,814,295, which shows an embarkation of over \$200,000 of new capital during the year outside of necessary repairs to old gear and plant. There are 55,731 men; 1,113 vessels, 44,605 tons, 28,137 boats and 3,288,061 fathoms of nets and seines engaged in their fisheries. It is now not twenty years since Canada was first blessed with a fishery department and in that short space the value of fish products has been tripled. This wonderful development is largely due to the Bureau. Every important river and lake in the Dominion have been stocked with fry; scientific observation has gained much valuable knowledge of the life, habits and resorts of all Canadian food fishes; and modern engineering by means of ladders and fish ways have enabled the salmon and other fishes to climb rivers which, without these appliances, would be inaccessible. The fisheries are there properly protected, for every 20 or 30 miles of coast has a warden to see that all violators of fishery laws are brought under the whip of justice. The total quantity of ova laid down in all the hatcheries for 1886, throughout the Dominion, amounted to 93,224,000. In other words, for every fish taken out of the waters by Canadian and United States fishermen, they—it would be almost safe to assert—returned a young fish to the sea. This is truly rendering nature that artificial assistance of which she is so much in need. Then when we see almost all the civilized nations of the earth availing themselves of the economic advantages of pisciculture, why should Newfoundland, with her numerous shallow rivers and lake facilities, and off whose coasts extend for hundreds of leagues the richest fish pastures of the globe, hesitate any longer to organize a special department having for its object the protection and multiplying of those treasures which are richer and more inexhaustible than the combined wealth of fabled Ophir and Peru? There is no reasonable cause for delay, and let us trust to see, during the next few years, a well-organized fishery bureau working out the prosperity and well-being of our people.

A PRETTY HARD CASE.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—There is a case arising out of what may be called in the common idiom of the day, a grog-squall; but ending pretty hard on one of the individuals concerned. It happened this way: Sergeant Bailey, of the police force here, gave liberty to one of his subordinates, named Best, on Christmas Eve, to be off duty for a time; but, I believe, Best stayed over the time allotted. Bailey met him on the way home and in his authoritative and dignified way accused him of being drunk, whereupon Best, having (I dare say) a glass or two in, struck Bailey, and Bailey then struck him with his stick, and after a little rough and tumble Bailey called for help and arrested Best and put him in the lock-up, wrote to the Inspector and between the Government, the Inspector and the Sergeant got poor Best discharged from the force. Now, there seems to be something strange in this affair on Bailey's part. It is this, he knew when he met Best that he Best, was intoxicated and should have passed him and reprimanded him when sober, but people say here that Bailey was glad of the chance, for he wanted to get Best removed in place of Forsey (another of his subordinates) who was to be removed in the Spring. I wonder very much at Bailey. Now if he was a temperate man himself I would not wonder so much, but to the one glass Best drinks Bailey drinks five, and I would venture to bet he had more in at the time of the squabble than Best had, and if he got his due for being drunk and disorderly he would be dismissed long ago. There is one thing certain Best, is a general favorite here but Bailey got very few friends; he pretends to be very sorry now for what has happened, but no one believes him. He had time enough to reflect before he wrote to St. John's and he pretty well knew what would be the result. He got Best discharged and that is all he wanted; it was a shabby affair to discharge a poor fellow at this season of the year, when all navigation is stopped, and he in a strange place far from his friends, his native place being Placentia. If they intended to discharge him they could have done so in time for him to get home by the last mail boat. But, Mr. Editor, this is in keeping with all the other acts of this despicable Government. However, please goodness, we will soon have a change for the better. Hoping you will find room in your valuable journal for these few remarks, I am, yours very truly,
BONAVISTIAN.
Bonavista, Jan. 20th, 1888.

LOCAL VARIETIES.

THE brig *Trusty*, belonging to Messrs. Munn & Co., Harbor Grace, put in here this afternoon on her way to that port.

MR. JAMES HYNES has hung out this morning his new flag as an auctioneer. Its colors are green, white and blue, horizontally to the mast.

THIRTY-SEVEN sacks of letters and newspapers and one case of parcels were despatched by the postal authorities in the S.S. "Newfoundland."

THIRTY-SIX steerage passengers were the entire number who embarked in the S.S. "Newfoundland," a large proportion being girls and young women.

THE state of the country roads is execrable, but the sudden change from yesterday's thaw to the hard frosty conditions that now prevail have improved the levels. The ice in the Skating Rink has also been made "just right" by the sudden snap of cold.

A TELEGRAM to R. Prowse & Sons, from Harbor Grace, states that the banker *Barberene*, enroute to Carboner is ashore at Feather Point, near Harbor Grace Island. The steamer *Lady Glover* came here yesterday for the purpose of towing the schooner home; the two met each other off Cape St. Francis when the schooner announced that she could get along without the steamer's assistance and she proceeded on her way, while the *Lady Glover* came on here. It is supposed that the sudden change of wind at 3 o'clock this morning from S.E. to N.E. jammed the vessel in on the point.

DIED.
On Monday, after a lingering illness, Joshua Easterbrook, aged 35 years. Leaves a wife and five children to mourn his sad loss. Funeral at 2.30 on Wednesday next, from his late residence Prescott Street; friends and acquaintances are invited to attend, without further notice.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.
ENTERED.
6—Viola, Jelliffe, Halifax, 6 days, J Murray—1155 bales hay, 583 bush oats, 209 pkgs tea, jetty-landed deck load hay, Portia, Dawson, Halifax, 3 days. Harvey & Co.—2536 bris flour, 130 bxs soap, 151 bales leather, 769 tubs butter, 62 qtrs beef, 123 bales hay, 20 bris apples, 1610 bris pork, 50 bris beef, 76 puns, 19 tics, 18 bris molasses, 89 bris meats, 12 bxs meats, 30 puns rum, 30 tics lard, 70 doz brooms, 110 tics, 180 bris oil, 300 bags corn, 24 bxs tobacco, 100 bls sugar, general cargo. Camella, Harvey, Bahia, 48 days, P & L Tessier ballast.

CLEARED.
7—Rosina, Stafford, Pernambuco, A Goodridge & Sons—3402 qts fish.

LOADING.
Feb. 3—Little Wonder, Europe, Job, Bros. & Co.
6—May, West Indies, J Murray.
Ceylon, West Indies, J Murray.

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