

MERCANTILE LIFE COMPANY. 100 7s. 8d.

sterling invested for the security of amount the assured, thus making... G. W. DeLois, General Agent.

Steamboat Notices.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND STEAMSHIP CO. RICE EDWARD ISLAND... F. W. HALES, Sec'y.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION AT QUEBEC. 1, 13th, 14th and 15th September.

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NEW SERIES VOL I.

THE HERALD

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY... R. KELLY & Co., EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS FOR THE "HERALD": For 1 year, paid in advance, \$2 0 0.

ALMANAC FOR OCT., 1871. MOON'S PHASES.

Table with columns for Day, Week, and Moon's Phase.

Banking Notices. BANK OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Union Bank of P. E. Island. (North Side Queen Street).

Summerside Bank. Central Street, Summerside, P. E. Island.

Farmers' Bank. Summerside, P. E. Island.

Business Notices. RONALD MACDONALD, COMMISSION MERCHANT.

NOTICE. The following security was... August 12, 1871.

Executors' Notice. ALL persons interested in the Estate of MARTIN O'HALLORAN.

Physician and Surgeon. JAMES W. FRASER, M. D.

IMPORTANT LETTER.

THE RAILWAY CONTROVERSY.

MR. O'BRIEN'S VERSION. HALIFAX, October 5th, 1871.

It is now a month since your railway contract was let, and yet the first ad has not been turned on it.

Although I felt sadly grieved, outraged and injured by the conduct of the Executive to me as one of the competitors for building and furnishing your projected Railway yet I did not deem it fitting to place my private grievances before the public eye.

I shall now as briefly as may be, proceed to give you my views of the conduct of your Government towards me.

"Satisfactory personal security will be given, or I will agree to survey, map and locate the entire line, and grade 20 per cent of it without any payment therefor until so much is done, and leave thirty per cent of any payment due in the hands of the Government Commissioners until the final completion of the works and supplies."

"Messrs. Walker having withdrawn from the contract, on Wednesday, the 9th August, William D. O'Brien, Esq., of Halifax, making the next lowest tender, was telegraphed to, as follows:—"

By Telegraph to Mr. W. D. O'Brien, Halifax, N. S. The tender of Messrs. Walker for construction of railway having been withdrawn, yours being next lowest, will be accepted, provided terms and conditions of contract and requirements of law be complied with, without delay.

On Friday evening, the 11th, Mr. O'Brien arrived in Charlottetown, and on the 12th had an interview with the Government, when he stated that he was not prepared to furnish any such security as was required for the performance of the contract.

On ascertaining the wishes of your Government, relative to the security for the railway contract, I now beg to state that I will lodge in any Bank at Halifax, three hundred and fifty thousand dollars stock of the Halifax City Railway Company, and the balance of the sum required in bonds, which have regularly paid and are paying six per cent. interest.

At the above mentioned interview on the 12th, I was informed that "no personal security would be accepted."

When the security required of Walker and Co. was read, I treated it as simply absurd to expect any contractor to put up such funds, and gave my views fully on the subject.

"On Monday, the 14th, the Government agreed to rescind the order of the 29th July, as to the nature of the security, and the following communication was sent to Mr. O'Brien by the Colonial Secretary's Office, Charlottetown, Aug. 14, 1871.

CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1871.

August 25, 1871. (By Telegraph from Halifax, to Hon. A. A. McDonald.)

I have no fear but that I can, if allowed reasonable time, furnish security in strict accordance with the letter, if not the fullest spirit of the terms named to me. The agency with which I have been required to complete those securities, has, under the circumstances, tended to paralyze my ability, by confining my attention solely to Halifax.

On Saturday, the 26th August, the Colonial Secretary left for Halifax on the boat race when it reached the hotel and on Friday evening the 8th September. During his absence his name as Colonial Secretary was signed on all telegrams connected with the Railway, and answers hereto were received directed to him.

On Monday morning, the 28th, Mr. Haviland received a communication from Mr. O'Brien, which is as follows:— "City Railway Office, Monday morning, Aug. 27, 1871.

Having called to pay my respects in regard to the late Mr. O'Brien, I am now prepared to complete the railway contract, and await your further orders.

You doubtless have received a letter from the Colonial Secretary relative to the nature of the security which will be taken from you for the construction of the railway on your signing the contract.

An hour or two after the delivery of the foregoing letter, Mr. Ha had met me in the street, and referring to the rumor about the City Railway, I urgently requested him to accompany me to the City Railway Office and inspect the books. Mr. Haviland declined on the score of not being an adept. I will state that as Mr. Uniacke was a public man of rank, standing, and of undoubted honor, and had kept the books of the Company during four consecutive years, I am fully satisfied that he would refer to him on the subject of the railway.

The work which Mr. O'Brien required would expire on Wednesday the 23rd, so on Tuesday the 22nd the following telegram was sent to Mr. O'Brien:— "Charlottetown, Aug. 22, 1871. To William D. O'Brien, Halifax. The Government expect you by tomorrow's steamer."

The words in the telegram of the 16th "Expect to be ready in a week"—are forced by the foregoing comment to mean, "will be ready in a week."

"Vague and sweeping! Definitions would have economized time; the object was evidently otherwise! At the interview on the day before, on Mr. Haviland observing that he had only come to Halifax for pleasure, I requested him to telegraph for powers, or to have an agent appointed by the Government in Halifax, to complete the contract, as it was ungenerous and unreasonable to ask so many merchants to absent themselves from the Carnival, which they had been so long counting on for pleasure; that it would be like expecting men to quit a marriage feast."

"The same day, Mr. O'Brien again addressed Mr. Haviland:— "Hon. T. Heath Haviland, Colonial Secretary, P. E. I."

"I have had the honor of receiving your note of this morning, in which you state your opinion that the Government, of which I am a member, will not consider the securities named in your note a sufficient guarantee for the due performance of the contemplated Railway Contract."

"On Monday, August 25, Mr. O'Brien telegraphed to Hon. A. A. McDonald, what portion of my securities are insufficient, and to what extent, in order that I may furnish additional securities."

August 25, 1871. (By Telegraph from Halifax, to Hon. A. A. McDonald.)

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To which the following answer was sent the same evening (Friday) at 5:30: Council will accede to your request, and extend time till Wednesday, but no longer. Securities must be perfected then.

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