

The Evening Telegram.

ST. JOHN'S, JANUARY 23, 1888.

WHEN THE LEGISLATURE MEETS.

An Interesting Session Expected.

"POLICY" OF THE LIBERAL SECTION.

In a few weeks our local Legislature will meet for the despatch of business, and it is said by some of the initiated that the session promises to be an unusually interesting one.

By dissolution they have everything to lose: by cohesion they have everything to gain.

It is true, we believe, that Mr. Abraham Kean, Mr. M. T. Knight, and one or two other subordinate members of the party, have for some time past known what it is to feel the upbraiding of conscience—in addition to the upbraiding of their constituents.

Never, perhaps, in all our experience of Responsible Government, have we had a more needy and mercenary Assembly than the present.

For these reasons, then, and for others which are sufficiently obvious without mentioning them here, the leaders of the Thorburn Administration are not alarmed by the strong public sentiment which prevails against them all through the country.

Some time ago it was rumored that certain members of the Liberal wing were inclined to kick over the traces and join the Opposition.

Just before Premier Thorburn left for the Mother Country, last week, a meeting of "Reform" and Liberal leaders was held under very flattering auspices—to the said leaders—during which the interests of the Amalgamation were freely discussed.

But notwithstanding the strength of the Government, it is pretty certain that the coming session will be an interesting one, as the small Opposition, reinforced by Mr. R. J. Parsons, will no doubt do their best to make things lively.

A LIST OF BEREAVEMENTS

THE announcement in our obituary columns on Thursday evening of the death by drowning, in Lake Superior, of Thomas Connors, son of the well-known River Head sealing master—the late Captain Thomas Connors—is a sad addition to a list of family bereavements within an unexampled short period.

FROZEN FISH.

FROZEN fish are now imported into France, and a society formed in Marseilles for the purpose of developing the trade has a steamer and a sailing vessel engaged in it.

SPEED OF ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE returns for the present fiscal year, which have just been issued by Mr. Nicholas M. Bell, the Superintendent of Foreign Mails in the Post Office Department at Washington, give some information regarding the speed of Atlantic steamers which will be read with interest by those who took an interest in the recent discussions on the mail contracts.

A HOLYWOOD correspondent, writing under date of Friday, says:—"Large numbers of men are abandoning railroad work and returning home. The weather is very cold, especially at night time, and they think it better to die home than in there on the line."

LETTER FROM "A SHAREHOLDER."

He Wants to Know What Has Become of His Money.

Editor Evening Telegram.

SIR,—About two years ago a movement was made to start a Roman Catholic newspaper in St. John's. A sort of Constitution was drafted, resolutions were proposed and adopted, and everything was prepared to enable the paper to enter the political arena on a sound basis.

I am, sir, yours truly,

A SHAREHOLDER.

P.S.—You will perceive that the above is strictly true, as it is well known that I paid my money down. Some of my acquaintances invested as high as 40 dollars in the concern, and they now wish to know what has become of their money, and why they do not inform them in some shape or form.

POST OFFICE AFFAIRS.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—Seven o'clock is not a very early hour to get up these fine bright mornings, and one would think that at that unearthly hour in our fine, new luxuriously-heated Post Office at least one Postal clerk might be in attendance on the mornings when the Coastal mails close (at eight o'clock) to sell postage stamps, &c.

Would it be too much to ask the P. M. G. to attend himself at 7 o'clock to see that his clerks are at their post. Yours, &c., St. John's, Jan. 21, 1888. J. SMITH.

MR. PARNELL'S HEALTH.

In a recent Paris letter M. Adolf Houssaye says:—"Mr. Parnell, I am afraid, is seriously ill. A few days ago, entering the house of a famous physician, I met a gentleman coming out, whom I recognized as the great Irish leader. He seemed to avoid recognition as far as possible, and hastened away to a close carriage. When I saw the physician I mentioned the circumstance. 'Oh,' said he, 'that was Mr. Preston, an old patient of mine. He is an Englishman, and comes all the way from London to get my advice and treatment. Of course I cannot tell you anything about his ailment.' I do not know whether the doctor was prevaricating or not. But I am sure it was Mr. Parnell I met, and I am sure, too, of what is well known in London, that Mr. Parnell has a house in one of the suburbs of that city where he spends much of his time, and where he is known as Mr. Preston. The physician at whose house this incident occurred is one of the ablest specialists in Paris, his particular hobby being diseases of the blood and skin and cancerous affections. There have been rumors from time to time that Mr. Parnell is suffering from cancer."

POSTPONEMENT.—We have been requested to state that the tea and entertainment under the auspices of St. Thomas' Branch C. E. T. S. and Woman's Association (which was proposed to be held the beginning of February at St. Patrick's Hall), have been unavoidably postponed until Easter week.

The Present State of Newfoundland

CONFEDERATION.

SIR,—The object of my letters has been to show the necessity of a change in the condition of this country, and in asserting this necessity I am at variance with no one who has fairly considered or discussed our position.

The question of Confederation, as applied to us, resists, of its own strength and weight, all attempts at absolute rejection; it forces us to the point of determining how to accept it with the best grace and most profit.

All others are prepared to accept Confederation on rational terms. So the state of the question as at present proposed to the country is simply this: as we must have a change, and as Confederation is proposed to us, what good or harm is it likely to do us.

I have thus condensed the general argument of former letters in order to keep the question clear and connectedly before your readers' minds; now I will attempt to answer the question of the country, taking up the thread of the discussion where I left off.

OUR LANDS.

I stated in my last letter that our lands (meaning the most valuable portion of them) no longer belong to us as a people. They have been appropriated at a nominal price, or at no price at all, by individuals amongst us who can never, in all human probability, turn them to the slightest account.

The Government of Canada must be a strangely obtuse one if it does not see the necessity of putting an end to the monopoly of mineral lands in all parts of the Dominion, and of refusing those indiscriminate grants that alone would turn a rich country into a desert.

(Concluded to-morrow.)

THE EGG OF THE GREAT AUK.

An egg of the Great Auk was sold last week at an auction in Covent Garden for 160 guineas. About seven years ago a Scotch naturalist picked up two of these eggs for 10s. at an Edinburgh sale, and within a few weeks he sold them for 202 guineas.—Truth.

LOCAL VARIETIES.

THERE have been no foreign arrivals at this port since Friday last.

THE barque "Constance," belonging to Messrs. Baine Johnston & Co., has put into Barbadoes dismasted.

THE coastal boat Curlew arrived at Saint Mary's last evening, and left in the course of the night for Placentia.

THE first overland mail of the season for the Northward will be despatched to-morrow; the bags will be closed at the office here at 8 a.m.

TRAVELLING on the Placentia mail road is impossible on account of the snow-drifts. The mail due here last Friday has not yet arrived.

A VESSEL belonging to this trade was reported in commercial circles this morning as having entered a port in the island of Malta, damaged.

A MEETING of the St. John's Mutual Improvement Association will be held in the basement of the Congregational Church to-morrow (Tuesday) evening at 8 o'clock.

BUSINESS was very quiet on Change on Saturday; the attendance was very small, most of the members having gone off on a sleigh driving junketing excursion to Topsail.

THE banker Nimbus, of Placentia, which went to sea on Saturday last but was driven back to port again by the force of a heavy N. W. wind, started again for her destination yesterday.

THE barquentine Adamantine, from New York, which vessel is scarcely a week out, passed Cape Race at 2.15 this afternoon, inward bound. The May Cory has also left the same port, bound hither.

CAPTAIN LEMARQUAND, of the Donna Maria, having become alarmed yesterday for the safety of one of his seamen named Thomas Holds, lodged information of his being missed at the Police Office with Sergeant Cleary. The latter instituted a search and discovered that the sailor had left the vessel in a boat, but having lost his oars he drifted helplessly down the harbor 'till he brought up on the shore off Maggoty Cove, where the officer found him. It was a fortunate circumstance for him that the wind was not blowing out the Narrows.

It appears that the person to whom reference was made on Saturday in our news columns as having been conveyed to the Poor House on a slide was offered the use of a horse and sleigh for the purpose, but refused it. Mr. Dunphy called at this office this forenoon and shewed us an order tendering such a vehicle. The applicant for admission had some prejudice against going to the Asylum, and insisted upon being taken there in the way described, much to Mr. Morris' annoyance when he saw the parties entering the gate-way. It is satisfactory to find from all this that, after all, this is a country where the sermon on the Mount finds admission to the heart.

FROM CAPE RACE.

(Special to the Evening Telegram.) CAPE RACE, This Evening. Wind northwest, blowing a brisk breeze with thick snow squalls. No vessels have been sighted to-day.

BIRTH.

On the 19th instant, the wife of Captain E. Dingle, of a daughter.

DIED.

On Saturday evening, 21st inst., at No. 149 LeMarchant road, Mary Rose, beloved daughter of Capt. Jno. Green, aged 24 years. Funeral on Tuesday, at 3 o'clock; friends and acquaintances are respectfully requested to attend without further notice. "Gone to be with Jesus."

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ENTERED. 21—Elizabeth McLea, Bate, Figueira, 26 days, C F Bennett & Co—142 tons salt. 21—Lavinia, Mitchell, Pernambuco, J & W Stewart—4537 qtls fish. Sea Lark, Green, Barcelon, Baine, Johnston & Co—4000 qtls fish. Pride of the Channel, Piper, Pernambuco, F & L Tessier—3532 qtls fish. 23—Minnie, Row, Lisbon, E Duder—2500 qtls fish. LOADING. 18—Hebe, Brazil, Baine, Johnston & Co. 19—Lillian, Europe, Job, Bros & Co. 20—Fanny, Brazil, Job, Bros & Co. Helen Isabel, Brazil, Baine, Johnston & Co. 21—Prince LeBoo, Liverpool, J Murray.

FOR SALE,

One Cottage Piano.

JOHN S. SIMMS.