

# The Literary Echo.

CHARLOTTETOWN, MAY 15, 1875.

## PROSPECTUS

OF THE

### Prince Edward Island TIMES.

On the first of July next, the undersigned purpose to commence the publication of a large, 36-column Newspaper, to be called THE PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND TIMES. It will be the largest Newspaper printed on our Island, and indeed we know of none larger published in the Maritime Provinces.

THE TIMES will be printed on a good article of paper, in legible type, and will contain in each issue—

An interesting continued Tale; a short Story; Humorous Selections; Domestic Receipts; Current Events of the day; News, Foreign and Domestic; Local Matters; Marine and Fishing Intelligence; Agricultural Items; Educational Notes; Religious Intelligence, &c., &c.

It is designed to make THE TIMES a valuable Family Journal, in the columns of which all members of the family circle may find something to interest, amuse, and instruct.

Neither Political squabbles or Religious bickerings shall find a place in THE TIMES. Our wish is to furnish a Newspaper that may be taken in any family without its members finding anything offensive to cherished principles. Yet we shall reserve the right to support any public measure which shall plainly be for the public interest, and also the right to denounce men or measures having a tendency to militate against the general welfare.

On all moral questions THE TIMES will be outspoken when necessary. We believe the Press of any country has a great mission; and where it fails to uphold what is pure and good, or fails to suggest progress and improvement in private as well as public affairs, it is recreant to its trust.

THE TIMES, however, does not enter the field as a reformer. We are not enthusiasts. Humanity, Christian forbearance, toleration and respect for the opinions of others increase every day. Our efforts, in a small way, shall be to assist this great current of good-will and friendship. And believing the old saw that "man is a laughing animal," we shall give all the Fun we can pick up at home and abroad; and present Facts and Fancy to our readers, leaving the animosities of Politics, Personalities, and Religion to those who wish to indulge in them.

THE TIMES will be published at Two Dollars per annum, payable in advance, or Two Dollars and Fifty Cents if payment is delayed.

For the present our office is in the old *Islander* premises—entrance, nearly

opposite the Revere House. Orders for Advertisements or Job Work may be left at the Bookstore of H. A. Harvie, Esq.

As our first edition shall be Two Thousand copies (we shall guarantee a regular issue of 1500 copies) THE TIMES present a favorable opportunity for intending Advertisers, as our paper will circulate amongst people of all classes and creeds. Our terms for advertising are quite reasonable.

JOHN ROSS & CO.

THE LITERARY ECHO will be issued for the future from the old *Islander* office, entrance off Great George Street, where we may be found during business hours.

By advertisement elsewhere it will be seen that Mr. S. D. Fraser, is prepared to convey passengers arriving by Steam and Rail to their destination at reasonable rates.

### NEWS ITEMS.

The lake of Geneva, in Switzerland, is 1000 feet deep, and Loch Ness, in Inverness shire, Scotland, 800 feet deep.

Rubens was born at Cologne, on the Rhine. He was a very great painter, and to all the requisites of art he joined extensive knowledge. He understood seven languages, and wrote in Latin on the rules of painting.

There exists altogether only sixty-seven species of pouch bearing animals; and of those, forty three are peculiar to Australia, and the rest—with two or three exceptions in America—are confined to New Guinea and the islands lying to the northward of New Holland.

The Chinese think that the inventor of ink was one of the greatest men that ever lived; that he enjoys a blessed immortality, and is charged with keeping an account of the manner in which all ink is used here below, and for every abuse of it he records a black mark against the offender.

Masons were first brought into England by a monk, the preceptor of the venerable Bede, about the middle of the seventeenth century, together with the arts of painting and glazing. About this time, the monastery of Ely was founded, and the abbeys of Abingdon, Chertsey, and Barking were built. The monastery of Gloucester was also established.

**GOLD WEIGHED BY MACHINERY**—One of the most interesting and astonishing departments within the whole compass of the Bank of England, is the weighing department, in which, with the rapidity of thought, and a precision approaching the hundredth part of a grain, the weight of gold coin is determined. There are six weighing machines, and three weighers to attend them. Large rolls of sovereigns, or half sovereigns, are placed in groves, and are shaken one at a time, by the motion of the machine, into the scale. If they are of the standard weight, they are thrown by the same mechanical intelligence into a box at the right hand side of the person who watches the operation; if they have lost the hundredth part of a grain, they are cast into a box on the left. Those which stand the test are put into bags of 1000 each, and those below par are cut by a machine, and sent back to the mint.

### SELECTIONS.

Nitrous oxide, vulgarly termed laughing gas, is always prepared from the nitrate of ammonia. Great attention must be paid to the purity of this salt (nitrate of ammonia). To obtain nitrous oxide, a quantity of this salt, which should never be less than six or eight ounces, is introduced into a retort, or globular flask, called a bolt-head, and heated by a charcoal choffer, the diffused heat of which is more suitable than the heat of a lamp. Paper may be pasted over the cork of the bolt-head to keep it air-tight. At a temperature not under 340 degrees, the salt boils, and begins to undergo decomposition, being resolved into nitrous oxide and water. As heat is evolved in this decomposition, which is a kind of combustion or deflagration, the choffer must be withdrawn to such a distance from the flask, as to sustain only a moderate ebullition. If the temperature is allowed to rise too high, the ebullition becomes tumultuous, and the flask is filled with white fumes, which have an irritating odor, and the gas which then comes off is little more than nitrogen. Nitrous oxide should be collected in a gasometer or in a gas-holder, filled with water, of a temperature of about 30 degrees, as cold water absorbs much of this gas. The whole salt undergoes the same decomposition, and nothing whatever is left in the retort. The gas formed from an ounce and a-half to two ounces of nitrate of ammonia is sufficient for a dose, and it should be inhaled from a bag, of the size of a large ox bladder, and provided with a wooden tube of an inch internal diameter. Great care must be exercised in the respiration of this gas, as an animal entirely confined to it soon dies from the prolonged effects of the intoxication. It was first discovered by Dr. Priestley, but Sir Humphrey Davy was the first to observe its stimulating power when taken into the lungs.

Eloquence is not only the art of addressing men in public: it is the gift of a strong feeling, accurate thought, extensive knowledge, splendor of imagination, force of expression, and the power of communicating, in written or spoken language, to other men, the idea, the feeling, the conviction of truth, the admiration for the beautiful, the disposition to uprightness, the enthusiasm for virtue, the devotion to duty, the heroic love of country, and the faith in immortality, which make men honorable—the feeling heart, the clear head, the sound judgment, the popular knowledge, the artistic imagination, the ardent patriotism, the manly courage, the attachment to liberty, the pious philosophy, and lastly, the religion consonant with the most exalted idea of the divinity, which render the individual good, the people great, and the human race sacred. It supposes in us the possession and exercise of all the intellectual and moral faculties that are involved in speech—the power of the human word.

**LIVING TOO FAST.**—The deadliest foe to a man's longevity is an unnatural and unreasonable excitement. Every man is born with a certain stock of vitality, which cannot be increased, but which may be husbanded or expended rapidly as he deems best. Within certain limits he has his choice, to live fast or slow, to live abstemiously or intensely, to draw his little amount of life over a large space, or condense it into a narrow one; but when his stock is exhausted he has no more. He who lives abstemiously, who avoids all stimulants, takes light exercise, never overtasks himself, indulges no exhausting passions, feeds his mind and heart on no exciting material, has no debilitating pleasure, lets nothing ruffle his temper, keeps his "accounts with God and man duly squared up, is sure, barring accidents, to spin out his life to the longest limit which it is possible to attain; while he who lives intensely, who feeds on high-seasoned food, whether material or mental, fatigues his body or brain by hard labor, exposes himself to inflammatory diseases, seeks continual excitement, gives loose rein to his passions, frets at every trouble, and enjoys little repose, is burning the candle at both ends, and is sure to shorten his days.

The erroneous supposition that only two or three farthings were struck in Queen Anne's reign is founded on the fact that there were some pattern or proof coins, which got into circulation, in addition to the coin which was really in use. Several hundreds of Queen Anne's farthings were struck. The common farthing of Queen Anne is worth, to collectors, from seven to twelve shillings, while the pattern coins fetch from one to five pounds.

March is the third month of the year, according to our reckoning; but with the Romans it was the first, and called Martius, from Mars, the god of war, because he was the father of their first prince. This month was under the protection of Minerva.

An Illinois paper says that a flash of lightning lately entered a school-room in that State, and tore a pair of boots from a boy's feet, and hurled them at the head of the master, to the great delight of the unterrified juveniles.

It is said that a girl in P— was struck dumb by the firing of a cannon. Since then, a number of married men have invited the artillery to come and discharge their pieces on their premises.

Women are called the softer sex, because they are so easily humbugged. Out of one hundred girls, ninety-five would prefer ostentation to happiness—a dandy husband to a mechanic.

A young man generally gives a lock of hair to his sweetheart before he marries her. After marriage, she can help herself—and use no scissors.